All-around athletes lead Division 7 and Division 8 All-State teams

By DOUG DONNELLY

The fact that Cam Orr is a First Team All-State selection by the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association is no surprise. In fact, Orr could have made the team at a variety of positions.

"He's a pretty good quarterback," said New Lothrop head coach Clint Galvas. "But he is the best defensive lineman I've ever coached."

Orr is one of the headliners on today's Division 7 All-State squad announced by the MHSFCA. The Division 8 All-State team was also released. More All-State teams will be released throughout the week by the coaches association. The teams are separated into all eight divisions, unlike some All-State teams that lump two divisions together.

Coaches met to choose All-Region teams. Players making the first team in each region then became All-State candidates. An overall Dream Team will be announced in January.

On the Division 7 team, Orr was part of a talented group of players to make the grade. He led the Hornets to an undefeated regular season and a spot in the Regional final. At defensive end, he made 41 tackles, 14 tackles for loss and nine sacks. The Hornets allowed just 64 points all season. Offensively, Orr passed for 1,600 yards and 22 touchdowns and rushed for 14 touchdowns. The state champion wrestler will play defensive end at Ferris State University next year.

Another lineman on the team is Detroit Loyola senior Derrick Harmon, a 6-4, 330 tackle who will play at Michigan State next year. He had 20 tackles for loss for Loyola, which is scheduled to face New Lothrop next when the Michigan high school football playoffs resume.

Schoolcraft placed three players on the first team, including quarterback Alex Thole. Thole passed for 1,850 yards and 25 touchdowns and had 80 touchdown passes in his career. This season, six of those TD passes went to Zach Poff, who joins him on the All-State team.

In Division 8, Sand Creek has two players on the team, including the bread-and-butter of the single wing offense that rushed for 3,500 yards rushing this season. Will Alexander is a running back who is the main cog in the unique offense, taking the direct snap from the center on most plays. He rushed for 1,655 yards and scored 22 touchdowns, passed for 625 yards, and threw for eight scores and was a great kick returner, averaging 30 yards on five attempts. He also had two interceptions on defense for the 8-1 Aggies. Plenty of his rushing yards came behind tackle Jackson Marsh, who joins him on the first team.

Another running back on the Division 8 squad is Sheldon Huff of Johannesburg-Lewiston. He ran for 1,212 yards, averaging more than 10 yards a carry, while scoring 15 touchdowns. He had 115 tackles on defense.

Reading, the 2018 and 2019 Division 8 state champion, had four players make the first team, including quarterback Porter Mauk. The senior was responsible for 26 touchdowns, passed for 1,282 yards and ran for 539 more.

"He could be all-state as a running back, wide receiver, linebacker or defensive back," Ranger head coach Rick Bailey said. "He excelled at quarterback. He's the perfect blend of a fierce competitor, skilled athlete and calmness."

Only players from schools in which their head coach is a member of the association are eligible.

The MHSFCA and its members have been devoted to the promotion of high school football since its inception in March 1972. For more information about the organization, visit <u>www.mhsfca.com</u>.