

"It (the adrenaline rush) is very addictive and keeps me going."

SHALIN ZULKIFLI,  
after winning Sea Games women's trios gold  
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VIETNAM'S MINH THANH  
MUST THANK HASLI

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KHAIRUL FINDS GOING  
HARD IN 200M

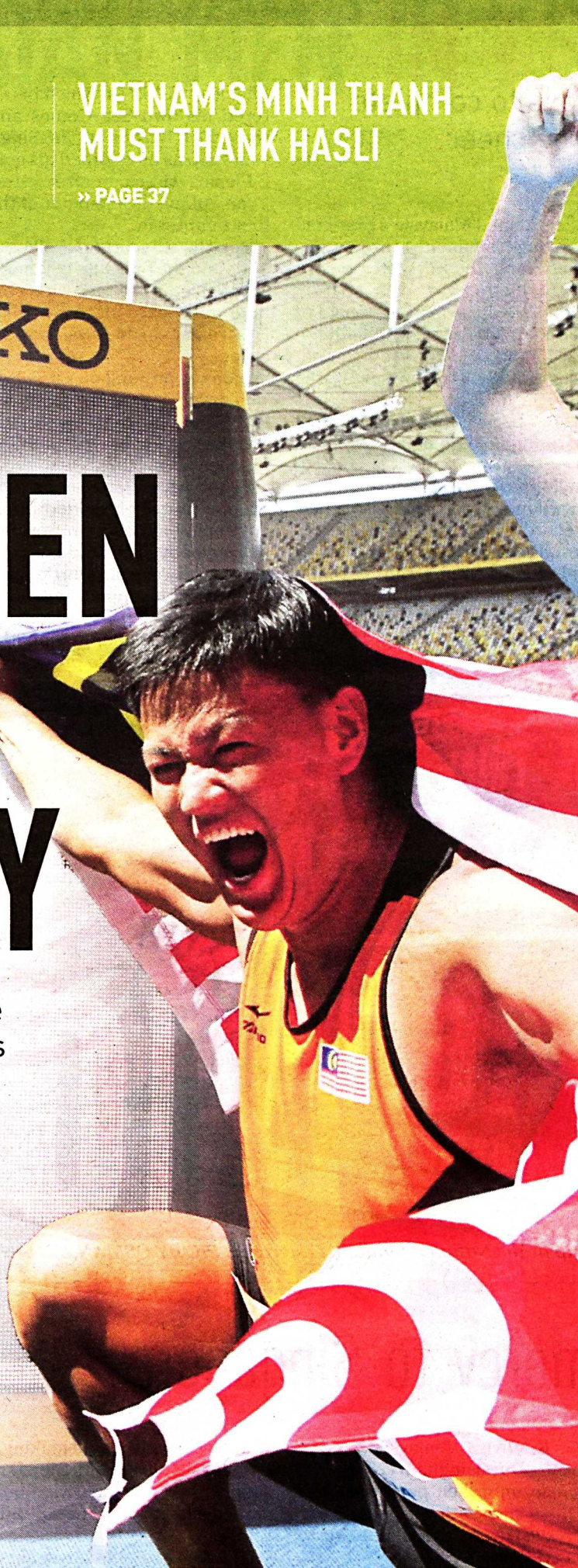
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## A GOLDEN CHEER, FINALLY

AFTER having to settle for three bronze medals in three previous Sea Games, hammer thrower Jackie Wong Siew Cheer finally struck gold yesterday with a record-breaking performance.

» DEVINDER SINGH  
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*Hammer thrower Jackie Wong Siew Cheer celebrating his new Sea Games record at the National Stadium in Bukit Jalil yesterday. PIC BY YAZIT RAZALI*



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SEA GAMES

**KUALA LUMPUR 2017**  
 29<sup>TH</sup> SEA GAMES  
 9<sup>TH</sup> ASEAN PARA GAMES

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# KHAIRUL'S DREAM DASHED

Newly-crowned 100m champion fails to complete sprint double, Jackie and Co provide cheer

REPORTS BY DEVINDER SINGH  
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**K**HAIKUL Hafiz Jantan may not have won a medal but there was plenty of cheer to go around with three Malaysian gold medal winners at the National Stadium yesterday.

New Sea Games 100m champion Khairul could only finish fourth in the men's 200m final with teammate G. Aravinn Thevarr taking bronze but hammer thrower Jackie Wong, triple jumper Hakimi Ismail and walker Elena Goh all delivered to double Malaysia's athletics gold medal tally to six.

Jackie and Hakimi did it in style with new Sea Games and national records while Elena's victory came as a sweet surprise.

Jackie, 25, claimed Malaysia's first gold medal in the men's hammer throw since 2001 winner Wong Tee Kui with a record throw of 65.90 metres.

His effort erased the Games record of 65.63m set by Caleb Stuart of the Philippines in 2015 and also renewed the national record of 64.34m he set at the Korean Open in June.

"After three bronze medals in a row, I finally get to win gold on home soil," said Jackie.

"I am really proud of my performance as I set a new Games record and also a new national record.

