

DAY 6



World 200m title

# IT'S GOLDEN BOLT AGAIN

## MEDALS TALLY

Rank	COUNTRY	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	TOTAL
1	KENYA	6	3	2	11
2	UNITED STATES	3	4	5	12
3	JAMAICA	3	0	2	5
4	G BRITAIN & N.I.	3	0	0	3
5	POLAND	2	1	3	6

Beijing

Jamaica's Usain Bolt easily outstripped American rival Justin Gatlin to claim his fourth consecutive world 200m title yesterday and complete a rousing sprint double in Beijing.

Bolt clocked a world-leading 19.55 seconds to beat Gatlin by nearly two-tenths, thumbing his chest as he crossed the line to add the 200m to his 100m title at the world championships.

The clear victory extends Bolt's domination of sprinting which stretches back to when he took the world by storm at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, also at the Bird's Nest stadium.

Gatlin, who has served two doping bans and finished just one-hundredth of a second behind Bolt in Sunday's 100m, clocked 19.74sec, with South African Anaso Jobodwana taking bronze with a national record of 19.87sec.

### Usain Bolt clocked a world-leading 19.55 seconds to beat Justin Gatlin

The victory meant Bolt has now remarkably won 11 of the last 12 individual Olympic and world sprint titles dating back to Beijing 2008, his only blip coming after a false start in the 100m at the 2011 worlds in Daegu.

"There was no doubt," said Bolt, who has had pelvic problems this season and did not consider an attempt on his own world record of 19.19sec, set in 2009.

"I knew I wasn't in the shape for a world record. But when it comes to the 200m, I am a different person, I was beaten there only once.

"My four world championships gold medals in the 200m, this is a big deal, a great accomplishment."

There was drama after the race, however, as a shoeless Bolt was downed by a cameraman on a Segway electric scooter who had strayed too close to the Jamaican.

The cameraman mounted a fixed railing and slipped backwards, shooting the Segway from under him into Bolt's heels and making the newly-minted champion fall backwards.

Bolt got up gingerly and limped away

before continuing his victory lap.

Gatlin, meanwhile, said his age had showed in the race.

"I feel tired. Going through three 100s and three 200s is taxing on the body," he said.

"I'm the oldest person in the field and am still running and running pretty well. To be able to run 9.74sec is a really good showing.

"I gave it all I could give."

- Electrifying bend -

Huge cheers greeted Bolt, wearing lycra shorts and singlet in the green, gold and black colours of Jamaica and placed in lane six, with Gatlin on his inside in lane four.

Applause also rang out for Gatlin, in a red one-piece suit, as the stadium comperes built up a boxing-match atmosphere at the packed Bird's Nest.

The American, as in the 100m, suffered from a slower start than Bolt, who shot out of his blocks. Gatlin, a renowned fast starter who hasn't lost over 200m since 2013 and has set personal best of 19.57sec this season, looked threatening coming off the bend.

But sandwiched between Britain's Zharnel Hughes and Jobodwana, Bolt, in full tilt after an electrifying bend, responded by moving into his famed "drive phase", unleashing the full power from his long legs.



Allyson Felix

## Felix steps up to gold

Beijing

Allyson Felix justified her step-up to the 400 metres with a convincing world championships victory which helped send the misfiring United States team soaring up the medals table yesterday.

Felix, the most decorated female athlete in history based around

her 200m and relay expertise, clocked a blistering time of 49.26 seconds, the best in the world this year.

Shaunae Miller of the Bahamas claimed silver in a personal best of 49.67sec, with Jamaica's Shericka Jackson taking bronze (49.99).

Felix, 29, has three world 200m titles to her name and is the reigning Olympic champion over the shorter distance, having previously bagged silver at the 2004 and 2008 Games. But with several Olympic and

world 4x400m relay golds on her resume, Felix wanted to test herself over the longer distance and it paid off spectacularly at a packed Bird's Nest.

"It's weird, it's different to be down there for the 400m," the American said. "I wanted to challenge myself this year and I did and I'm happy I could be successful and that I trusted in the plan and it came together."

Felix missed out on the Moscow worlds in 2013 because of injury after over-reaching two years previously in Daegu.

## Taylor wins world title

Beijing

Olympic champion Christian Taylor produced the second longest triple jump in history yesterday as he won the world title with a huge leap of 18.21m.

The Dutch-based American left it late before nailing the big jump on his sixth and final attempt to add to the world championship gold he won in 2011.

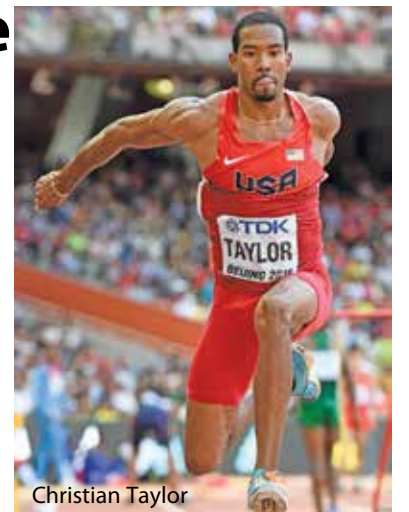
Only Jonathan Edwards has jumped further, 18.29 in 1995, and Taylor said his sights were

firmly fixed on the Briton's world record.

"It was a great fight and I saved it until my last jump," said Taylor. "We are that close to a record, this makes you even hungrier!"

"I am looking forward to Rio (Olympics) with the other competitors."

Cuban rival Pedro Pablo Pichardo claimed silver with a best of 17.73m, and 2008 Olympic champion Nelson Evora took bronze when he went out to 17.52m with his last jump.



Christian Taylor