

Sunday 28 April 2019

## SUPERA SUPERIOR IN TRAVIS STAKES



*Supera proves superior to her Te Rapa rivals in the Gr.2 Travis Stakes (Trish Dunell)*

Consistent mare **Supera (NZ)** (Savabeel) capped an outstanding season's work when she dominated her rivals in the closing stages when taking out the Gr.2 Travis Stakes (2000m) at Te Rapa.

The Savabeel four-year-old has proven a model of consistency throughout her current campaign that commenced back in October with a fresh-up victory over 1400m at Te Aroha.

Patience has been the keyword for trainers Ken Kelso, wife Bev and Mark Donoghue as they slowly made their way through the grades with the Sir Peter Vela-owned mare.

Ken Kelso had indicated he felt Supera would be at her best when tried over a middle-distance after she stormed home to be beaten by just a long head behind Nicoletta (NZ) (Savabeel) when finishing runner-up in the Gr.1 New Zealand

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# CONTRIBUTER

BY CHAMPION SIRE HIGH CHAPARRAL

**FIRST YEARLINGS SOLD UP TO \$250,000**



Contributer – Viana Colt (Lot 508 - NZB Yearling Sale)



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# SUPERA SUPERIOR IN TRAVIS STAKES

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Thoroughbred Breeders' Stakes (1600m) at Te Aroha at her last start.

That opportunity presented itself on Saturday where rider Michael Coleman displayed a steely nerve to settle Supera well off the pace before asking her to sustain a powerful finishing burst that carried her to an imposing two-length victory over Awapuni visitor Jessiegee (NZ) (Alamosa).

"I thought she was further back than what we initially thought she would be, but she was nice and relaxed and lobbing along," Ken Kelso said.

"There was a bit of speed in the race, so we always thought if she was our best, she would get over the top of them.

"She's very special."

Kelso indicated this would be the last run for Supera before she heads for a break with bigger things expected from her in the spring.

"She's going to go out now," he said.

"She's come a long way, so she can have a nice break.

"She won't be out too long and we'll bring her back and set her for something through the spring.

"We've had a lot of good mares over the years and she is right up there with them."

Bred by Sir Peter Vela's Pencarrow Thoroughbreds Ltd, Supera is the daughter of unraced Van Nistelrooy mare, Sopra Tutto (NZ) who is the daughter of his dual Caulfield and Melbourne Cup winner, Ethereal (NZ) (Rhythm).

She is the younger half-sister to multiple Group Three winner and Group One placed mare, Eleonora (NZ) (Makfi) along with handy stayer Sopraffina (NZ) (High Chaparral).

- NZ Racing Desk

<b>Race</b>	<b>CJC Travis Stakes Gr.2, 2000m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Supera</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>Sir Peter Vela</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Ken and Bev Kelso and Mark Donoghue (Matamata)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Savabeel (AUS) out of Sopra Tutto by Van Nistelrooy (USA)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>Pencarrow Thoroughbreds Ltd</b>

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Tamarack tops at Hawkesbury

The Joe Pride-trained **Tamarack (NZ)** (Redwood) scored an upset win at Hawkesbury on Saturday when successful in the Ascend Sales Trophies Handicap (1500m).

Tamarack was resuming after having not being seen on raceday since December last year.

The five-year-old gelding raced towards the rear of the field and impressed jockey Jay Ford with a strong effort to finish the winner by 0.2L.

"He was good," Ford said. "His trials weren't anything flash but that's him. He felt good cantering around to the barriers, never travelled a yard in the run but he was strong late.

"For him to be winning first-up says he's in for a good prep."

Tamarack was purchased by Proven Thoroughbreds for \$90,000 out of Westbury Stud's 2015 New Zealand Bloodstock Select Yearling draft and now has six career wins to his credit. -NZ Racing Desk

# PREFERMENT *impressive foals...*



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# DEAD-HEAT IN TE RAPA THREE-YEAR-OLD FEATURE

In a thrilling finish to the Gr.3 Inglis Sales Cambridge Breeders' Stakes (1200m) the judge couldn't separate the pair of **Vigor Winner** (Declaration of War) and **Speedy Meady** (NZ) (Swiss Ace) who shared victory in the feature Te Rapa contest.

Speedy filly Wekaforce (NZ) (Showcasing) used a brilliant start from

her inside barrier to set up a hectic speed in front which had the field of fourteen runners stretched out over considerable real estate throughout the early stages of the contest.

