

# SPORTS

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THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

FRIDAY JUNE 23, 2000

## Wallace's horse favourite for N.A. Cup

*Camotion 7-5 pick to win tomorrow at Woodbine*

By **BRUCE MURRAY**  
*Special to The Champion*

**B**en Wallace has heard all the comparisons, but for now he's keeping his own opinions well guarded.

The Milton standardbred horse trainer certainly recognizes the vast potential of three-year-old pacer Camotion, one of 10 gifted contenders in the hunt for tomorrow evening's \$1,000,000 North America Cup at Woodbine Racetrack.

But putting the promising sophomore up with the likes of 1999 Triple Crown winner and Horse of the Year Blissful Hall, he said, is a little premature.

**Not jumping the gun**

"We're only in the middle of June," Wallace stressed, when asked about Camotion's chances for a breakthrough season.

Nevertheless, Camotion (a son of Cambest) heads into the North America Cup as one of the favourites — after holding off Thunder Bay and Aces'N'Sevens to win one of the two eliminations in a sizzling 1:51.20.

Taking his sixth victory in 11 starts this year, he and driver Randall Waples of Milton took command before the half and got the nod in a three-horse photo finish Saturday.

Camotion was also a close second to Heifetz Hanover in a division of the Burlington Stakes last week.

"First of all, I'm really happy we got in the big dance. Nothing's a given in this business. I thought the horse raced good. I don't think this horse's forte is to try to cut a mile. I thought they might swallow him at the wire but he carried himself through and I'm proud of him for that."

**Hoping for good post**

Added Waples, "We got a lot better draw this week. Last week, we had the rail and it's not the easiest place at Woodbine. I hope the post position Gods are kind to us next week."

"He was comfortable (at the end). I just don't think that he's the type of horse that his best miles are going to be in front. But I wanted to get him in there safe and sound."

"I was hoping to get away a little bit better but I didn't like the way it was setting up going into the first turn. So I had to go to plan B, hustling him to the front. But like I said, I don't think that's going to be his best miles. He's a better horse from off the pace."

Among Camotion's chief challenges tomorrow night will be fellow elimination winner Twin B Champ.

Driven by John Campbell for trainer and co-owner Jack Darling of Windsor, the powerful pacer prevailed in his heat with an amazing finish of 1:51.1.

The top five finishers in each elimination advanced to the Cup final, which is slated to run at 7:40 p.m. tonight at Woodbine.

