SEASONED SOCCER PROS
Bolivia trumps Haiti once again

STARS WHO WILL SHINE IN 2012
Our pick of YOG champs who will go on to be Olympians

MOMENTS TO REMEMBER
Split seconds caught on camera that define the Games

TWEET OF THE DAY
At the end of the day, every athlete is a champion and a star!!
@yod_2010
Young Olympian Daily

talk to us at facebook.com/youngolympiandaily
The athletes are having a great time and the smiles you see everywhere are proof of that.”

- Jacques Rogge, IOC President

“Thank you for entrusting this exciting challenge to Singapore.”

- Ng Ser Muang, Chairman of SYOGOC, opening ceremony speech

“Find what you are meant to do in life and pursue that to the highest level, but at the same time, be realistic.”

- C. Kunalan, at this year’s Youth Sports Conference in May 2010 at Victoria Junior College

ORDER FROM THE YOUTH OLYMPICS

order for some of these countries to take home medals, many are simply thankful for the experience and the world stage to showcase their talents. This in stark contrast to certain more established sporting nations who explicitly stated that they would not send their best teams because it is “child’s play”.

We all know this is not what the Youth Olympics are about. The Games, while still having a competitive edge, ultimately stress the Olympic Values of friendship, excellence and respect.

I have no doubt that every one here is an excellent athlete. But first and foremost, we are humans.

What I truly hope that you have taken away from the past 12 days are long-lasting friendships, or as they say in Spanish, amigos para siempre.

Though one might soon forget Singapore’s sky-high humidity, and even the competition that you did (or did not) win, I have faith that you do not forget the people that you met, and the experiences that you have shared.

And when you number those little moments, I hope they mean as much to you as they do to us. We are grateful to have been a part of your life.

Thank you for allowing us to have been a part of your life.

The maximum price, in Singapore dollars, of a ticket to sports finals

22,000

The number of meals served in the Village dining room over the past 14 days

450,000

The number of spectators or more

20,000

The number of volunteers, both local and international, who pitched in for YOG

18

The number of competition venues

158

The number of ticketed competition sessions

500,000

The number of Singapore students who have gone through the Olympic Education Programme in Singapore schools.

7,000

The number of performers in the 110-minute opening ceremony. The closing ceremony tonight will feature 5,000 youths performing amidst fountains, fireworks and flames.
**BY NG HOE GUAN AND SHAWN SEE**

Having won their opening exchange 3-0, Bolivia completed their massacre of Haiti with a 5-0 victory.

With strong challenges dished out by both sides, the game ended with seven yellows and a red card, with Bolivia's Rodrigo Mejido sent off.

Despite playing three quarters of the game one man down, Bolivia dominated the play.

Bolivian playmaker Jorge Sabia put Rodrigo Mejido through on goal in the 5th minute and the tournament top scorer calmly placed the ball past goalkeeper Jeff Petit Frere.

Bolivia's Josue Guthrie (in white) skips over a sliding tackle by Haiti's Bertrand Vilgrain during the boys' football final. PHOTO: XHINHUA/SYOGOC/DESMOND LIN

By C

Down in 87 seconds

**BY CLARA CHAN AND LAI JUNJIE**

1 minute and 27 seconds. That was all it took for Cuban Lenier Eunice Pero to take home the gold in the Men's Heavy (91kg) boxing finals yesterday at the International Convention Centre.

It was a highly anticipated showdown between Lenier and Italian boxer Fabio Turchi, both 17. They entered the finals after defeating their opponents with a score of 60 and 70 respectively.

The bout began with a flurry of jabs from Lenier, with Fabio barely retaliating. Both sides were even at a point each, before Lenier threw the decisive punch, causing Fabio to slowly fall to his knees.

Stunned, the crowd rose to its feet and began chanting "1, 2, 3..." with Fabio on all fours, desperately trying to regain his footing.

With merely a second to spare, Fabio lurched to his feet. There was an audible gasp rumbling through the shell-shocked crowd.

However, the Italian was completely drained and collapsed onto the ropes, his head dropping in defeat. The referee blew his whistle and ended the short but intense battle.

The loss greatly affected Fabio who looked dejected and shell-shocked after losing.

Russia sweeps both golds at the rhythmic gymnastics finals. Individual champion, Alexandria Merkulova, finished more than 3 points ahead of her closest rival, Arina Charopa from Belarus. The Russian group also took the gold easily, finishing 5 points ahead of silver medallists Egypt.

**LONGEST SET EVER**

Hotly-favoured Peru won the bronze medal in women's volleyball. But the 3-1 victory was not an easy one. The second set was the longest volleyball set played in YOG. The score went to a tie at 28 points, when a game usually ends at the 25th point. Peru eventually won the set 30-28.

Happy ending

The usually competitive canoe-kayak event ended yesterday with winner Wang Xiaodong exchanging a warm handshake with second placed German Dennis Soeter.

