

DERBY AND OAKS AT TAMWORTH COMPILED BY JULIE MAUGHAN

Rosie oh Rosie!

The name Rosie O'Rourke has been on a lot of lips lately as a horse to follow and last Thursday the Art Major USA- As It Is In Heaven 3 yo filly showed just how smart she is in taking out the \$7,000 Nevele R Stud North West Oaks at Tamworth.

Raced over the 1980 metre journey Rosie O'Rourke notched up career win number five and the second since coming to the Tony Missen stables at Tamworth.

"She is just a beautiful horse to have in the stables. Her form was good coming into the race and it was just a good gutsy win" added Missen.

Rosie O'Rourke is part owned by Gunnedah trainer Sally Torrens who has her hands full with a handy bunch of race horses and elected to send "Rosie" to the Missen stables to look after the training, which has proved to be a good plan.

Since Tony Missen took over the training in February Rosie O'Rourke had had two wins and three placings from seven starts.

"It's good that Sally has given us the opportunity" added Missen.

Barrier three was the commencement point for Rosie O'Rourke in the Nevele R Stud North West Oaks and with Missen's brother Peter handling the reins, it was a case of straight to the lead with race favourite Courage Underwater (Josh Osborn) racing out in the breeze.

"Once she got to the front I thought she would be very hard to run down" said Peter Missen "I had a look at the board a lap from home and felt safe"

"I had to get the monkey off my back as well" joked Peter Missen "I haven't driven a winner for a while now".

Not only did Rosie O'Rourke have a 2.8 metre win over Courage Underwater and Lethal Star (Mark Callaghan) 3.8 meters away third, but the filly also broke the class record for 3yo fillies at Tamworth, with a mile rate of 2.00.8 which made trainer Tony Missen happy.

"I won a Sires Stakes with Somewhat Fancy and she broke the class record set by Sunbelle Emily" said Missen (Somewhat Fancy (2.02.6) having the win back in January 2000)

"I had that record for 15 years and then Glenisla (2.01.40) broke it in January this year but now I have got it back" added Tony Missen.

"I knew she could run sometime" said Peter Missen of Rosie O'Rourke "She went 1.59 at her first start back from a spell for us when she won first up"

Rosie O'Rourke will look for a start at Inverell next week before heading to the Newcastle Oaks in May.

The \$7,000 Select Autoglass North West Derby is a race that Dubbo trainer Brett Pay has been eyeing off for Remember Kaiser.

The decision as to who was going to drive the horse was easy as well, with Dubbo reinsman Madison Reynolds driving the Major In Art-Lombo Secrets gelding on 14 of his 15 race starts with success.

“He’s getting better every run” said Reynolds after the win in the feature for 3yo colts and geldings. “This has been our aim for the horse”

With Grinning Tiger (Tiger Markey) and Itz Platinum Plus (Len Simon) leading the field, Reynolds had Remember Kaiser in the enviable one by one after starting from the nine barrier, with this the first time that Remember Kaiser was set to race over the 2360 metre distance.

“The horse travelled really well. The longer journey really suited him” said Reynolds.” I thought I would have been last in the running line with the draw”

Remember Kaiser made his race move up the back straight on the final occasion to race up level with Grinning Tiger. Remember Kaiser gained the upper hand over the concluding stages to have a 2.8 metre win over Grinning Tiger and Big Riddle (Chris Shepherdson) 2.5 metres away third.

“I’m looking forward to going to Newcastle now, very much so. Brett (Pay) has done all the work with the horse, I have the easy job” said Reynolds with the Newcastle Derby to be conducted on May 2.

“I thought Soynwasbi (Josh Osborn) would have been the danger” said Reynolds, hence with Soynwasabi finishing fifth punters received \$7.30 back for the win of Remember Kaiser.

Madison Reynolds enjoys coming to Tamworth and more so to take the drive behind Remember Kaiser who has had six starts for four wins on the paceway and Reynolds in the spider on all of those occasions.

“I think he has won all but a couple of his races that he has been in here” said Reynolds as he spoke of the geldings starts at Tamworth “we like coming here”

The win topped off a good week for Reynolds, who along with Nathan Carroll from Dubbo were announced as the Western Districts representatives in the upcoming 2015 Rising Stars Series.