



Val's White Tape



Val had a big job.



Mike and Jen were in a five-mile bike race on the wide lane by the pines, and Val had to tell who would win the prize.



Mike and Jen sped down the lane side by side. They crossed the line at the same time! "The prize is mine," said Mike.



"No, it is mine!" said Jen. So they rode again.
But it looked just the same to Val. Mike
griped, and Jen griped too.



Then Val had a plan. She got a thin white tape and stuck it from one pine to the other, right at the end of the lane.



"Ride one last time," said Val. "The first tire to hit this tape will rip it."



Mike and Jen rode as fast as they could. Rip!
The tape split, and a long white stripe was
stuck on Jen's bike.



"I can see it! Jen wins the prize," said Val with a smile. Mike smiled too. "That was a close race," he said. "Nice ride, Jen!"