



Munyai smashes Wayde's 200m SA record with 19.69

ATHLETICS

By DAVID ISAACSON

CLARENCE Munyai rocked the Tuks stadium to its foundations as he broke Wayde van Niekerk's 200m South African record at the national championships yesterday afternoon.

He clocked an incredible 19.69sec – the 10th fastest in the world ever – as he knocked 0.15 off the 19.84 mark Van Niekerk set last year. Munyai had a legal wind of 1.5mps at his back.

Van Niekerk, the defending champion in this event, is not competing here because of injury.

Meanwhile, Caster Semenya ran the fastest 800m heats time of her career yesterday as she stormed into pole

position at the national championships in Pretoria.

Semenya clocked 1min 58.92sec – more than 10 seconds quicker than her nearest rivals on a hot morning.

She qualified for today's final, and although there's no semifinal round here, she still had the 1 500m final to run last night.

Semenya's time was quicker than her efforts in the preliminary rounds of any of the Olympic Games or world championships she's competed in.

"It is better to run in the heat because I still have a final tonight in the 1 500m and when I go tomorrow in the 800m (final) I am confident about what I can do," she said afterwards.

Her 800m national record is 1:55.16.
— DDC

