

# MISTAKEN IDENTITY



BY JACK MAYO

Meanwhile, at home, Henry was lying on the bed feeling miserable. His ankle hurt and he couldn't believe he was missing the big day. He turned his head and saw Jackson's copy of *The Hardy Boys* lying on the bedside table. He picked it up, looked at the front cover, and decided that anything was better than thinking about the race. With no one else around to see him, he started to read.

The starter gun banged loudly in Jackson's ear. They were off! He had no idea how he was going to keep up with the other runners but he knew he had to try his hardest. Putting one foot in front of the other he started to run, pumping his arms back and forth like he had seen Henry do so many times. He was

already exhausted. His chest hurt and he found it hard to breathe, but, amazingly, after a few minutes, he was into a rhythm and found himself keeping up with the pack. Round and round the oval he ran, losing count of the laps. Suddenly, he heard the bell ringing and knew that the end was in sight. He thought of Henry and told himself that he had to keep going. He passed one, two, then three other boys, and soon realised he was in second place with only 200 metres to go. The crowd was going wild, shouting Henry's name.

With just metres to go, Jackson didn't think he could win. But, remembering a move he had seen Henry do before, he shifted up a gear, pushed his body