

This month I read the book *Bleachers*, by John Grisham. I would rate this book a 9/10 because it was really descriptive and a really great book but it wasn't very action packed which is what I usually like to read. I would recommend this book to both boys and girls who don't mind a little sad in a book and who enjoy deep description. *Bleachers*, by John Grisham was a great read for me because I enjoy reading about sporty books even though the book wasn't about actually playing. Instead it was about memories that people had while playing sports.

In this book, Neely Crenshaw, an All-American quarterback wanted to fix things back in his hometown of Messina. His old coach, Eddie Rake, coached for thirty-four years, won 418 games, lost sixty-two, and won thirteen state championships. He wanted to die in peace as a football coach and a town hero. Messina was a crazy football town and when football teams would play on Friday nights, everybody would show up. But when Neely went to college to play football and had a knee injury that caused him never to play football again, the entire town of Messina was devastated and he didn't go back to Messina for fifteen years. So when Neely went back to Messina and Eddie Rake was about to die from cancer, he reunited with his old teammates to decide if they loved or hated Eddie Rake.

#### What It Means

Throughout this book, I think a big problem was that Neely Crenshaw felt like he let down the entire town of Messina when he got injured in college. He didn't return for 15 years because he didn't want the whole town to know how his life now was so normal when they all wanted to relive the glory days when he was their All-American. He felt like when he was injured, he was helpless and couldn't be the person the townspeople wanted him to be. So I think that Neely Crenshaw felt like a let down and that if he returned to Messina, the town thought that the old glory days would return with him.

#### Why It Matters

Neely Crenshaw felt like he was a big let down in the entire story. In the world, people try really hard to please each other which can be great. But a bad part of that is that they don't feel as if they can make any mistakes. Also, when the mistake or problem is something that they can't control in this world as Neely's injury was, he still felt like a let down. I think that a lot of people would see this if they read this book. I would hope that after reading this book, people would realize how to get over trying to be a major people-pleaser by looking how Neely Crenshaw did it. Overall, this book showed me a lot of different messages that you should follow in life and not feel like you let people down if it isn't in your control.