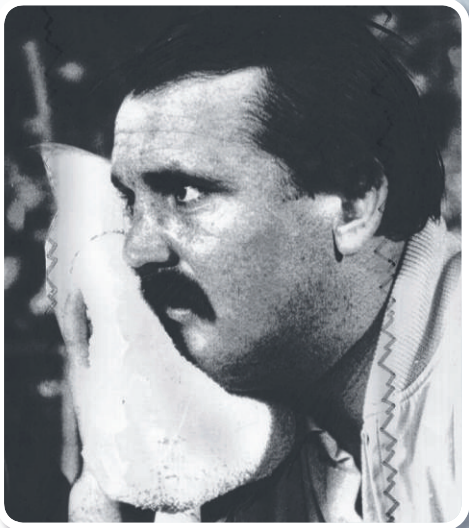


CHAOS & DRAMA

THE TOP 10 CONTROVERSIAL DECISIONS

What is State of Origin without bickering, cheap shots and controversy. **Sam Alexander** looks at 10 of the most dramatic events across Australian sport's most intense rivalry

100
STATE OF ORIGIN
GREATEST MOMENTS
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1 BOYD BREAKS BROHMAN'S JAW GAME 1, 1983

It was the moment that shattered the jaw of Queensland prop Darryl Brohman, leaving him drinking KFC gravy through a straw, and put Les Boyd out of the game for 12 months. Boyd thundered towards the Queenslander with a cocked elbow. It remains an ugly chapter in State of Origin history.



