

# Jays scout impressed with local pitching prospect

By STEVE LeBLANC

The Champion

Hallan King just needs to be a little patient while his size catches up with his skill and smarts.

This according to Toronto Blue Jays assistant director of Canadian scouting Jim Ridley, who caught up with his young pitching pupil recently during season-ending tournament play in Burlington.

There King, part of the Halton Athletic Club (HAC) Under-18 traveling squad despite being only 14 at the time, delivered five shutout innings against London — giving up just a couple of hits and striking out six batters along the way.

The performance prompted Ridley to offer a rather flattering report on the promising hurler. Positive feedback related to his mechanics and ability to keep the ball down low — something many pitchers often struggle with at an early age.

"He's a sound student of the game," said Ridley, who worked with King last year during the off-season and taught him both math and physical education during his final year at Sam Sherratt School.

"If he stays on track during his growth spurt, you could see him representing this country (in competition) some day."

At 5'8" and 130 pounds, the local pitcher isn't exactly overpowering just yet. But with a number of weapons in his arsenal, he doesn't have to be.

"I've got a pretty good curve ball and can work it both inside and out," said King. "I've also got a change-up and a cut-fastball. I can't really blow it by too many guys. I'm more of a finesse pitcher."

Overall this past season, he finished with an earned-run average just under 2.00 and averaged a strikeout per inning with HAC.

While he showed strongly on both sides of the border, his best efforts were reserved for local competition. In addition to the Franklin Cup in Burlington, King gave up no earned runs in 11 innings of work during last month's Halton Wood Bat Tournament in Oakville.

He highlighted this with a complete-game one-hit gem in the semifinals against the New Jersey Pirates to beat them 2-0.

King plans to implement Ridley's advice during his off-season training and hopes that'll equal success next year with the Under-16 Canadian Thunderbirds — who will hold Halton-area tryouts this weekend.

Any player interested in attending is asked to call Kaz Miyata at (905) 634-1486.

