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## RANGIPO, RAGHU JOIN PROVOCATIVE TO GIVE TONY A STRONG DERBY HAND



*With the Waikato Guineas winning post approaching, Rangipo (rails), Raghu (centre) and Get That Jive are locked in a desperate battle.*

**T**ony Pike's master plan for his stable's attack on the Group One New Zealand Derby is playing out perfectly.

While the Cambridge trainer has been around horses for too long to take anything for granted, recent events have significantly boosted spirits ahead of the March 5 feature.

At Ellerslie last Thursday, the green but gifted filly Provocative (NZ) (Zabeel) pressed her classic claims with an impressive victory against the older horses and at Te Rapa yesterday her stablemates **Rangipo** (Stryker) and Raghu (NZ) (Showcasing) also returned outstanding trials by quinellaing the Group Two Darci Brahma Waikato Guineas.

"There's still four weeks to go and a lot of water to go under the bridge yet though," Pike said.

"Provocative pulled up well after her race and she trotted up this morning and was free in her action so it looks like we'll have three in the Avondale Guineas."

Rangipo and Raghu were locked together at the end of the Te Rapa contest and Pike initially thought the latter had got the bob in but it was an obvious win-win situation for him.

"It was a great race and both of them were strong to the line after doing a bit of work," he said.

"They're on target for the Derby – super runs from both of them."

Rangipo is the first horse Pike has trained for prominent owners John and Margaret Thompson, who bred the son of the race-winning Zabeel mare Holloway.

*Continued on page 3*



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# RANGIPO, RAGHU JOIN PROVOCATIVE TO GIVE TONY A STRONG DERBY HAND

(Continued from page 1)

"They weren't here when he won the Great Northern Guineas so it's a great result, but I honestly thought the second horse had won."

Pike wasn't the only one – Rangipo's rider Vinnie Colgan also thought he had missed out.

"Raghu headed me at the hundred and I thought I'd missed out on the nod," he said. "I had to ride him forward from the wide barrier and he's pretty tough. If he relaxes he should go 2400 metres."

Get That Jive (Street Sense) was a close third and he is now the new Derby favourite at \$7.50 ahead of Rangipo at \$8. Provocative is rated a \$9.50 hope and Raghu is at \$16.

Race	Waikato RC Waikato Guineas Gr.2 2000m
Winner	Rangipo (Aus) 2012
Owners	J C & Mrs M A Thompson
Trainer	Tony Pike (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Stryker (Aus) out of Holloway by Zabeel
Breeder	J C Thompson

## News in Brief

### Donna in no hurry to leave

Hasselhoof (NZ) (Tavistock) had his reputation dented at Randwick yesterday as the Sydney autumn carnival stepped up a gear.

Unbeaten in his six New Zealand starts, Hasselhoof was sent out the \$2.05 favourite in a 1600 metre race but finished fourth, struggling in the soft going.

Trainer Donna Logan intends to keep Hasselhoof in Sydney for the Parramatta Cup in two weeks.

"Matt Cameron said he didn't handle the ground, which is a different kind of soft than we have at home," Logan said, after conferring with her jockey.

"At the moment we intend to stay."

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# THE DIAMOND ONE MAKES HISTORY WITH WHITE ROBE LODGE HAT-TRICK

**T**he **Diamond One** (Tale Of The Cat) yesterday earned herself a slice of New Zealand racing history on her home track when she completed a magical hat-trick of victories in the Gr.3 White Robe Lodge Handicap.

While the six-year-old is not the only three-time winner of the event, she is the first to complete the feat in successive years.

The outstanding Grey Way (NZ) (Grey William) claimed the feature mile in 1976 and '77 and was also successful in 1979.

The Diamond One was prepared for her first win by Steve Anderton, who tragically passed away in the lead-up to last year's event, when his wife Claire took over the training of the mare.

She had been happy with the mare's two lead-up outings this time in for a resuming fifth and a second in an open sprint at Gore.

