

There was a Combined Guard of Honour when His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh attended the ~~xxxxxxx~~ British ~~and~~ Empire and Commonwealth Games in Vancouver; and winning the Long Jump was Ken Wilburst ~~^~~ - a victory for England which the Duke watched in company with Lord Alexander. ~~^~~ Putting the Shot was won by England's John Savidge --- ~~with another new Games Record of fifty-five feet one inch and~~  
~~quarter.~~

The final day of the Games was graced by brilliant weather; in fact --- for athletics it was too hot, and probably the heat was partly ~~xxxxxxx~~ responsible, for the tragedy that came in at the finish of the Marathon --- now starting from the Stadium. The tragedy of Jim Peters. But while the Marathon was taking its arduous course across country, crowds were on tiptoe awaiting the start of the mile. They were calling it --- the Mile of the Century.

And so it was. For in it were matched, the only two men in the world ever to run a mile in less than four minutes. Here, just after the start, John Landy is lying fourth. Bannister is close behind. Landy of Australia, holder of the world's mile record; and Dr Roger Bannister of England --- the first man to break that ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ elusive four minutes.

Now John Landy has gone into the lead, setting a cracking pace. Behind him --- quite a way behind --- is Bannister. This is the second lap.

At the halfway stage, Bannister puts on the pace and closes the gap. In the third lap --- with one more to go --- Bannister once again narrows the gap.

Now watch Bannister make his final, unbelievable burst.

~~As he passes Landy is looking for him the other side.~~

Bannister has won the mile of the century --- the miracle mile. In three minutes, fifty eight point eight seconds; just short of the world record.

Bannister quickly recovered and went over for a word with Landy, who still seemed amazingly fresh; while the band played for the English win.

Now the crowd awaits the re-entry of the Marathon runners for their finish inside the Stadium. And when Jim Peters came in he was leading by many minutes --- but exhausted beyond endurance.

Peters' indomitable courage dragged him on; but he collapsed on a finishing line that was not the finish of the Marathon.

Second man into the Stadium was Joseph McGhee of Scotland. He crossed the line to win in two hours, thirty-nine minutes thirty six seconds.

McGhee's magnificent win goes on ~~XXXXX~~ the official record; but in the legends, ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Jim Peters will always be remembered.