0 ΚΟΣΜΟΣ FRIDAY 21 AUGUST 2020 ΣΠΟΡ 47



**Wolves shot-stopper** kept the home side in the game after the restart denying Marconi with a handful of quality saves. **However, the** Stallions finally found the breakthrough with 20 minutes left to play as Martin Fernandez set up Frangie to score after some neat footwork on the byline.

**Wollongong pushed** hard for an equaliser but it wasn't to be as Marconi secured a hard-earned three points on the road

**It's believed** former 2019 Player of the Year and Golden Boot award winner Thomas James will be rejoining his Wolves teammates shortly following a short term contract stint with Perth Glory.

## Sydney United 58 FC 2 (Bilic 44', Maia 83') - Manly United 0 at Sydney United Sports Centre

**It is** back to back wins for Sydney United 58 after they claimed a 2-0 victory against Manly United at Sydney United Sports Centre on Sunday.

**The home** side scored a goal in each half courtesy of Matthew Bilic and Tarik Maia to claim all three competition points. **With the** game seemingly headed to the interval locked scoreless, a moment of Matt Sim brilliance in the 44th minute broke the game open.

**The veteran** midfielder unleashed a looping cross into the back post for Bilic to tap into the back of the net unobstructed. **Manly pushed** for an equaliser but struggled to get the best of the United defence and an in-form Thomas Manos who played arguably his best game of the season so far.

**Sydney United** secured the result in the 83rd minute when Maia found the back of the net from just inside the penalty area after some determined dribbling from Michael Ruhs.

**The result** moves Zjelko Kalac's side level with Marconi Stallions on six points after three games.

## Sydney FC 6 (Wood 10', 17', 28', 50', Simmons 67', Segecic 93') North Shore Mariners 1 (Smith 84) at Ilinden Sports Centre

**A dominant** Sydney FC have thrashed North Shore Mariners 5-0 with a comprehensive performance at Ilinden Sports Centre on Sunday night.

**Patrick Wood** was the star of the show for the young Sky Blues, scoring four goals in the one-sided affair while Aidan Simmons and Adrian Segcic each claimed a goal.

**Sydney made** a whirlwind start to the contest with Wood claiming a brace within 17 minutes and his hat-trick before the half-hour mark,

**The Mariners** had no Answers and hoped the half-time break would help stem the tide.

**However, the** second stanza had more of the same with Wood again finding the back of the net before Simmons joined in on the glut of goals to make it 5-0 after 67 minutes. **The Mariners** clawed one back in the 84th minute through Mitchell Smith but it wasn't enough to stop Sydney's domination as substitute Segecic added insult to injury with another Sky Blues goal deep into added time.

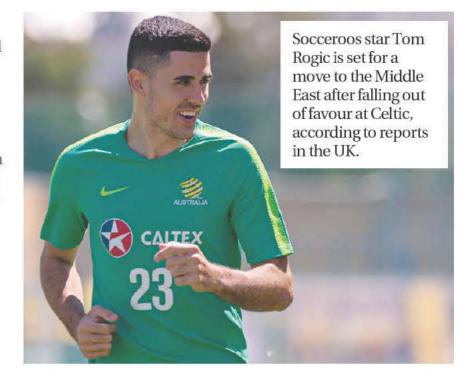
**The result** catapults Sydney FC into second place only one point behind Rockdale and with a game in hand.

## Celtic and Socceroos star Rogic 'set for \$8m Qatar move'

An un-named Qatar club are said to have bid around £4m for the 27 year old Aussie who signed for Celtic in Scotland seven years ago.

He spent his first season on loan to Melbourne Victory but went on to make more than 120 appearances for the Scottish champions, scoring 25 goals and becoming a fan favourite for key strikes against city rivals, Rangers.

But he has struggled for game time over the past



two seasons, especially since Neil Lennon returned to the helm at the Bhoys, and a series of niggling injuries have also robbed him of starts.

Now he is reportedly set to move to the Middle East ahead of the Qatar World Cup in 2022 and needing match minutes to keep his Socceroos spot.

## A-League's Glory and Wolves fight over striker's contract

A-League powerhouse Perth Glory and NPL NSW club Wollongong Wolves are in a standoff over the contract of goal-machine Thomas James.



**James, 26,** one of the NPL's most prolific strikers, was signed by Perth Glory on a six-week contract from Wollongong Wolves in mid-July.

**With the** A-League club missing key striker Diego Castro for its hub matches, James's short-term signing made sense.

**However, frustratingly,** as Glory's results dipped, the Wolves forward did not feature in any A-League games.

**As such,** James decided on the weekend to move back to Wollongong to play regular football with his NPL outfit.

**Wolves anticipated** a release for the striker, but the A-League club has allegedly informed the NPL side that they aren't budging, and James won't be released from his contract for another two weeks. **If so,** it would mean James would miss a total of three games for Wolves coach Luke Wilkshire, a former A-League and Socceroo defender.

**Wolves, third** on the NSW NPL ladder, play this weekend against ladder-leaders Rockdale in Round 4. **Perth Glory's** quest for successive A-League Grand Finals kicks off this weekend in the Elimination Final at Bankwest Stadium.