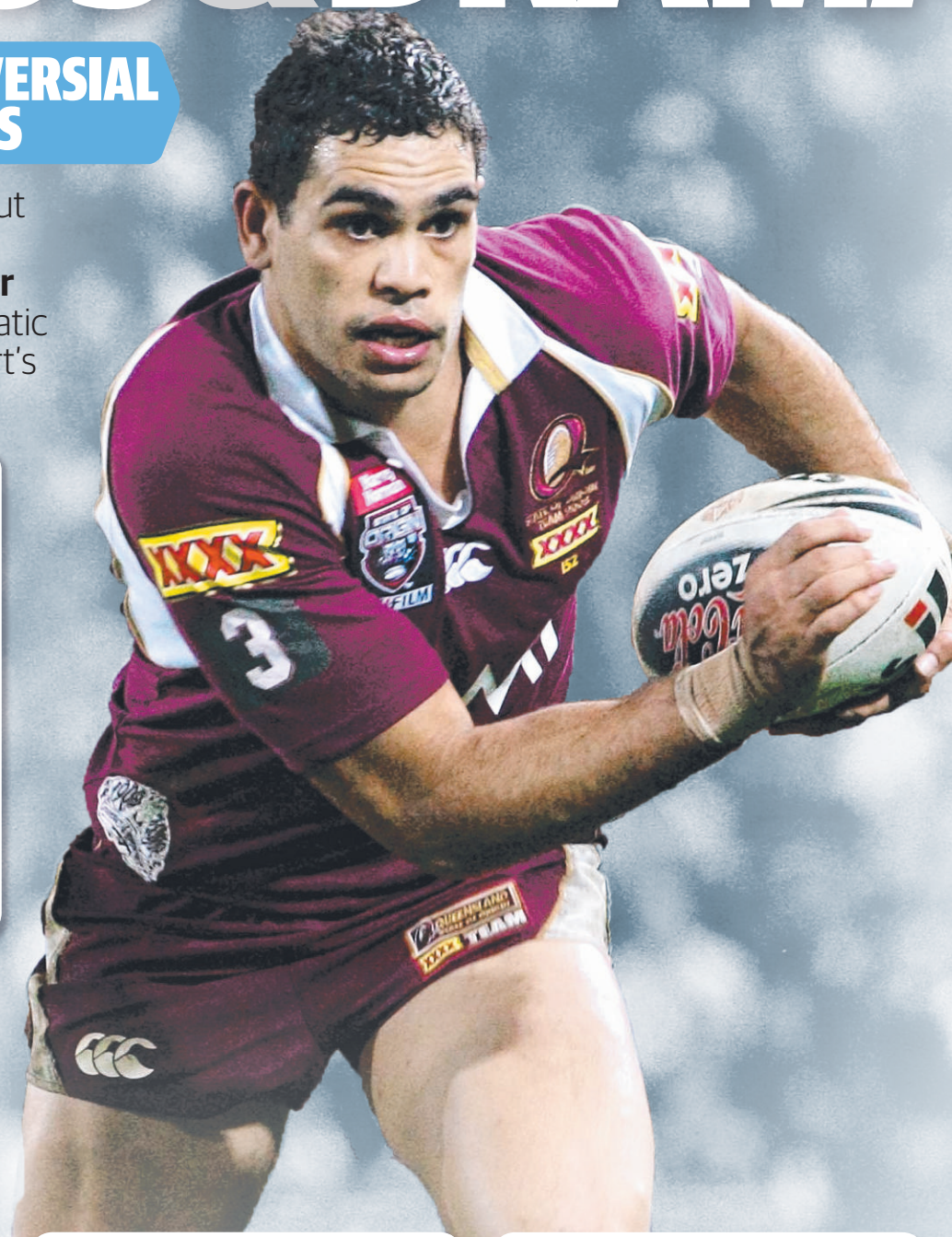
4 VIDEO REF DROPS THE BALL GAME 1, 2012

As if the divide between NSW and Queensland wasn't big enough, it was blown into orbit after Greg Inglis's record-breaking try stirred unprecedented controversy. After appearing to fumble the ball just before scoring, Inglis was awarded the benefit of a high doubt to grab the try that helped Queensland to another victory in their golden era.



8 MAROONS HITMAN SENT OFF GAME 2, 1996

Paul Harragon might have needed some of his nib insurance cover in 1996 after he was knocked out cold by a swinging arm. Maroons hitman Craig Greenhill became the first player to be sent off in an Origin match when he delivered the tackle that left Harragon seeing stars.



5 KEARNS FALLS OFF THE HORSE GAME 1, 1999

What was Wayne Pearce thinking? In his first season as coach, Pearce decided a leisurely horse ride through the Blue Mountains would help bond the team. The questionable theory went up in smoke when forward Robbie Kearns fell from his horse, suffered a broken collarbone and missed the whole series.



6 TAHU WALKS OUT IN RACIAL STORM GAME 2, 2010

Timana Tahu has never been one to stay out of the spotlight, and following a racist remark from former Knights teammate and Blues assistant coach Andrew Johns, the dual international felt it was his duty to walk out on the camp. Tahu was applauded by Queensland players for his actions.



9 LAW OF THE GRASSHOPPER

Renowned for being a showman who wanted more exposure than the players, the late Barry Gomersall was often criticised by NSW fans. The controversial yet entertaining referee controlled nine Origin matches. NSW only won two of them, further reinforcing the claims of bias from south of the Tweed River.



2 MAROONS STEAL 'BLUE' INGLIS GAME 1, 2006

Kempsey is not in Queensland. Born on the mid-north coast of NSW and having played his first senior game for Newcastle's Hunter Sports High, Greg Inglis made his debut for the Maroons in 2006. NSW supporters were infuriated by his controversial defection to Queensland, who lost 17-16. Denis Carnahan's satirical video about Queensland's constant stealing of Blues talent owes much to the Inglis debacle.

3 BIG GORDIE'S HOLLYWOOD ENDING GAME 1, 2000

Bill Harrigan admitted he felt "sick in the guts" after wrongly awarding Mark Gasnier a try in 2010. How did he feel after awarding one that had big Gorden Tallis calling him a "cheat" a decade earlier? Harrigan controversially sent Tallis from the field after the Queenslander's spray as the Blues scored a comeback victory.



7 BABY COMES FIRST FOR DALEY GAME 3, 1988

Phil Daley obviously thought his missus was more daunting than the NSW Rugby League board. In 1988, NSW management dropped the Manly and Kangaroos prop from the side after he broke curfew to visit his pregnant wife in hospital. He never played Origin again. His son, Ben, played junior rugby for Queensland 16 years later.



10 TBA MAKES NAME FOR HIMSELF GAME 3, 2005

Who would think Tonie Carroll and the Queensland selectors could be so sneaky. NRL rules don't allow pre-selected Origin players to serve suspensions at club footy, so Queensland found a loophole. They named "TBA" on the bench, Carroll missed club action and then was an 11th-hour inclusion.

TOMORROW'S DAILY TELEGRAPH
THE TOP 10 INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCES