

## SUMMER SUNDAY – DREAM HORSE

By Jennifer Morrison



William and Anne Scott have been faithful buyers at the CTHS Ontario yearling sale for several decades and the Calgary couple are currently enjoying one of the best horses they have ever owned.

Summer Sunday, a daughter of Ontario stallion Silent Name (Jpn) from 2007 Champion Two-Year-Old Filly in Canada Dancing Allstar, is a three-time stakes winner in 2019 including two graded events.

The speedy bay 4-year-old has won all seven of her races at Woodbine on Tapeta and has earnings of just over \$600,000. Summer Sunday has made her \$95,000 purchase price at the 2016 Canadian Premier Yearling sale look like a bargain.

Bred by Trinity West Stable, Summer Sunday was consigned by Gail Wood's Woodlands and while she was catalogued close to the end of the auction, the winning bid co-topped the sale.

"We liked the whole package," recalled trainer Stuart Simon of the purchase. "Bill (owner, Scott) liked her pedigree and I liked her physically. She just seemed to have all the goods about her. Bill was pretty adamant about buying her."

They didn't have to wait long to find out what they had on the racetrack as Summer Sunday made her debut less than a year later, winning that first race by five emphatic lengths. Three weeks later she took the Nandi Stakes and then wrapped up her juvenile season with a win in the \$200,000 Muskoka Stakes on Canadian Millions night offering stakes races for sales graduates.

As a 3-year-old, Summer Sunday returned to Woodbine to win the Fury Stakes and the filly is than ever this year.

She roared to victory in the Ballade Stakes in May in near track record time – six furlongs in a rapid 1:08.57. Stepping into graded company in the Hendrie Stakes (G3), the filly, under regular rider Rafael Hernandez, won again as favourite.

On July 21 making her grass debut, Summer Sunday defeated US invaders Oleksandra, the race favourite, and Ruby Notion in the Royal North Stakes (G2) with a powerful stretch run after flaunting her natural early speed.

Those graded stakes wins have moved Summer Sunday to the top of the list for the year's best female sprinter.

"She's just a dream horse," said Simon. "She's just that type of horse – any surface, on the lead, off the lead, probably run farther – she's a dream horse."

For the Scotts, who raced the 2002 Champion Three-Year-Old Colt and millionaire Le Cinqieme Essai, a horse they bred, they have enjoyed travelling back and forth from Calgary each time their prized filly races.

"She's an amazing horse, absolutely amazing," said Anne Scott.

You can be sure the Scotts will be seeking out their next star at the August 29 CTHS Ontario yearling sale.

Photo Credit: Summer Sunday winning the \$175,000 Royal North Stakes (Grade 2) at Woodbine Racetrack. (Michael Burns Photo)