Last-start winner Santa Catarina (NZ) (Savabeel) was the first to apply pressure on the leader as she shot to the front at the top of the Te Rapa

straight. Vigor Winner, who had raced wide in midfield most of the way, quickly issued his challenge along with Sheezallmine (NZ) (Super Easy) and the well fancied Media Sensation (I Am Invincible).

Runners were across the track at the 100m before Speedy Meady burst through a gap with what looked like

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*Vigor Winner (black hood) and Speedy Meady (black cap) fight out a thrilling finish at Te Rapa (Trish Dunell)*





# DEAD-HEAT IN TE RAPA THREE-YEAR-OLD FEATURE

(Continued from page 4)

the winning run, only to be caught in the very last stride by Vigor Winner who fought back bravely after being clearly headed.

After several minutes judge Tommy Thomson declared a dead-heat for first with Santa Catarina just a head away in third.

Speedy Meady's trainer Stephen Ralph was over the moon with the effort by his charge, who had won at Rotorua on Monday but only gained a start when four higher-rated runners were scratched on race morning.

"We'll take a dead-heat every day," he said.

"I was sitting up (in the grandstand) on the line and I thought he had it by a nose and I was going completely off, but we'll take the dead-heat.

"We only knew we were in about 7.25am today so we had to sort the jockey out. Unfortunately, Cameron (Lammas) was on She's A Thief but we knew Andrew (Calder) had ridden him at the trials so he got the call.

"He ran a quicker time than the

open sprint at Rotorua on Monday and I said to people that he would smash them out of the park today, with no disrespect to the other runners, I just thought we had the horse to win.

"As long as he could handle the track, I thought he would be a good shot."

Vigor Winner's trainer Lauren Brennan was also pleased with his effort after the lightly raced Declaration Of War gelding had drawn barrier 13 for the contest.

"We were a bit concerned about that draw, although he did do it tough at Taranaki (last start) from a wide draw as well," she said.

"He has the ability and a good horse always seems to find his way through."

Brennan had her own concerns with securing a jockey after regular rider Troy Harris was forced to forego the mount at the 11th hour.

"I do feel for Troy as I know he was trying his hardest to get his weight down as he has been so sick," she said.

"He managed to get hold of Donavan (Mansour) and gave him a few tips on how to ride the horse.

"He (Vigor Winner) has just got so much raw natural ability and we will probably head to Queensland now for something maybe like the Fred Best (Gr.3 1400m) and if he's going to keep improving like that then possibly a look at the Queensland Guineas (Gr.2 1600m).

– NZ Racing Desk

<b>Race</b>	<b>CJC Inglis Sales Cambridge Breeders' Stakes Gr.3 1200m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Speedy Meady (NZ) 2015</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>R L Mead</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Stephen Ralph (Te Awamutu)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Swiss Ace (AUS) out of Lucy in Disguise by Elusive City (USA)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>R L Mead</b>

<b>Race</b>	<b>CJC Inglis Sales Cambridge Breeders' Stakes Gr.3 1200m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Vigor Winner 2015</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>J M H Tsang</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Lauren Brennan (Cambridge)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Declaration of War (USA) out of Savont (AUS) by Exceed and Excel (AUS)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>Mr R A Emery</b>
<b>Sales</b>	<b>2017 Ready To Run Sale of 2yos; V: Regal Farm, P: Golden River Investments; \$50,000</b>





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# OCEAN DEEP GOES ONE BETTER AT CAULFIELD

After a few recent runner-up finishes, **Ocean Deep (NZ)** (Ocean Park) has broken through for another win at Caulfield.

After winning a midweek at Caulfield earlier this campaign in December, the four-year-old had notched three seconds from her past five outings, including her past two starts, but wasn't going to be denied again in Saturday's Keno Fun Money Handicap (1400m).

With apprentice Michael Poy aboard, Ocean Deep sat second behind leader Call It A Day (Domesday) who kicked strongly and had his rivals all chasing as the field turned into the home straight.

Ocean Deep stuck to her task and

arrived just in time to grab Call It A Day while also denying the fast-finishing Renewal (Dream Ahead) on her outside.

Ocean Deep beat Renewal by a long head with a short-half head back to Call It A Day.

"When it was a slogfest it was in her favour," co-trainer David Hayes said.

"I'm really thrilled because it's been frustrating with her running so many placings this preparation. But this was the biggest race she's been in and she's won."

