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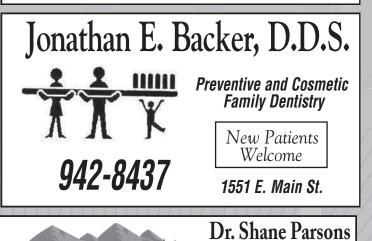


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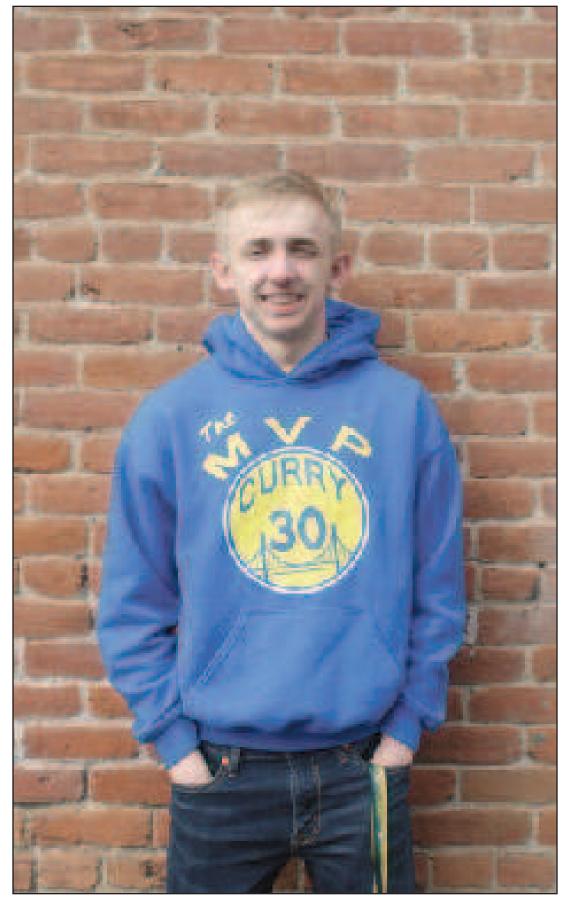


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CG STUDENT HEADED TO NAVAL ACADEMY



By Caitlyn May cmay@cgsentinel.com

Kory Parent got a phone call last week. It was Rep. Peter DeFazio and he had good news.

However, comparisons end there. Once the application is completed, students must earn the recommendation of a member of Congress. For Parent, he applied for the nomination of three U.S. The months of preparing, interviewing and applyofficials before being accepted by DeFazio.

> "It was an email I got on a mailing list that I was a candidate," Parent said of his first introduction to the academy. "After that it was getting re

in. "It was amazing," Parent said of getting phone call. "It was icing on the cake." The senior athlete hadn't always wanted to go into the military. When he was a boy, he thought he'd play for the NBA. That was before nature and genetics stepped in and he lost the vertical battle. "I stopped growing," he said. Time for Plan B. "I'm a huge patriot. I love this country and if I can work to defend her then I'm going to," he said. The military, it seemed, was a good fit. It offered a way to pay for college and a chance for Parent to express his patriotic pride. Getting into the naval academy is not easy; neither is applying. Candidates must meet basic requirements in relation to age, citizenship and dependency. The preliminary application process begins much like an ordinary college application.

ing to the naval academy had paid off. Kory was



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mendations because you need letters of rec from a math teacher and an English teacher," he said.

After that, there's an interview process; one Parent seemingly excelled at.

"It was hard but my family supported me and this opportunity is just gift wrapped for me."

Parent says he's excited to test himself against the standards of Navy Seals.

"I had always wanted to go into federal law enforcement when I got out but if I get in and I like it than I'll just stay in for my 20," he said.

That doesn't mean he won't have time to come home. Parent said he'd make the trip for the holiday season. "Long enough to go skiing," he said.

"I'm excited," he said. "I want to test myself and serve this country."

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