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GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

SWEET VICTORY: Emma-Jayne Wilson, who recently moved to Milton, plants a kiss on a coveted Queen's Plate trophy after riding Mike Fox to victory at Woodbine Sunday. A newcomer to Milton, she became the first female jockey to ride a Plate winner. For a related photo and story, see page A13.

Dog should be put down: attack victim

Insisting Shadow be euthanized

By Stephanie Hounsell
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

It felt like a shark was ripping off her

That's how dog bite victim Alma Gildea described the incident last Tuesday that left her with almost 100 stitches and an appointment with a plastic surgeon.

"I'm 240 pounds. Had it been anyone smaller, he would've killed them," she said of the 162-pound black German shepherd named Shadow that flipped her on her back as if she were a rag doll.

Now that the dust has settled, Gildea said she wants the dog euthanized. She originally thought it was being done at the request of its owners, but the owners have since changed their minds.

"I'm going to insist on it," she said yesterday afternoon. "That dog's going down if I have to do it myself. I'm just too scared of this happening to some child."

Dog owner George — who didn't want his last name used — said the attack has left him and his wife extremely shaken up.

"My wife and I felt very badly for the attack. Everything went in slow motion — I couldn't believe what he (Shadow) was doing," he said.

Although he may have said something about putting the dog down when the attack first happened, George said he was speaking in the heat of the moment and upon further reflection has changed his mind.

"We sat down and thought about it, and the consensus is if we're allowed to, we're going to keep it," he said, adding, "This is assuming I have the luxury of



GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION Alma Gildea shows some of her injuries.

keeping him."

The four-year-old dog is currently in mandatory 10-day quarantine at the Oakville Humane Society.

George said Shadow's like a child to see GILDEA on page A7

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