Ocean Deep was bred by Waikato Stud and sold through their 2016 New Zealand Bloodstock draft when purchased by co-owner Peter Moody for \$65,000. -AAP

<b>Race</b>	<b>MRC Keno Fun Money Handicap 1400m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Ocean Deep (NZ) 2014</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>OWNERS Wylie Dalziel Roy Higgins Racing Synd, P Moody, F Cimera, Maverick Racing Synd, J Cimera, A Reichard, Ann's Finally Got A Grandchild Synd, J Zamek, G Moore, Mrs M Smith-Beale, O Chan, R Taylor, Diamond Glen Synd, P Messenger, Tudor Park Synd, Mrs L Chow, Bearman Racing Synd, M Mitchell &amp; B Taylor</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>David Hayes, Ben Hayes &amp; Tom Dabernig (Flemington)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Ocean Park out of Haberdashery by Pins (AUS)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>Waikato Stud Ltd</b>
<b>Sales</b>	<b>2016 National Yearling Sales – Premier Sale; V: Waikato Stud, P: P Moody; \$65,000</b>



Track conditions at Caulfield played in Ocean Deep's favour (Bruno Cannatelli)





# PIKE YOUNGSTER LAYS DOWN THE LAW AT TE RAPA



*Subpoena has things well under control as she cruises home at Te Rapa (Trish Dunell)*

**T**rainer Tony Pike unleashed another eye-catching youngster from his Cambridge-based team when two-year-old filly **Subpoena (NZ)** (Rip Van Winkle) delivered a winning performance on debut at Te Rapa on Saturday.

Just a fortnight after Pike's Darci Brahma filly Kali (NZ) commenced her career with a stunning win at Hastings, Subpoena showed she is another not to be overlooked in the late season juvenile ranks as she stormed home to claim victory over 1200m.

Although successful at the Avondale trials earlier in the month, the Rip Van Winkle youngster was overlooked by punters who sent out two-race winner and Gr.2 Matamata Breeder's Stakes runner-up Rainbow Dash (NZ) (Showcasing) as a hot favourite in the contest.

With the early pace set up by another debutant in Quiz

Kid (NZ) (Iffraaj), Rainbow Dash settled on his flank with Subpoena allowed to find her feet by rider Leith Innes in midfield.

Innes brought Subpoena into the race on the point of the home turn as he chased up the leading pair before cruising past them at the 150m to record a comfortable length and half victory from Rainbow Dash who managed to head off Quiz Kind in the final few strides.

"She's a beautiful scopey type of filly," Pike said afterwards.

"I thought the 1200m might be a bit sharp as she is going to get better over further.

"Leith trialled both her and Kali at Matamata and couldn't split them, so we knew she was pretty talented coming into today.

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# PIKE YOUNGSTER LAYS DOWN THE LAW AT TE RAPA

(Continued from page 8)

“It was a good field today as the second horse has won twice and is very smart so she (Subpoena) has a nice future ahead of her, especially as a three-year-old over further.”

Pike will take a ‘wait and see’ approach with the filly although he does have a leaning towards trying her in black-type company at Ellerslie next month.

“We mentioned if she won today, and won well, that we might look at the Futurity (Listed 1400m) at Ellerslie,” he said.

“She will tell us that going forward but she looks like a really nice, potential staying filly as a three-year-old.”

While Pike kicked off his day at Te Rapa with the victory he was also keen to see how members of his team for the Brisbane winter carnival were progressing as they undertook several exhibition gallops during the meeting.

Pike will send a six-member squad across the Tasman on Friday with quality sprinters Bostonian (NZ) (Jimmy Choux)

and Ever Loyal (Sebring) heading the team along with exciting three-year-old filly, Intrigue (NZ) (Showcasing).

Pike also indicated that speedy juvenile Whiskey Neat (Denman) would resume in the Listed Waikato Equine Veterinary Centre 2YO Stakes (1100m) at Te Rapa next Saturday after a comfortable win over 800m at the Te Teko trials on Friday.

– NZ Racing Desk

<b>Race</b>	<b>CJC Cambridge Equine Hospital 2yo 1200m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Subpoena (NZ) 2016</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>Frontier Bloodstock and V T W Breeding Company Ltd</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Tony Pike (Cambridge)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Rip Van Winkle (IRE) out of Notice Received by O'Reilly</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>Frontier Bloodstock &amp; V T W Breeding Company Ltd</b>

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Karaka grad declares Derby claims

**Declarationofheart** (Declaration of War) consolidated his Derby claims with an impressive win in the Gr.3 Chairman's Stakes (2032m) at Morphettville on Saturday.

The Anthony Freedman-trained three-year-old looked to be in an awkward position upon straightening but jockey Clayton Douglas stayed cool and plotted a winning path to victory in the final 300m.

“It was a patient ride by Clayton today, he didn't panic,” stable representative Brad Taylor said.

“The gaps came and he drove him through well.”