Xiaodong clinched the gold by 6.33 seconds at the CI men's obstacle canoe-salam final race.

**AUSTRALIA WINS HOCKEY**

The Australian boys' hockey team were superior last night, beating Pakistan 2-1 despite a lacklustre display throughout the game.

After captain Daniel Beale's penalty stroke miss, the Australian side worked hard to equalise in the 49th minute, and sealed the game with a penalty stroke minutes from time.

**FRIENDS**

Russia sweeps gymnastic golds

**PHOTO: XUE JIANYUE**

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YOUNG OLYMPIANS

The inaugural Youth Olympic Games have seen awe-inspiring performances from fledging athletes hailing from all around the world. Bhavan Jaipragas takes a look at 10 of the most outstanding athletes of the Games who look set to reign in the 2012 Summer Olympics in London and beyond.

YUKI BHAMBRI
Tennis, India

Hailing from a family of professional tennis players, 18-year-old Yuki looks set to join the growing list of Indians in the ATP circuit. Despite a disappointing finals where he had to pull out due to injury, Yuki’s performance throughout the competition was one of a seasoned professional.

JORGE SABJA
Football, Bolivia

Bolivia’s number 10 Jorge Sabja is probably the player who has impressed the most in the football competition, and has been likened to Bolivian football legend Marco Etcheverry. With a powerful right foot and exquisite technical skills, it will not be long before top European clubs start a bidding war for this fledgling superstar.

DENG WEI
Weightlifting, China

A reserve team member of the Beijing Olympic Games in 2008, Deng Wei’s opponents were no match for her in the Games as she snagged the gold medal in the 58kg category. Deng, who broke the junior world record during the Games, will be a key lynchpin of the Chinese weightlifting team in 2012 as they look to better their four-gold haul in Beijing.

VIKTORIA KOMOVA
Gymnastics, Russia

Hailed by many as one of the best artistic gymnasts in the world, Viktoria Komova never really looked to be under much pressure as she cruised through the competition to win three gold medals. 15-year-old Viktoria is just a year away from being eligible to compete in senior competitions. Like Tang Yi, Viktoria is all set to reign as queen of her sport.
FRÉDÉRIQUE DERKKX
HOCKEY, NETHERLANDS
An expert in set piece situations, Frederique was the top scorer for her team as they clinched the gold medal. The 16-year-old defender honed her skills at club level at the illustrious ‘s-Hertogenbosch hockey club and her steady performance throughout the competition will be welcomed by the Dutch, who look to extend their domination of women’s hockey.

KWAK YE JI
ARCHERY, REPUBLIC OF KOREA
Kwak Ye Ji is arguably among the most elite archers in the world. The 17-year-old’s gold medal in Singapore adds to the stunning number of titles she has collected in the past two years. Her ranking score of 670 bested the junior world record mark and is just three points off the senior Olympic record.

TANG YI
SWIMMING, CHINA
With a whopping six-gold haul in these Games, 17-year-old Tang Yi is China’s swim queen in waiting. In a sport dominated by the Western world, this lanky Shanghai-born girl may well be the pride of Asia in the 2012 Summer Olympic Games.

FELIX BACH
ROWING, GERMANY
Despite a shocking defeat to Lithuanian Rolandas Mascinskas in the junior men’s single sculls event, Felix is still a major force to be reckoned with in the rowing world. Winning the world junior championships just a week before competing in the Youth Olympic Games, he looks set to make his senior Olympic debut in London.

ODANE SKEEN
ATHLETICS, JAMAICA
Turning 16 in two days, Jamaican sprint sensation Skeen is in a league above many of his contemporaries. He threw the gauntlet down at compatriot Usain Bolt last Saturday when he declared that he was gunning for gold in the 2012 Summer Olympic Games.

ANDRII GOVOROV
SWIMMING, UKRAINE
Gold medallist in the 50m freestyle event, Andrii’s semi-final timing of 22.27s moved him to 25th in the world and earned him the title “world’s fastest youth swimmer”.

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photo feature

YOUNG OLYMPIAN DAILY

ralph benjamin teiko quaye, 16
ghana, swimming

marah zeyad, 15
uae, taekwondo

musa tuzen, 16
turkey, athletics

michael cheng, 16
hong kong, sailing

man ka kei, 16
hong kong, sailing

loh we i sheng, 18
malaysia, badminton

onat kazakli, 17
turkey, rowing
Memorable moments

The record books may reflect the medallists, but there is more to remember than just who won. Chuang Bing Han brings you some notable moments of the Games

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT

LIGHTING OF THE CAULDRON Nothing shouts the Olympic Games more than the Flame itself. Designed to look like a lighthouse, the lighting marked the start of the Games.

COLLAPSED WALKER Ukraine’s Alina Galchenko collapsed 200m from the finishing line, in the girls 5000m walk. She had led from the start, but ended up in 6th after her collapse from the heat and humidity.

