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CIRRUS
SECURITIES

Rugby World Cup 2019

Never have we been so happy to be so wrong! With England having taken New Zealand to task, causing an epic upset, we've decided to take away the forecasting responsibility from our economists and hand the role over to the real experts – the CFAs.

England's performance stunned New Zealand and her fans, most of whom were anticipating a third consecutive title for the All Blacks. Let's hope those fans used some better judgement and didn't get their tattoos a little too early...

The Roses played a brilliant game, fighting hard to crush the All Blacks 19-7 and book their place in the play-off for the gold medal. The result came as a shock to many, especially the margin, but we reckon it'll make for a more interesting and exciting final come Saturday morning.

The second semi-final was a close one, with the Bokke clinching a 19-16 victory over the Welsh Dragons. It was not the most exciting of games to watch – with 81 kicks between the two teams you'd be forgiven for thinking you were watching a football match. However, South Africa played a strong defensive game again and we're happy to see them go through to the final.

Bronze Medal

Friday sees the losers' final taking place. With the pre-tournament favorites taking on the pre-tournament world number ones. New Zealand seem set to take the bronze medal and have a big point to prove after their unexpected loss to the English. We hope the Welsh will put up a good fight and look forward to what is hopefully an entertaining game (during work hours!).

Final

After last weekend's little hiccup (the All Blacks were as reliable as Eskom), our legal team has advised us not to make any daring calls. This would be perfect for economists, with all their 'on the one hand... and on the other hand...', but ours have been relegated after the England win (good thing it's almost time for their annual performance reviews!).

We hope to see a tightly contested game of rugby (note: rugby, not football). The deciding factor will likely come down to the coaches. Eddie Jones has some prior RWC finals experience and took down South Africa with his Japanese side at the last world cup. Rassie Erasmus has managed to get the Springboks this far and with Saturday's final set to be his last test match as South Africa's head coach, he'll definitely want to end his already successful tenure on the highest note possible.

Head-to-head, the Springboks have won 25 times compared to the Red Roses' 15 (and two drawn matches). However, in the last 5 matches England have won 3 while South Africa won the other 2, with an average score of 25 – 22 in England's favor. However, the Bokke won the RWC 12 years ago when they beat England 15-6 in that final, and we hope this will give them a psychological edge ahead of the weekend. And while we're restrained from giving out advice, we can only hope that England have peaked too early.

Besides, just imagine what the world will be like if two English teams actually manage to bring "it" home this year.

