

## 32. Vindictive Player

(Girl)

1 Nobody could believe it when the coach posted the A  
2 and B team lists. Everyone told me that she must've made  
3 a mistake. Clearly she'd made a mistake. There was no way  
4 I didn't make the A team. I was a third-year player. One of  
5 the *only* third-year players to try out. I've *always* been on  
6 the A team. How could I possibly have been demoted?  
7 Pushed down to the team made up of mostly sixth and  
8 seventh graders! I'm in eighth grade, for crying out loud! I  
9 didn't even play the B team when I was in sixth grade!

10 Coach Manning wouldn't change it either. Said my tryout  
11 score wasn't in the top fifteen. So what? I had a bad tryout.  
12 Probably because I hadn't even taken it seriously. I mean,  
13 come on! It was a waste of my time to even try out! We all  
14 knew I was going to make the A team.

15 It's like she's out to get me. She's made me the  
16 laughingstock of the team. Practically the whole school. I  
17 couldn't let her get away with that! Which is why they're not  
18 talking about *me* any more! They're talking about her! And  
19 those suspicious looking pictures that they found on her cell  
20 phone! Coach Manning sure has some explaining to do now,  
21 doesn't she?

22 Rumor has it she's going to get fired. Well, it serves her  
23 right! She's *obviously* a horrible coach! Look what she's  
24 done to me! So maybe I should feel guilty about sneaking  
25 into her bag and stealing her cell phone and taking those  
26 pictures, but I don't! I'm doing the school a favor. We'll  
27 never win a meet with her leading the team! You bring a new  
28 coach in here and we'll just see who's on the A team!