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Longtime High School, College Coach to Receive 2014 John Gagliardi Football Legacy Award

Minneapolis, March 20, 2014 - The Minnesota Chapter of the National Football Foundation will recognize George Wemeier with the 2014 John Gagliardi Football Legacy award. Wemeier will receive his award at the 2014 Minnesota Football Honors Awards Event, presented by the Minnesota Vikings. The seventh annual event, to be held on May 4th, 2014, will take place at the Hilton Minneapolis.

George Wemeier made a name for himself in the Minnesota football community beginning with his play for Macalester College. A member of his alma mater's hall of fame, Wemeier cleared the path for four years for two subsequent members of the hall of fame, Earl Bowman and Robert Engwer. His work on the defensive line earned him plaudits as well, including all-conference recognition in his senior season.

After Wemeier's playing days had come to a close, he completed two years of military service and then moved swiftly to the sidelines with Brahm, where he also taught. Wemeier's then accepted an assistant coach's role with Patrick Henry High School in Minneapolis, a position he maintained for nine seasons. In 1966, Wemeier took over as head coach at Minneapolis' Washburn High School, where he brought the school to football prominence. In his tenure as head coach, the Millers achieved a combined record of 131 wins while only suffering 33 losses and 2 ties. In that time, the Millers won eight Minneapolis City Conference Championships, six Twin City Championships, and four Mythical State Championships. His Millers also won the inaugural Minnesota State Football AA Championship in 1972, winning the title again in 1977. His work at Washburn would eventually see Wemeier inducted into the Minnesota Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

In 1984, Wemeier left Washburn to join the college coaching ranks, beginning as an assistant coach at the University of Minnesota working with quarterbacks. His next step was at Augsburg College in 1992, taking another assistant coaching role with the football team. Wemeier would then spend nearly a decade as an assistant coach at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul. In 2005, he joined Hamline for the season as an assistant coach as well. Finally, in 2007, Wemeier returned to Washburn as an offensive coordinator.

Wemeier is now a member of several halls of fame, including the Minnesota Football Coaches Association, Macalester College, and Washburn High School. His contributions at all levels of football in the state of Minnesota have more than earned him the John Gagliardi Minnesota Football Legacy award.

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 4th, 2014, at the Hilton Minneapolis. The event is open to the public, and tickets may be purchased online by visiting www.nffmn.org.