

# WHEN AUSTRALIA RULED THE NWSL: 9 BEST MATILDAS GOALS, MOMENTS & MVPS OF THE WEEK

The NWSL is wrapping up and the Matildas will be back in action soon. Plenty of goals, awards and accomplishments broken down by Kristin Shaffer for your 9 Best Of The Week.

## THREE BEST GOALS

### 3. SAM KERR'S BRILLIANT CHIP

The **Chicago** Red Stars scored in the first nine minutes of the game and not surprisingly, it was from the foot of Sam Kerr.

**Chicago** was on the counter and the ball was played to Kerr at the top of the box, she had a strong touch that forced her run to go almost endline.

**But when** it seemed Kerr had no angle for a goal she perfectly chips the ball into the back of the net. This reminds us all that Kerr can do the impossible.

### 2. LATE WINNER FROM INDIANNA ASIMUS

The **Wyoming** Cowgirls were down 1-0 late in their game against South Dakota. What looked like a loss for Wyoming they were able to net a late goal earning themselves the tie.

**Wyoming** had a free kick at the edge of the box and were able to have the ball hit the cross bar which led to the their players rushing the goal.

**It looked** like mayhem in the box. Indianna Asimus was able to get her body on the ball and push it across the line securing the tie. Asimus was at the right place at the right time.

### 1. SAM KERR'S RECORDING BREAKING GOAL

**Kerr did** not let her early goal be her lone goal of the week. She would add another one, giving her the brace, but more statistically impressive was the fact it was her 18th goal of the season.

**23 games** this season and 18 goals, simply incredible.

**Her 18th** goal was impressive as well. Kerr was passed a great through ball at the top of the box. She cut the ball across the box, putting the ball on her right foot.

**Kerr then** slid the ball into the left side of the goal putting the Red Stars up 3-0.

## TOP THREE MOMENTS

### 3. MATILDAS CALLED INTO CAMP

**Players are** with their overseas club teams now, but international friendlies are coming up fast. The Matildas will be in camp from October 1-9 for the first time since the Women's World Cup this summer.

**The players** heading to camp were announced this past week. The 21 players called in were a good mix of World Cup players along with newcomers and players who are trying to become a more constant player in the Matildas player pool.

**The camp** comes before the Matildas host Chile for two games with the first on November 9 in Parramatta.

### 2. CHERYL SALISBURY TO BE INDUCTED INTO HALL OF FAME

**Former Matildas** captain, Cheryl Salisbury, will be inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame.

**Being inducted** is a huge honor and it comes with an added bonus since she is the first female footballer to be inducted.

**Salisbury had** a storied career having a record adding 38 goals. Her level of play awarded her a spot on the FIFA Women's World XI team in 2004 and 2006.

**The induction** will be held in Melbourne on October 10 at Palladium at Crown.

### 1. JUNIOR MATILDAS TO SEMIFINALS

The **Junior** Matildas took care of business this week with a spot in the semifinals of the AFC U-16 Women's Championship.

**This is** the first time the Junior Matildas have reached the knockout stage of the tournament since 2006.

**They will** play DPR Korea on Thursday at 3 PM AEST.

## THREE BEST PERFORMANCES

### 3. STEPH CATLEY

**Reign FC** may have fallen in their match this week but it was only a 1-0 scoreline. Their opponent Sky Blue FC, had less shots and scoring opportunities but the Reign were never able to capitalize.

**Catley was** a main reason that the Sky Blue were limited this week. She continues to be one of the best players for the Reign.

**Based on** inStat she was ranked the third best player on the pitch for either team.

### 2. JUNIOR MATILDAS

**Typically this** is reserved for a single player performance but in this instance the entire Junior Matildas deserves a top performance.

**Early in** the week they set themselves up well with a 6-1 win over Thailand and all they needed in their next match was a tie.

**A tie** would guarantee them a spot in the AFC Women's Championship and the Junior Matildas just that in their match with Bangladesh, the game tied at 2-2.

### 1. SAM KERR

**A record** setting week earns Kerr the top performance. She netted two goals and added an assist for her team's 3-1 victory.

**Kerr set** the record for the most goals in a season in the NWSL breaking the previous record which happens to be held by her from 2017.

**The Chicago** Red Stars have one more game for the regular season where Kerr can add to her total.

