



## RANGIPO GIVES TONY A FIRST DERBY, VINNIE'S TALLY NOW AT HALF A DOZEN



Vinnie Colgan gives a "chalk up another one" victory salute as he brings Rangipo back to scale after a close-fought Derby.

Serial thriller **Rangipo** (Stryker) saved his best for last when he closed out a remarkable campaign with a thrilling victory in the Group One BMW New Zealand Derby at Ellerslie yesterday.

It was the seventh success of his three-year-old preparation, which featured Group Two wins in the Great Northern, Waikato and Avondale Guineas and a Group One placing in the Levin Classic in the lead-up to the classic triumph.

"It's a great thrill," trainer Tony Pike said. "It's one of the classics and I've won a Two Thousand Guineas (Sacred Falls), an Oaks (More Than Sacred) and now the Derby so I've got the treble.

"It's such a hard race to win and you've got to keep them sound while giving them a fair bit of racing."

While it was a first Derby for Pike, Rangipo credited regular rider Vinnie Colgan with his sixth after previous wins with Roysyn (1995), Zonda (1997), Hades (1999), Redoute's Dancer (2007) and Habibi (2013).

Colgan kept the gelding within easy reach of the pace and, as has been a trademark of his performances, once he hit the front in the run home he wasn't to be denied.

"I had to use him a bit early but I knew I had to do that to get where I wanted to be and once we got a position he switched off and travelled well," Colgan said.

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# RANGIPO GIVES TONY A FIRST DERBY, VINNIE'S TALLY NOW AT HALF A DOZEN

(Continued from page 1)

"He was off the bridle a bit on the turn and I was worried but he really showed his determination and he just keeps going."

What's The Story (NZ) (Savabeel) rattled home along the fence to run Rangipo to a short head with the winner's stablemate Raghu (NZ) (Showcasing), who dashed clear on straightening, turning in another courageous run for third, a head away. Almost in line for fourth and fifth were the fillies Capella (NZ) (Rip Van Winkle) and Valley Girl (NZ)

(Mastercraftsman) – the margin from first to fifth being just over half a length.

<i>Race</i>	<b>ARC New Zealand Derby Gr.1 2400m</b>
<i>Winner</i>	<b>Rangipo (Aus) 2012</b>
<i>Owners</i>	<b>J C &amp; Mrs M A Thompson</b>
<i>Trainer</i>	<b>Tony Pike (Cambridge)</b>
<i>Breeding</i>	<b>by Stryker (Aus) out of Holloway by Zabeel</b>
<i>Breeder</i>	<b>J C Thompson</b>

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# SACRED STAR GETS A TRACK TO SUIT, CARRIES TOPWEIGHT TO DARLEY WIN



*Sacred Star has enough in hand to hold out the fast-finishing Red Striker in the Darley Plate.*

**A** frustrating campaign with the top line sprinter **Sacred Star** (Flying Spur) was yesterday turned around at Ellerslie.

Beaten by wet ground in both the Group One Railway Stakes and the Group One Telegraph and by a controversially over-watered Te Rapa track for the Group One NRM Sprint, the six-year-old relished the firmer conditions to triumph in the Group Three Darley Plate.

"Three summer sprints and three wet tracks, you wouldn't have believed it," trainer Tony Pike said.

A dual Group One winner last season of the Telegraph and the NRM, Sacred Star bounced out to a handy spot in the running yesterday and, despite his topweight of 59kg, his class was apparent in the straight.

"He was travelling well on the turn and I had plenty of horse," successful rider Vinnie Colgan said.

"He had a lot of weight and that's why he didn't sprint away like he normally would but he got the job done."

The runner-up Red Striker (NZ) (Red Giant), who was in

receipt of five and a half kilos from the winner, settled toward the tail of the field and, once into the clear, she hit the line strongly ahead of Durham Town (NZ) (Falkirk) and Trepidation (NZ) (Falkirk), another fast finisher.

Durham Town's brave effort brought the curtain down on the career of the well-performed Ruakaka sprinter.

"He's been a grand old horse – he's loved this race and this course," co-trainer Donna Logan said.

Seven of Durham Town's eight career victories were recorded at Ellerslie, including the Darley Plate in 2012 and last year and sandwiched between the multiple Group One placegetter's wins were a second and a third in the event.

