





## The Magic rugby ball

The morning passed by and James loaded his kitbag into the family car before they set off to make the journey to Gloucester, about two hours away. When they arrived they could not believe their eyes. There were thousands of people making their way through the ticket gates to watch the match. There must have been about 16,500 people in the ground, which meant that it was a sell out. Now James felt really nervous!

Crediton took to the pitch amongst cheering, shouting and a wonderful scene of flags and waving. The referees and opposition were already in place and the game began shortly with James kicking off.

The game did not begin well for Crediton. They had only 3 points on the scoreboard, a penalty kick successfully kicked by James. Cheltenham, on the other hand, had already scored 4 converted tries and 3 penalties, putting them way ahead on 37 points.

At half-time, James talked with his team. "Boys, we've got to go out there and run our socks off! We didn't score enough points and we know that Cheltenham's strong point is their try scoring. It's up to us to go out and bring home the trophy! Let's go win this game!" James was putting on a brave face because he had never felt so nervous and was not at all confident. However, he couldn't show this to his team mates.

**Continued**





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Crediton took to the field after the referees and waited for Cheltenham to appear. In the same way as the first half, Cheltenham started fantastically. The ball was being thrown and kicked everywhere and in no time they had reached 47 points with no reply from Crediton. It was time for James to take control of the game and as soon as he received the ball he kicked a magnificent drop goal!

James walked back to his own half with the rest of the team. The Cheltenham fly-half kicked the ball deep into the Crediton half where James caught the ball comfortably. He felt a strange tingling sensation in his hand. He passed the ball and it sped past the centres and intercepting opposition. The Crediton winger caught the ball and ran the length of the field to score a try. The opposition looked up in amazement; it was an unbelievable pass.

James couldn't believe his eyes either. Something was strange about the ball, but it felt good, so he made his way to kick the conversion which soared through the posts effortlessly. The score was now 47 - 12 with all to play for!

*Now turn complete the short story following the title carefully*