Anderton said The Diamond One was ready for the step up to 1600 metres yesterday and so it proved – but only just. The

mare enjoyed an economical run behind the pace was into the clear at the top of the straight.

"She flew the gates and I was told to take a sit and give her the nicest trip possible," rider Daniel Bothamley said.

"I got the run when I needed it although I thought I may have gone a fraction too early but she got there. I could hear the other horse coming but I didn't know what it was."

The Diamond One had half a head to spare on the fast-finishing Tommy Tucker (NZ) (Gallant Guru) with the front-runner Illuminati (NZ) (Keeper) boxing on gamely for third.

<b>Race</b>	<b>Otago RC White Robe Lodge H. Gr.3 1600m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>The Diamond One (Aus) 2009</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>A G, K C, M C &amp; P R Dennis</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Claire Anderton (Wingatui)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Tale of the Cat (USA) out of The Jewel by O'Reilly</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>A Dennis</b>



An historic moment in racing is recorded as *The Diamond One* (pink cap) holds off the late rush by *Tommy Tucker* to win her third consecutive *White Robe Lodge Handicap*.



# SON OF MAHER'S DUNEDIN GUINEAS WIN LIFTS SOUTHERN DERBY DREAM

The Derby dream of two of the South Island's leading racing identities gained further momentum yesterday when **Son Of Maher** (Al Maher) added another winning strike to his record.

The Riccarton-trained colt didn't have too much to spare at the end of the Listed Dunedin Casino Dunedin Guineas but the Michael and Matthew Pitman-trained three-year-old wasn't given a punishing ride by Chris



Michael Pitman ... has Derby aspirations with Son Of Maher.

Johnson.

Son Of Maher was coming off a runner-up finish in the Group One Levin Classic at Trentham and he is currently a \$21 chance for the Group One New Zealand Derby at Ellerslie.

"Chris and I both share Derby aspirations so hopefully we can get there and be competitive," Michael Pitman said.

Son Of Maher was within striking distance of the leaders as the field straightened for the run home and he finished off well for his third win in ten appearances. Replique (NZ) (Darci Brahma) ran home well along the fence for second ahead of Princess Davone (NZ) (Iffraaj).

"I said to Chris that if he was near enough to them on the turn then the horse's class would get him home," Pitman said. "He will improve a lot and he might be better held up for one run, but Chris will work him out."

Son Of Maher will complete his Derby preparation in the Group Two

Avondale Guineas at Ellerslie on February 20.

Meanwhile, the lucrative southern campaign of **Kaharau** (Ad Valorem) continued in the Listed Fire & Mechanical Contracting Dunedin Gold Cup.

The Kenny and Lisa Rae-trained four-year-old had won at Cromwell, Ashburton (twice) and Greymouth and it was more of the same at Wingatui where he raced close to the pace and drew out in the straight to beat Lakota (NZ) (Storm Creek) and Speedy Jax (NZ) (Spartacus).

<b>Race</b>	<b>Otago RC Dunedin Guineas L 1400m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Son Of Maher (Aus) 2012</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>Vermair Racing, M Deans, L McCalmont-Deans, C Griffin, P McLaughlin, G Palmer, J &amp; A Pulley, G Hawker, B &amp; K Voyce and M Pitman</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Michael &amp; Matthew Pitman (Riccarton)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Al Maher (Aus) out of Dance Hit by Tights</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>Copabella Pty Ltd</b>

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**RACING NEWS**



# SALES TOPPER'S BIG BRO BORDEAUX CARVING HIS OWN WAY TO SUCCESS

**B**ordeaux (NZ) (High Chaparral) made a statement of his own at Te Rapa after spending more recent times in the shadow of his much-hyped half-brother.

The four-year-old has fashioned a tidy record and his staying success in yesterday's Ladies' Race Day 13 Feb was his fourth win from nine appearances.

