

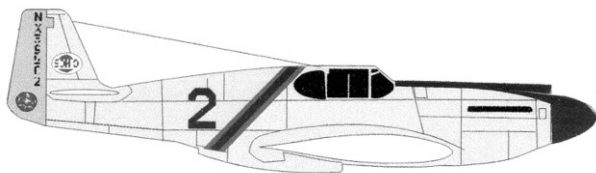
## *The latest Red Pegasus decals - Review*

### *Anders Bruun*

Keith Davidson has released several new decal sheets lately – for a complete list see his website or BT#34! As far as I know all of them are ALPS-printed. This means some disadvantages, such as the need to cut the decals out from the single decal film and their slight fragility, but it is of course the flexible, simple and, above all, cheapest way to produce short-run decals.

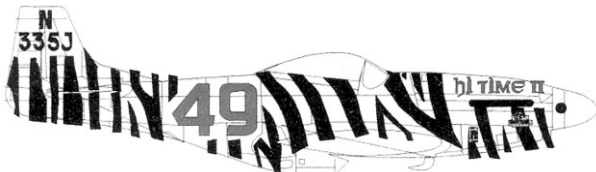
Keith generously provided me with some of the latest 1/48 releases, with the agreement that they will be used to encourage BT article writers after they had been reviewed. **So, everybody who writes an article for BT will get one of these sheets, as long as they last!** (I still have some left from his latest review batch too)

As a general comment the latest Red Pegasus releases are more ambitious than the earlier releases, with some more complex subjects, for example all of E. D. Weiner's colourful 1960s Mustangs... Keith includes photos of the real planes in the instructions, which shows that he is confident that the artwork is correct. I'm pleased to say that the markings are mostly extremely well done, including all sponsor logos.



#### ***A-36 "Apache" Thompson Trophy Racer - 1949 Race #2***

This sheet features the unusual natural metal, white, green and gold clipped-wing A-36 flown in the 1949 National Air Races. The instructions gives what I think is correct colour information, even though some details differ from other sources. The markings are complete with all sponsor decals and the fuselage trim band. My only concern is that the green colour looks a bit dark.



#### ***P-51D ED. Weiner's 1967 Reno racer #49 High Time II***

This is the clipped-wing version with the striking zebra-stripes on the fuselage, so the sheet is mainly full of strange black shapes. The drawings show quite clearly where they should go, so if you plan the work well and look at some photos it should work well. It is probably a good idea to start with some critical parts of the trim at different parts of the plane, and then fill the areas between. If you start at one end and work towards the other I guess it is easy to get the different parts too close or too wide apart.

This sheet is a huge improvement on the old **Speed Demons** decals for the same plane. The names and numbers are much better, it is easier to follow where everything should go and it contains a full set of sponsor

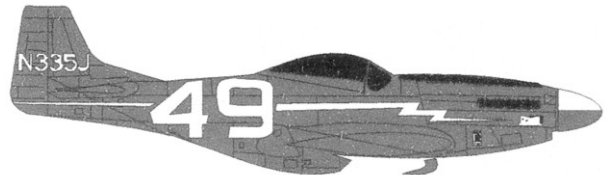
logos. The green colour of the names and numbers is perhaps again slightly too dark, but nothing serious.

#### ***P-51D ED. Weiner's 1965-67 Bardahl II #14***

If zebra-stripes are not enough of a challenge – what about some yellow and black checkers! #14 "Bardahl II" was Weiner's cross-country racer. It had standard length wings, but a unique lowered and extended, but still slidable canopy, so some conversion work is necessary.

The sheet contains well over a hundred checkers (of which some are spares and others won't be needed), so there will be a lot cutting and fitting to do. There is a break in the checker pattern around the fuselage race number, so there is some margin for adjustments, but it is of crucial importance to choose a kit with a fuselage length that is as close to the length of the fuselage decals as possible. It might even be easier to shorten or extend the fuselage than to try to "force-fit" the decals! The decals appear a bit too square to fit around some of the double-curvature parts of the fuselage, and it might be easier to mask and paint the stripes that go around the bottom fuselage, but only someone who has actually tried the decals can tell. I think all members will be very pleased if the first to try them writes a report on how they worked!

Again the markings look very good. I'm not completely pleased with the shape of the "D" in "BARDAHL", but I guess only typography nuts (like me) will bother...



#### ***P-51D ED. Weiner's 1966-67 Reno racer #49***

This version of "High Time II" has a simpler paintjob – the most difficult thing will probably be to find matching paint! The colour is described as "bronze", but to me colour photos look more like a light metallic olive colour. Trim is white, with a lightning stripe along the fuselage and huge race numbers. The sheet gives alternative markings for the early standard-span version and the later clipped wing version, with a full set of sponsor logos.

The important thing with this scheme is to get opaque white colour, so I hope Keith has double-printed the white! Again, only one who has tried them can tell!

#### ***P-51D ED. Weiner's 1969 STP Special #14***

This is the last of Weiner's colourful paint schemes, this time all red for sponsors STP. Again this is the standard-span, low canopy cross-country racer. The clean and simple paint scheme should come as a relief after the challenges of the previous ones. There is not really much to say about the decals – everything is there and everything looks good!