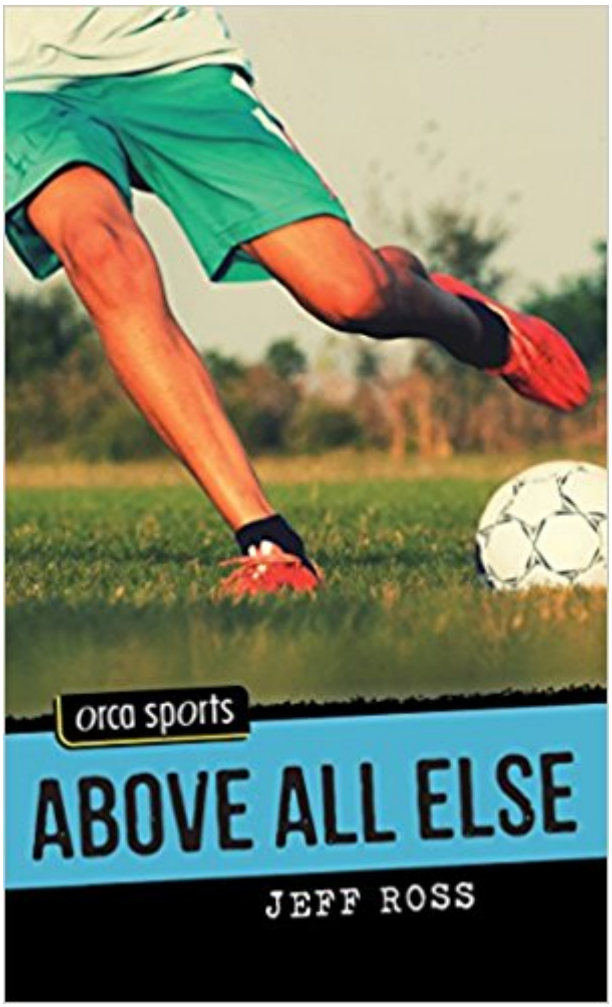
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Above All Else (Orca Sports)



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Synopsis

Del plays striker on his high school soccer team, the Cardinals, and theyÃ¢â ¬â„¢ve gone almost three seasons undefeated. To Del, itÃ¢â ¬â„¢s just a game, but some of the players think winning is all that matters. When an ugly tackle results in a major loss for the Cardinals against their main rival, the Rebels, things get heated between the teams. That night, one of DelÃ¢â ¬â„¢s teammates has his ankle broken by an unknown assailant, leaving him unable to take part in the playoffs. As Del tries to figure out which of the RebelsÃ¢â ¬â„¢ players is responsible for the attack, his coach brings in a substitute player, and heÃ¢â ¬â„¢s actually really good. Is it just a coincidence, or did someone finally take the above all else mentality too far?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

DelÃ¢â ¬â„¢s soccer team, the Cardinals, are on their way to a third consecutive undefeated season, but the atmosphere in the locker room has turned vicious. His teammates are consumed by the idea that winning is the only acceptable outcome, and Del is finding it increasingly difficult to be around them off the field. This latest entry in the Orca Sports series, an action-packed whodunit, explores the notion of sportsmanship and the twisted morality of winning by any means necessary. After a particularly contentious match, DelÃ¢â ¬â„¢s teammate is attacked and has his ankle broken, ÃƒÂ la Nancy Kerrigan. Del grows uneasy as accusations fly and his teammates seem dead set on exacting revenge. Ross expertly delivers a high-interest, accessible, suspenseful thriller

with a thoughtful message. The short chapters, straightforward language, authentic soccer details, and sly humor should have great appeal to the reluctant readership for which it is intended. Grades 5-8. --Magan Szwarek

"A fast-paced mystery with some excellent dialogue, action scenes, and an important message: one should not jump to conclusions and/or judge others until all of the evidence is in." (CM Magazine 2014-01-10)"Part detective story, part teenage romance, part reality show, and quite an entertaining quick read. Author Jeff Ross obviously knows his subject, audience and characters very well." (Resource Links 2014-02-01)

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