ERIK JAMES STRITTMATER 2013 Game On Scholarship Recipient Essay.

With hands joined together in a chain, we stand as a single unit against all adversity. My sweat splatters against the smooth pavement as my mind races. Preparing for the battle ahead, I mentally simulate all possible situations. My body shakes in anticipation as I barely contain the pure energy accumulating within me. The sound of Hetlet's voice yanks me into reality, "Bang the drums!" I sense the adrenaline take control of my body; I turn to my team and confidently yell, "It's here boys! Make the most of it." Unbeknownst to me, this would be my first and last walk down the hill.

This past summer, I learned what true commitment meant. On the first play of my senior year, I suffered a season ending injury. Sustaining this injury meant that I would likely not be able to play again my senior season.

Once the doctor told me I would not be able to play as a Hitter again, I promised myself that I would still impact my team positively by any means possible. Looking at this as a challenge, I attacked without holding back. Becoming as vocal as possible, I strived to lead my team. I was determined to prove the doctor wrong and join my team on the field again. By the playoffs, I had made it back to practice and was able to take the field with my team for our state championship game.

Between school and sports, my passion has driven me to accomplish great things. On and off the field, I believe that passion, integrity and hard work will lead to success. Living by these values has assisted me in developing myself into the man I hope to become. As a result of this mind set, I have been given the opportunity to become a part of National Honors Society and lead as a captain on both the football and lacrosse teams. My work ethic and continuous effort has helped me over-come many obstacles and grow exponentially as a result of hardship.