



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

PIERZ HEALY HIGH SCHOOL'S MATTHIAS ALGARIN NAMED A MINNESOTA FOOTBALL HONORS SCHOLAR ATHLETE

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. – June 25, 2020 – Pierz Healy High School's Matthias Algarin has been named a Scholar Athlete by the Minnesota Chapter of the National Football Foundation. This annual award honors Minnesota high school football players for their outstanding athletic, academic and community service accomplishments. Algarin, a Pierz, Minn. native, is one of nine scholar athletes who will be recognized during a July television broadcast.

Algarin was one of the most dynamic and versatile playmakers in Minnesota. He played running back, wide receiver and defensive back for the Pierz Pioneers. In 2019, the team captain led Pierz to a Class 3A state title. During the regular season, Algarin carried the ball 62 times for 720 yards and 13 touchdowns. Through the air, he added 10 receptions, 290 receiving yards and four touchdowns. Algarin was a member of the Minnesota Vikings All-State team and played in the Minnesota All-Star game. He also earned Player of the Year honors from Morrison County and the Brainerd Dispatch.

In the classroom, Algarin tallied a 4.0 GPA and earned Academic All-State honors. While in school, he was an active participant in many school clubs, including track and field and acapella choir. Algarin won a triple jump state championship and qualified in three other events. He also volunteered to help with many local community projects, including at the children's hospital, blood drive and youth sports programs. Additionally, Algarin frequently trained and mentored Special Olympics track athletes before their events.

"It is difficult to explain the type of altruistic compassion Matthias exhibits for others," said Algarin's professor, Frank Weber. "He is insightful, kind, hard-working, moral and has tremendous social skills."

Matthias lives more than 100 miles from Minneapolis and represents northern Minnesota.

Minnesota Football Honors is hosting a show to honor this year's high school, college and Minnesota Vikings award winners. The broadcast is set to air in July. Special guests, including Vikings players, are scheduled to make appearances. An official broadcast date will be announced soon on www.minnesotafootballhonors.com.

About the Minnesota Chapter of the National Football Foundation:

The Minnesota Chapter of The National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame is a local non-profit organization whose mission is to promote amateur football's ability to develop leadership, sportsmanship, competitive spirit and academic excellence in Minnesota's young people. The Minnesota Chapter recognizes legendary football icons, college football Hall of Famers and Minnesota's top high school and college football scholar athletes. For more information, visit www.nffmn.org, or Facebook ([@MNFootballHonors](https://www.facebook.com/MNFootballHonors)) and Twitter ([@NFFMN](https://twitter.com/NFFMN)).

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