

Rodney Hogg

CRICKET

Rodney Malcolm 'Rocket' Hogg, (born March 5, 1951, Melbourne), is a former Australian cricketer.

Blond, blue-eyed, aggressive and menacingly fast, Hogg debuted for Australia in the 1978 Ashes test against England at the 'Gabba. He bowled with great pace and finished the series with an amazing 41 wickets at an average of 12.85 including 6/74 on debut in Brisbane and ten wickets in a match twice.

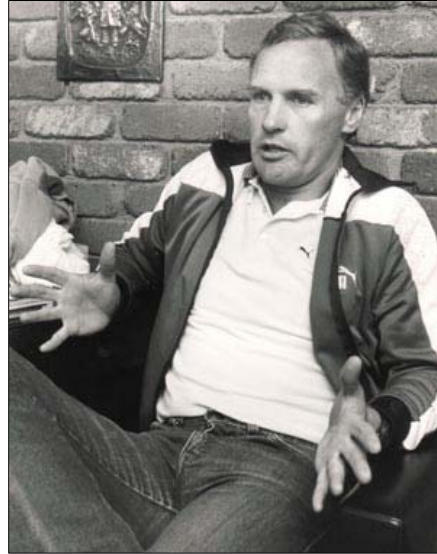
During his career cricket was in turmoil with the advent of World Series Cricket and rebel tours to South Africa. Yet through all this, Hogg was the spearhead of the Australian attack and frightened batsmen across the globe. The way he regularly beat Geoff Boycott for pace thrilled Australian crowds.

A quirky character, he once had his wife erase the videotape of a soft dismissal while batting in a Test, saying he did not want his son to see him as a coward! Always a favourite with cricket fans, Hogg had a wonderful international and domestic career.

Before making his test debut Hogg played with South Australia from 1975 before being selected in the Australian side. Hogg returned to Victoria in 1984/85 and was appointed Test vice-captain following Kim Hughes' resignation during the summer, but his decision to sign for the rebel South African tours in 1985/86 and 1986/87 effectively ended his Test career. Hogg continued playing VCA cricket until 1991, finishing with 282 wickets at 18.08 from 136 matches.

His test and ODI records are what really stand out in Hogg's career. In 38 tests he took 123 wickets at an average of 28.47. In 71 ODIs he claimed 85 wickets at an average 28.44. For such a quick bowler Hogg was remarkably consistent. Never one to let anyone forget, Hogg was known to score the odd run or two. In his debut innings for Australia he top scored for his country with a quickfire 36, including 5 fours, that saved the aussies from embarrassment. Hogg also scored a test 50.

Rodney Hogg is one of Australia's great fast bowlers, up there in the pantheon with the likes of Dennis Lillee and Jeff Thompson.



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