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Illustrated by John Eastwood



PACIFIC

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In two more weeks he would help the Reject Rovers enter history as the worst team of all time. They'd never live it down. He could just see Kevin Taylor's face when he heard. Sean decided he would make sure the news got around.

He hadn't forgotten what had happened three years ago. Kevin Taylor had just started the Rovers when Sean had generously offered to be their captain. The team had voted and they'd actually turned him down. Him! Sean Slacker – with more talent in his big toe than their whole team put together.

The insult of being rejected by a bunch of rejects still made him boil with anger. Ever since, he'd been waiting to get even. Now the perfect chance had fallen into his lap.

As he put the book back on the shelf Sean's eyes fell on the local paper. It was open at the sports page.

There was the usual roundup of the local junior league by someone named Steve Ryan.

It gave Sean an idea, an idea so brilliant he had to go out to the hall mirror and blow himself a big kiss. The Reject Rovers were about to become famous!





Kevin saw the look of cruel triumph on Slacker's face. Suddenly he understood.

"It was you, wasn't it?" he said. He got right into Slacker's face. "You set all this up. You called the paper. You told Steve Ryan all about us."

Slacker tried to push him away. He backed up a few steps.

"Don't be stupid! Do you think I'd go to all that trouble? Just for your pathetic team?"

"So how come he knew about you?"

"Who did?"

"Steve Ryan. He knew your name."

"So what?"

"He even knew how many goals you'd scored this season. Twenty-one."

Slacker's eyes betrayed his mistake.

"You're nuts. He could have easily found that out himself."

"Why should he? You couldn't help showing off, could you, Slackjaw?"

Sean Slacker looked around for support. The crowd around them had closed in. They sensed a fight, but Slacker didn't want that. He wanted Kevin to look stupid.

"At least I've got something to show off about," he taunted. "Not like the worst team in history."

"We're not. Not yet."

"You will be, when we thrash you."

"If you thrash us," Kevin said rashly.

"Oh yeah! You think we won't? You losers are so slow a team of snails could beat you!"

That was when Kevin made his big mistake. That was when he should have turned around and walked away.



WORST WORLD

Usually making history is a good thing...
unless you are one of the Reject Rovers. Kevin
Taylor knows that if his soccer team loses one
more game, they will go down in the record
books as the worst team of all time. Somehow
Kevin has to keep this from happening. If only
he had more time!







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