



## Showdown at Shepherd's Bush: The 1908 Olympic Marathon and the Three Runners Who

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By Davis, David.

Thomas Dunne. 1 Cloth(s), 2012. hard. Book Condition: New. London 1908: The world watched as three runnersIrish-American Johnny Hayes, who grew up running barefoot through the streets of New York City; Italian candy maker Dorando Pietri; and famed Onondaga-Canadian runner Tom Longboatconverged for the finish of the first 26.2-mile Olympic marathon. An exhausted Pietri was the first to enter the stadium at Shepherd's Bush, but collapsed several times and was aided by officials, resulting in the title being given to the runner-up, Hayes. Sportswriter David Davis captures the drama of the eventset in the context of other newly inaugurated world championships that inspired a global passion for the competitive long-distance marathon."Although the focus is on just one event at the 1908 Olympics, the text places the marathon in the context of the evolution of the Olympics and other major sporting competitions during this period, including the World Series, World Cup, and Tour de France. Davis expertly weaves the tale of these three dynamic men into the changing political landscape of the day, detailing the racism Longboat faced as a Native American, the hardscrabble life in the tenements of New York for Hayes, and the effects of the recent unification of Italy...



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