

National Honor Society Induction Speech  
Brett Drozdowski  
By Mr. Christopher Tamburro  
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How many of the teenagers you know read the Wall Street Journal? Of those, how many are not plotting to take over the world? One, and only one, comes to mind. The saga begins on a train two years ago on our way to the first VHS appearance at the national Euro Challenge competition - and continues today in Fed Challenge and our economics course. The day of the Euro Challenge, our inductee was ready - wearing a business suit and armed with the Journal, headed toward the Manhattan financial district. When he was faced with the challenge of presenting in front of corporate and government officers, he did not blink. In fact, he harnessed the power of the Wall Street Journal - he pulled the newspaper out to give examples of how to solve the unemployment situation in Ireland. The judges were ashamed that they had not read the article that morning. Since that time, he has presented solutions to highly complex issues related to the economic situations of Europe and the United States. He is one of a few hundred students, and adults for that matter, who have had the grit to present in front of experts in the field.

An understanding of economics requires a special kind of mind. It seems like a complicated science. Really, economics is the appreciation of how scarce resources are allocated. This requires a reasonable person. Now, some might argue that no reasonable teenager could possibly like this field. However, someone like this inductee is made for this it. It takes tenacity and problem solving, perhaps a little bit of craziness also. Most importantly, there is a requisite desire to learn - a love for inquiry. This inductee shows this every day by not only answering questions expertly, but also by posing the most important issues. I look forward to his questions in class. He wants to solve problems - he looks for a challenge, and runs toward the challenges

that so many would run away from!

I don't think he will take over the world, but he could if he wanted to. He is so passionate and knowledgeable about history that I know he will not repeat the mistakes of others who have tried. One might think that a young man who has developed the skills necessary to rule the world would be the unapproachable type, always planning his next power move. Not true for him.

This inductee is his own man, has never fit someone else's prototype why start now? He loves his family, and is a great friend. He is a great example for his sister. He can have a meaningful conversation with anyone - a teacher, principal, or a nice lady on a NJ Transit train. These are attributes that I regrettably cannot portray on a chart that most economists would like. It's not to say that he may not take over the world, but at least it will be a pleasant transition. And, it would be the only way the Mets will ever win a world series.

Tonight will undoubtedly be the first of many occasions during which he will be recognized for achievement and service. All I ask of him is that when he wins the Nobel Prize, he stops in at Verona High School to inspire a new generation.

It is an honor to induct Brett Drozdowski into the National Honor Society.