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Spring Lake Park's Austin Swenson 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.

Spring Lake Park quarterback Austin Swenson proved to be a leader both on and off the field. The senior captain amassed several football honors in his high school career, including being named to the All-Conference team twice. His work in the classroom also earned him a place on the Academic All-Conference and Academic All-State teams.

A true standout in the classroom, Swenson was named an AP Scholar with Distinction in 2013, capping off several years spent on the Knowledge Bowl team, three years of academic letters, and recognition as a member of the Minnesota American Legion Boys State House of Representatives.

Swenson has also served his community admirably as an Eagle Scout, volunteer at Feed My Starving Children, table washer for the American Legion, and numerous other roles. In particular, duties as an Eagle Scout included the role of senior patrol leader and scout in charge for several Scout trips. Swenson is an active member of his church and has volunteered at its vacation bible school often. Austin's parents are Anthony and Diane.

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](https://twitter.com/nffmn).