

Who Won?

I saw a beautiful example of kindness in 1968 during the Special Olympics track and field meet. One participant was Kim Peek, a brain-damaged, severely handicapped boy racing in the 50-yard dash.

Kim was racing against two other athletes with cerebral palsy. They were in wheelchairs; Kim was the lone runner. As the gun sounded, Kim moved quickly ahead of the other two. Twenty yards ahead and 10 yards from the finish line, he turned to see how the others were coming. The girl had turned her wheelchair around and was stuck against the wall. The other boy was pushing his wheel chair backward with his feet. Kim stopped, went back and pushed the little girl across the finish line. The boy in the wheelchair going backward won the race. The girl took second. Kim lost.

Or did he? The crowd that gave Kim a standing ovation didn't think so.

Dan Clark

QUESTIONS

1. Answer the following questions using your own words. (2 points)

a. How many competitors were there in the race?

b. Why did Kim stop to go back?

2. Are the following statements true or false? (1 point)

a. Kim won the race.

b. Kim was in a wheelchair.

3. Find a word or phrase in the text which, in context, is similar in meaning to: (1 point)

a. Generosity: _____

b. Disabled, having physical or mental problems: _____

4. Choose a, b or c in each question below. Only one choice is correct. (2 points)

1. The participants in the race were

a. two boys and one girl.

b. three boys.

c. two girls and one boy.

2. The athletes in a wheelchair were

