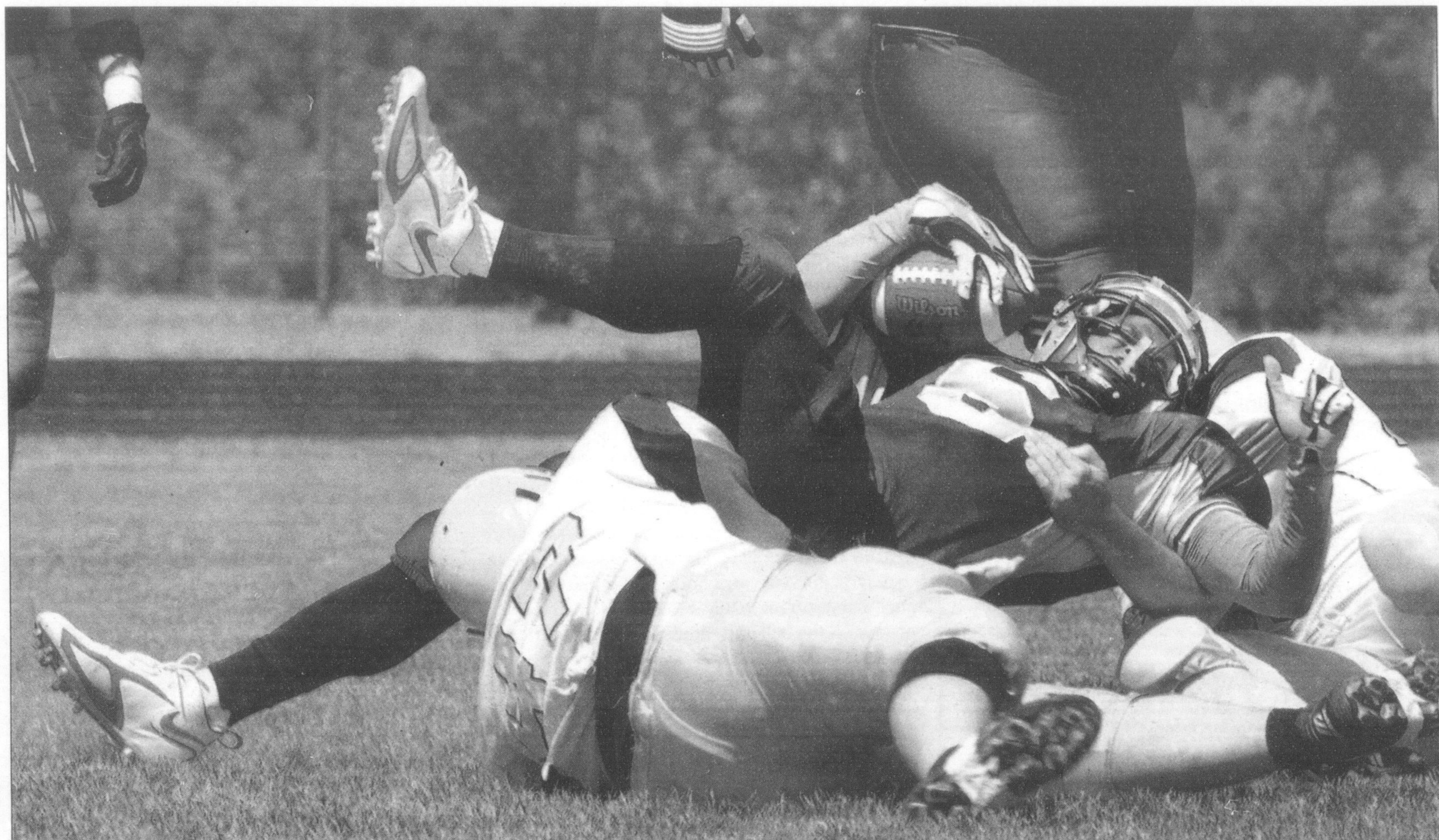


# SPORTS

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## THE RUN STOPS HERE:

Milton Marauders' ball carrier George Baiden gets taken down hard to the turf by a couple of North Bay Bulldogs defenders during Saturday afternoon's Northern Football Conference clash at Milton District High School. Baiden gave an exceptional performance, but it wasn't quite enough as the rebuilding Marauders were eclipsed by their northern guests 15-13. For full results of the narrow defeat, see page A14.

