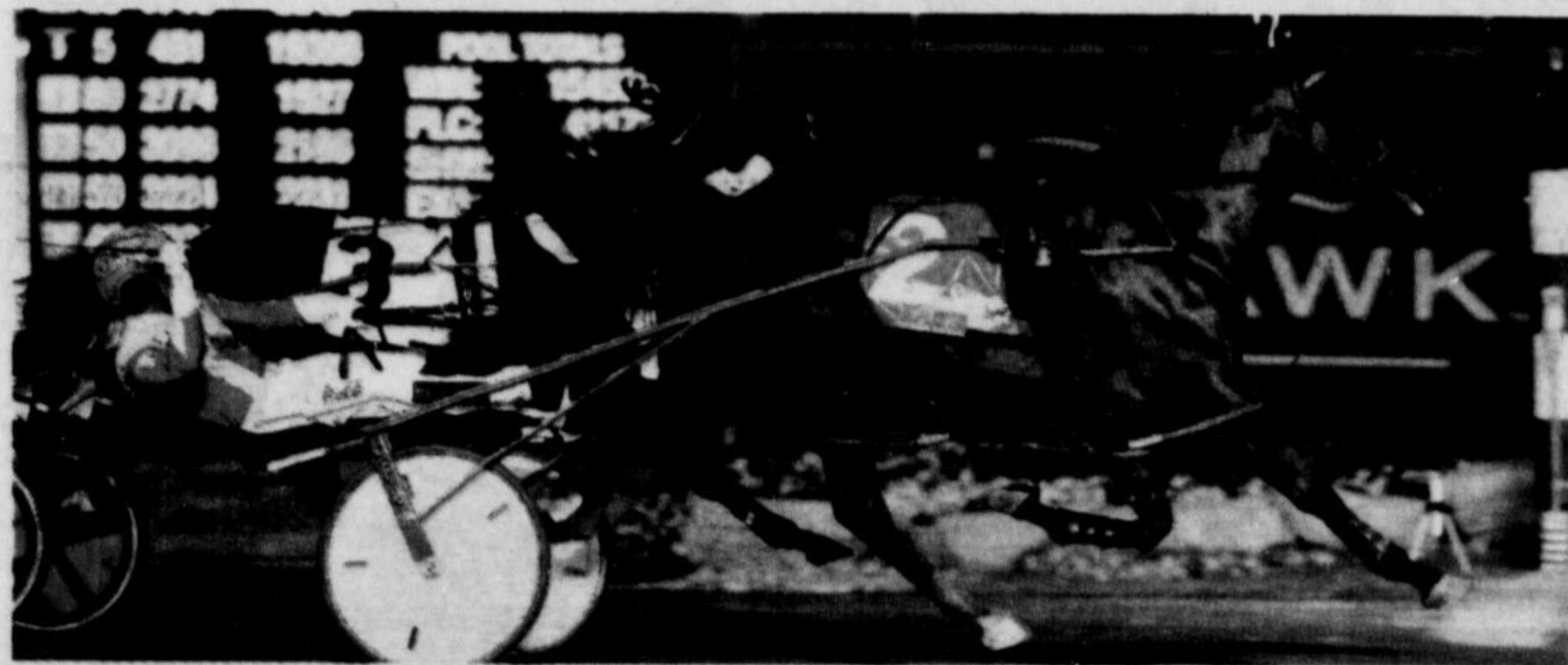


SPORTS



Wakizashi Hanover charges past Wiggle It Jiggleit to win the Pepsi North America Cup Saturday. *New Media Images*

Wakizashi Hanover takes North America Cup

Wakizashi Hanover, driven by Tim Tetrick, charged past previously unbeaten Wiggle It Jiggleit in the stretch to capture the \$1-million Pepsi North America Cup Saturday at Mohawk Racetrack. The final time in this year's installment of the world's richest pacing event — 1:48 — was just a fifth of a second off the stakes record at Mohawk set by Thinking Out Loud in 2012.

Named for a ceremonial Japanese sword, 'Wakizashi' had come into the final off a blazing 1:49.2 elimination win.

For Tetrick, it was his second Cup win, following a victory with Captaintreacherous in 2013.

Wakizashi Hanover — purchased for only \$23,000 at the Harrisburg Sale two years ago — is owned by a group of Nova Scotians, based in

Truro, and trained by Joann Looney-King. "It worked out perfect," said Tetrick. "I got to follow a really good horse (Wiggle It Jiggleit) and the horse did the rest. My horse tipped and we got the job done. The connections have done a great job with him. I appreciate them letting me drive the horse."

As expected, Wiggle It Jiggleit, driven by 24-year-old Montrell Teague went to the front, laying down fractions of :25.1 (equalling the fastest Cup first-quarter), :53.3 for the half and 1:21 for three-quarters.

Wakizashi Hanover earned \$500,000 for the prestigious win, pushing his career bankroll to almost \$700,000.

—Mark McKelvie, *Special to the Champion*



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