



Soapbox racing. Aaron Kinge (left) and John Tulloch (right) are competing in the race.

He's Kinge of the soapboxes

By MICHELE ONG

Riverhead School student John Tulloch, who tied with Aaron for third place in the west Auckland competition, was third at Stanmore Bay. Aaron's mother Jill Kinge says her son has been biding his time to enter the soapbox derby.

"Aaron wanted to enter the races last year but had to wait it out because he was too small for the car. His feet barely reached the pedals," she says.

"But it's just fabulous he won. I wasn't really expecting it but he's really into everything sporty."

Aaron says he got a lot of help from his dad John and from Barry Hinton and Jason Clarke whose children were racing in the regionals.

Mr Hinton says they had to borrow another car for Aaron to race because he and teammate Carlos Clarke both made it to the finals.



Racing king: Aaron Kinge of Waitakere Primary enjoys the taste of success, grapefruit juice, at the Soapbox Derby finals at Stanmore Bay.

IN BRIEF

Rugby union

Waitakere's first team is set to play against the national side in the first round of the 2006 Super 14 competition on Saturday at Edenburg Park.

Rugby league

Waitakere's first team is set to play against the national side in the first round of the 2006 Super 14 competition on Saturday at Edenburg Park.

Table tennis

The Waitakere table tennis club is set to play against the national side in the first round of the 2006 Super 14 competition on Saturday at Edenburg Park.

Squash

The Waitakere squash club is set to play against the national side in the first round of the 2006 Super 14 competition on Saturday at Edenburg Park.

Swim fundraiser

The Waitakere swim club is set to hold a fundraiser on Saturday at Edenburg Park.

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By MICHELE ONG

A Waitakere primary pupil is bound for the United States after he sped to first place in the national soapbox derby finals on Sunday.

Rookie driver Aaron Kinge left Orewa College, Riverhead School and Stella Maris to fill second, third and fourth places as he drove his car to victory at the Stanmore Bay event.

Aaron will now represent New Zealand at the world soapbox derby in Akron, Ohio, in July.

The trip will be the 11-year-old's first overseas experience.

"It feels really good to have won the race and I feel stoked," he says.

Aaron qualified for the national finals after finishing third in the Waitakere Rotary soapbox derby races in Massey on March 22.

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Drivers have to race in separate trolleys for the finals. Waitakere Primary team manager Louise Grevel says it took them weeks to get

a sponsor for their car and eventually contributions from various local businesses made it possible for the school to have another trolley.

"Every car has a cool logo emblazoned on it and we've just got this sticker with all the names of our sponsors on it."