



BULLS vs BEARS

MPC Markets – Weekly edition

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MPC IN THE MEDIA

Mark joined Kochie and Daniel Ortisi from Stock Doctor this week for The Call on Ausbiz.

The stock specific were a bit of a sideshow as discussions around broader market thematic, industries and market dynamics were front of mind.

Marks favourite stock pick of the show was Steadfast (SDF) which recently got a hatchet job from the ABC's 4 Corners and is looking cheap. Other stocks of interest were Megaport and Nine Entertainment



ALL THAT GLITTERS IS GOLD (AND SILVER)

Gold has broken out to new highs overnight and this was called publically by Jonathan Tacadena earlier in the week. On Wednesday's The Trade, Jonathan showed the chart below highlighting the drop in historical volatility in Spot Gold over the last few weeks and this increased the chance of a vol spike coming. Being the Ausbiz Gold Bug, obviously Jonathan expected prices to break out higher. Jonathan has a target of \$2700, if the move on Gold copies the recent run in 2019 where Gold ran from \$1300 to \$2000 over a 6 month period



GOLD VOLATILITY DROPPING!





STOCKS

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Mineral Resources (MIN)

Mineral Resources (MinRes) believes the lithium market has bottomed out as a major Chinese player, CATL, suspends its lithium lepidolite operations due to unsustainable prices. This move led to a sharp rise in lithium stocks, with MinRes shares surging 16%. CATL's closure signals the removal of significant supply from the market, hinting at a potential price recovery. The lithium market has been in a downward spiral, impacting global players like Arcadium Lithium and Core Lithium. MinRes has introduced cost-cutting measures, including job cuts and roster changes, to navigate the challenging environment. UBS estimates CATL's production halt could boost lithium prices by up to 23%. Speculation around CATL's production halt continues to spread across markets.

Steadfast Group (SDF)

Steadfast is addressing allegations from a Four Corners investigation claiming the company participated in undisclosed "kickback" schemes, misleading clients by giving strata management firms a cut of fees from apartment owners. The report also alleged that Steadfast brokers ignored cheaper insurance offers in favor of their own higher-priced policies. The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission is concerned about these practices. Steadfast refuted the claims, stating the ABC selectively presented information. The company emphasized its commitment to ethical standards and highlighted a 2021 independent review to improve transparency. Steadfast's strata division, which contributes significantly to profits, is under scrutiny, and the company supports increased oversight of the strata industry. Shares were halted pending further announcements.

Uranium Stocks (BOE & PDN)

Russian President Vladimir Putin's recent threat to cut off uranium supplies to the West has sparked a rally in uranium stocks. Australian producers, including Boss Energy and Paladin Energy, saw significant share price increases, as did uranium ETFs. Putin's comments, delivered in a televised meeting, also mentioned possible export restrictions on titanium and nickel, further impacting commodity markets. Russia is a major supplier of enriched uranium, crucial for nuclear reactors. While analysts debate the likelihood of Putin following through on these threats, the global uranium market remains on edge, with concerns over supply disruptions boosting the sentiment around uranium stocks, especially given the broader shift toward nuclear power for low-carbon energy solutions.

Northern Star Resources Ltd (NST)

The Northern Star share price is up over 4% to \$15.69. Investors have been buying Northern Star and other gold miners on Friday after the gold price stormed to a record high. This was driven by optimism that the US Federal Reserve will make a big cut to interest rates next week. The good news is that the gains may not be over for Northern Star's shares.



ALTERNATIVE ASSETS

MPC & STROPRO FEATURE ON AUSBIZ



Smart-Entry Note - Australian Diversified Basket

Basket	Reference Assets	Smart-Entry Level (Strike)	Term	Coupon p.a.
AU Diversified	WES, MQG, CBA, XRO	80% (-20% from today's price)	12 Months	8.50% (Paid Monthly)

