



CARTER HIGH<sup>®</sup>  
CHRONICLES

**BACK-UP**

*Quarterback*



**SADDLEBACK**  
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**CHRONICLES**

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By Eleanor Robins





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|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Back-up Quarterback</b> | The Fastest Runner    |
| The Best Week Ever         | It Is Not a Date      |
| Boy of Their Dreams        | One Date Too Many     |
| Don't Blame Me             | The Right Kind of Win |
| The Easy Way               | Too Late              |

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# Chapter 1

Dan was in his front yard. Kirk was there too. Kirk was his best friend.

“What do you want to do?” Dan asked.

“I don’t know. What do you want to do?” Kirk asked.

Dan said, “Practice starts next week. I could throw some passes to you.”

“OK,” Kirk said.

Dan was on the football team. Kirk was on the tennis team. But Kirk also helped the football team.

Dan got his football from the house. Then both boys went to Dan’s backyard.

Kirk said, “What are you and Eve

going to do this weekend?”

Eve was Dan’s girlfriend. They had been dating for almost a year.

Dan said, “We’re going to a show. What are you and Claire going to do?”

Claire was Kirk’s girlfriend. They had been dating for about two months.

Kirk said, “Claire has to go out of town. She has to go see her grandmother one weekend each month.”

The boys threw the ball to each other for a while.

Then Dan said, “What do you think?”

“About what?” Kirk asked.

“Will I be the quarterback this year?”

Dan said.

The team would need a new quarterback.

Dan hoped he would be the quarterback. Last year he had been the back-up quarterback.

Two other boys were going to try out for the job. He and Kirk knew them.

Kirk said, "You should be. You pass better than the other guys. So the coach should pick you."

Dan was sure he would be the quarterback too. He could hardly wait for the season to start.

The boys threw some more passes to each other.

Then Dan said, "Know any news?"

Not much had been going on all week.

"One thing," Kirk said.

"What?" Dan asked.

"A new guy moved in down the street from me. But I haven't met him yet," Kirk said.

"Know anything about him?" Dan asked.

Kirk said, "Yeah. He played on the football team at his other school."

“What did he play?” Dan asked.

Kirk said, “I heard he’s a running back. But I don’t know for sure.”

They could use a new running back on the team.

Dan said, “I hope he is a back. We sure could use one more good back.”

Kirk said, “I’ll let you know as soon as I find out. I’m going to try to meet him before practice starts.”

Dan heard the phone ring.

Dan said, “I hear the phone. I’ll be back in a few minutes.”

Dan hurried into the house. Kirk stayed out in the yard.

The phone call was for Dan.

It was Coach Grant.

Dan got very excited.

Did Coach Grant call to tell him he would be the quarterback?