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The Ashes

Australia's 4-1 Ashes win was well deserved and was an exact reflection on the difference in the sides.

Mitchell Starc, Travis Head and Alex Carey all had superb series while the fielding was first class.

Steve Smith, Michael Neser and Scott Boland were also valuable contributors where all squad members chipped in at some stage.

England played dumb cricket far too often, particularly when they had got themselves into a position of strength or parity. The Perth collapse on day two, the dropped catches late on day two in Brisbane and some of the shot selection in Adelaide and Sydney were all moments they should have done better.

The cult of Bazball has died. The Poms lack of the right preparation has been exposed. They are slow learners and heads look like they may roll.

Looking to 2027, the Australia team will be quite different. You pencil in Head (possible captain), Carey, Webster, Green, Cummins and maybe Starc and Smith

Not so sure about Weatherald, Labuschagne, Hazlewood, Boland or Neser, for reasons of form and age

Anyway, now is now the time to look too far ahead, but to enjoy another Ashes win, particularly one that a lot of English pundits got wrong by some margin!



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| Murray Bridge Crystal Clear | Flemington The Shark | Wyong Harbour Harry | Gold Coast Jungle Jim |
|--|-------------------------|---|--|
| R1 : 7 , 2 , 5 , 4 | 1: 1 , 2 , 6 , 5 | 1 : 3 , 5 , 4 , 2 | 1: 1, 2 , 3 , 5 |
| R2 : 7 , 4 , 2 , 1 | 2 : 8 , 9 , 2 , 1 | 2 : 3 , 12 , 9 , 10 | 2: 2 , 1 , 3 , 10 |
| R3 : 7 , 8 , 9 , 11 | 3 : 8 , 4 , 2 , 1 | 3 : 10 , 4 , 9 , 7 | 3: 6 , 12 , 10 , 16 |
| R4: 5 , 2 , 1 , 3 | 4 : 7 , 4 , 2 , 3 | 4 : 6 . 4 , 8 , 10 | 4: 4 , 8 , 11 , 10 |
| R5: 7 , 3 , 1 , 6 | 5 : 12 , 11 , 4 , 5 | 5 : 10 , 7 , 9 , 2 | 5 : 5 , 1 , 12 , 14 |
| R6: 2 , 3 , 1 , 9 | 6 : 13 , 7 , 1 , 14 | 6 : 11 , 8 , 5 , 12 | 6: 1 , 8 , 4 , 2 |
| R7: 6 , 11 , 10 , 2 | 7 : 3 , 12 , 7 , 11 | 7 : 13 , 7 , 3 , 12 | 7: 10 , 1 , 3 , 12 |
| R8: 5 , 13 , 1 , 10 | 8 : 3 , 5 , 1 , 2 | 8 : 1 , 4 , 7 , 9 | 8: 6 , 1 , 2 , 7 |
| | 9 : 10 , 16 , 3 , 1 | 9 : 3 , 6 , 1 , 7 | 9: 5 , 11 , 2 , 7 |
| | 10: 13 , 14 , 5 , 4 | 10: 9 , 4 , 7 , 5 | 10 : 9 , 5 , 3 , 1 |
| Jimmy Olsen MR 3 # 8 Jenni The Ninja BR 3 # 5 Forging Ahead SR 7 # 12 Pillow Flight | | The Mailman MR 2 # 8 Trapalanda MR 4 # 2 Suntora BR 9 # 2 Grafterburners | Tower Of Knowledge AR 3 # 7 Bardigrub AR 6 # 3 Royal Scripture AR 7 # 6 Caladan |

Frank Hayes was an Irish horse trainer and jockey who, on 4 June 1923, at Belmont Park racetrack in Elmont, New York, won a steeplechase despite suffering a fatal heart attack in the latter part of the race.

The twenty-two-year-old Hayes had never won a race before, as by profession he was not a jockey but a horse trainer and stableman. The horse, a 20:1 outsider called Sweet Kiss, was owned by Miss A. M. Frayling. Hayes died in the latter part of the race and his body remained in the saddle when Sweet Kiss crossed the finish line, winning by a head, making him the first, and so far only, jockey known to have won a race after death. **The Moral - Never wish for The Kiss Of Death!!**