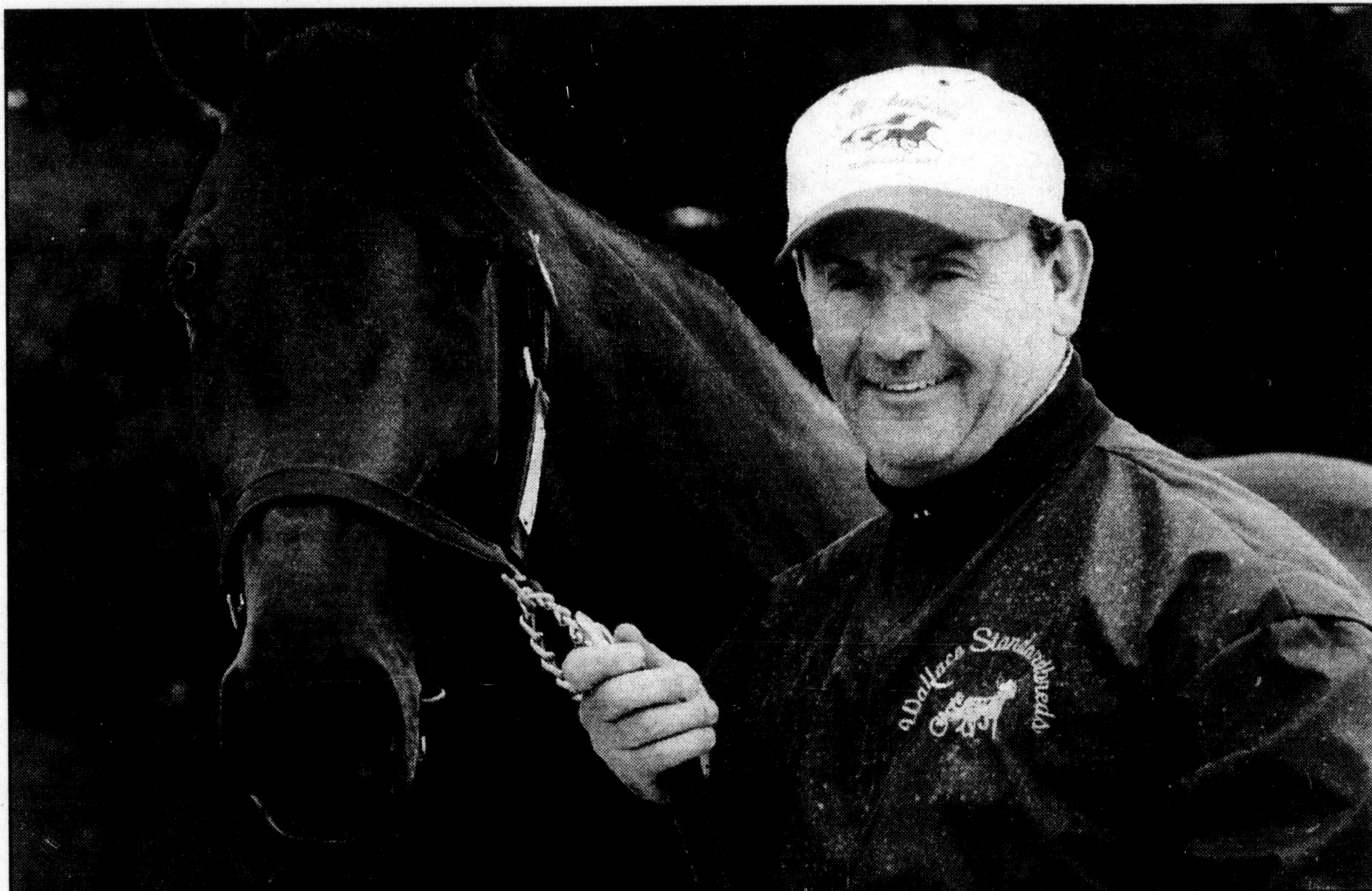


Photo by MICHAEL BURNS

Ben Wallace's Camotion is one of two heavy favourites in tomorrow night's North America Cup at Woodbine.

## Milton skaters make the grade

The Kelso Skating Academy recently held its annual testing day at Milton Memorial Arena.

The following are skaters who made the grade:

**Freeskates**

**Junior Bronze Freestake:** Debbie Aitken, Laura Vickery, Jennifer Roskam

**Senior Bronze Freeskate:** Angela Schrempf, Jessica Brake

**Junior Silver Freeskate:** Laurie Kitchen

**Gold Freeskate:** Sherylene Leslie

**Skating Skills**

**Skating Skills Class 1:** Alida Finnie  
**Skating Skills Class 2:** Laurie Kitchen,

Sabrina Moran-Grant, Tiffany Richmond

**Skating Skills Class 5:** Laura Vickery, Jennifer Roskam

**Skating Skills Class 6:** Samantha Mills, Laura Wilson, Sarah McDuffe

**Skating Skills Class 7:** Heather Grant, Emily Vickery

**Dances**

**Dutch Waltz:** Katelyn Kurpeweit, Jennifer McDonald, Natasha Krivec, Melissa McDonald

**Canasta:** Kathryn Kennaley, Jennifer McDonald, Jessica Quinn, Cassandra Patterson, Natasha Krevic

**Baby Blues:** Jennifer McDonald  
**Swing:** Amanda Austen, Sarah Goencz,

Alison Sereda

**Willow:** Emily Vickery  
**10 Fox:** Jamie Carroll, Rebecca Tomlinson, Kaitlyn Tsuruda

**14 Step:** Aiden Stanley, Danielle Clarke

**European:** Sarah McDuffe, Ashley Masters

**Foxtrot:** Emma Williamson  
**Tango:** Angela Schrempf

**American:** Sarah Sargent, Jennifer Roskam, Bobbi-Lyn Forbes

**Rocker:** Laura Vickery  
**Kilian:** Jessica Brake

**Westminster:** Sherylene Leslie, Alida Finnie

**Dance Variation:** Christel Peebles

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