

Ashes 2025-26: 19 Wickets Tumble as Starc and Stokes Dominate Day 1



The **Ashes 2025-26** series delivered a dramatic opening day as cricket fans witnessed an extraordinary collapse of wickets—**19 in total**—highlighting the fierce battle between bat and ball. Australia's Mitchell Starc and England's Ben Stokes emerged as the biggest stars of the day, each showcasing world-class skill and unmatched fighting spirit.

A Chaotic Day Defined by Swing and Seam

The pitch offered generous movement from the very first session, setting the tone for a day dominated by bowlers. Australian spearhead **Mitchell Starc**, known for his lethal pace and late swing, wasted no time dismantling England's top order. Delivering fast, full, and attacking spells, Starc extracted every bit of assistance from the conditions.

On the other side, **Ben Stokes**, leading with courage and determination, brought England back into the contest with an inspired spell of his own. The uneven bounce and overcast conditions created the perfect stage for high-quality fast bowling and tactical brilliance.

Starc's Fiery Burst Rattles England

Mitchell Starc was undoubtedly the architect of England's collapse. His opening spell saw him remove key batters, leaving England scrambling for stability. Starc's ability to generate movement at high speeds made life miserable for England's lineup. His relentless accuracy and aggressive lengths resulted in a cluster of early wickets that swung the momentum firmly in Australia's favor.

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By the end of England's innings, Starc had delivered one of his most destructive Ashes spells, reminding everyone why he remains one of the most feared bowlers in world cricket.

Ben Stokes Leads England's Comeback

Despite England's batting struggles, captain **Ben Stokes** refused to back down. With the ball, he produced a sensational spell that turned the match on its head. Stokes used subtle variations, sharp bouncers, and precise line-and-length bowling to rip through Australia's middle order.

His leadership shone through as he inspired his teammates with energy and intensity. Stokes' exceptional performance ensured England stayed alive in the contest despite its earlier collapse.

A Day to Remember in Ashes History

With **19 wickets falling on Day 1**, the Ashes 2025-26 has already delivered a thrilling narrative. The duel between Starc's pace and Stokes' determination promises more exciting action in the days ahead. As both teams brace for a tense battle, fans can expect this match to go down as one of the most dramatic encounters in recent Ashes history.

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