Declarationofheart, who was sold out of Jamieson Park's 2017 New Zealand Bloodstock Premier draft, will now head to next month's Gr.1 South Australian Derby (2500m). -NZ Racing Desk



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FERLAX COLT OUT OF A FOUR-TIME WINNER.



STAKES WINNING SAVABEEL MARE, READY FOR AN EARLY SERVICE.



# SUBSTANTIAL IMPOST FOR ZED EM IN GRAND ANNUAL

New Zealand bred and owned steeplechaser **Zed Em (NZ)** (Zed) will need to set a modern-day weight record if he is to win Thursday's A\$350,000 Grand Annual Steeplechase (5500m) at Warrnambool.

Zed Em finished second behind Gold Medals (NZ) (Elvstroem) in both last year's Brierly Steeplechase (3450m), when he carried 70kg, and the Grand Annual Steeplechase, when he lumped 69.5kg.

But when weights were released for Thursday's 5500-metre feature, Zed Em is being asked to carry 70kg this year in the longest and most demanding horse race on the Australian calendar.

Zed Em, who has won the past two Great Eastern Steeplechases (4950m) at Oakbank, will take a different path to the Annual this year as trainer Patrick Payne has avoided Tuesday's Brierly to save the eight-year-old's legs for the main event two days later.

Instead, Payne will be represented in the eight-horse Brierly by Slowpoke Rodriguez (NZ), a son of Istidaad raced by Kevin Myers, who is expected to also chase Thursday's feature.

If Zed Em was to win on Thursday, it would be the heaviest weight carried to victory since The Feline carried the equivalent of 73.5kg in 1950.

Al Garhood (NZ) Zabeel) with 69kg in 2011 and Planet Hollywood (NZ) (Starway) with 68.5kg have the heaviest weights carried since the introduction of the metric Grand Annual in 1973.

Payne also has claims of taking the third jumps feature over the carnival - the Galleywood Hurdle on Wednesday - with his talented hurdler Killarney Kid (NZ) (Pendragon), another former Kiwi that began his career with Richard Collett.



Zed Em will carry 70kg in Thursday's Grand Annual Steeplechase (5500m) (Terry Hann)





# POSITIVE TACTICS GET HOWL BACK IN WINNING FORM

A sudden return of the old gate speed from **Howl (NZ)** (Showcasing) at his last barrier trial inspired trainer Daniel Meagher to change tactics at his next race in Singapore on Friday night – and to winning effect.

In moderate form of late, the Showcasing five-year-old did show some toe early in his racing career, even scoring his maiden win in December 2017 from pillar to post.

He did not win again until 10 months later, this time racing handy on the pace.

Since then Howl was putting in more howlers than screamers. Ridden further back, he struggled to make ground at the business end.

But at his barrier trial on April 18, he sprang the gates for Benny Woodworth, never to be re-joined thereafter. It was the blueprint Meagher needed to Friday's run in the S\$50,000 Class 4 Division 3 race over 1200m.

Once Howl overcame his wide gate to take up the running rather easily, Woodworth allowed him to amble along at fairly soft splits before throwing out the anchors at the top of the straight.

The \$46 chance held his ground with aplomb. Lim's Reform (NZ) (O'Reilly) and favourite Splinter (Dream Ahead) did come wearing him down, but he held them safely at bay to score by 1 ½ lengths.

"He's a horse with some ability –

more the bread-and-butter type – but he's been a bit disappointing recently," said Meagher.

"We tried switching him by going forward in a trial and he repeated that trial form tonight. He's a one-paced type but it was a good result overall."

Cementing his fourth spot on the Singapore jockey's premiership on 18 winners, Woodworth said Howl was never in doubt once he came across from his wide barrier.

"He did the same thing he did in his last trial – roll forward and keep going. He just brought his trial form to the races," said the in-form Malaysian rider.

"It's always easy when things work out well."

Racing in the new colours of owner Lee Wan How, Howl has now taken his race record to three wins and three seconds from 17 starts for prizemoney that has now tipped over the S\$100,000 mark.

-STC



Race	STC C4 D3 1200m
Winner	<b>Howl (NZ) 2013</b>
Owners	<b>Lee Wan How</b>
Trainer	<b>Dan Meagher (Singapore)</b>
Breeding	<b>by Showcasing (GB) out of Trouville (AUS) by Hurricane Sky (AUS)</b>
Breeder	<b>Llanhennock Trust</b>
Sales	<b>2015 National Yearling Sales – Select Sale; V: Wentwood Grange, P: Mr J Ong; \$45,000</b>

Howl returned to the winner's circle in Singapore on Friday night (STC)

