



2017-08-25

Pickett picks up 50m breaststroke final spot | Day 7 wrap

At the penultimate day of swimming at the pool, Leiston Pickett (Griffith University) suited up for her pet event, the 50m breaststroke, the event in which she is the reigning Commonwealth Games champion.

Australia's version of the student-athlete Ironman, Kyle Cranston has won the decathlon at the World University Games in Taipei.

Cranston, 24, produced an upset victory in the hardest athletics discipline. Ranked twelfth by personal best heading into the Games, Cranston sealed his medal with a 4:42.08 performance in the 1500m, taking his total score to 7687.

In women's basketball, the Emerging Boomers scored an impressive seven-point win over the USA in a sudden-death quarter final and will meet Chinese Taipei at the massive Taipei Arena in the semi-final on Saturday.

After seven days of competition, the Uniroos have collected three gold, a silver and three bronze medals, to sit in 19th place on the medal tally.

Swimming – At the penultimate day of swimming at the pool, Leiston Pickett (Griffith University) suited up for her pet event, the 50m breaststroke, the event in which she is the reigning Commonwealth Games champion.

After finishing 6th in the 100m breaststroke, Pickett won her heat of the shorter event in 31.31 to clock the second fastest time for the night-time semis. She won the semi in 31.16 to be second fastest qualifier for Saturday night's final.

2015 800m freestyle bronze medallist Kiah Melverton (Griffith University) just missed the podium at a second successive Games, with a 4th place finish in the 800m final. The swim matched her performance in the 500m freestyle, with Melverton stopping the clock in 8:32.46. 1500m winner Simona Quadarella (ITA) took the win.

Dual gold medalist Sian Whittaker (Deakin University) returned for the 50m backstroke final. After golds in the 100m and 200m events, the 50m was admittedly a little short for the 20-year-old, however she improved with each swim and having qualified as eighth fastest for the final she swam 28.85 to finish fifth.

Laura Taylor (Bond University) was impressive in the heat of the 200m butterfly, winning in 2:13.40 to qualify 4th fastest for the evening semi-finals. She was 2nd in her semi for 5th fastest overall into Saturday's final. Emily Washer (The University of NSW) finished 6th in her heat in 2:17.36 for 20th place overall.

Brayden McCarthy (Brisbane TAFE) and Will Stockwell (The University of Queensland) suited up for the splash and dash 50m freestyle, as McCarthy clocked 22.95 for 8th in his heat, and Stockwell finished in 22.73 for 28th and 19th place overall and outside the top 16 into the semi-finals.

Abbey Harkin (Griffith University) and Gemma Cooney (The University of Queensland) continued their busy freestyle program in the heats of the 50m. Harkin clocked 26.63 for 6th in heat six and Cooney 5th in 26.13- with the duo missing the semi's in 23rd and 17th respectively.

Water Polo – The Australian women are bound for the quarterfinals after a comprehensive smashing of Argentina 21-1. The goals were shared across all Australian drivers with Zoe Hille (RMIT University) top scoring with five to her name.

Bursting to a 5-0 start in the opening term, the Aussies were dominant and sent a commanding message to their quarterfinal opponents, Russia, who finished their Pool matches undefeated, and will face on Saturday at 3:30 AEST.

Australia sneaked through to the quarterfinals in fourth place of Pool B, with wins coming against Greece and Argentina, but losses to France, Italy and the US.

The Australian men took on Argentina in the first of the 9th-12th place playoff matches, with the Unirooms winning 6-5. They next play the USA on Sunday.

Taekwondo - Tom Auger (Flinders University) met his match in the first round of the -63kg preliminaries, going down 27-6.

Diving - Ruby Neave (Monash University) was the Unirooms rep in the 3m springboard and she qualified for the semi-finals in 17th place with 249.40 points but slipped to 18th in the semi with 211.15 points.

Table Tennis – It was a good day at the table tennis with Hemming Hu (Monash University), Jake Duffy (The University of Queensland) and Erny Tsao (The University of NSW) all winning their opening games in the first round of the men's singles, as did Antonia Zhang (Macquarie University) and Rossa To (Monash University). The first round continues Saturday. Kane Townsend lost his opening 1st round match, however he also continues with two further preliminary matches on Saturday.

Volleyball - After three tough losses and a win, the Unirooms played their final pool match against Romania. Was resulted was another tough battle with the Unirooms going down in four sets, 24-26, 25-23, 22-25, 25-22 to finish 5th in the pool. The team is now headed for the 9-16th classification games commencing Sunday.