

## DAILY DRUM

## TELEVISION

## TENNIS

US Open day 4, live from 1am to 1pm Fox 4

## AMERICAN FOOTBALL

College game day, North Carolina v South Carolina, 8am ESPN; Oklahoma State v Central Michigan, 9am ESPN2; TCU v Minnesota, 11am ESPN

## RUGBY UNION

ITM Cup, Otago v Tasman, 5.30pm Fox 2

## MOTORSPORT

F1 Italian GP, Monza, 1st practice session, 5.45pm Fox 5; 2nd practice session, 9.45pm Fox 5

## ROWING

World Championships, day 6 from Aiguebelette, France, 7.30pm Fox 3

## RUGBY LEAGUE

NRL, Roosters v Rabbitohs, 7.30pm Nine; Super League, Huddersfield v Castleford, 7.30pm Fox 1

## AFL

Tigers v Kangaroos, 7.30pm Fox Footy & 7mate

## GOLF

European Tour, Russian Open round 2, 10.30pm Fox 2

## CYCLING

Tour of Spain, stage 13, Calatayud to Tarazona, midnight Eurosport

## BEST BET

**\$8.00**

**RORY MCILROY**  
To win Deutsche Bank golf from 10.30pm  
TPC Boston is a driver's course which suits the young Irishman, who won here in 2012.



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# NBL comes to town

**GREG DAVIS**  
@gregdavis\_cmail

NBL boss Larry Kestelman has guaranteed Brisbane will have a team in the 2016-17 national basketball competition.

Kestelman said the return of a Brisbane team was a key plank in negotiations with Fox Sports for the bumper broadcast deal announced yesterday. Fox Sports will televise every game in the 2015-16 season live in HD as part of a five-year deal with the NBL.

Multi-millionaire Kestelman bought a controlling stake

of the NBL in May, and has invested more than \$7 million in the competition.

He has significantly lifted the NBL's presence since becoming executive director and signing the groundbreaking broadcast deal is the crowning glory in his short but productive tenure.

Kestelman – who made his fortune in property and telecommunications – knows Brisbane has been promised a team on numerous occasions since the Bullets died in 2008.

This time, it was different. "We have made the com-

mitment that there will be a Brisbane team – it will be fact," he told *The Courier-Mail* last night. "For the first time, you have people that will follow through on that promise."

"We've been in the job for just over 60 days.

"I think we've made more happen in 60 days than others made happen in six years.

"So we will follow through on the Brisbane team as well.

"There is work to do and we will be rallying support in Brisbane. There will be a team in the competition next year.

"Now that it (the broadcast



**TEAM MAN:** Larry Kestelman says Brisbane is a priority.

deal) is done, Brisbane is the next priority."

Kestelman said the NBL and Fox Sports wanted Brisbane playing as soon as poss-

ible. "It is something we put on the table straight away and Fox wanted it too," he said.

"We were in total agreement about it. It's important from every aspect, not just broadcast. It's a major capital city, it's a growth area, it's a must on all fronts.

"If you are running a professional sporting competition in Australia, you need to have that corridor covered."

Kestelman said the NBL was looking to hold a forum in Brisbane on September 18 to meet the basketball and corporate communities.

## BANGLADESHIS LEFT BRUISED

**DAVID DAVUTOVIC**  
IN PERTH

ANY risk of complacency was extinguished as the ruthless Socceroos tore minnows Bangladesh to shreds in last night's 2018 World Cup qualifier.

Coach Ange Postecoglou was almost offended at any pre-game suggestion of experimentation or a flogging, but there was a hint of both as his youthful squad dismantled the star-struck visitors 5-0 in Perth.

Mathew Leckie opened the scoring in the sixth minute and from there the floodgates opened in front of a boisterous 19,495 crowd at nib Stadium, as Tom Rogic celebrated his first Socceroos start in 18 months with a maiden goal.

Veteran Tim Cahill only played the last 30 minutes, kept in cotton wool for Tuesday's away clash against Tajikistan.

Bangladesh, 173rd in FIFA rankings, at home will probably be the easiest match of the group, but try telling that to Leckie or Rogic.

Both had a sense of purpose about them, with Leckie now able to stop fielding questions about his goal drought.

He had scored one goal in 25 internationals before it.

After groin issues cost Rogic a definite World Cup and Asian Cup spot, he was revelling in the freedom he had not enjoyed since groin issues began plaguing him several years ago.

Playing at the top of a four-man midfield, supported by Aaron Mooy, Massimo Luongo and Mark Milligan, Rogic caused the Tigers problems with his sharpness and trickery until he was withdrawn on 62 minutes for Lazio teen Chris Ikonomidis.