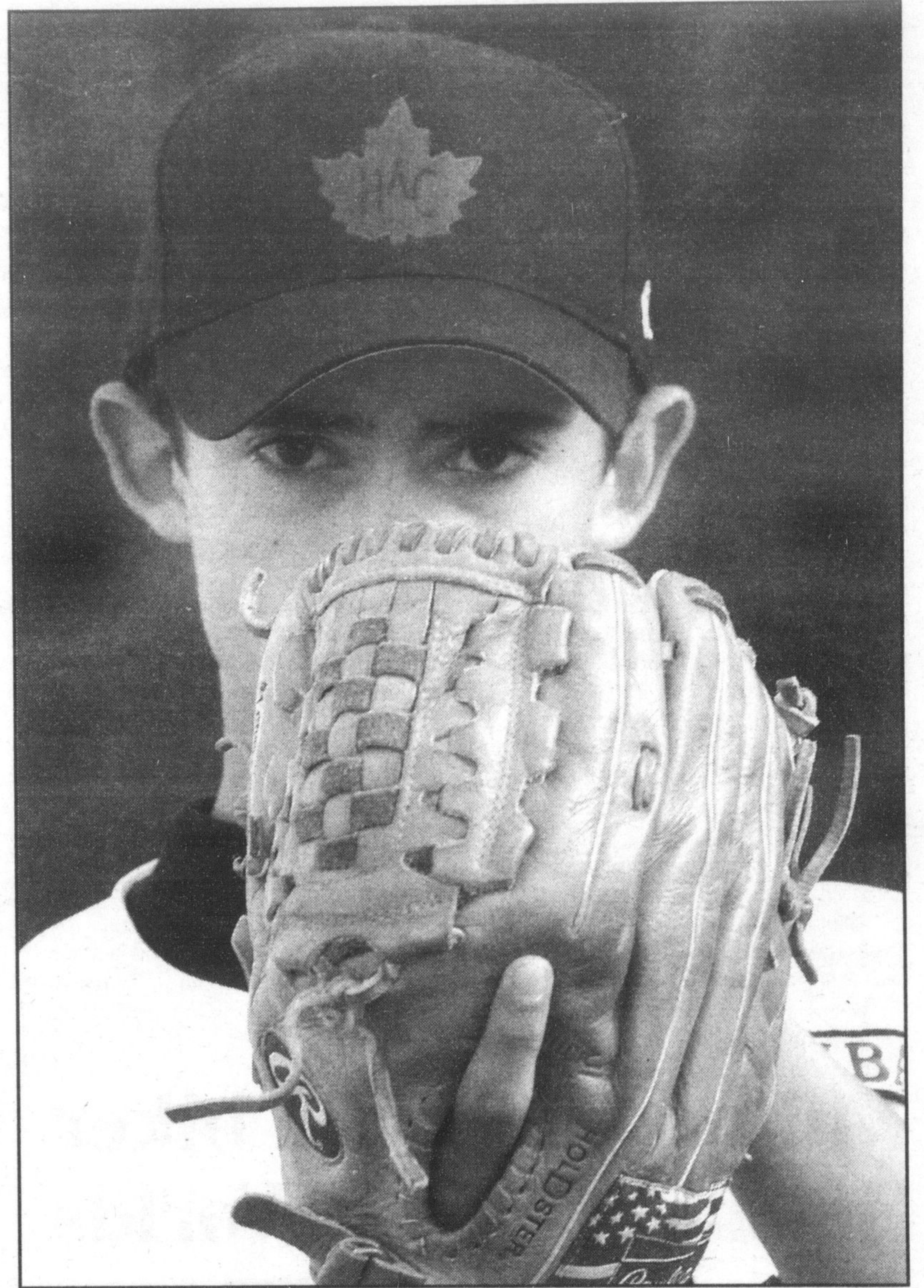


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Miltonian Hallan King showed strongly on the mound this past season with the Halton Athletic Club Under-18 squad.

## Just our way of saying thanks.



For Rogers Fan Appreciation Day, not only are we thanking our fans by giving the first 25,000 a Blue Jays Greatest Moments T-shirt, we're also honouring Tony Fernandez on a remarkable career that started here.

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 21 • 7:05 vs DEVIL RAYS	SEPTEMBER 22 • 4:05 vs DEVIL RAYS	SEPTEMBER 23 • 1:05 vs DEVIL RAYS

This is your last chance to WIN the Ultimate Island Experience at SkyDome! To find out how to WIN and get full contest details, go to [freeyourtime.ca](http://freeyourtime.ca) or [bluejays.com](http://bluejays.com).

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Honda Jr. Jays Saturday. The first 5,000 Jr. Jays 14 and under receive an inflatable bat. Clowns, face painters and this is your last chance to run the bases after the game.

Kids 14 and under.

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FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
OCTOBER 5 • 7:05 vs INDIANS	OCTOBER 6 • TBD vs INDIANS	OCTOBER 7 • 1:05 vs INDIANS

Help the Jays and the Daily Bread Food Bank strike out hunger. Friday, Saturday and Sunday, bring a canned or packaged food donation to Gates 3, 5, 11 and 13.

This is the last Honda Jr. Jays Saturday. The first 5,000 Jr. Jays 14 and under receive a Blue Jays Logo ball. Clowns, face painters and this is your last chance to run the bases after the game. PLUS, don't forget to bring a canned or packaged food donation to Gates 3, 5, 11, 13.

Kids 14 and under.

Jays Saturdays

Sunday is Billy Koch Bobblehead Day presented by Cheatics. The first 15,000 fans get one. Get yours. PLUS, don't forget to bring a canned or packaged food donation to Gates 3, 5, 11 and 13.

For tickets call 416-341-1234

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Mon-Sun 10am-6pm

BLUE JAYS BULLPEN  
at Commerce Court  
Mon-Fri 8am-6pm

AT ERIN MILLS TOWN CENTRE  
MISSISSAUGA  
(905) 820-4412  
Mon-Fri 10am-9pm  
Sat 10am-6pm  
Sun 12-5pm

AT SHOPPER'S WORLD  
BRAMPTON  
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Mon-Fri 10am-9pm  
Sat 10am-6pm  
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**SPECIAL THANKS** to our coaches and volunteers who contributed their time, talent and efforts making 2001, our 22nd year, an enjoyable one for all of our players.

**2002 Registration...** Watch for details in The Champion for February registration dates.

**REP Tryouts for 2002...** For information regarding fall tryouts: contact Roy Harrold at 905-876-3357.

**Annual General Meeting...** Monday, September 24, 2001 at 7:00 PM, Tonelli Arena Community Room: contact Roy Harrold at 905-876-3357 for information.