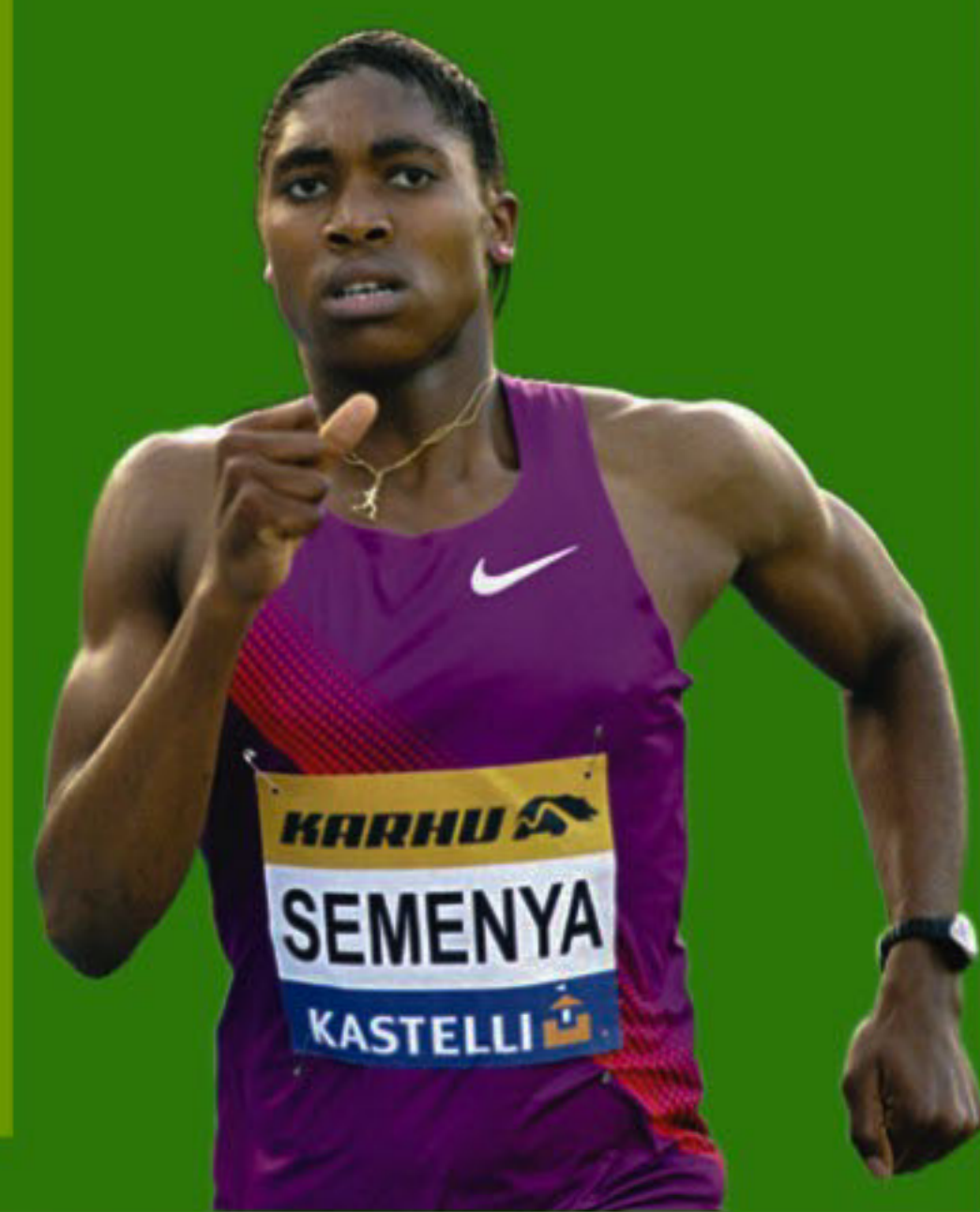


Semenya back with win

South African 800m world champion Caster Semenya Thursday won her come-back race at a meeting in Finland after an almost year-long absence from competition pending the result of gender tests. After winning the 800m at the world championships in Berlin last year, Semenya had to undergo gender tests as she appeared to be like a man. She was allowed to compete again after being cleared by the sport's governing body IAAF to compete the sex tests were carried out. "Eleven months is a long time," she said, adding that she did not know if she had been treated fairly. "I



Tigers level series

Cricket

CRICINFO

After a disappointing show in the first game, Bangladesh's bowlers hit back with a disciplined performance to restrict Ireland to 189 and set up a six-wicket win to draw the series 1-1 at Stormont on Friday. Bangladesh held the upper hand from the very beginning, nipping out early wickets in over-cast conditions and preventing Ireland from recovering to a challenging score. Tamim Iqbal led the chase with a half-century and his presence ensured a safe passage to the target.

Morning rain forced the game to be reduced to 46 overs, but surprisingly, Ireland opted to bat. The captain William Porterfield was soon made to regret that as he departed in the fifth over, slashing Mashrafe Mortaza to Jahurul Islam at backward point. Shafiqul Islam struck the next over when he sent back the other opener, Paul Stirling, for 6 edging a wide delivery.

