



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

MINNESOTA FOOTBALL HONORS AND THE MINNESOTA CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL FOUNDATION ANNOUNCE STACY ROBINSON LEADERSHIP AWARD WINNERS

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. – March 26, 2026 – Dante Morales (Minneapolis Washburn High School) and Griffin Thompson (New London-Spicer High School) have been named this year’s Stacy Robinson Leadership Award winners by the Minnesota Chapter of the National Football Foundation.

Morales and Thompson are set to be honored during a private award show 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 details coming soon.

“Our chapter is very excited to honor Dante and Griffin for their outstanding accomplishments on the field, in the classroom and community,” said Todd Fultz, President of the Minnesota Chapter of the National Football Foundation. “They have each become positive role models and pillars in their local communities. Dante and Griffin inspire the next generation on a daily basis through positivity, selflessness and character. They both embody the values of this award and we can’t wait to honor them during this year’s Minnesota Football Honors show.”

Here are biographies for each award winner:

Dante Morales: Minneapolis Washburn High School

Minneapolis Washburn High School’s Dante Morales has made a distinct impact on the field, in the classroom and community. Morales, a two-time team captain, became a vocal locker room leader for the program. He was named the player spokesman to the head coach and positively encouraged his teammates on a daily basis. On the field, Morales led the team in tackles while playing linebacker, special teams and fullback. His impact extended into the community while serving as a student council member and church youth group leader. Morales also organized a fundraising initiative following the Annunciation School tragedy. Morales’ servant leadership sets a positive example for the next generation of young people in his community.

Quote from Minneapolis Washburn coach Ryan Galindo: “Dante’s true leadership was on display this season near the end of the season. Dante had a season-ending injury in Week 7 of this season. His attitude and commitment to our program never wavered. He was present every day at practice with a positive attitude. He picked up and truly became another coach on the field for us.”

Griffin Thompson: New London-Spicer High School

New London-Spicer High School’s Griffin Thompson is a well-rounded student-athlete. Thompson, a defensive lineman, kicker and punter, is actively involved in many activities and community initiatives. He served as a peer tutor in the specialized special education program and was a mentor for younger students, ensuring inclusion in both athletics and school events. Thompson has been an active participant in the National Honor Society, his local church activities, Math League, Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), Student Council, Honor Choir and the high school musical. He also

started his own lawn mowing and dock business. Throughout his community, Griffin is known for being a positive role model and mentor to many classmates and young students.

Quote from Nichole Lindahl: “It is not hard to think of glowing praises for Griffin. He is by far an all-around guy. I have no doubt that his positive and ‘go with the flow’ when needed attitude will get Griffin far in life. I have no doubt that he will always search for the sun through the clouds. He will always push himself to be the very best version of him he can be.”

The Stacy Robinson Leadership Award honors the late Stacy Robinson, a St. Paul Central graduate who left a strong legacy of community leadership and excellence in athletics.

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

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 nonprofit 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](#)) and Twitter ([@NFFMN](#)).

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