



J.K. GULLEY

J. K. Gulley is hoping for a hit

Mississauga may not exactly be Nashville North, but it is home to Canadian country music artist J.K. Gulley, one of Canada's talented young crop of country singer-songwriters.

Gulley, who is playing southern Ontario this summer with singing star Carroll Baker and her band Baker Street, recently released the single "Stop Hiding Your Heart" through the RCA label.

The three-minute tune is one of three from Gulley RCA has agreed to release.

About 500 copies of "Stop Hiding Your Heart" have been pressed by the recording company so far, and copies of the single have been distributed to country and "adult contemporary" radio stations across Canada.

"I hope it's a hit. RCA believes it can be, otherwise they wouldn't have spent the money putting it out," Gulley said.

Cut in Nashville, the song was recorded in three or four

studio sessions and was released June 21. Gulley said he actually wrote it about two years ago when he was on the road in the United States.

"I was on the road about 3 a.m. and finished the whole thing in about 20 minutes," said Gulley, who indicated the song is a statement about not hiding one's emotions.

The 30-year-old Elmvale, Ont., native has been living in Mississauga for about a year. Gulley said the city serves as an ideal location because of its close proximity to the Canadian recording industry in the Toronto area, and it provides a central base to return to after his performances with Baker and the band.

Essentially a self-taught guitar player, Gulley has been in the music business for 14 years. He lived in Nashville for five years and has played in the studio with such country notables as Roy Clark and the late Marty Robbins.

Last year marked the release of Gulley's debut single, "Stay Lady Stay," which received considerable airplay on radio stations across Canada. However, he indicated the song did not make the charts. He said "Stop Hiding Your Heart," on the other hand, has initiated "a really good response and it's looking to start some chart action soon."