

THE HEART OF NEW ZEALAND



WEEKEND

DOMINION POST®

Saturday-Sunday March 1-2 2003

THE DOMINION POST

Magazine



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WINE



Schubert Tribianco . . .
a blend of chardonnay,
pinot gris and muller-thurgau.

But enough of this about wines that you cannot get. What you can and should get are some of the wines being produced in Wairarapa by German winemakers Kai Schubert and his partner Marion Deimling, who have a 1.4 hectare vineyard in Martinborough and 14 hectares in Dakins Road.

They have been producing consistently smart and appealing wines since launching in 1999 with three reds based on Hawke's Bay fruit and continue, as their own vineyards come on stream, to win new friends with additions to the range

Among the current releases is a subtly minted, mouth-filling 2000 Hawke's Bay cabernet sauvignon (\$45); a hearty and slightly herbaceous 2000 Wairarapa cabernet sauvignon and merlot (\$38); a stunning, spicy, peppered, black-berried 2000 Gimblett Road (Hawke's Bay) syrah (\$45) and a debut 2001 Wairarapa Pinot Noir (\$45) that should give even greater confidence to Schubert and Deimling, who came here specifically to produce this variety. A medley of black cherries, plums and berries with a tantalising twist of spice, it has good depth and colour.

The Schubert whites include a flinty, French-influenced 2001 sauvignon blanc (\$20) and a couple you won't find anywhere else — 2000 Dolce, a luscious apricots and honey dessert wine made mostly from muller thurgau (\$25 for 375ml, \$50 for 750 ml), and a remarkably fresh and refreshing blend of chardonnay, pinot gris and muller-thurgau called Tribianco (\$20). Both are well worth trying.