

At the White City, the A.A.A. Championships brought stern rivalry for those prized National titles.

And thrilling finishes, too, especially in the 880 yards - when the holder, Mike Rawson looked the winner until...

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Ireland's Olympic champion, Ronnie Delany ^{No 8 -} unleashed his terrific finishing burst.

Gallantly, Rawson battled on - but speed and stamina won the day...

With a time of one minute forty-nine-point-six seconds - the "Dublin Flyer" equalled the championship record.

With Derek Ibbotson failing to qualify, the Mile looked a safe bet for Brian Hewson ^{No 21 -} the 1955 champion.

Taking over from pacemaker Peter Clark on the final bend, Hewson was never seriously troubled. Though the final challenge of Mike Berrisford (No. 6) showed him a champion in the making.

Another title for four-minute miler - Brian Hewson

A top-class field for the Three Miles, and with the last-minute addition of Ibbotson ^{No 1 -} (determined to hit back at his critics), the sparks seemed certain to fly...

But it was Ibbotson who did the flying. Though the track-conditions were all against him (on a day of sunshine and heavy rain), he soon outstripped all the opposition - reeling off the laps in near/^{world} record time.

Then, piling on the pace - in the final lap, Ibbotson sprinted home - shattering those mighty Chris Chataway records by two-point-four seconds.

"A determined young man" - record-breaker Derek Ibbotson.