Race	ARC Darley P. Gr.3 1200m
Winner	Sacred Star (Aus) 2009
Owners	Raffles Dancers (NZ) Pty Ltd
Trainer	Tony Pike (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Flying Spur (Aus) out of Irish Nova by O'Reilly
Breeder	M Ruff



# MIME ISSUES OAKS CHALLENGE WITH NO-NONSENSE WIN IN SUNLINE VASE

**M**ime (NZ) (Mastercraftsman) has drawn level with Sofia Rosa (NZ) (Makfi) as the leading fillies prepare to go head to head in the Group One New Zealand Oaks later this month.

From the family of 1990s multiple Group race winner Waikiki (NZ) (Crested Wave), the filly won yesterday's Group Three McKee Family Sunline Vase to join Sofia Rosa at the top of the table on 14 points in the race for the New Zealand Bloodstock Filly of the Year crown with the 2400 metre classic at Trentham on March 19 the final event of the series.

Mime did it the hard way to claim Te Rapa's Group Two Sir Tristram Fillies' Classic at her previous appearance after racing three wide without cover but

this time, at Ellerslie, she enjoyed an economical run from an inside barrier.

The grey raced in third spot and one off the fence before rider Michael Coleman pulled out to improve across the top.

"We had a lovely trip and she relaxed nicely," he said. "I got out a bit early when the one I was following wasn't going anywhere and my horse cruised into it and won well."

Trained by Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman, Mime is out of a mare by the noted staying influence Montjeu and Coleman is confident she will handle the Oaks trip.

"She's been really consistent at all distances and she ran 2100 metres out very well today," he said.

Mime was in front 150 metres from

home and held a strong gallop to again beat Promise To Reign (Manhattan Rain), runner-up in the Sir Tristram, while the front-runner Maritimo (NZ) (Pins) stuck on well for third.

Next home was Duchess Kate (NZ) (Savabeel), who had every chance while the winner's stablemate Coldplay (NZ) (Savabeel) made ground fairly from the back for fifth without ever looking a threat.

Race	ARC Sunline Vase Gr.3 2100m
Winner	Mime (NZ) 2012
Owners	L I Redshaw
Trainer	Murray Baker & Andrew Forsman (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Mastercraftsman (Ire) out of Maidjeu by Montjeu (Ire)
Breeder	L I Redshaw



Mime passes the post a comfortable winner over Promise To Reign in the Sunline Vase.



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# SYDNEY BECKONS NO MORE TEARS



*No More Tears is too slick for the three-year-old sprinters in the Mr Tiz Trophy.*

**N**o More Tears (NZ) (Darci Brahma) has boosted her travelling fund with a second black type victory at Ellerslie.

Successful in the Listed Soliloquy in the spring, she yesterday added the Group Three Stella Artois Mr Tiz Trophy to her record, ahead of a trip to Australia.

"She's a classy filly and wasn't far away when fourth in the Karaka Mile. Freshened up and back to 1200 metres we liked her chances," trainer Stephen Marsh said.

"She got the perfect run and got the job done well."

Marsh is keen to take No More Tears to Sydney next month with the Group Three PJ Bell Stakes on April 2 or the Group Three James Carr Stakes, also at Randwick a fortnight later, likely starting options.

"There are suitable races every fortnight for her over there," he said.

Pre-post Group One New Zealand Oaks favourite Sofia Rosa could also head to Sydney after Trentham for the Group One ATC Oaks while Brisbane is on the radar for Serious Satire (More Than Ready), yet another talented filly in the Marsh

stable.

No More Tears was given a sweet trip at Ellerslie from a handy gate by regular rider Michael Coleman and the filly hit the front 150 metres from home for a decisive victory.

"Her only real failure was in the One Thousand Guineas at Riccarton and that was after a rough trip down there," Coleman said.

"I expected her to be very hard to beat today."

Volks Lightning (NZ) (Volksraad) got home strongly from well back in the field for second with Windborne (NZ) (Darci Brahma) third ahead of He's An Ace (NZ) (Swiss Ace).

