



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**CARLETON COLLEGE QUARTERBACK JACK CURTIS TO RECEIVE MINNESOTA FOOTBALL HONORS COURAGE AWARD**

**MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. – April 10, 2026** – The Minnesota Chapter of the National Football Foundation is proud to present Carleton College quarterback Jack Curtis with this year’s Minnesota Football Honors Courage Award.

Curtis will be honored on April 19 during a private awards event at Huntington Bank Stadium on the University of Minnesota campus. The April event will be recorded for the Minnesota Football Honors show, airing later this summer on YouTube and social media, with full broadcast details coming soon.

Carleton College quarterback Jack Curtis exemplified resilience, courage and determination while living out his passion for football. Curtis was diagnosed with late-Stage 2 unfavorable Hodgkin’s Lymphoma last summer. Despite the diagnosis, he remained determined not to miss his senior football season. Curtis spent every other Monday at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester for biweekly chemotherapy treatments. Even though Jack missed most of the team’s practices during the week, he was always ready for game day. He led the MIAC with 2,918 passing yards and 28 touchdowns in conference games. That yardage total currently ranks third all-time among MIAC passers in conference play. Curtis also tied the MIAC record with seven 300-yard passing performances in conference games this fall. In addition, he became the first Knight in program history to be named MIAC Offensive Player of the Year and the first Carleton football player to receive one of the conference’s top individual postseason honors since former All-American quarterback Tim Nielson was named MIAC MVP in 1988.

“This is one of the best and most inspiring football stories in the nation. It is incredible to see what Jack accomplished during the 2025 season. He didn’t let rigorous treatment stop him from living out his passion. He exemplified courage, perseverance and determination in the face of adversity. Nothing stood in his way - not even a summer cancer diagnosis or biweekly treatments during the football season. His story is an incredible example for anyone who is currently fighting a battle of any kind,” said Todd Fultz, President of the Minnesota Chapter of the National Football Foundation and 2011 Courage Award winner. “We can’t wait to share and chronicle Jack’s inspiring story during our Minnesota Football Honors show.”

To view a statewide map of past and present Minnesota Football Honors Award Winners, [visit this site](#).

**Previous Minnesota Football Honors Courage Award winners:**

- 2008: Tyler Jenson: Brainerd High School
- 2009: Ryan Goetzinger: Caledonia High School
- 2011: Todd Fultz: St. John’s and Minnesota Chapter of the National Football Foundation President
- 2012: Derek Klinkner: Southwest Minnesota State
- 2013: Connor Cosgrove: University of Minnesota
- 2014: Peter Westerhaus: University of Minnesota
- 2015: Josh Benson: Hinckley-Finlayson
- 2016: Casey O’Brien: Cretin Derham-Hall
- 2017: Mike Sherels: University of Minnesota

2018: Danny Lilya: Moose Lake High School  
2019: Ryan Bartlett: White Bear Lake High School  
2021: Cap George and Family: Rosemount High School  
2022: Trevor Solem: Minnewaska High School  
2023: Ethan Glynn: Bloomington Jefferson  
2024: Randy Taylor and Jon Wessel: Tartan High School  
2025: Trevor Smith: Tracy High School

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**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](http://www.nffmn.org), or Facebook ([@MNFootballHonors](https://www.facebook.com/MNFootballHonors)) and Twitter ([@NFFMN](https://twitter.com/NFFMN)).

Contact:  
Todd Fultz, President  
MN Chapter of The National Football Foundation  
Phone: (612)-325-5500

Media Contact:  
Daniel House, Director of Media Relations and Content  
MN Chapter of the National Football Foundation  
[daniel@nffmn.org](mailto:daniel@nffmn.org)