VILLAGE STAIRS These bothersome stairs is the price to pay for a taste of fast food.

TOM DALEY His would-he-would-he-not saga ended with the British diver taking part with a tricep injury. His appearance at the 3m springboard was remembered for all the wrong reasons.

CAVE-IN The Croats and Serbs literally brought down the roof at SCAPE Youth Space during the boys gold medal match. Truth is, water leaked in during a downpour and the game had to be shifted to the next court.

PIN TRADING No Games is complete without pin trading. They are the currency of the Olympic Village. Shame on you, those with a pin-free lanyard.

PHOTOS: NG JUN SEN, XINHUA SYOGOC/BRYAN VAN DER BEEK AND JOSEPH NAIR, XIANG YUJIE AND GUO LEI
YOD awards

THE OFFICIAL

YOUNG OLYMPIAN DAILY AWARDS

MOST MEDIA FRIENDLY
ODANE SKEEN
Reason: You can’t go wrong with cool poses and quotable quotes like “I’ll be coming for them!”

ATHLETE WE WANT BACK HERE
TOM DALEY
Reason: We really want to see that 10m platform dive

MOST PHOTO OP OBLIGING
YELENA ISINBAEVA
Reason: You’ve got to give props to someone who still smiles when dozens of fans come between her and her Big Mac

MOST DESIRED YOG COLLECTIBLE PINS
Reason: With the infinite selection of pins, you’ve got to admit that trading pins is plain addictive.
Beyond the medal tally, here’s our pick of award-winning individuals who have made an impact at the Games. Illustrations by Nguyen Pham Hai An

MOS T DES I R Y O G COLLE C T I B L E
PINS
reason: With the infinite selection of pins, you’ve got to admit that trading pins is plain addictive.

MOS T EX C I N G MATCH OF THE GAMES
HA I TI V E R S U S S I NGAPORE FO OTBALL MATCH
reason: It has been a long time since the whole nation has mourned together over local football.

MOS T CON SPI C I O U S OUTFIT
TEAM RUSSIA
reason: Who knew that red and white could look so good together?

PERSON WE WANT TO GET LOST IN A JUNGLE WITH
STEVE APPLETON
reason: His smooth vocals will turn any atmosphere from creepy to romantic.

MOST PHOTOG ENIC
SHAI ANNE D AV I S (CA NADA)
reason: Refer to picture, end of argument.

MOS T de SI R ED Y O G COLLE C T I B L E
PINS
reason: With the infinite selection of pins, you’ve got to admit that trading pins is plain addictive.

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TOUCHED BY THE GAMES

BY CANDICE NEO, CLARA LOCK, TAN SIHAN AND SHARIFAH FADHILAH

With the curtain falling on the inaugural Youth Olympic Games, we speak to some individuals to find out what they will take away from it.

SADE-MARIAH GREENIDGE, 16
BARBADOS, ATHLETICS – TRACK AND FIELD

Besides learning about cultures she has never heard of before the Games, Sade-Mariah even picked up a few basic phrases of other languages.

“I love the general atmosphere, especially during the Opening Ceremony. It was so extravagant! … (Also) The hospitality of everyone here really touched me.”

NURUL AMIRAH AND NUR SHAHIRA YAP, 15
SINGAPORE, STUDENTS

If there was one thing Hong Kah Secondary School students Nurul Amirah and Nur Shahira Yap will remember about the Games, it would be the toned, muscular frames of the athletes. Having watched international athletes compete in swimming, diving and soccer, the girls have been inspired to keep fit.

“It inspires us to take up swimming to become fitter like them.”
— Shahira

“I learnt through watching the YOG that hard work is worth it, and results don’t come easily.”
— Amirah

MARTIQUE AS SOON, 15
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, FOOTBALL

Through the YOG, Martique feels that she has matured and become more sociable. She leaves the Games with new friendships made with fellow athletes from New Zealand and USA.

“I am now inspired to play in 2012 more than ever.”

MATT STANLEY, 18
NEW ZEALAND, SWIMMING

Learning about new cultures and making new friends have been memorable experiences for Matt. He has also been inspired to train hard to compete in the 2012 and 2016 summer Olympics.

“The YOG has surely given me major goals after a taste of the real thing.”

CHARLOTE SAMUY (SECOND FROM LEFT), 16
SINGAPORE, SPECTATOR, STUDENT AT UNITED WORLD COLLEGE

Originally from Cook Islands, Charlotte and her friends were psyched about watching the handball match between their hometown and Team Singapore live. From the stands, Charlotte could even see the expressions of the boys during the match.

“It feels like home.”
There are 3,600 stars here — one for each athlete in the YOG. This page is yours to fill with the autographs, contacts and photos of the friends you have made in the last memorable 12 days. Enjoy!