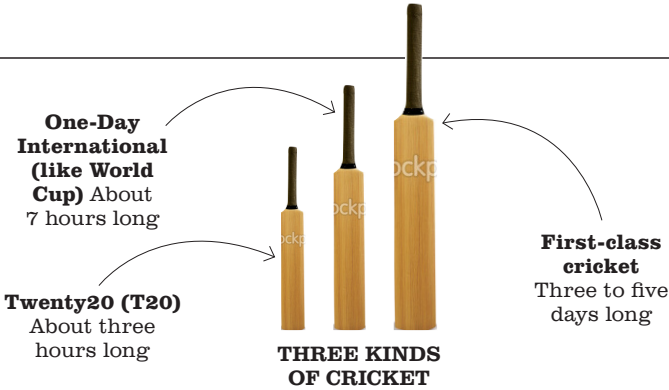


# SEVENDAYS



**WICKET GOOD** The Cricket World Cup, one of the most-watched sporting events in the world, begins this weekend with games in India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. For six weeks, the entire Indian subcontinent will be glued to televisions and radios—over two billion TV viewers worldwide watched the tournament last time. Here in Toronto, not many of us will notice. (Can YOU tell a googly from a doosra?\* We didn't think so.) But this marks Canada's fourth trip to the Cup, and we're ranked 13th in the world. Yes, the best we've ever done is a first round exit (twice), and our world cup record is a sad 1-11. But for these six players who call Toronto home, it's a huge deal: they're going to the big show. BY PAOLO PIETROPAOLO

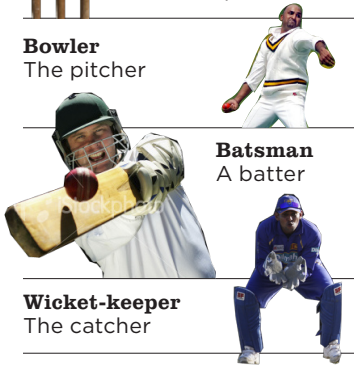
## LEARN THE LINGO\*

**Delivery**  
The equivalent of a pitch in baseball

**The pitch** The central strip of the cricket field

**Wicket (noun)**  
1. The wooden structure behind the batsman  
2. The equivalent of an out in baseball. Each team has 10 outs or wickets per match

**Bowler**  
The pitcher



**Batsman**  
A batter

**Wicket-keeper**  
The catcher

**Googly** A pitch with heavy spin, that moves from the batsman's right to left, and changes direction sharply on the bounce

**Doosra** A googly that moves from left to right

**Yorker** A pitch that hits the ground very close to the batsman

**Out for a duck** When a batsman strikes out with a score of zero



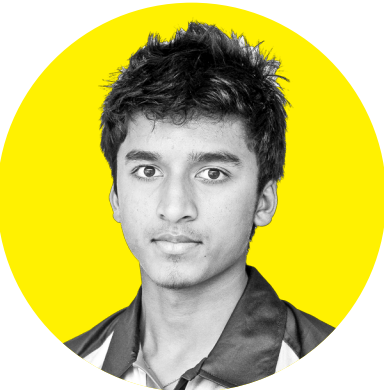
**ASHISH BAGAI, 29**  
**Position** Captain and wicket-keeper  
**Day job** Investment banker  
**GTA neighbourhood** Harbourfront  
**Hometown** Delhi, India



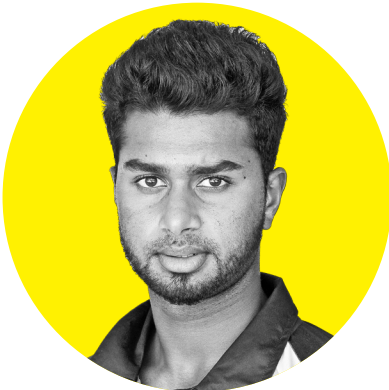
**HENRY OSINDE, 32**  
**Position** Fast bowler  
**Day job** Part-time student  
**GTA neighbourhood** Parkdale  
**Hometown** Tororo, Uganda



**RIZWAN CHEEMA, 32**  
**Position** Vice-captain and all-rounder  
**Day job** Taxi driver  
**GTA neighbourhood** Woodbridge  
**Hometown** Lahore, Pakistan



**NITISH KUMAR, 16**  
**Position** Opening batsman  
**Day job** Grade 11 at Woburn Collegiate Institute  
**GTA neighbourhood** Woburn  
**Hometown** Scarborough



**RUVINDU GUNASEKERA, 19**  
**Position** Left-handed top-order batsman  
**Day job** Business management student at U of T (on leave to play cricket)  
**GTA neighbourhood** Agincourt  
**Hometown** Colombo, Sri Lanka



**ZUBIN SURKARI, 30**  
**Position** Top-order batsman  
**Day job** Inventory manager at DST Output, a billing and communications company  
**GTA neighbourhood** Thornhill  
**Hometown** Thornhill

**413**  
Most runs scored in a World Cup match (by the India team, in the 2007 World Cup)

**36**  
Fewest runs scored in a World Cup match (by, um, Canada, in the 2003 World Cup)

**22** Number of runs Canada beat the US by in the first-ever international cricket match on record. It was held on Sept. 25-27, 1844, in Staten Island, NY.  
**400** Number of registered cricket teams in Ontario

"Cricket is a tough sport. Canadians are tough when it comes to hockey, and cricket is no different. You're getting a projectile blasted at 100 miles per hour, and guys are catching bare-handed. It builds character."—Zubin Sarkari, batsman

**\$370**  
**MILLION USD**  
Value of the Pune Warriors, the Indian Premier League's most valuable expansion franchise

**\$300**  
**MILLION USD**  
Value of the NHL's Chicago Blackhawks, 2010 Stanley Cup champs

"The challenge is we have people from five or six different backgrounds. In a country like Australia, everyone dances to the same songs, drinks the same beer."—Ashish Bagai, captain