



the
ROCKSTARS
of CRICKET



NEW ZEALAND
BLACKCAPS v **INDIA**

BLACKCAPS v INDIA - McLEAN PARK TUES 3 - WESTPAC STADIUM FRI 6 - AMI STADIUM SUN 8 - SEDDON PARK WED 11 - EDEN PARK SAT 14

2009 - BLACKCAPS v INDIA - McLEAN PARK TUES 3 - WESTPAC STADIUM FRI 6 - AMI STADIUM SUN 8 - SEDDON PARK WED 11 - EDEN PARK SAT 14

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SERIES PREVIEW

Making his maiden voyage to our shores, Indian captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni will be an unfamiliar name for many during the BLACKCAPS' National Bank Series with India. Although he first represented his country in the 2004/05 season, he's played only a handful of limited overs matches against the BLACKCAPS, and never on our home soil. But in India, the handsome 27-year-old national skipper is a rockstar.

His rise to fame and fortune has had something of a fairytale air about it. He wasn't an overnight sensation, taking four seasons to establish himself on the first-class scene to the point where he could seriously push for international stripes. Yet in just his fifth ODI, against Pakistan, he was the name on every cricket-mad Indian's lips as he blitzed his way to 148 runs, then broke Adam Gilchrist's record for the highest ODI score by a wicketkeeper with an innings of 183 not out against Sri Lanka.

Having replaced Rahul Dravid as captain in late 2007 Dhoni found himself leading his country to its maiden tri-series crown in Australia, considered to be one of the hardest one-day trophies for a touring side to win.

The Dhoni success story has continued pretty much unabated.

Already this year, his Indian outfit has reminded everyone that they can be a dangerous One-Day International side by trouncing Sri Lanka 4-1.

Indian opener Gautam Gambhir scored a career-best 150 in that series, showing increased self-assurance and stabilising the potent top order. Sachin Tendulkar, by contrast, had a trying start to 2009, receiving three controversial umpiring calls in a row before being frustratingly "rested" for the final two matches of the series. That may not be the best of news for New Zealand cricket supporters, since that kind of surreal misfortune usually only serves to make a batsman even more fired up to restore his pride - and batting average.

With Gambhir, Yuvraj Singh, Virender Sehwag and Dhoni all notching centuries on the Sri Lankan expedition, it makes for a power-packed Indian batting line-up with plenty of recent form. Roll in Pragyan Ojha's economy rate and the surprise factor of a bunch of young seam bowlers unfamiliar to the BLACKCAPS and it's a capable Indian unit - provided both batsmen and bowlers adjust quickly to New Zealand conditions, which will be new territory for many of them.

ODI'S - MARCH 2009

1ST ODI - McLEAN PARK, NAPIER - TUES 3

2ND ODI - WESTPAC STADIUM, WELLINGTON - FRI 6

3RD ODI - AMI STADIUM, CHRISTCHURCH - SUN 8

4TH ODI - SEDDON PARK, HAMILTON - WED 11

5TH ODI - EDEN PARK, AUCKLAND - SAT 14



> NEW ZEALAND V INDIA ODI STATISTICS

- Home advantage is everything:
 - New Zealand has won 16 of 24 One Day Internationals played against India in New Zealand
 - India has 16 victories from 22 games played against New Zealand in India
- New Zealand took out the last ODI series between the two countries here in New Zealand in 2002/03, by 5 games to 2
- India is third on the ICC ODI rankings, just one place above New Zealand
- India's batsmen v New Zealand bowlers?
 - M S Dhoni is the number one ranked ODI batsman in the world, with teammate Yuvraj Singh at three
 - Dan Vettori is the number one ranked ODI bowler in the world, with teammate Kyle Mills at three



NEW ZEALAND
BLACKCAPS®

v

INDIA



11

**DANIEL
VETTORI**
LEFT-HAND BAT
LEFT-ARM ORTHODOX



75

**IAIN
O'BRIEN**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM FAST-MEDIUM



04

**NEIL
BROOM**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM MEDIUM



77

**JESSE
RYDER**
LEFT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM MEDIUM



02

**IAN
BUTLER**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM FAST



38

**TIM
SOUTHEE**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM FAST-MEDIUM



88

**GRANT
ELLIOTT**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM FAST-MEDIUM



03

**ROSS
TAYLOR**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM OFFBREAK



21





31
MARTIN GUPTILL
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM OFFBREAK



42
BRENDON McCULLUM
RIGHT-HAND BAT
WICKETKEEPER



37
KYLE MILLS
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM FAST-MEDIUM



24
JACOB ORAM
LEFT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM FAST-MEDIUM



NEW ZEALAND
BLACKCAPS v **INDIA**

INDIA'S TOUR OF NEW ZEALAND
2 TWENTY20'S - 5 ONE-DAYERS - 3 TESTS





07

**M S
DHONI**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
WICKETKEEPER



28

**YUSUF
PATHAN**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM OFFBREAK



05

**GAUTAM
GAMBHIR**
LEFT-HAND BAT
LEGBREAK



48

**SURESH
RAINA**
LEFT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM OFFBREAK



84

**RAVINDRA
JADEJA**
LEFT-HAND BAT
LEFT-ARM ORTHODOX



--

**VIRENDER
SEHWAG**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM OFFBREAK



01

**DINESH
KARTHIK**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
WICKETKEEPER



29

**ISHANT
SHARMA**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM FAST



24



15



34

ZAHEER KHAN
RIGHT-HAND BAT
LEFT-ARM FAST-MEDIUM



43

ROHIT SHARMA
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM OFFBREAK



08

PRAVEEN KUMAR
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM MEDIUM



10

SACHIN TENDULKAR
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM LEGBREAK



30

PRAGYAN OJHA
LEFT-HAND BAT
LEFT-ARM SLOW



03

HARBHAJAN SINGH
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM OFFBREAK



13

MUNAF PATEL
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM MEDIUM-FAST



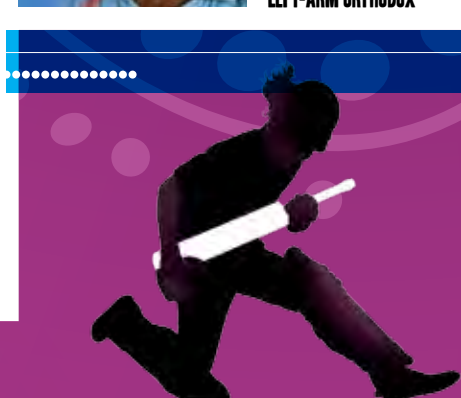
12

YUVAJ SINGH
LEFT-HAND BAT
LEFT-ARM ORTHODOX



63

IRFAN PATHAN
LEFT-HAND BAT
LEFT-ARM MEDIUM-FAST



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