GRAHAM PAINE /  
CANADIAN  
CHAMPION

## Wilson delivers historic ride at Queen's Plate

*Becomes first female jockey to win event*

By John Siscos  
SPECIAL TO THE CHAMPION

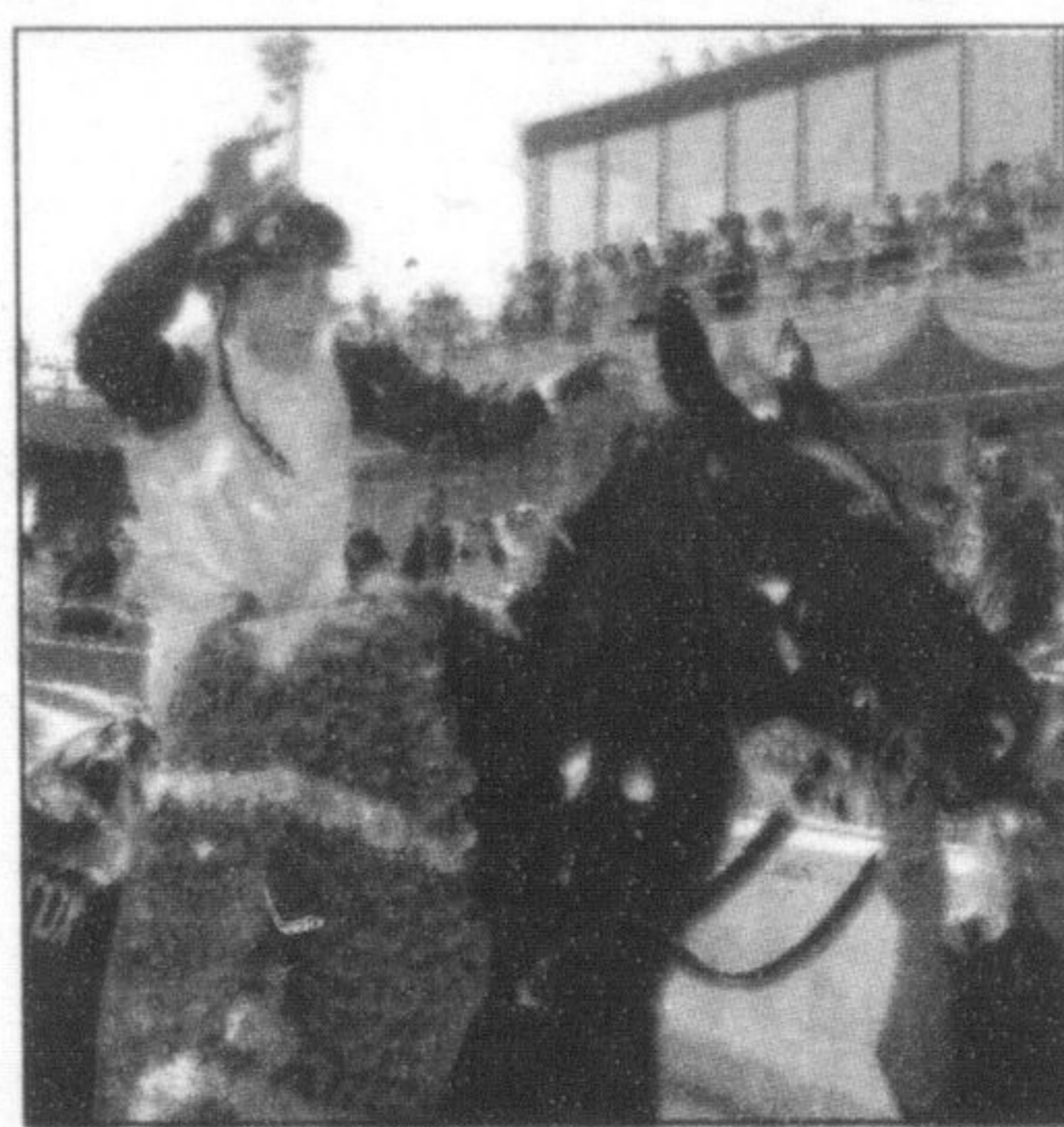
Jockey Emma-Jayne Wilson — a Bramalea native who recently moved to Milton — became the first female rider to win the Queen's Plate in its 148th edition when she masterfully steered long-shot Mike Fox to victory Sunday at Woodbine.

With a stretch rally after dropping back behind the leaders in early stretch, Mike Fox somehow got his second wind and nailed

pacesetter Alezzandro in the closing strides — posting a thrilling half-length victory in 2:05.45 for the mile and one-quarter classic.

"We started losing some ground at that point (around the far turn)," said an elated 25-year-old Wilson, who won back-to-back Sovereign Awards in 2005 and 2006 as Canada's top apprentice, as well as a 2005 Eclipse Award for North America honours.

Riding Bridgecut to 12th at last year's event, Wilson certainly wasn't about to make



Emma-Jayne Wilson celebrates her win aboard Mike Fox.

a big deal out of making history — just a year after Josie Carroll became the first woman to train a Plate winner — since she views herself as a jockey who just happens to be a woman.

"Been there, bought the t-shirt, said and done," she said just moments after her milestone triumph, when asked about becoming the first female to ride a Plate champion.

Woodbine's top rider over the past two years was a lot more talkative when describing Mike Fox's winning

effort.

"I was getting a little worried. I looked up and saw (jockey Todd) Kabel sitting quite easy on Alezzandro. I said, 'Ah, geez buddy, we've got to dig in deep.' A little tougher running than what we did on that Wednesday night (a win by Mike Fox on May 23 in his last start). But he gave another spurt and wanted it just as bad as I did. I knew I had it. He was moving so strong coming to wire."

Owned by Oakville's D. Morgan Firestone and trained by Ian Black, Mike Fox was still third in mid-stretch when Wilson suddenly found a seam between Alezzandro and a fading Jiggs Coz, and chased after the game pacesetter, collaring him near the wire.



# LOOK

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