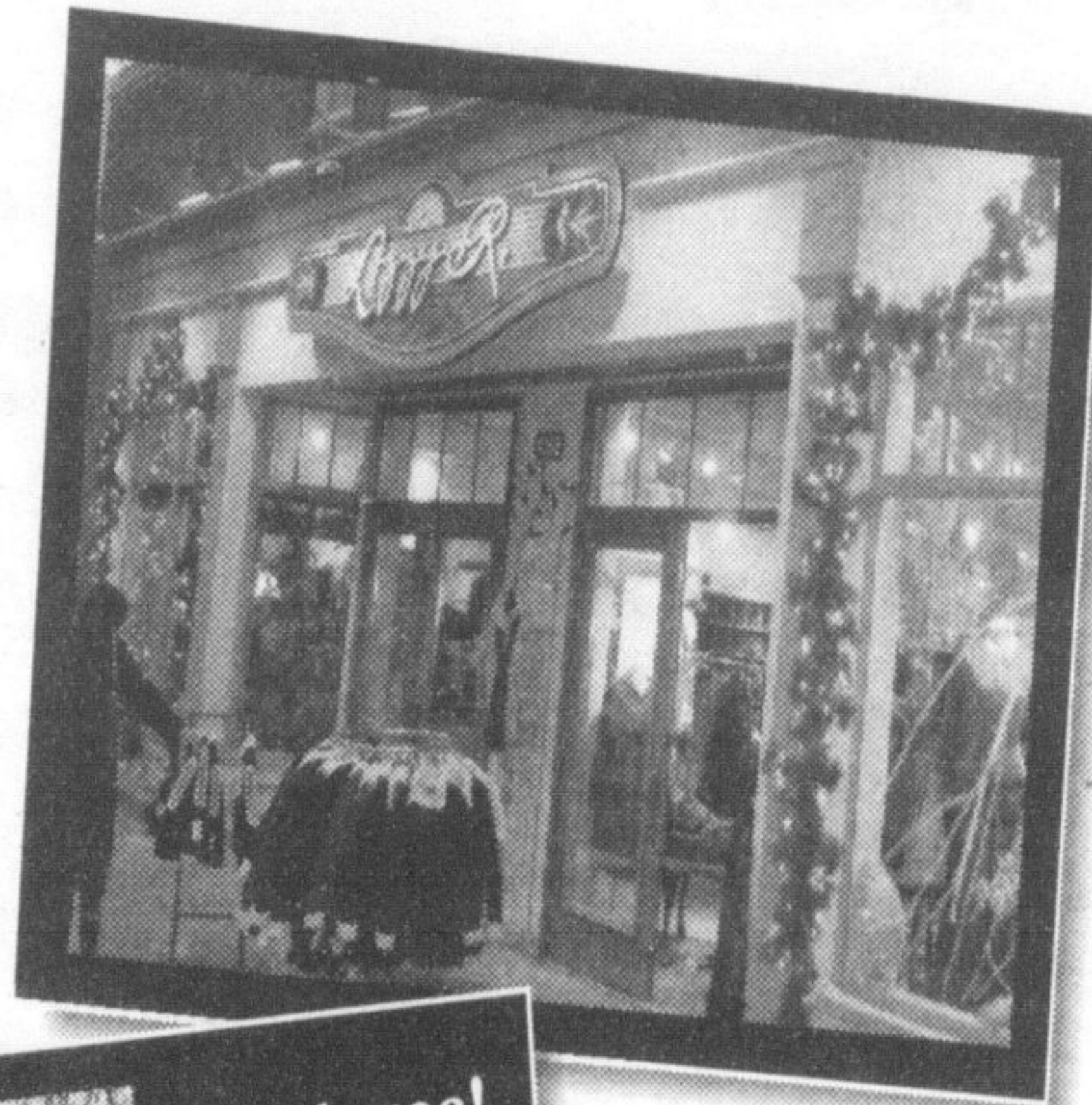


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Burgess up for O'Brien award

