

Athletes

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Blake Sentman made the All-State roster.

During the football season, Parent's performance was at times overshadowed by the variety of offensive weapons under head coach Gary Roberts. At the beginning of the season, Roberts switched off with Parent and Sentman at the quarterback position until Sentman eventually took the full-time job. However, Parent had 36 receptions on the season, racking up 547 yards and one touchdown. On the ground, he carried the ball 18 times for 84 yards, earning an average of 4.66 yards per carry.

Parent was more productive on the defensive side, however. His ability to break up passes as a safety was reputable among the league, as he earned first team All-League for defense. Roberts said in the middle of the season that he was probably the Lions' best all-around player.

As basketball season came, Parent's shine became brighter. The junior led his team to a Sky-Em title after a 5-19 season the previous year. His last-second lay-up against Baker in the playoffs also sent Cottage Grove to the state tournament.

In his 28 games played, Parent shot 40 percent from the field and was 35 percent from three-point range. He amassed 76 rebounds, 41 assists, 19 steals and 398 points (nearly 100 more than the previous year). He was also the Sky-Em Player of the Year and made the All-State roster.

"I think I played well; we're always looking to get better," Parent said. Like Albrecht, Parent will be a senior when the next school year comes around, and he will be one of the candidates to be a team leader on the football field and basketball court.

"I was lucky to have other seniors like Payton Presley and Brad Geisler plug me in," he said. With his mentors leaving, Parent looks ready to fill the shoes of other seniors.

Parent plans to try to play basketball in college after high school. He has looked into Lewis and Clark in Washington and has even thought of Johns Hopkins all the way in Baltimore.

These two athletes have represented the high school and town of Cottage Grove by not only being stellar athletes, but by also showing class and sportsmanship among their peers.



Photo by Sam Wright

Albrecht won four silver medals at districts and earned a trip to state the following week.



Photo by Sam Wright

Parent has a chance to win Player of the Year again and will chase a state title.



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