

# ON MENU



BIG BASH

## HEAT V RENEGADES

6PM, THE GABBA

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**BRISBANE HEAT  
13-MAN SQUAD:**  
Chris Lynn (c), Samuel Badree,  
Joe Burns, Ben Cutting, Andrew  
Fekete, Jason Floros, Peter Forrest,  
James Hopes, Josh Lalor, Jimmy  
Peirson, Nathan Reardon, Lendl  
Simmons, Mark Steketee.

**MELBOURNE RENEGADES  
13-MAN SQUAD:**  
Aaron Finch (c), Chris Gayle,  
Matthew Wade, Cameron White,  
Tom Cooper, Tom Beaton,  
Dwayne Bravo, Guy Walker, Chris  
Tremain, Xavier Doherty, Nathan  
Rimington, Cameron Gannon,  
Matthew Short.



**FEELING THE HEAT:** Lendl Simmons and Samuel Badree are ready for the Big Bash League. Picture: Annette Dew

## Now Windies seek handouts

**BEN DORRIES  
TRAVIS MEYN**

LEG-SPINNER Samuel Badree claims the West Indies desperately need financial help from the International Cricket Council and Caribbean governments.

But the Brisbane Heat also needs help, after finishing the Big Bash League with the wooden spoon last season.

The leggie wants to be the match-winner the Heat have been craving.

"As one of the international players, I need to step up to the challenge," Badree said in the lead-up to the Heat's clash against the Melbourne Renegades at the Gabba tonight.

"People doubted spinners initially in Twenty20 cricket but you have seen the success of slow bowlers as the game has gone on. Spinners all over the world have adapted well (to T20 cricket)."

Heat coach Daniel Vettori expects Badree to adjust well to bowling at the Gabba, given he is quick through the air with his cunning spin.

"He's had success everywhere he has gone," Vettori said. "That's what made us comfortable with bringing him to the Gabba."

"His bowling can translate well here, particularly at the Gabba given he bowls quite quick."

"Batsmen are slightly fearful of him and he can dictate what is going on."

Badree, who was to play for the Heat last season until he busted his shoulder, has la-

mented the plight of cricket in the Caribbean.

The leggie has not played a Test for the West Indies, but has played 22 T20 internationals.

"It is painful to be a player and see the level the West Indies have reached," Badree said. "There has been a lot of conjecture about the reasons."

"We need help whether it comes from the ICC or the governments of the West Indies. We need help to get cricket back on the right track."

With Badree likely to take the new ball tonight – or at least bowl in the early overs – the contest between him and fellow West Indian Chris Gayle will be tantalising.

Gayle will use a golden-coloured bat and Badree has admitted he will need some golden luck to nab Gayle's wicket.

Batting dasher Lendl Simmons, the nephew of West Indian coach Phil, is another Calypso key for the Heat.

Coach Vettori said Simmons can be even more explosive than Heat signing Brendon McCullum, who is not available to play for Brisbane this season.

"If you watch him (Simmons) bat in the nets he slogs it even more than Brendon does," Vettori said.

The Heat also believe their new left-arm swing bowler Josh Lalor could be effective against Gayle.

"Josh Lalor with the ability to swing it away can combat Chris' destructive nature," said Vettori.

## Nevill would glove a huge crowd for his Boxing Day debut

**CARLY ADNO**

THIS time last year Peter Nevill was struggling to get a game for the Melbourne Renegades in the Big Bash League.

On Boxing Day he will fulfil a lifelong dream by playing in the Boxing Day Test.

The 30-year-old hopes fans will turn out in their usual numbers despite the lack of quality competition dished up from the West Indies so far.

"I'd love to see a big crowd there and I imagine there will

be one," Nevill said. "You usually get 100,000 people at the opening of a letter in Melbourne, so I'm hoping they'll turn out on day one."

"I grew up and played for the Melbourne Cricket Club for six years before I moved to Sydney and as a kid I went a lot of times to the Boxing Day Test. It was a very special occasion."

"I always went there with my dad, so my dad and I are both going to be there again."

"It's just going to be a little

bit different, this time I'll actually be on the field."

"It's something you dream of as a kid, but you never think you're definitely going to get there."

"It's only been a possibility and now a reality in the last few years."

"I certainly didn't think I was definitely going to do it and it's certainly a dream come true."

Nevill has hardly put a foot wrong in his eight Tests.

There has even been talk of

promoting him up the batting order.

He has notched up two half centuries and has been solid behind the stumps, but he knows he has to maintain the consistency to keep his place.

"It feels great," Nevill said.

"I'm as comfortable as I think you can be."

"You need to perform and if you don't perform you won't find yourself in the team for very long, that's just the reality of it."

"I love being in the group,

it's been a wonderful ride so far and it's been a lot of fun."

Nevill said the team was not paying any attention to what's going on with the Windies, with the focus being on improving its own performance.

"We're looking to bounce back strongly in Melbourne, but all we can focus on is what we can do as a team," he said.

"You need to focus on continuing to play good cricket and I won't be worried about what the West Indies are doing."



**KEEPING IT REAL:** Australia's wicketkeeper Peter Nevill.