Local trainer among nominees for Standardbred Canada hardware

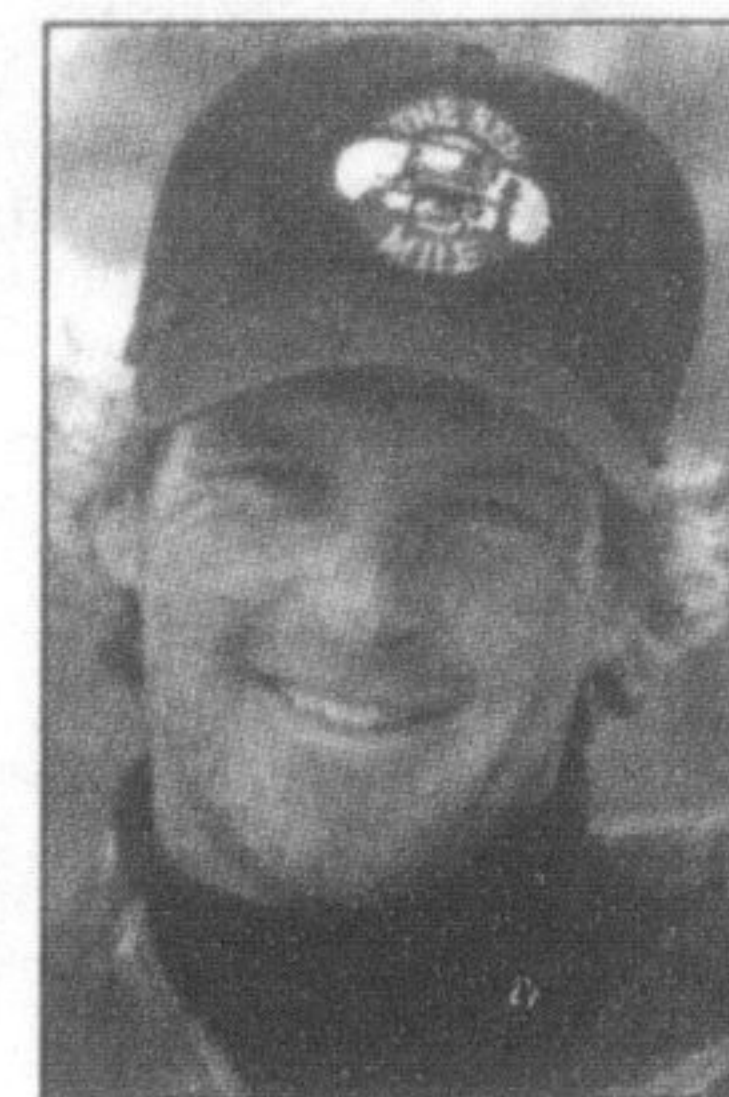
Blair Burgess will be chasing down one last accolade before bringing the 2006 harness racing season to a close.

Milton's seasoned horseman will be vying for the coveted O'Brien Award as Standardbred Canada's Trainer of the Year — being officially nominated for the honour Tuesday.

Up against Cambridge's Casie Coleman — who became the first woman ever to earn an O'Brien last year — 45-year-old Burgess has enjoyed a thoroughly successful season, thanks largely to the efforts of two horses.

The most prominent among them is Glidemaster, who recently completed his sweep of the Triple Crown — becoming just the eighth horse in history to do so — and is now up for Canada's top sophomore trotting colt award.

Burgess also enjoyed high-stakes prosperity with Armbr Deuce, who prevailed in the Confederation Cup, and to date has amassed an overall \$2.9 million bankroll from 19 winners this season.



Blair Burgess

Glidemaster has stiff competition for his O'Brien Award, with fellow nominee Majestic Son turning in an incredible 2006 campaign that included 14 wins in 19 starts and a triumphant \$1-million Canadian Trotting Classic performance.

Co-owned and driven by Miltonian Steve Condren, Pure Ivory has secured her second straight O'Brien Award — as the unanimous selection in Canada's three-year-old trotting filly ranks. The daughter of Striking Sahbra had a highly productive year, winning 12 of 19 races and banking \$914,893. Some of her stakes victories included the Canadian Breeders Championship, the Elegantimage Consolation and the Simcoe Stakes, in which she trotted to a career and Canadian record of 1:53.1.

Other O'Brien Award nominees are as follows:

Driver of the Year: Jody Jamieson (Cambridge), Mark MacDonald (Cambridge)

Breeder of the Year: Robert Murphy (White Rock, B.C.), Seelster Farms (Lucan, Ontario)

Horsemanship Award: Gerry Hudon (Edmonton); Carl Jamieson (Princeton, Ontario)

Pacers

Two-Year-Old Filly Pacer: Cabana Fever, Luck of Michelle
Two-Year-Old Colt Pacer: Artzina, Domitian Hanover
Three-Year-Old Filly Pacer: Darlins Delight, In Trepid Water

Three-Year-Old Colt Pacer: Doonbeg, Total Truth
Older Pacing Mare: Burning Point, Glowing Report
Older Pacing Horse: Lis Mara, Primetime Bobcat

Trotters

Two-Year-old Filly Trotter: Pampered Princess, Possess The Magic

Two-Year-Old Colt Trotter: Laddie, Val Taurus
Older Trotting Mare: Peaceful Way, Snazzy Millie
Older Trotting Horse: Plantagenet, Stiletto

• Each nominated horse is also a finalist for Canadian Horse of the Year. O'Brien winners will be announced at an awards banquet in Mississauga February 3.

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