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Totino-Grace's Josh Sitarz to receive Scholar-Athlete Award

MINNEAPOLIS, March 25, 2014 - The Minnesota Chapter of the National Football Foundation unveiled Tuesday its 2014 scholar-athlete award winners. The eight scholar-athletes reside in communities across the state of Minnesota and will be recognized at the seventh annual Minnesota Football Honors Awards Event, to be held May 4 at the Hilton Minneapolis. This year's winners were chosen for their academic excellence, displays of outstanding leadership, and commitment to their communities. This year's scholar athletes represent a cumulative grade point average of 3.9.

Totino-Grace linebacker Josh Sitarz has had a distinguished high school football career. An All-Conference honorable mention in 2012, Sitarz made the 2013 All-Conference team while also being named by his teammates as the season's MVP. A co-captain in 2013, Sitarz also competed for the Totino-Grace basketball team while participating in several other extracurricular programs.

Sitarz is also an ambitious student. He intends to major in pre-med at St. John's University this coming fall. While at Totino-Grace, Sitarz excelled in the classroom, frequently appearing on the A Honor Roll and participating in National Honor Society.

His coaches and advisors note that he is "put simply, a 'difference maker'" in his community. A volunteer in Totino-Grace's campus ministry program, Sitarz frequently gives his time and advice to others in his school community. Beyond Totino-Grace, he has devoted time to volunteering at Feed My Starving Children and a nursing home in addition to teaching children with disabilities to play basketball. Josh's parents are Rick and Robyn.

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; 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.