

Stuttgart 1993

Final (Aug 22)

1,	Javier Sotomayor	CUB	2.40
2,	Artur Partyka	POL	2.37
3,	Steve Smith	GBR	2.37
4,	Ralf Sonn	GER	2.34
5,	Troy Kemp	BAH	2.34
6,	Hollis Conway	USA	2.34
7,	Arturo Ortiz	ESP	2.31
8,	Tony Barton	USA	2.31

9, Tim Forsyth AUS 2.28; 10, Oleg Zhukovskiy BLR 2.28; =11, Jean-Charles Gicquel FRA & Robert Ruffini SVK 2.25

Series	2.15	2.20	2.25	2.28	2.31	2.34	2.37	2.40
Sotomayor	-	-	o	-	-	o	o	xo
	xxx							
Partyka	o	-	xo	-	o	x	o	xxx
Smith	-	-	o	-	xxxo	xo	o	xxx
Sonn	-	o	-	o	o	o	xxx	
Kemp	-	-	o	-	xo	o	xxx	
Conway	-	-	xo	-	xo	xo	x	xx
Ortiz	-	o	-	o	xo	xxx	x	
Barton	o	-	o	o	xxx	xxx		

On his third appearance in a World Championship final, Sotomayor finally won the title. He needed just five jumps, but was pushed by Partyka and Smith. A record total of seven men had attempted 2.37, two of whom (Sonn and Conway) passed after failing once, before going in vain up to 2.40.

The Cuban, Polish and British jumpers all cleared 2.37 on their first attempts. This matched the national records of Partyka and Smith, before both went out at 2.40. Sotomayor made this height on his second attempt, then had two tries at 2.46. The second of these was quite reasonable. He passed his final chance, admitting he had been distracted by the runners in the 10,000m final.

"It was not to be today," said the world record holder. "I'm content with the result. The crowd were very good."

The crowd were particularly thrilled by the performance of Sonn, who led briefly after becoming the first man clear at 2.34. This was an outdoor personal best for the German.

Qualifying Round (2.31 or top 12 to final) (Aug 20)

Group A qualifiers: Sonn, Partyka & Conway 2.28; Gicquel & Ortiz 2.25

Non-qualifiers: Juha Isolehto FIN, Dalton Grant GBR, Steinar Hoen NOR, Aleksey Yemelin RUS, Roberto Ferrari ITA 2.25; Brendan Reilly GBR & Lee Jin-Taek KOR, Marino Drake CUB & Dragutin Topić IWP 2.20; Robert Marinov BUL 2.15; Mark Mandy IRL & Satoru Nonaka JPN 2.10; Fakhr Aldien Gor JOR & Karl Scatliffe IVB 2.05; Lambros Papakostas GRE NH

Group B qualifiers: Barton, Forsyth, Smith, Sotomayor, Zhukovskiy, Kemp & Ruffini 2.28

Non-qualifiers: Hendrik Beyer GER & Takahisa Yoshida JPN 2.25; Rick Noji USA, Alex Zaliauskas CAN, Xavier Robillair FRA, Gustavo Becker ESP, Georgi Dakov BUL & Itai Margalit ISR 2.20; Othmane Belfaa ALG & Igor Paklin KGZ 2.15; Hugo Muñoz PER 2.10; Antonio Pazzaglia SMR 2.05; Patrik Sjöberg SWE DNS

Gothenburg 1995

Final (Aug 8)

1,	Troy Kemp	BAH	2.37
2,	Javier Sotomayor	CUB	2.37
3,	Artur Partyka	POL	2.35
=4,	Steve Smith	GBR	2.35
	Steinar Hoen	NOR	2.35
6,	Patrik Sjöberg	SWE	2.32
7,	Tony Barton	USA	2.29
=8,	Tim Forsyth	AUS	2.25
	Dragutin Topić	YUG	2.25
	Jaroslav Kotewicz	POL	2.25

11, Ian Thompson BAH 2.25; 12, Bi Hongyong CHN 2.15

Series	2.15	2.20	2.25	2.29	2.32	2.35	2.37	2.39
Kemp	-	-	o	o	-	xo	xo	xxx
Sotomayor	-	-	xxxo	-	o	o	xxxo	xxx
Partyka	o	-	o	-	x	o	xxx	

	2.15	2.20	2.25	2.29	2.32	2.35	2.37	2.39
Smith	-	-	-	o	-	xxxo	xx	x
Hoen	-	o	o	o	o	xxxo	xxx	
Sjöberg	-	-	o	-	o	xxx		
Barton	-	o	o	o	xx	-	x	
Forsyth	-	o	o	xxx				
Topić	o	-	o	xxx				
Kotewicz	o	-	o	xxx				

Hampered by a foot injury, Sotomayor lost for the first time at a major championship since Tokyo in 1991. The Cuban needed three tries at 2.25 but then shortened his run-up and went over 2.32 and 2.35 with no problems. After this height, five men were still in and the leader was Partyka.