A flurry of boundaries by Niall O'Brien off Shafiqul calmed the nerves for the hosts but the excitement was short-lived as Alex Cusack, struggling at the crease, nicked Shafiqul to Mushfiqur. Ireland couldn't break free, with the spinners bowling in tandem, and they were further dented when the fluent Niall was trapped lbw by Abdur Razzak.

At 62 for 5, Ireland were desperate for a big partnership and that's when Gary Wilson showed some initiative. He chipped down the track to Razzak and launched it to long-on, breaking a boundary drought that lasted 12 overs. He and Andrew White added 44 for the fifth wicket before White was trapped lbw by the third member of the left-arm spin trio, Faisal Hossain.

John Mooney and Wilson cranked up the pace with some innovative boundaries against the spinners. Mooney also attacked Shafiqul, hitting two fours and a straight six - the only one of the innings - in one over. Wilson had earlier reached his fifty, with a single to long-off, but he fell soon after, caught at short third man.

His 60 came off 64 balls and included four boundaries.

A late double-strike by Shafiqul prevented Ireland from scoring over 200 and he finished with 4 for 59 to set up a chase which was well within Bangladesh's reach. He went on to pick up the Man-of-the-Match award.

Ireland had some success early on when Trent Johnston had Imrul Kayes edging to second slip in the sixth over. Tamim dumped Stirling for a big hit down the ground and his partner Junaid Siddique attempted another big hit but couldn't clear Johnston at deep midwicket, off Kevin O'Brien. The bowling change, in the 11th over, halted a 31-run stand.

Jahurul Islam then joined Tamim as the pair scripted the most productive stand of the match, one that put the visitors firmly on course. Tamim brought up his fifty with a glance for four to third man off Alex Cusack. Though the boundaries were occasional, the pair kept rotating the strike, not playing out

SEE PAGE 18 COL 1



BACK IN THE SADDLE: Bangladesh wicketkeeper Mushfiqur Rahim (R) dives to his right to take the catch of Ireland opener Paul Stirling in the second one-day match at Stormont in Belfast yesterday. Mushfiqur returned to his duties behind the stumps after suffering a facial injury in the first one-dayer against England last week.

PHOTO: COURTESY

Positive Shamoli wins LCD TV

The Daily Star-Rangs Toshiba World Cup Quiz Bumper Round draw held

SPORTS REPORTER

Shamoli Parvin could probably be the most optimistic person in the city. The Mirpur resident travelled all the way to the National Press Club to attend The Daily Star-Rangs Toshiba World Cup Quiz bumper round draw with the hope of winning one of five prizes.

Fortuitously, Shamoli won the top prize, a dazzling Toshiba 32" LCD TV. "I can't believe I won," she said when Editor and Publisher of The Daily Star Mahfuz Anam asked her how she felt after former national midfielder Wasim Iqbal picked her name from the 70,000-plus entries.

"My husband always makes me enter this quiz and this time it was no different. I would like to thank The Daily Star for bringing this quiz to us," said a beaming Shamoli who was accompanied by her husband and son.

It wasn't just Shamoli who was lucky but the city of Dhaka as well. All five winners in the bumper

round came from the capital.

The second prize, a 15CFT Toshiba refrigerator, went to Hamida Akhtar after former national player Jasimuddin Josi picked her name, while Banani's Nafisa Khanam won the Toshin Heat & Cool AC, the third prize.

The Toshin 24" LCD TV went to South Goran's Shilpi Akhtar while Intiaz Sultan Jony picked the fifth prize winner -- Md Taslim from Shantinagar.

Mahfuz Anam thanked all the participants of the quiz. "It shows the energy of the youth and through these programmes we want to give them self-confidence because they will build this nation," he said.

"They say 'stand for Africa', I think it's time to stand for Asia and more particularly, 'stand for Bangladesh'," added Mahfuz Anam.

Rumees Hossain, the managing director of Rangs Industries, also thanked The Daily Star and the participants for their continuous support.

The programme became a festival of the coun-

try's famous footballers as Swadhin Bangla football team captain Zakaria Pintu, Golam Sarwar Tipu, Hasanuzzaman Khan Bablu, Intiaz Sultan Jony, Jasimuddin Josi, Wasim Iqbal, Jewel Rana, Shafiqul Bari Titu, Shafiqul Islam Manik, Maruful Haque and Amer Khan were all present on the occasion.

Among the senior brigade, former national player Golam Sarwar Tipu spoke of the enthusiasm that The Daily Star quiz brought to his family but stressed on the more serious issue of football's dwindling fortunes in the country.

"Everyone from my family participated in the quiz. In a broader sense, if we can tap this enthusiasm towards football, it would do our country a lot of benefit," said Tipu, who also coached the national team.

"In the previous decades, there were so many players; we were spoiled for choice. But nowadays there're so few players. Nothing is being played in the district towns.

