

Kipchoge breaks two-hour marathon barrier, but it won't be a record

VIENNA — On a misty Saturday morning in **Vienna**, on a course specially chosen for speed, in an athletic spectacle of historic proportions, Eliud Kipchoge of **Kenya** ran 26.2 miles in a once-**inconceivable** time of 1 hour, 59 minutes, 40 seconds.

Vienna 维也纳

Kenya 肯尼亚

inconceivable 不可思议的；难以置信的

In becoming the first person to cover the marathon distance in less than two hours, Kipchoge, 34, achieved a sports milestone granted almost **mythical** status in the running world, breaking through a **temporal** barrier that many would have deemed untouchable only a few years ago.

mythical 神话的；虚构的

temporal 当时的；现世的

Kipchoge, an eight-time major marathon winner and three-time Olympic medalist, pounded his **chest** twice as he crossed the finish line in Vienna's **leafy** Prater Park.

chest 胸部

leafy 多叶的

Cheered on by a thick crowd of spectators, he was lifted into the air by members of his team, including 41 professional runners who had acted as pacesetters during the run.

For Kipchoge, the **feat** merely **burnished** his credentials as the world's greatest marathoner.

feat 壮举；功绩

burnish 抛光；擦亮

"Together, when we run, we can make this world a beautiful world," Kipchoge said after finishing.

For all its **magnitude**, the accomplishment will be regarded largely as a symbolic one. The **eye-popping** time, which was 10 seconds quicker than the 1:59:50 time Kipchoge and his team had set out to achieve, will not be officially recognized as a world record because it was not run under open marathon conditions and because it featured a dense rotation of professional pacesetters.

magnitude 大小; 量级

eye-popping 瞠目结舌的

What the event lacked in officially sanctioned *gravitas*, though, it seemed determined to make up for with theater and *grandiose proclamations*.

gravitas 庄严

sanction 制裁; 认可; 支持

grandiose 宏伟的

proclamation 宣告; 公布