The Pole was to end up with a bronze medal, for only Sotomayor and Kemp made it over 2.37. The Bahamian needed two tries to Soto's three. At 2.39, Sotomayor put on a pair of sunglasses as the sun was shining into the faces of the jumpers. He was very close but knocked down the bar on all three tries. Kemp's attempts were not as near, but he took the gold on countback.

Qualifying round (2.29 or top 12 to final) (Aug 6)

Group A qualifiers: Smith, Topić, Barton 2.29; Kemp, Hoen, Kotewicz & Bi 2.27

Non-qualifiers: Sorin Matei ROU 2.27; Wolfgang Kreissig GER, Gilmar Mayo COL, Dimitris Kokotis GRE, Arturo Ortiz ESP, Lee Jin-Taek KOR & Chris Anderson AUS 2.24; Charles LeFrançois CAN, Mark Mandy IRL 2.15; Robert Ruffini SVK 2.10; Antonio Pazzaglia SMR 2.00

Group B qualifiers: Forsyth 2.29; Sotomayor, Sjöberg, Partyka & Thompson 2.27

Non-qualifiers: Charles Austin USA, Dalton Grant GBR & Lambros Papakostas GRE 2.27; Hendrik Beyer GER, Håkon Särnblom NOR, Brendan Reilly GBR 2.24 & Konstantin Matusevich ISR 2.24; Khemraj Naiko MRI, Oleg Zhukovskiy BLR, Rick Noji USA, Ralf Sonn GER 2.20; Juha Isolehto FIN NH

Athens 1997

Final (Aug 6)

1,	Javier Sotomayor	CUB	2.37
2,	Artur Partyka	POL	2.35
3,	Tim Forsyth	AUS	2.35
=4,	Steinar Hoen	NOR	2.32
	Dalton Grant	GBR	2.32
6,	Lambros Papakostas	GRE	2.32
7,	Konstantin Matusevich	ISR	2.29
8,	Lee Jin-Taek	KOR	2.29

9, Martin Buss GER 2.29; 10, Gilmar Mayo COL 2.29; 11, Sergey Klyugin RUS 2.29; 12, Jan Janku CZE 2.25

Series	2.20	2.25	2.29	2.32	2.35	2.37	2.39	2.41
Sotomayor	-	o	-	o	o	xo	-	xxx
Partyka	o	-	o	-	xo	xx	x	
Forsyth	o	xo	-	o	xo	x	xx	
Hoen	-	o	o	o	xx	x		
Grant	-	-	-	o	xxx			
Papakostas	-	o	o	xo	xx	x		
Matusevich	o	o	o	xxx				
Lee	xo	o	o	xxx				

Happily recovered from the injuries which had led to the loss of his Olympic crown the previous year, Sotomayor further enhanced his claims to being considered the greatest of all high jumpers by regaining this title. Five men were still left in as the bar was raised to 2.37 but the Cuban was the only one successful. Another remarkable big time competitor, Partyka medalled for the third consecutive time, taking silver on countback against Forsyth.

Grant, ever the showman, came in at the greatest starting height ever attempted (2.32), daring indeed for a man who hadn't gone higher than 2.28 all season. His gamble appeared to be paying off when his first time clearance took him into the lead, but the next height of 2.35 eluded him and he had to settle for equal fourth place with European champion Hoen.

Qualifying Round (2.28 or top 12 to final) (Aug 4)

Group A qualifiers: Lee, Mayo, Papakostas & Buss 2.28

Non-qualifiers: Charles Austin USA 2.26; Charles LeFrançois CAN, Staffan Strand SWE, Dragutin Topić YUG, Mark Boswell CAN, Jaroslav Kotewicz POL,