Want to know more? Watch the Investment Webinar



Store of Value - Enhanced Growth

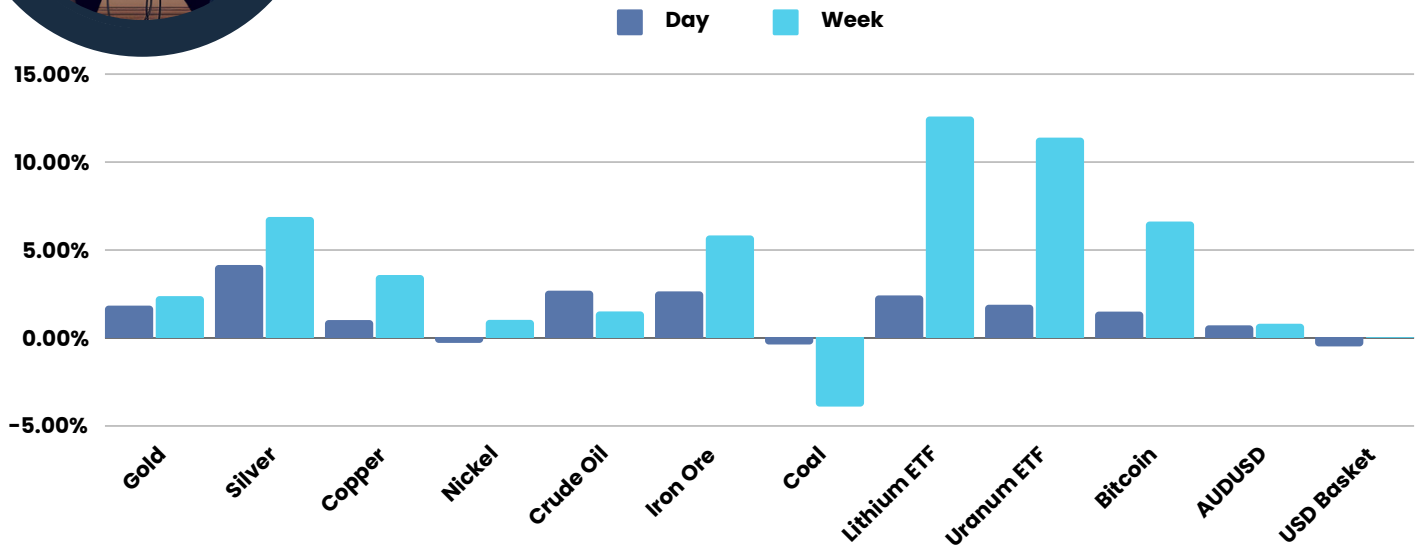
Reference Asset	Term	Exposure	Max Returns
Worst-Of (WO) Basket: SDPR Gold Shares (GLD UP), Silver Spot (XAGUSD)	1 Year	\$100,000 exposure per \$10,000 cash outlay	∞

Want to know more? Watch the Investment Webinar





COMMODITIES & FX



Gold: After consolidating in a tight range around the \$2500 level for a few weeks, Gold broke out overnight to record highs and is trading around \$2570

Silver: Quiet week in the Silver earlier as it trading around the \$28 level but then followed Gold overnight and is back near recent highs around \$30. If it continues then next target is \$32

Uranium: Uranium is back on decline as last weeks Kazatomprom news has been quickly forgotten. Spot Uranium still relatively steady in comparison

Crude Oil (WTI): WTI crude oil got belted early this week again and traded as low as \$65.50. It has recovered the last two days and back around the \$69 to \$70 level. \$65 is longer term support on WTI, so bulls need this level to remain firm

Copper: High-grade copper has been relatively quiet again this week. It has drifted higher the last couple of trading days following the precious metals highs and now around the \$4.20 level

Iron ore: Iron Ore like all commodities this week was weak earlier in the week and traded near \$90 but has since recovered and trading around \$95.

Bitcoin: BTC has recovered this week and back trading around \$58k after heading as low as \$54k last week. ETH has not been as strong and is trading under \$2400

Yen: USDJPY keeps heading lower and trading below the 141 level. Equities have not reacted to the event this time as the Nikkei has bounced from lows earlier this week and is near 37,000



ECONOMY & POLITICS

Inflation is under control?....Right?

This week's US inflation data showed continued moderation in price pressures. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for August rose 2.5% year-over-year, down from 2.9% in July and marking the lowest annual increase since February 2021. Core CPI, which excludes volatile food and energy prices, held steady at 3.2% annually. On a monthly basis, CPI increased 0.2%, in line with expectations. The Producer Price Index (PPI), measuring wholesale inflation, also showed signs of easing. August PPI rose 1.8% year-over-year, down from 2.2% in July and below the forecast of 2.0%. Core PPI, excluding food and energy, increased 0.3% month-over-month, slightly higher than expected. These figures support the Federal Reserve's signaling of potential interest rate cuts, with markets now pricing in a high probability of a rate cut at the September 17-18 meeting. The data suggests the US economy remains healthy while inflation continues to move closer to the Fed's 2% target.

Trump rules out another presidential debate against Harris

Donald Trump has ruled out another presidential debate with Kamala Harris before November's election, claiming he "clearly" won their first showdown in Philadelphia.

Despite polls indicating voters felt Harris performed better, Trump suggested she should focus on her vice-presidential duties instead. Harris responded by saying they "owe" voters another debate due to the high stakes of the election.

The candidates are in a tight race with just two months to go. During Tuesday's debate, Harris put Trump on the defensive with personal attacks, including comments about his rally crowds and conduct during the January 6 Capitol riot. Trump and his supporters have accused the ABC moderators of bias, while the Harris campaign continues to push for a second debate.

The circus is nearly over - 51 days to go

WHAT WE ARE READING



[Israel intensified airstrikes on Iran-linked targets in Syria](#)



[Gold prices hit record high as rate cut bets build](#)



[Trump rules out another presidential debate against Harris](#)



TRADE OF THE WEEK

Catalyst Metals – CYL

Watch Jonathan's Bullish Gold call on Ausbiz

CATALYST METALS - CYL



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