

# The 11th Southeast Asian Games

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The 11th Southeast Asian Games, hosted by the Philippines from 6th-15th December 1981, was a resounding success. Much more than the pitting of skills of more than 2,000 athletes from seven countries in the region-The Philippines, Burma, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand-what capped the successful staging of the event was the solidarity, the theme of the Games, the camaraderie and the spirit of sportsmanship which engulfed the air during the 10-day biennial event.

President Ferdinand E. Marcos-who took time out from his hectic official schedule to formally open, watch the competitions, award medals and then close the games-expressed his bewilderment at how sportsmen the world over could bring about a peaceful gathering of people of different beliefs, a feat which the world's foremost politicians have continually failed to duplicate.

The final results had the Indonesian participants dominating most of the events, most frequently followed by those from Thailand and The Philippines.

In recognition of their outstanding performances, the Asian Association of Track and

Field Statisticians (AATFS) bestowed on Filipina Lydia de Vega the "best female track performance" award for breaking the existing SEA Games, Asian Games and the AAAA records in the 200-meter dash with her clocking of 23.54 seconds and the SEA Games and the Asian Games records in the 400-meter run with a time of 54.75 seconds.

The "best male track performance" award went to Isidro del Prado, also of the Philippines, who broke the SEA Games records in the 400 and 800-meter runs.

Cited for "best female field performance" was Burma's San Aye while Hong Yong Tjong copped the men's award in the field events.

Another noteworthy performance was registered by Singapore's swimming star Junie Song, who accounted for seven of her country's twelve gold medals.

The 12th edition of the SEA Games will be staged in Singapore in 1983 and we are certain that the new organisers have started their preparations this early for a repeat of the camaraderie and friendly gathering of the region's foremost sportsmen.

*V. G. P.*