

Rory's Influence Continues With Stakes Double

Former Swettenham Stud based champion sire Rory's Jester continues to make his presence felt in big races around the country.

On Saturday two juvenile stakes events were won by gallopers out of daughters of the former Golden Slipper winner.

Black Caviar led the way with a demolition of her rivals in the listed Blue Sapphire Stakes at Caulfield.

Eased down to win by six lengths by rider Jarrad Noske, Black Caviar (\$1.40-\$1.50 fav) beat the Darley first starter Demerit (\$7.50-\$11) with a half neck to Carrara (\$14-\$15) in third place.

Her win was all the more impressive as the filly missed the start by a couple of lengths before cruising to the lead.

"I was going to ride her back but she was just going half pace," Noske said. "She just ambled up there."

"She was the winner a long way out", he said.

Moody's Racing Manager Jeff O'Connor pointed out that it was not the first time that Black Caviar has missed the start.

"She's done that before in the Cranbourne trial", he said. "It's not too concerning yet but its something we can work on."

The stable went into the listed race with plenty of confidence after Black Caviar's stunning debut over 1000 metres at Flemington two weeks ago.

"She's a big strong filly and a credit to the staff to get her set for this race", O'Connor said.

"We thought she'd be better round a turn and relaxing a bit better in a 1200."

A spell until the Spring is the likely next step for Black Caviar as she has achieved all the objectives set for her this preparation.

"I think Peter has got his mind set on putting her away now", O'Connor said.

"She's been in and out just for education but this was her first real preparation."

"Time will tell what she's beating but its pretty hard not to get excited."

Meanwhile, in Adelaide it was Silent Surround who impressed with a fast finishing win in the Group Three SAJC Sires' Produce Stakes.

Prepared at Oakbank in the Adelaide Hills by Bill Smart, Silent Surround made strong ground late on the inside of Imacruiser and was able to nab that runner in the shadows of the post.

Bill Smart was thrilled with the performance of Silent Surround, who he adopted at an early stage of her career.

"She was originally purchased as a yearling (for \$38,000) by Mark Minervini for Des Saint," Smart commented.

"But then Mark retired and Des asked me if I could take her. Luckily I took a share in her as well."

Saint sold out of the youngster and she now races in the Smart family colours of blue and a gold maltese cross and cap.

Silent Surround showed a great deal of ability in her first two runs before she fired up last start and was nabbed in the home straight.

Regular stable rider Simon Price had no hesitation in allowing the lightly raced filly to drop out early and then make a run from back in the field on the inside of runners.

Silent Surround's dam, the city winning Rory's Jester mare Biography, is a half sister to the group winner and Australian Cup runner-up Station Hand.

Two more of her half sisters have thrown stakes winners.