Race	Waikato RC Ladies Race Day 13 Feb H. 2100m
Winner	Bordeaux (NZ) 2011
Owners	Te Akau 2013 Breeding Syndicate (Mgr: D C Ellis)
Trainer	Stephen Autridge & Jamie Richards (Matamata)
Breeding	by High Chaparral (IRE) out of Our Echezeaux by Zabeel
Breeder	P J & P M Vela Ltd
Sales	2013 National Yearling Sale, Premier Session; V: Pencarrow Stud, P: D C Ellis; \$620,000

The Stephen Autridge and Jamie Richards-trained son of the Zabeel mare Our Echezeaux was a \$620,000 yearling, a figure well and truly eclipsed by his relative at Karaka last month.

The star of NZB's National Yearling Sale series at Karaka was his half-sibling by the unbeaten champion Frankel, who was offered by Pencarrow Stud and knocked down to an international consortium for \$1.3 million.

Bordeaux is enjoying an excellent run of form this preparation and he once again displayed his fighting qualities at Te Rapa.

He sat on the leader's quarters for much of the race and stayed on strongly after hitting the front early in the run home under Michael McNab.

"He's taken a little while for the penny to drop but he's a progressive staying type of horse and he should be in some

nice races this time next year," Richards said.

"Our Echezeaux has been an excellent producer and he's only going to keep improving – it's taken a little while for everything to come together."

In a driving finish, Bordeaux repelled the late challenges of Chenille (NZ) (Pentire) and Blue Flag (NZ) (Raise the Flag), who were both in receipt of weight from the winner.



*In the first of Te Rapa's heads and noses finishes, Bordeaux (rails) clings to his lead to deny Chenille (green cap) and Blue Flag.*



# CLUB'S COLOURS A LUCKY OMEN AS STABLEMATES BOTH IN THE MONEY



Carrying the Waikato club's distinctive (and patriotic) colours, Guess What takes out the open handicap.

John Mason may have inadvertently hit on an unusual recipe for success yesterday when his double-handed attack on the feature open handicap at Te Rapa produced a satisfying result.

**Guess What (NZ)** (Danroad) was a tenacious winner of the Allied Security Hamilton Cup with his stablemate Breaking Dawn (NZ) (Gold Mine) finishing third.

Their respective riders Samantha Collett and Trudy Thornton had to don the club's Waikato-themed colours for the 2000 metre contest after an oversight on the Tokoroa trainer's part.

<i>Race</i>	<b>Waikato RC Allied Security Hamilton Cup H. 2000m</b>
<i>Winner</i>	<b>Guess What (NZ) 2008</b>
<i>Owners</i>	<b>B J &amp; Mrs S R O'Neill</b>
<i>Trainer</i>	<b>John Mason (Tokoroa)</b>
<i>Breeding</i>	<b>by Danroad (Aus) out of May Storm (USA) by Storm Cat (USA)</b>
<i>Breeder</i>	<b>R A Houltham</b>

"I forgot the colours – they'll have to have those ones on again next time too," Mason joked.

Guess What revelled in his role at the head of the field and Collett, who tipped the seven-year-old as her best ride of the day, didn't panic when they were hotly challenged early in the run home.

She asked the gelding for another effort and he came back to comfortably see off runner-up Seventeen Seventy (NZ) (Captain Rio).

"He's a pretty tough horse when he's right," Mason said. "He'll probably go down for the Taranaki Cup next."

Guess What was a winner at Te Rapa three runs back and in between times he finished a close sixth behind Jimmy Mac in the Listed Marton Cup and fifth in an open handicap at Tauranga.

He will again go head to head at New Plymouth with his stablemate Breaking Dawn, who also has the Group Three Taranaki Cup on his summer programme.

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# DELAY NO DRAMA FOR KIWI KARMA

A forty minute delay caused by a technical glitch to Singapore's betting system on Friday night failed to rattle smart mare **Kiwi Karma (NZ)** (Fast 'n' Famous) who, once the S\$125,000 Kranji Stakes A over 1200 metres was under way, shot straight to the lead and stayed there.

Rounding the home turn, she had to find another gear as Wimbledon (Snitzel) ranged alongside and, although the challenger fought valiantly, the mare was too brilliant as she held him at bay by a

length.

