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## **Asa Branca - Um Sonho Brasileiro**

**(Asa Branca - A Brazilian Dream)  
(BRAZILIAN)**

An Embrafilme release of a Cinema do Seculo XXI production. Written and directed by Djalma Limongi Batista. Camera (color), Gualter Limongi Batista; editor, Jose Motta; music, Mario Valerio Zaccaro; set design, Jefferson Albuquerque Jr., Felipe Crescenti; costumes, Tania Magaldi, Crescenti. Reviewed at Sorrento Intl. Encounter, Oct. 26, 1988. Running time: 111 MIN.

With: Edson Celulari, Eva Wilma, Walmor Chagas, Geraldo d'El Rey, Gianfranco Guarnieri, Rita Cadillac, Ruth Rachou, Mira Haar.

■ **Sorrento — "Asa Branca" is a vacuous realization of the teenage dream to reach soccer stardom. A wholesome, provincial, adolescent jock strong-arms his way to fame through endless sacrifice and moral corruption.**

In this dripping saga, Antonio Dos Reis (Edson Celulari) switches his name to Asa Branca (white wings) and abandons home and friends to fulfill the role of angel at dismal local carnivals. He sells his soul to a succession of corrupt soccer club owners and intolerant, servile coaches.

Lonely and confused, he heads to the big city to have his innocence tempted and (mildly) tarnished. The happy ending is a kitschy special effects ascension to immortality.

This wholly predictable pic is tiresome and mediocre at best. Acting is improbable even to teen idol worshipers or sport fans. Shoddy soccer footage and poor lensing and soundtrack further decrease audience chances. —*Chin.*

*VARITY*  
*11/23/88*