

Veteran teacher tackling challenge of adult education

By EDNA TOTTH

Special to *The Mississauga News*
Ex-Argo linebacker Peter Martin is to become a player for the attack — challenging the community to meet the needs of adult students.

Martin, 50, is leaving Port Credit Secondary School after 26 years. It's the only school he has ever taught in — to become a program leader at Britannia School in Cooksville when it converts to an adult education centre in September.

"My job will be to work with government and community services, keeping up with federal and provincial grant programs, staying in touch with business and industry, local support groups, family services and other organizations, do some promoting and marketing, contact service clubs and get into fundraising," Martin says.

He's already been doing most of these tasks, either as part of his job at Port Credit, or as part of the community work which came when he was a headline making football player and which he has continued.

Through the years, he's been involved with Mississauga Football League, Mississauga sports celebrities dinner, the city's sports council, and in the high profile job of color commentator at Argo games with CFRB and more recently with CHUM.

Martin started playing football in a highschool in Scarborough, continued while he studied physical education at University of Western Ontario, then he joined the Argos and Port Credit school in 1965.

He was with the football team until 1972, became head of physical education at school, a job he held for 17 years until arthritis caught up with him seven years ago.

He became a geography teacher and started a cooperative education program for the school, contacting local business people to find work and training opportunities for his students, then ensuring that the youngsters took advantage of the chance.

He'll be rolling his school work and volunteer work all into one at Britannia, which will offer mature students over 19, some daytime training for job re-entry, English as a second language, literacy, job assistance, as well as academic improvement in grades 11, 12 and OAC.

"I'm looking forward to the challenge of setting up the school," says Martin. "It will involve a lot of in-service training for students, and I look forward to getting to know more people in business and industry in Mississauga."

Martin's wife Wendy and himself recently celebrated their 26th wedding anniversary. Martin also

works in education, as a behavioral assistant.

Still in the family home on Bendigo Circle in Meadowvale, is youngest daughter Jennifer, 15, in grade 10 at Meadowvale Secondary School; PJ (Peter James), 20, (taking geography at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo); Cindy, 24, is working in accounting in Toronto; and Kristi, 22, is at Western, Peter's old alma mater, taking (you guessed it) physical education.

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