Dear Admissions Committee,

If there was only one student that I was able to vote for to be accepted through the Admissions Committee, it would be James Rafferty. James is a really nice kid and has had quite an interesting life. James was born in the United Kingdom and moved to Australia when he was 4 (I think). He lived in Australia until he was 15 when his dad's company moved his entire family here to the United States. In Australia, he was very involved in swimming, cricket and rugby. The schooling/curriculum is very different in Australia and was probably the biggest adjustment he had to make when he came to the States. In Australia, the curriculum is very laid back and not very competitive. Coming to the States and Rye HS, he had a lot of adjustments to make, one he talked about was spelling and grammar. He pretty much had to re-learn a lot of it because it is very different from UK, Australia and the States. Socially, he has not had a problem adjusting. He played club hockey for a bit and has been doing swimming in high school. He thought about going to college in Australia but decided to continue his education here in the states. Before coming to visit Potsdam, he had visited Oswego. He was not fond of the campus because it was too spread out and too big for him. He really liked the layout of our campus and they had a great tour from Bobby. He is not 100% sure what he would like to study, but is thinking History and maybe teaching. He would add so much to this campus and would really do well here with the support of the bridges program and the international office.