Kiwis blitz US

New Zealand blitzed the United States on the first day of singles to wrap up their MacRobertson Shield international croquet test at Hagley Park, in Christchurch yesterday. The Kiwis won five of the six singles matches to lead the US 11-1 overall, and now cannot be beaten with just three doubles matches today and six singles matches tomorrow left to play. However, having secured the test in three days, New Zealand captain Aaron Westerby hoped there would not be a drop in intensity as they go for the jugular. "It's great to have secured the test and now we're going to push on and get the best score that we can because, conceivably, there could be a countback down the track and those match points might be significant in the overall scheme of things," he said.