

Resident headed to play Division 1 boys lacrosse

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Westford —

Tommy Labadini's dreams of being a college athlete are coming true.

The Westford resident and recent graduate from Salisbury Prep School in Connecticut will be attending Division 1 Loyola College in Maryland in the fall where he will play on the Greyhounds boys lacrosse team.

"It is very exciting to get this opportunity," Labadini said. "I was recruited by Notre Dame, Denver and Georgetown but I really think that the Loyola campus stuck out for me."

As part of the class of 2016 at Loyola, Labadini will be joining a program is certainly established. In fact, the Greyhounds are coming off one of their best seasons in school history when they won the national championship with a 9-3 victory over Maryland.

"I am excited about the opportunity but at the same time, I am very nervous," Labadini said. "I am working hard now during the summer to make sure I am ready."

As a member of the Salisbury Prep team this spring, Labadini's team was co-champions of the New England West Conference with Deerfield. Salisbury finished the season nationally ranked as they team was sixth in the country.

Labadini had a fair share of memorable moments this year that included a game-winning goal with .2 seconds left to help Salisbury beat rival Hotchkiss School in Connecticut. The Loyola-bound midfielder also netted a double overtime game-winning goal over Avon Old Farms Prep School in Connecticut.

"I really love that lacrosse is a combination of every sport," Labadini said. "Not many people know about it but it is compared to all the sports. It is just a really fun sport to play."

During his time at Salisbury, Labadini learned a lot from the coaching of Bobby Wynne.

"He was like a second father to me," Labadini said. "He has taught me so much. The offense that they run at Salisbury is like running a college offense, so that has helped me prepare for the next level."

Before taking his talents to Salisbury, Labadini helped Bishop Guertin win two Division 1 state championships in New Hampshire.

Labadini plans to major in business at Loyola and is hopeful that he will get to hoist a national championship while a member of the Greyhounds.

"I am like a grinder," Labadini said. "I consider myself physical, hard working player that is willing to do whatever it takes. I look forward to the challenge of playing Division 1 lacrosse."