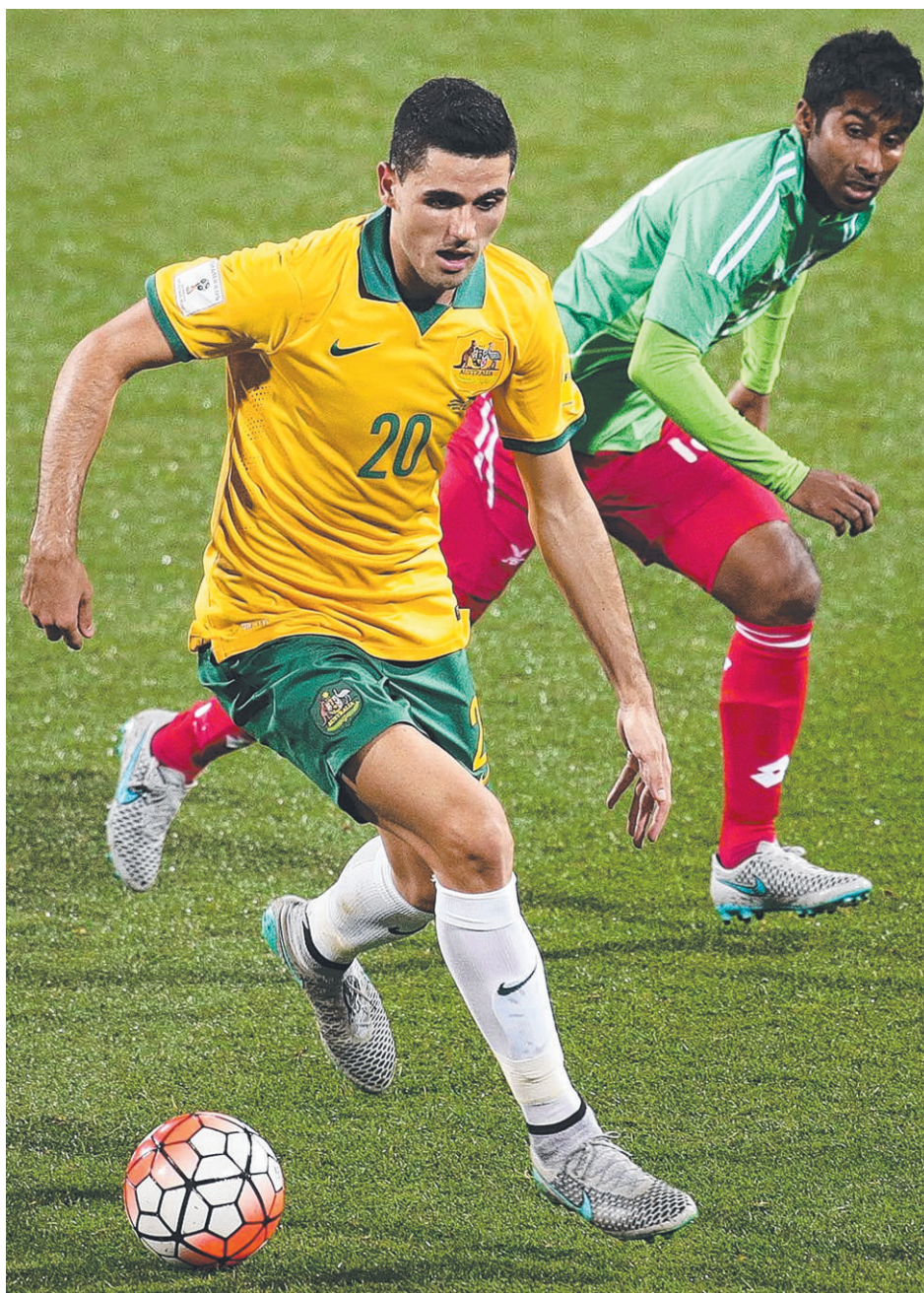
After Leckie had tapped in a Luongo cutback, Rogic's exquisite first touch allowed him to put Tarek Elrich's cutback into the back of the net two minutes later.

Rogic then capitalised on a cutback from Jason Davidson's left, though his 20th-minute strike took a wicked deflection.

Nathan Burns, who partnered Leckie up front until Cahill replaced him, reacted quickest after keeper Mohammed Sahidul Alam parried Leckie's header to tap in to make it four before the break.

Mooy's thunderous strike put the Socceroos 5-0 up just before Cahill was introduced to the delight of the crowd.

**SOCCEROOS 5 (Leckie 6th, Rogic 8th, Rogic 20th, Burns 29th, Mooy 61st) d BANGLADESH 0.**



**ROAD TO RUSSIA:** Tom Rogic starred for the Socceroos last night. Picture: Getty Images

## Enforcer's return revs up

**JAMES PHELPS**

RUSSELL Ingall began his V8 Supercars comeback yesterday, with the driver known as the "Enforcer" ending a 271-day retirement to replace injured Holden driver James Courtney.

Stepping into a V8 Supercar for the first time since retiring at last year's season-ending Sydney 500, Ingall had a test day at Winton Raceway leading into the Sandown 500, starting on Thursday.

"It felt great to be back," Ingall said. "I didn't know how much I had missed it until I got back in."

Ingall, 51, powered through a pre-endurance season test program with the Holden Racing Team.

Courtney ruled himself out of the "Endurance Cup" opener after being injured in a freak pit lane accident at the Sydney Motorsport Park SuperSprint last month.

"He is still pretty banged up," Ingall said.

"So I will be getting in his car and giving it my all."

Ingall drove the factory-backed HRT Commodore in a full test day in which international driver Sebastian Bourdais also began his endurance season preparations.

## Hayden backing Burns for Bangas

**GREG BUCKLE**

CONTROVERSIALLY overlooked for Australia's Ashes tour, Joe Burns is a strong chance to win selection for next month's two-Test tour of Bangladesh.

While the logical move might be to slot the Queensland opener into the side alongside David Warner, Test great Matthew Hayden said yesterday Burns' (pictured) true calling was at No.3.

That would allow new Test skipper Steve Smith to slip down a spot to No.4, which would suit him better, 103-Test veteran Hayden said.



Last month's retirements of opener Chris Rogers and No.4 Michael Clarke have seemingly left Burns and fellow Queensland batsman Usman Khawaja well placed to resume their Test careers.

But Hayden said 22-year-old West Australian Cameron

Bancroft should be considered for the opening role.

"Joe Burns, he's probably more of a long-term No.3. I don't think Steve Smith is a long-term No.3," Hayden told *The Courier-Mail* as part of a promotion for Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.

"You're looking for an opener and No.3 in my book.

"That would probably allow both of those names (Burns and Bancroft) to have a role to play with the new side.

"You could have Burns or Khawaja (at No.3). Both are good players.

"I think Joe Burns has probably earned his spot."