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club team or at least play for fun with friends.”

All of her achievements led to this moment, as well as her acceptance into the University of Pennsylvania, an Ivy League school. “In the fall I’m going to UPenn and I’m pretty sure I want to major in Health and Societies concentrated in Global Health,” Haros said. “I’m also going to be on their pre-med track and I hope to become some type of medical doctor one day.” □

“I would say that my sister definitely encouraged and motivated me because she’s a year above me and when I would go to her award ceremonies at the end of the year, it motivated me to work hard the next year,” Haros said. “When I was in eighth grade, she was one of the Top 5 freshmen and that gave me a goal to strive for once I reached freshman year. My parents and friends were definitely the ones who encouraged me to make Valediction a goal and they supported me along the way.”

But even with all of the work she □

Salutarian

By Rose Falletta

From kindergarten to twelfth grade, you work for thirteen school years to get to graduation. That’s thirteen years worth of projects, tests, assignments, and so much more, just to get to this moment. For senior Liam Doney, those thirteen years of hard work and dedication earned him the title of Salutarian of the Class of 2022.

The title of Salutarian is one of the highest honors for a student. Being ranked 2nd in your graduating class is no easy feat, and any student who earns the title should be immensely proud of their hard work.

Doney said, “I am extremely honored to be recognized for my efforts as salutarian and am so grateful to be where I am.” He continued, “Staying motivated was the most challenging thing for me. There was a constant feeling of being almost finished, which made it difficult to work due to tiredness. I was motivated to finish the year, however, for the same reason, so it maybe was a good thing overall.

(Senioritis is real). I was certainly supported by my friends and family, but intrinsic motivation was my main driver throughout these four years. I always do my best as a minimum in all my endeavors. As for encouragement, I received a lot of support from my teachers both verbally and in their teaching. I would especially like to thank Mrs. Ilicovici and Mr. Poppele for their support, as I have been very close to both of them in my years here.”

Throughout high school, Doney took numerous Honors and AP classes that challenged him. They are a large factor in how Doney earned the title of Salutarian, but they also helped him determine what he wants to do in the future. Doney said, “Human Anatomy and Physiology was one of my favorite classes. It lined up the most with what I want to do in my life: neuroscience. I also loved AP Psychology for the same reason. This fall I will be attending Boston College to major in neuroscience on the pre-med track with hopes of becoming a neurologist or neurosurgeon some day.”

He added, “Spanish was also a super fun class for me because I have always taken great interest in languages and had great support throughout my practicing.” Doney was involved in the Scholastic Scrimmage team through his years at the high school. He also does some activities outside of school, some of those being playing the guitar and piano, as well as playing hockey for the Lehigh Valley Phantoms Youth 18AA team.

Lastly, Doney provided some advice for all students who continue on at Pen Argyl and for anyone with big goals for the future. He said, “No effort goes to waste. Even if it feels meaningless, your time and energy will pay dividends in the future, no matter how.” We congratulate Doney on his outstanding achievements in the classroom, and we wish him luck as he continues on to Boston College, as well as in all his future endeavors!