"I am proud to be next hammer thrower to win gold after Tee Kui. I want to thank my family who came all the way from Sarawak as well as officials and the fans who have come out today.

Hakimi had his rivals well beaten with a

final leap of 16.77m which bettered his own Sea Games and national record of 16.76m set in Singapore two years ago as he retained his gold medal.

Elena's win came after veteran walker Yuan Yufang dropped out of the race just four minutes in.

But the 21-year-old walker defied the odds and the pressure of being Malaysia's sole walker in the race with a burst on the final lap to leave Vietnam's Phan Thi Bich Ha trailing in her wake and settle for silver.

"I am so proud. I owe it all to my family who never gave up on me. They sacrifice a lot for me, taking leave to travel from Melaka to keep me company," said Elena, 21, who won in 52:21.50s.

Asked what she thought when Yufang dropped out, Elena added: "I did not think anything, I am my own worst enemy and not anybody else. I did not expect to win gold at all. I finish fourth two years ago behind the Myanmar and Vietnam walkers.

"I was not thinking of anything but to win gold. I wanted to prove I can win gold

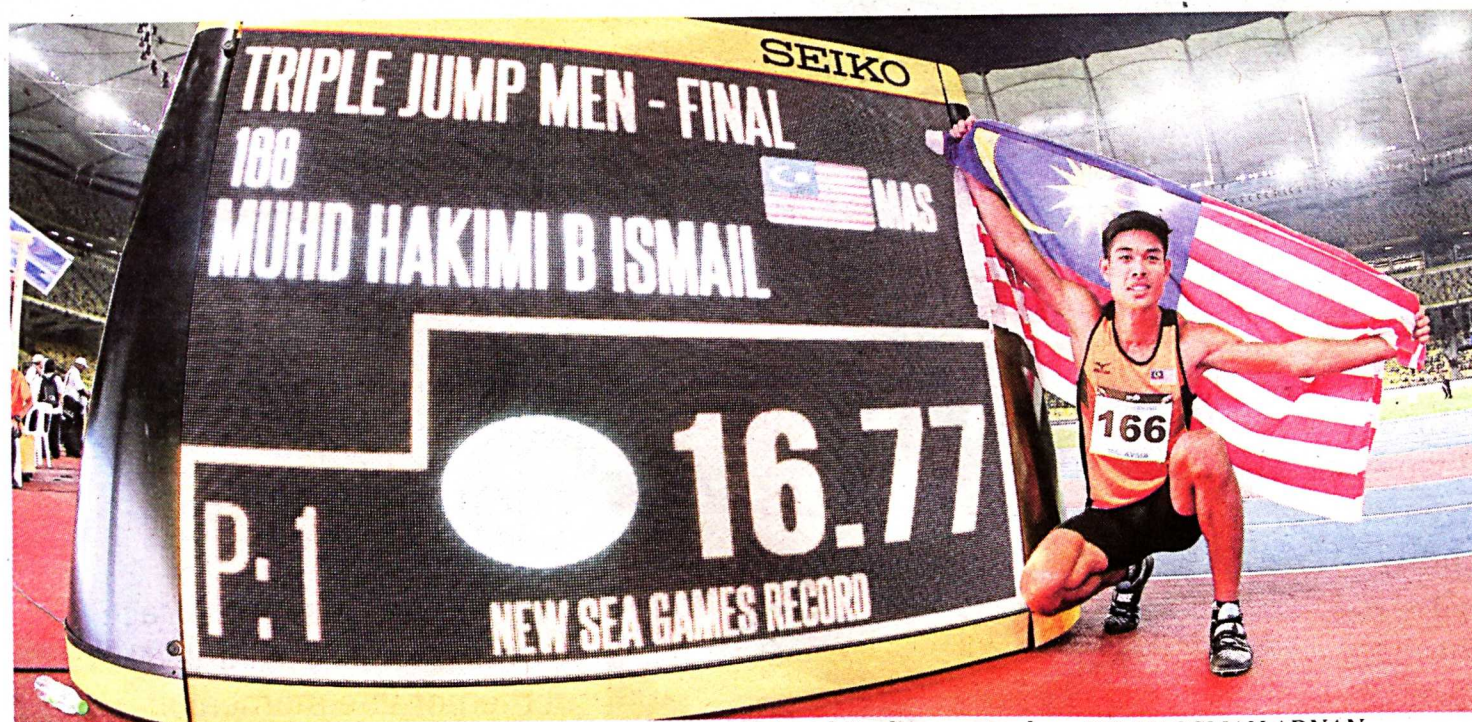


and excel in studies and to win gold for my country and family."

Zaidatul Husniah Zulkifli claimed her second silver medal in the women's 200m in a personal best of 23.64s to finish behind Vietnam's Le Tu

Chinh (23.32), a repeat of the 100m order.

Royson Vincent also clinched a bronze in the men's 800m while R. Kirthana and Noor Shahidatun Nadia Zuki came in fourth and fifth respectively in the women's triple jump.



Hakimi Ismail celebrates after winning the triple jump at the National Stadium yesterday.. PIC BY OSMAN ADNAN