With trainer Michael Clements in Sydney, his right-hand man Michael White had to sit through a few anxious moments during the pre-race hold-up.

"It's a huge relief she's gone through it like nothing happened," he said. "It's true that we were all in the same boat but it is still a worry how she will cop it. I kept an eye on her throughout the delay and she didn't turn a hair.

"Last prep, she was a worry as she was more highly strung.

"What can I say, she's a real racehorse – she never idled and everything she does is just so



*Kiwi Karma... too swift at Kranji on Friday night.*

professional.

"Dubai is still on the cards and I guess it's one step closer after tonight. The plan is to next race her in the Merlion Trophy but we'll have to see how she gets out of tonight."

Jockey Manoel Nunes, who has now partnered the four-year-old at all her eight wins, was always upbeat about her chances.

"She had 57 kilos on her back and don't forget she's not big. But I was more confident about her winning tonight as she was really fit. She came on so much after her last win," said the Brazilian.

"She's a straightforward filly and never lets you down. I could feel Wimbledon coming up but once I gave her a smack she just kept finding all the way to the line."

– Singapore Turf Club

<b>Race</b>	<b>Singapore TC Kranji S. 1200m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Kiwi Karma (NZ) 2011</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>Dsands Racing Stable</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Michael Clements (Kranji)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Fast 'n' Famous (Aus) out of Miss Purrfection by One Cool Cat (USA)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>T E Luke &amp; Waikato Stud 2001 Ltd</b>



# STAR CHOICE'S DEBUT WIN CONTINUES RAFFLES' RESURGENCE IN SINGAPORE

The Raffles Racing Stable seems to be enjoying a new lease of life in Singapore after another debutant of theirs scored at Kranji on Friday night.

Well known in Australasia through the deeds of dual Doncaster Mile winner Sacred Falls (NZ) (O'Reilly), the organisation run by Malaysian businessman Dato Yap Kim San has been more subdued at Kranji compared to the era of Mr Raffles (NZ) (Storm Creek) and Mr Armstrong (Dylan Thomas), but Viviano (NZ) (Keeper), who scored on debut and added another win last week, has begun a resurgence of sorts, which

has now been followed by **Star Choice (NZ)** (Starcraft) for trainer Bruce Marsh.

Placed from three starts in New Zealand, the four-year-old found immediate success at his Singapore debut in the S\$65,000 Initiation over 1400 metres, coming from a midfield spot to produce the best finish inside the last 300 metres.

Star Choice had two barrier trials at Kranji before making his debut, running fourth and third, the performances somehow overlooked by most, even jockey Manoel Nunes, but not by Marsh.

"The third was a lovely trial considering he ran over a bit of a distance with blinkers in New Zealand," said Marsh. "On that trial and his work, I gave him a chance and I'm not that surprised he won tonight."

Nunes said he wasn't overly impressed by the barrier trials but Marsh had explained to him not to expect any brilliance in the way he ran.

"All credit to the trainer – Bruce 'rode' him in the trials," said the Brazilian in his own jocular nod to the former Melbourne Cup-winning rider's shrewd horse sense.

<b>Race</b>	<b>Singapore TC Initiation P. 1400m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Star Choice (NZ) 2011</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>Raffles Racing Stable</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Bruce Marsh (Kranji)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Starcraft out of Choices Are (Aus) by Redoute's Choice (Aus)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>Raffles Dancers (NZ) Pty Ltd</b>
<b>Sales</b>	<b>2013 National Yearling Sale, Premier Session; V: Trelawney Stud Ltd, P: Mulcaster Bloodstock; \$85,000</b>



"To me, he didn't show much but Bruce told me he was a stayer and, in this race tonight, to ride him like one.

"When he jumped, I just dropped him in midfield and kept him balanced where he was happy to be. He was always travelling comfortably and when I took him out he finished it off very well. He's done a good job first-up over 1400 metres, especially as he had 58 kilos on his back."

– Singapore Turf Club

*Star Choice makes a stylish Singapore debut.*