SEE PAGE 18 COL 2

Abahani bounce back in style

SPORTS REPORTER

Title contenders Abahani returned to winning ways in the Green Delta Insurance Premier Division Hockey League when they handed an easy 5-0 defeat to Dhaka Mariner Youngs Club in their opening match of the Super League at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Smarting from a 3-0 defeat to rivals Mohammedan Sporting Club in their previous match, Abahani established their superiority from the onset and took only three minutes for a deserved lead

SEE PAGE 18 COL 5

Paul transfer hits snag

SOCCERNET

Madrid zoo have reportedly contacted the Sea Life aquarium in Oberhausen regarding the transfer of Paul the psychic octopus, but have had their move rebuffed.

Paul, who had a 100% record of predicting results at the 2010 World Cup (including the final) has been the subject of intense media coverage throughout the tournament and Spain's match-winner Andres Iniesta was even pictured with a small octopus toy during the celebrations.

But with the famous invertebrate set to retire from clairvoyancy game, Madrid zoo are keen to capitalise on their country's success by bringing him to Spain and have made an offer in response to "dozens of petitions from all over Spain".

"The zoo also guarantees that Paul will receive the best attention, reflecting the great affection in which he is held by all the Spanish people since he predicted that the Spanish team would win the football World Cup," said Madrid zoo spokeswoman Amparo Fernandez. "We hope that within the

SEE PAGE 18 COL 5



Shamoli Parvin (L) and her family receive the Toshiba 32" LCD TV as first prize of The Daily Star-Rangs Toshiba World Cup quiz bumper round at the National Press Club auditorium yesterday. (R) Dancers entertain the audience in a cultural programme also held on the occasion.



PHOTOS: STAR

Afridi to retire from Tests

Cricket

APP, London

Pakistan captain Shahid Afridi said Friday he would retire from Test cricket following the second Test against Australia at Headingley starting next Wednesday.

Afridi made his announcement to BBC Radio after leading Pakistan to a 150-run defeat by Australia in the first Test at Lord's here on Friday. The batsman, out slogging for two on Friday, said he no longer had the temperament for the five-day game after what was his first Test in four years. "I've not been fully fit with a side strain and so I will not

play Test cricket after the match in Leeds," Afridi said.

"I did the wrong thing," he told Test Match Special when asked about his decision to return to Test cricket after concentrating on one-dayers and Twenty20s in recent years.

"I think my temperament is not good enough for Test cricket and I am struggling with a side injury. I think maybe the next Test will be my last.

"The Pakistan Cricket Board asked me to play Test cricket, I wasn't thinking about it."

Afridi was parachuted into the leadership after former captains Mohammad Yousuf and Younus Khan were both omitted from the squad for

this tour following bans imposed in the wake of Pakistan's 3-0 series loss in Australia earlier this year.



SHAHID AFRIDI

Afridi slogged what was just his fourth ball, from part-time off-spinner Marcus North -- who finished with a Test-best six wickets for 55 runs - and was caught on the boundary on Friday.

Afterwards Afridi, nicknamed 'Boom Boom', told a news conference it had been an irresponsible shot.

"The captain should be an example for the youngsters but that was not an example. I was in two minds whether to play my natural game or whether to take my time," added Afridi, who captained Pakistan to the World Twenty20 title at Lord's in 2009.

"You can say I was weak mentally...I'm not good enough for Test cricket."

Asked when he decided to quit Test cricket, Afridi replied bluntly: "When I got out."

After the Australia series, SEE PAGE 18 COL 6

WORLD CUP POLL

TODAY'S POLL

What will be your lasting memory of this World Cup?

Visit the sports page of www.thedailystar.net to cast vote

Follow The Daily Star Sport on **twitter**

www.twitter.com/dssport

Fine return for Asif, Ratna

SPORTS REPORTER

Shrugging off their National Shooting Championship performance in May, Asif Hossain Khan and Sharmin Akhter Ratna returned with gold medals in their respective events of the 3rd National Air Gun Championship at the National Shooting Complex in Gulshan yesterday.

Asif bagged 10m air rifle gold with a score of 689.8 points, 7.2 more than Anjan Kumar Singh, who finished with 683.6 to win silver.

Abdullah Hel Baki, the national champion, had to be content with a bronze medal

SEE PAGE 18 COL 8

More records for Nazma, Jewel

Swimming

SPORTS REPORTER

Nazma Khatun and Jewel Ahmed from Bangladesh Ansar ruled the pool in the second day of the BRB Cables 26th National Age-Group Swimming Championship as seven more national records were set at the National Swimming Complex in Mirpur yesterday.

Nazma followed her opening day's feat of three national records to set another three records in the 13-14 age-group's 50m butterfly (31.23 seconds), 100m butterfly (1:15.37 minutes) and 200m backstroke (2:55:55 minutes) as well as raising her individual medals tally to six gold.

Nazma's teammate Jewel, who also made three records in 15-17 Age Group on the opening day, eclipsed two to set fresh

SEE PAGE 18 COL 5



PHOTO: STAR

BKSP's Wahidul Islam is focused during the 200m breaststroke event in the 26th National Age Group Swimming Championship at the National Swimming Complex in Mirpur yesterday.