<i>Race</i>	<b>ARC Mr Tiz Trophy Gr.3 1200m</b>
<i>Winner</i>	<b>No More Tears (NZ) 2012</b>
<i>Owners</i>	<b>Go Racing Don't Cry Syndicate (Mgr: Albert Bosma)</b>
<i>Trainer</i>	<b>Stephen Marsh (Cambridge)</b>
<i>Breeding</i>	<b>by Darci Brahma out of Ocean of Tears by Minardi (USA)</b>
<i>Breeder</i>	<b>D W Wallace</b>
<i>Sales</i>	<b>2014 National Yearling Sale, Select Session; V: Ardsley Stud Ltd, P: Go Racing Ltd; \$75,000</b>



# MOTHER-IN-LAW PROBLEMS FADE AWAY WHEN NOVA WARRIOR WINS FOR SHAFIQ



*Nova Warrior gets Shafiq Rizuan's career back on track at Kranji on Friday night.*

**M**alaysian jockey Shafiq Rizuan's all the way win aboard **Nova Warrior (NZ)** (Bachelor Duke) in the last race at Kranji on Friday night, a S\$60,000 Open Benchmark 67 over 1200 metres, was his first since November of last year and his initial success as a senior jockey.

The runaway winner of a second Singapore champion apprentice jockey title last year, capped off with a Singapore Gold Cup win, Shafiq's progression to the senior ranks had been interrupted by a raft of suspensions for careless riding, amounting to six weeks, followed by a one-month disqualification for riding in races where his mother-in-law owned another horse. In all, he ended up cooling his heels for three months.

"It's good to be back to the winner's circle," he said on Friday. "I'd almost forgotten where it was."

"Nova Warrior was my best chance tonight and he didn't let me down. I know this horse well as I've won twice on him. I decided to go a bit quicker early because the others kept chasing him."

"When Eagle Storm came to the outside, I pulled my horse out at him so he would quicken again. He's again showed he had a big heart by fighting all the way to the line."

Eagle Storm (Danbird) had fired the first broadside but soon fizzled out as Nova Warrior came under assault from more runners inside the last hundred metres, the four-year-old hanging on to win by three parts of a length.

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# MOTHER-IN-LAW PROBLEMS FADE AWAY WHEN NOVA WARRIOR WINS FOR SHAFIQ

(Continued from page 7)

Winning trainer Alwin Tan was happy with Nova Warrior's return to winning ways though the fourth placing by his better-fancied Rich Fortune (NZ) (Keeper) left a bittersweet taste.

"The inside barrier suited Nova Warrior," Tan said. "He was able to enjoy a comfortable lead, even though he led at a fast pace, and fought very bravely.

"Rich Fortune was very unlucky as he couldn't get out. I'll have to see how he pulls up and then make a decision whether he will run in the first leg of the Three-Year-Old series."

Earlier in the night, another by Bachelor Duke, **Arion (NZ)**, improved on his debut third three weeks ago to decisively win the S\$75,000 Restricted Maiden over 1200 metres, keeping punters who'd taken the even money about him always at ease with their decision.

Dragon Steed (Sebring) did try to ruin their night when he ranged upsides at the 300 metre mark but rider Corey Brown hadn't moved a muscle while apprentice Syafiq Hazman was pulling out all the stops on the challenger.

Though still raw, Arion responded to Brown's urging to give his all inside the last furlong, resulting in a one-length margin at the wire. Trainer Cliff Brown's second runner, the debutant Volks Treasure (NZ) (Volksraad), worked home well for third another 1¼ lengths away.

Both Browns cautioned that the winner was still a "work in progress" despite the apparent ease of the maiden victory.

"He's a big horse and still has a few kinks in the armour," said Brown the trainer. "He doesn't quite know what to do once he is off the bridle. He was a bit lost in the home straight."

Brown the jockey said Arion was still doing many things wrong but would turn into a handy sort in the future.

"It wasn't our plan to lead but there was no speed and that's when I decided to take it up," he said. "He was travelling strongly but still does a lot wrong. He was very nervous midrace and took deep breaths.

"The wheels were spinning but he stuck on quite well in the end. I think he has plenty of upside and with experience he'll get better and better."

– Singapore Turf Club

Race	Singapore TC Benchmark 67 H. 1200m
Winner	Nova Warrior (NZ) 2011
Owners	Nova Racing Stable
Trainer	Alwin Tan (Kranji)
Breeding	by Bachelor Duke (USA) out of Muppy (Aus) by Snaadee (USA)
Breeder	Mrs B L & Dr P V Rattray
Sales	2013 National Yearling Sale, Festival Session; V: Esker Lodge, P: Makaraka Horse Company; \$11,000

Race	Singapore TC Restricted Maiden S. 1200m
Winner	Arion (NZ) 2012
Owners	Olympian Stable
Trainer	Cliff Brown (Kranji)
Breeding	by Bachelor Duke (USA) out of Eyno by Defensive Play (USA)
Breeder	R I Williams

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