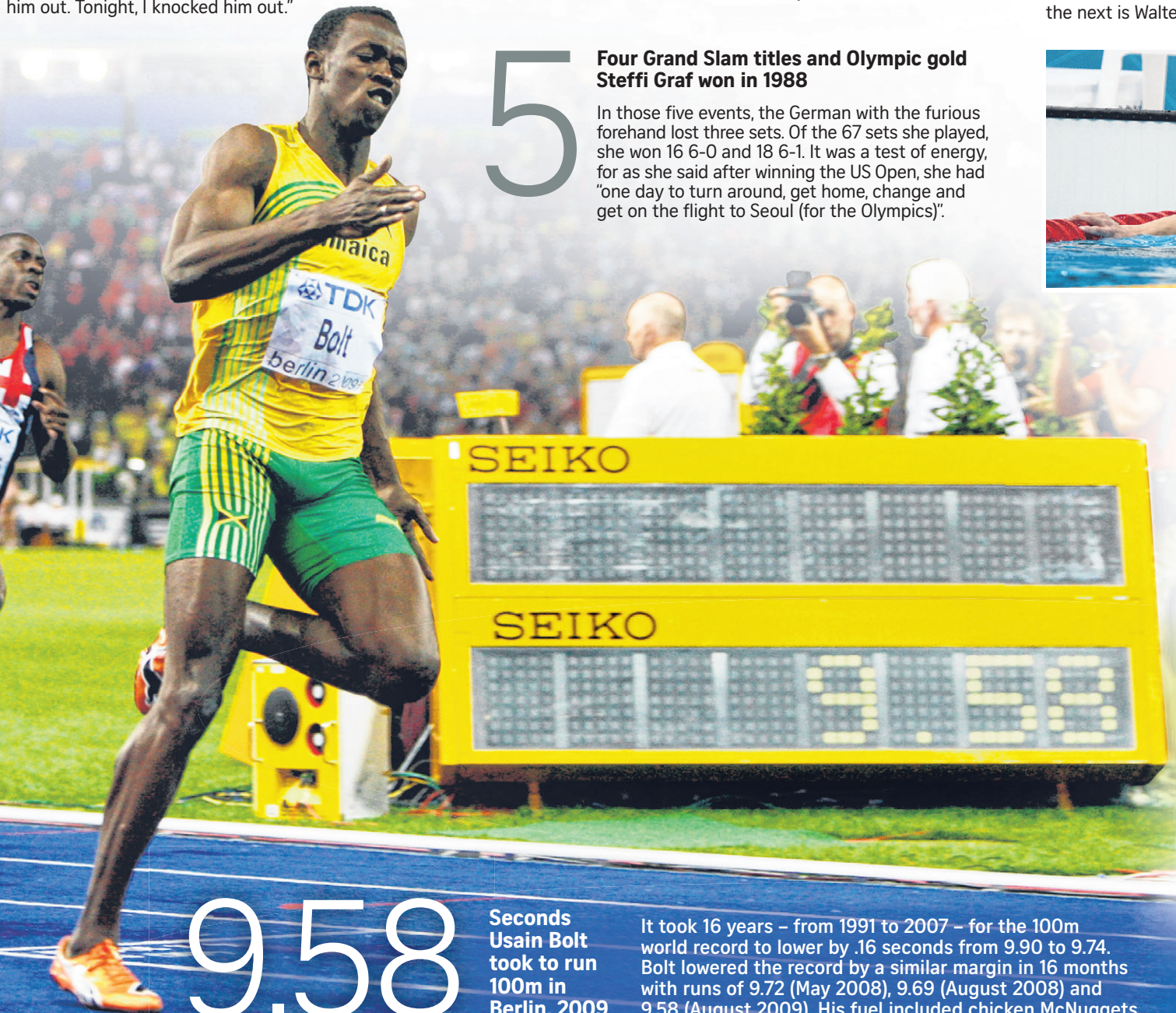


6 **Consecutive Olympic gold medals India won in hockey**
Between 1928 and 1956, India won 25 consecutive matches, scored 178 goals and let in seven. Legend has it, wrote Olympic.org, that after watching Indian star Dhyanchand play in 1928, "Dutch officials took his stick apart to see if there was a magnet hidden inside it!"

8.95m **Distance Mike Powell jumped in 1991**
Twenty-three years after Bob Beamon's leap, Powell and Carl Lewis engaged in a legendary duel. Said Powell to the LA Times about Lewis: "I was talking to my therapist, and she said it was like a heavyweight fight. If you're going to beat the champion, you can't beat him on a split decision. You've got to knock him out. Tonight, I knocked him out."



9.58 **Seconds Usain Bolt took to run 100m in Berlin, 2009**

It took 16 years – from 1991 to 2007 – for the 100m world record to lower by .16 seconds from 9.90 to 9.74. Bolt lowered the record by a similar margin in 16 months with runs of 9.72 (May 2008), 9.69 (August 2008) and 9.58 (August 2009). His fuel included chicken McNuggets.

My 10 favourite records

Inspired by Brigid Kosgei, who ran the fastest women's marathon, and Tiger Woods' record-equalling 82nd title, Rohit Brijnath picks his 10 favourite world records in sport.

2 **Calendar Grand Slams Rod Laver won in 1962 and 1969**
Neither Federer nor Nadal has won all four Slams in a year. Laver did it as an amateur in 1962, became a pro, was ineligible to play the majors for five years, returned in 1968 and won the Grand Slam again in 1969. When he won the US Open in 1969, he leapt over the net and later declared "I don't know why I did that".

5 **Four Grand Slam titles and Olympic gold Steffi Graf won in 1988**
In those five events, the German with the furious forehand lost three sets. Of the 67 sets she played, she won 16 6-0 and 18 6-1. It was a test of energy, for as she said after winning the US Open, she had "one day to turn around, get home, change and get on the flight to Seoul (for the Olympics)".

18 **Number of golf Majors Jack Nicklaus won**
He was four shots back at the 1986 Masters on Sunday, 46 years old and hadn't won at Augusta since 1975. But then, as Sports Illustrated reported, he told his wife: "I finally found that guy I used to know on the golf course. It was me." It was his 18th and last Major. Tiger Woods has 15, the next is Walter Hagen on 11.



28 **Olympic medals won by swimmer Michael Phelps**
His 28 medals – next best is 18 – comprised three silvers, two bronzes, and 23 golds. As he told a reporter in 2016: "It's insane, right?" In his last race, the 4x100m medley relay in Rio, he finished in style: he entered the pool with the US 0.61 seconds behind and exited the pool 0.41 ahead.

10 **Perfect gymnastics score by Nadia Comaneci at the 1976 Olympics**
The digital scoreboard was programmed to show only three figures and so her score was displayed as 1.00. As she said: "Scoring the first 10 in history was a big deal but the fact that even an electronic scoreboard could not figure out how to put out a score, it made the story more historic."

13 **Goals by Just Fontaine at the 1958 World Cup**
Born in Morocco, and expecting to be a reserve, he scored for France in every match while wearing boots that he had borrowed from teammate Stephane Bruet. "I like to tell people that some of my goals were inspired by combining two spirits inside the same shoe."

109 **Consecutive months Nicol David was No.1 in squash**
The New York Times called her the "Serena Williams of squash". Williams was No.1 for 186 consecutive weeks, but David held her spot for 109 straight months and was in the top five for 143 consecutive months. Said her coach Liz Irving to The Star: "She never missed a day of training whether she had a good day or bad day."



PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES, ST FILE STRAITS TIMES GRAPHICS