




CARTER HIGH[®]
CHRONICLES

THE FASTEST
Runner



SADDLEBACK
EDUCATIONAL PUBLISHING



Chapter 1

Ben was in his math class. Mr. Wong was his math teacher.

The class was working on a study sheet. It was for the exam.

The next week was exam week. Ben didn't like exam week. He had to study too much. And he was never sure what the teachers would ask.

Mr. Wong was at his desk. He was going over the last test with each student.

Mr. Wong said, "Ben, your turn."

Ben got up. He walked over to the desk. Mr. Wong showed Ben his test.

Ben had an F on it. But Ben wasn't worried. He had a passing grade in the class.

Mr. Wong went over the test with Ben. He helped Ben with what he missed.

Then Mr. Wong said, "You still have a passing grade, Ben. But it is not that good. Study hard for the exam. Or you might have to take this class again next year."

Ben knew he had to study hard. But for science. Not for math. He would do OK on math.

Ben went back to his desk. He worked some more on the study sheet. But he got tired of doing it. So he didn't do it all. He was glad when math class was over.

And he was glad when school was over for the day.

Ben saw Steve after school. Steve was his best friend. They both had Mr. Reese

for science. But not at the same time.

“What are you doing this weekend?”
Ben asked.

“I have to study for our science exam,”
Steve said.

Ben said, “So do I. Do you want to
study with me?”

Steve said, “Sure. As long as you
really study.”

“I will,” Ben said.

Steve said, “I want to go out for track.
Right now I have all passing grades. And
I want to keep them.”

Ben was going out for track too. He was
the fastest runner in the school. And he
had won all of his track events last year.

On Saturday the boys helped each
other with science. Steve studied science
on Sunday too. But Ben didn't.

Then Monday morning came. It was
the first day of exam week.

Ben was on his way into the school. Steve was with him.

Steve said, "I hope I do OK. I always worry too much about my exams."

Ben thought Steve did too.

Ben's science exam was hard. But he thought he did OK on it.

Ben saw Mr. Wong after the exam. Mr. Wong was walking down the hall. He stopped when he saw Ben.

Mr. Wong said, "Don't forget what I said, Ben. Study hard for your math exam."

"I will," Ben said.

Ben would study for it. But not a lot. He had studied his science a lot. He was tired of studying. And he was sure he would do well on his math exam.

Ben studied some for his other exams. And he studied some for his math exam. But he did not study a lot for it.

The math exam was his last one. It was much harder than Ben thought it would be.

There was some math he didn't know how to do. He had been sure that kind of math would not be on the exam. So he didn't do those math problems on his study sheet.

Mr. Wong should not have made the exam that hard.

Ben was not sure he did well.

Would he still have a passing grade in the class?

Ben was sure he would.

He had to have a passing grade to go out for track.



CARTER HIGH[®] C H R O N I C L E S

Back-Up Quarterback
The Best Week Ever
Boy of Their Dreams
Don't Blame Me
The Easy Way

The Fastest Runner
It Is Not a Date
One Date Too Many
The Right Kind of Win
Too Late

Ben has a dilemma because he's failed math but wants to go out for track. The coach checks all grades, but Ben's grades are confused with Ed's because they both have the same last name. Should Ben tell the truth about his grades and miss out on the chance to run track?

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