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Class Act: Andrew Malia

Owego Free Academy

FEBRUARY 24, 2010, 11:00 AM

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Grade: Senior

Andrew Malia already knows where he's going after graduation: the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. He was the first student from the 24th Congressional District — home of Rep. Michael Arcuri, who nominated him — appointed this year to a U.S. Military Service Academy. The son of Mike and Mindy Malia, Andrew has a younger sister and older brother. He's taking mostly Advanced Placement courses and participates on the varsity soccer, swimming and track teams. Outside of school, he likes hunting and hiking.



Owego Free Academy's Andrew Malia, this week's Class Act



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You were appointed to the Naval Academy. How tough was the application process?

Multiple thousands apply, but only 1,200 are accepted. It's a long, rigorous process. There are a lot of essays. And then you need to get nominated.



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How did you get nominated?

I had to go to the Congressman, Michael Arcuri, and write an essay.



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Why the academy?

I've always wanted to serve. I'm really looking into the Marine Corps. I figured the best way was to get an education and go as an officer.



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Do you have any family in the military?

My brother goes to Annapolis, so I'll be joining him. He'll be a sophomore. It's not why I'm going, though.



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That's pressure!

I was looking into West Point. They're kind of rivals.



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You're in forensics. Tell me about that.

It's a newer program. We just got done with ballistics. I was just reading about hair follicles.

What's your favorite subject?

Probably math; I'm good with numbers. I like

college calculus.

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What's on your iPod?

Everything. You name it, it's on there.

What do you do for fun?

Sports or outdoor activities — hunting, hiking, fishing.

What quality do you admire most in other people?

Probably generosity, someone who can give even when they don't have much themselves.

What's your favorite food?

Pasta. You name it, I'll eat it.

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