

**Australia's
Only Hotel
Sports Paper**

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Boxing Day lived up to expectations with one of the more remarkable starts to a day of Test cricket in living memory. 19 year-old Sam Konstas played one of the most audacious innings on debut to set Australia on their way to 6-311 by Stumps on the opening day. Having faced up first and then played and misses at four of his first six balls, Konstas then reached two of just 20, when he took on the India attack in a way that is usually only seen in white-ball cricket. Call it reckless, stupid or brave – whatever you want, it worked as he peeled off the third fastest 50 by an Aussie on Test match debut.

The kid was unfussed by the whole thing, speaking to FOX Cricket at drinks, then after his dismissal signing autographs and having selfies taking like it was a club game. Whether you like it or not, this is the modern game – hopefully he can back it up the second innings.

Clearly it put the Indians in a flap, Bumrah had his most expensive spell of the series, with Siraj being his usual heated self and Virat Kohli decided that a bump was the best way to sideline Konstas, rather than tell his bowlers to aim at the stumps. The innings helped set the tone for the day and 38 year-old Usman Khawaja played better as a result, as he scored his first 50 for the series. Kohli has been fined for the incident but should have been suspended from the last Test, as again the ICC prove they are as weak as water. Australia passed 100 in the opening session and then in the middle the Indians fought back well to subdue things, before the action-packed last session saw four wickets fall for 135. Marnus Labuschagne and Steve Smith found their rhythm, as did Alex Carey, sadly Travis Head decided to let one go and was bowled for a duck – quite an inexplicable dismissal given how he played in the series.

Australia are well placed, anything past 350 will be a good score. India's are clearly worried about their batting, Rohit is averaging just 11 in his last 13 innings and with Kohli not having made a run since Perth and Pant struggling, they are looking for a big start from Jaiswal and Rahul. With another big crowd expected, it'll be a cracker of a day and ripping rest of the Test.

RIP— Bob Philp—A true Port Adelaide legend

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Murray Bridge	Moonee Valley	Randwick	Eagle Farm
Crystal Clear	The Shark	Harbour Harry	Jungle Jim
R1 : 3 , 1 , 7 , 11	1: 8 , 3 , 6 , 14	1 : 10 , 2 , 6 , 1	1: 7 , 1 , 5 , 11
R2 : 4 , 3 , 5 , 6	2: 4 , 3 , 1 , 8	2 : 9 , 4 , 14 , 7	2: 2 , 4 , 1 , 5
R3 : 5 , 1 , 6 , 8	3: 2 , 11 , 9 , 4	3 : 8 , 2 , 1 , 3	3: 8 , 1 , 5 , 2
R4: 3 , 2 , 9 , 1	4: 6 , 1 , 5 , 2	4 : 11 , 8 , 5 , 10	4 : 11 , 3 , 14 , 10
R5: 4 , 3 , 1 , 8	5: 8 , 1 , 9 , 2	5 : 3 , 1 , 4 , 11	5: 4 , 19 , 20 , 10
R6: 7 , 11 , 4 , 5	6: 8 , 1 , 9 , 2	6 : 2 , 3 , 8 , 9	6: 8 , 9 , 2 , 5
R7: 11 , 6 , 4 , 8	7: 7 , 9 , 8 , 11	7 : 5 , 3 , 2 , 8	7: 1 , 12 , 3 , 5
R8: 1 , 11 , 5 , 14	8 : 6 , 3 , 9 , 5	8 : 16 , 8 , 5 , 9	8: 2 , 12 , 1 , 4
R9: 3 , 6 , 5 , 1	9: 3 , 10 , 5 , 11	9 : 16 , 8 , 5 , 9	9: 12 , 2 , 4 , 9
	10: 6 , 14 , 12 , 17	10 : 10 , 13 , 8 , 9	10: 6 , 8 , 9 , 2

Jimmy Olsen	The Mailman	Tower Of Knowledge
MR 3 # 3 Bethil	SR 1 # 6 Memo	AR 2 # 6 Let's Get Down
SR 5 # 3 Jewellery	BR 1 # 7 Boom Shot	AR 4 # 3 Hasseltoff
BR 10 # 7 Tectonic Plate	BR 5 # 4 Metalart	AR 5 # 8 Star Sirius

At The Barriers By Gary Newton

Saturday is Listed as Christmas Handicap Day on the main track at Morphetville.

Race 1 CITY UNITED a newcomer to Hickmott yard Did a bit wrong when runner-up at Warwick in May. Runner-up in Murray Bridge jumpout 9/12. LEAVING LAS VEGAS chased home strongly when beaten less than a length fresh. Selections: 1 from 3

Race 2 VINTAGE STAR made it two out of two this prep winning on the Parks track last start.Promising and can win again. THE GREAT BABY was beaten less than a length in the Gytrash last start. Selections:4 from 5

Race 3 : COURS VITE getting out to this distance. He has been finishing his races off strongly of late and watch for him to be hitting line hard. ARUGAMAMA was sent out favourite on the Parks track last start and she got the job done. Selections 9 from 1

Race 4. YURI ROYALE at 10/1 is the selection here coming back in distance but in good form. HASSELTOFF is the danger. Selections 1 from 3

Race 5. STAR SIRIUS came from long way back to win two starts back then ran on late at Parks track last start. FINE FUTURE won his maiden two back then he went on with it to win here last start. Racing in super form and can win again. Selections:8 to win from 1

Race 6 : STARTS NOW has not been beaten all that far in better races than this of late. ASTRODEAN Racing consistently and can measure up in town. Selections: 4 from 2

Race 7 VEXATIOUS DANCER has plenty of speed and expect her to be in leading pack early Can win. SHADOWFAX jumped to the front and gave nothing else a chance here last start. Selections: 8 from 5

Race 8 PRESS DOWN winner of the Listed Whyllie here two starts back before again battling down Flemington straight. Class runner. EPISODIC is value at \$23. Selections: 1 from 14

Race 9 . David Jolly has wraps on VOLCANIC EXPRESS and looks the winner again, ROCKSTAR MEGGSY has plenty of ability Selections: 3 from 5

AT THE BARRIERS is a South Australian Podcast - 0402978424