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Tom Moe, Former Gopher Athletic Director and Chairman of Dorsey & Whitney law firm, to receive Bud Grant Distinguished Minnesotan Award

MINNEAPOLIS, March 27, 2014 - The Minnesota Chapter of the National Football Foundation announced Thursday that Tom Moe will receive the 2014 Bud Grant Distinguished Minnesotan Award. Moe will receive the award at the 2014 Minnesota Football Honors Awards Event, presented by the Minnesota Vikings, which will take place at the Hilton Minneapolis on May 4, 2014.

Moe had a distinguished high school and college athletics career in Minnesota. While at Edina High School, Moe competed for the Hornets in football, baseball, and basketball. His efforts for the Hornets led to 10 letters and six all-conference awards. He attended the University of Minnesota, lettering repeatedly in both football and baseball. He was recognized by the Golden Gophers as the 1959 "Most Valuable Player." Moe received his undergraduate degree from Minnesota and then obtained his law degree with honors from Minnesota in 1963 while also earning entrance into the school's Order of the Coif. Upon graduation, he joined Minneapolis law firm Dorsey & Whitney LLP, where he remained until his retirement in late 1999. In his time at the firm, he rose through the ranks to eventually be named Chairman and Managing Partner of the Firm.

One of Moe's most recognizable contributions to football and athletics as a whole in Minnesota, came in late 1999, when he was named interim men's athletic director for the University of Minnesota. Taking the helm following academic fraud charges against the men's basketball team, Moe led men's Golden Gophers athletics programs for three years. During that time, Minnesota won five national championships, including two in the marquee hockey program. Moe also oversaw the 2002 merger of the men's and women's athletic programs into one unified department. He was a consistent proponent of on-campus football, and his groundwork was instrumental in returning football to the University campus with the construction of TCF Bank Stadium.

Moe has also devoted his time to numerous athletics organizations in the state, including the University of Minnesota's Touchdown Club, which he co-founded. He served on several athletics advisory boards under other athletic directors at the University of Minnesota, such as Rick Bay, Mark Deinhart, Paul Giel, and Joel Maturi. Current Athletic Director Norwood Teague has included Moe on the recently-formed University Athletic Advisory Board Executive Committee, and he is also a board member of local construction firm Mortenson Company, which built TCF Bank Stadium. Moe's family continued the tradition of involvement in Golden Gopher athletics, with two of his seven children competing for the university.

About the Minnesota Chapter of the National Football Foundation:

The mission of the Minnesota Chapter of the National Football Foundation is to serve Minnesota and the nation by developing leadership, sportsmanship, competitive spirit, and academic excellence in America's youth through promoting amateur football. The annual Minnesota Football Honors Awards Event, presented by the Minnesota Vikings, will be held on May 4, 2014, at the Hilton Minneapolis. The event is open to the public, and tickets may be purchased online by visiting www.nffmn.org. The

Minnesota Chapter of the National Football Foundation may be contacted through www.nffmn.org or on Twitter via @nffmn.