There were many factors that played a role on what university I would attend. After much deliberation, I chose the University of New Hampshire. It is an in-state school, has a strong engineering program and a wonderful campus. The biggest factor to me when picking a school is its extracurricular organizations. UNH looked to have a strong selection of engineering organizations including the local FSAE team and UNH LunaCats, who participate in the Robotics Mining Competition each year at Kennedy Space Center. I promptly became an active member in both of these organizations and quickly noticed they lacked a certain culture I wanted. My classes always come first in terms of the prioritization of my time, but it is crucial to apply your learning directly to engineering projects. During my second semester of my freshman year, I started UNH Students for the Exploration and Development of Space (SEDS). UNH SEDS is a chapter within a nationwide organization that promotes aerospace engineering projects, business competitions and community outreach/events. By being the CTO, I am responsible in managing all tech leads within projects and making sure every member, including the less experienced, are participating. I was disappointed by the management of other engineering organizations in getting students from all grades involved. I think it is crucial to have cross-grade learning within an organization so once you are a senior, you have had 4 years of valuable hands-on experience. As a current sophomore, I have established a life and routine that includes excelling in the classroom, applying my knowledge and creativity to my club and spending any remaining free time tinkering and free reading.

I believe that a person can only have one true passion. Whether it is literature, construction or space exploration, everyone should never ignore it. Unfortunately, to be able to work on my passion every day, I must join the most competitive work force in the world. I have abandoned many of my life habits to ensure that I am doing everything in my power to reach my dream, to pursue my passion. I take life as a series of steps, each step getting you closer to your final goal. I want to be on the forefront of space exploration and aerospace engineering. I want to be able to contribute to making humans a multi=planetary species and push the bounds of what is currently possible. The SMART program will allow me to join the aerospace industry directly after my studies at UNH and would be invaluable to my future endeavors. The Department of Defense does outstanding research in rocket propulsion, jet engine performance and aerodynamics, all topics I am very interested in. I have selected my different facilities because as I was reading what they were, a certain light started flickering in my head, telling me that this could be the key to my future. The USA is starting to lose its focus. Before I was born, we were pushing what we thought was possible in all things space related. We sent humans to the moon! I want to help the USA get back its motivation on why we wanted to be the leaders in space exploration. We are explorers at heart and need to regain our leadership in the space that is so vast, anything is possible.

The DoD will provide me with a chance to get into the thick of industry research that will allow me to get hands on experience in the world of aerospace engineering. Air force departments house the best testing facilities in the world and provide direct research correlated to my interest in rocketry. I will be able to learn what it truly means to be part of a high functioning team and be able to contribute my skills and teamworking abilities to wherever I am assigned.

Physics minor

Research

Frame using my major and drive what I will do by nature of what employer provides

Talk about dod facilities, why those and keep it open that these are ones that I know for a fact