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Foul Trouble



Synopsis

Bestselling sportswriter John Feinstein exposes the big money and back-room deals that pervade college-basketball recruiting in this fast-break young adult novel. Terrell Jamerson is the #1 high school basketball player in the country. His team is poised to win State, top colleges are lining up to give him scholarships, and everyone says he could play in the NBA tomorrow. But it only takes one false step to lose everything. Danny Wilcox is Terrell's best friend and teammate, and a top prospect himself, but these days it seems like everyone wants to get close to Terrell: the sneaker guys, the money managers, the college boosters. They show up offering fast cars, hot girls, and cold, hard cash. They say they just want to help, but their kind of help could get Terrell disqualified. Danny and Terrell better keep their eyes on the ball if they hope to last the season. John Feinstein has been praised as "the best writer of sports books in America today" (The Boston Globe), and he proves it again in this fast-paced novel. "Thorough and suspenseful; a must-read for those interested in basketball and the dealings surrounding the sport." Kirkus Reviews, Starred From the Hardcover edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Starred Review Fueled by plenty of high-octane sports action, Feinstein's latest fast-break tale of intrigue and corruption in the world of athletics focuses on the hubbub surrounding a nationally ranked high-school basketball player. Terrell Jamerson has a clear path to the NBA, but there's an awful lot to navigate through: dazzling offers from colleges, enticing glimpses of the high life offered by unscrupulous scouts and agents, pressures exerted by sleazy

“friends,” and eagle-eyed NCAA officials with agendas of their own. Fortunately, not only is Terrell level-headed but he has loyal friends in teammate Danny, a point guard who is also getting noticed by college recruiters, and Danny’s stubbornly honest father, who coaches their team through a series of hard-fought games. A character from previous books, investigative journalist Bobby Kelleher, gets a significant supporting role, and Feinstein brings in actual players, coaches, reporters, and scouts for verisimilitude-building cameos. He also delivers blistering indictments of the NCAA: for leaning heavily on secondary young prospects while turning a blind eye to infractions by major ones and to the recruitment system for blatantly exploiting young athletes. Readers will understand how hard Terrell’s choices are—particularly after two accidents make taking the quick money look like the safer option. They will cheer him, too, as a team leader who ultimately makes decisions for the right reasons. Grades 7-10. --John Peters --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Starred Review, Booklist, September 1, 2013: “Readers will understand how hard Terrell’s choices are—particularly after two accidents make taking the quick money look like the safer option. They will cheer him, too, as a team leader who ultimately makes decisions for the right reasons.” Starred Review, Kirkus Reviews, October 15, 2013: “Thorough and suspenseful; a must-read for those interested in basketball and the dealings surrounding the sport.” School Library Journal, November 2013: “A riveting, cautionary tale about behind-the-scenes, big-money pressures confronting talented high school athletes. . . . Timely hot topics are embedded in this action-packed sports story. Readers will breathlessly await Terrell’s final decision.” From the Hardcover edition.

John Feinstein tells the story of two friends both having the same dreams but likely different outcome called *Foul Trouble*. Terrell and Danny were chosen for a special type of basketball showcase summer camp for high school players who are some of the top players at their position in the country. They both know that Terrell will never be alone while at the camp. Danny knowing that some people will try to get as close as they can to get Terrell to come to join them in some company. So, Danny knowing that will try to stay as close as he can to Terrell before something happens. But, Danny soon finds out that colleges are going to go after him and Terrell. After what seems to be Danny and Terrell’s longest year of their life they make their decisions that will change their lives forever. Where will Danny and Terrell go to college? “We are going to make history.” (Pg. 390) Will Terrell ever be left

alone? Will someone else join Danny and Terrell on their on going adventure? I recommend this book to anyone in 6th grade or older who likes sports and understand the seriousness of getting a scholarship for a sport.

One of my little gym rat's favorite. Two of the boys have read it and we keep it on the shelf for when boy number 3 is ready to read. finding things the kids like to read is important and our kids love these sports books!

I have tried books by this author before and never really got into them

John Feinstein has to be the best nonfiction sports writer of our time. His series of novels starring his 2 young children are also fabulous, captivating for both young readers as well as adults in the realistic potential sports mystery scenarios they portray. This book has Danny as a senior in high school and better than ever written before, if ever, illustrates the sad temptations that many of our young great amateur athletes face prior to choosing a college. Anyone unaware of or confused about how low college recruiting can sink should read this book, as should any parent with potentially great college athlete children. Kudos to John for exposing this stuff via his best weapon, the pen.

GOOD PRODUCT-GREAT SEERVICE

This book takes you on one path and then suddenly switches to another. You just can't stop reading once you get started.

excellent book for young guys really wanting to see underneath the public and press pressures on up and coming basketball stars. the normality of the two lead boys in the book is encouraging.

It was probably one if the best books I have ever read. It kept me on my toes at all times!!!! I loved it and I love john feinstein!!

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