

Martin Veall

## Midland singer among Ontario's best

by Dave Fuller  
Seventeen-year-old Martin Veall of Midland enjoys many of the things that a young man of his age can do to occupy his time. He plays hockey and lacrosse and keeps busy at school. And, for most people that would be enough. But it's not enough for Martin.

Next week at London's Fanshawe College, 77 of the best young vocalists in Ontario will gather to do what they enjoy best and Martin will be among them.

Martin Veall is a member of the Youth Singers of Ontario, the best choral group in the province next to the Ontario Youth Choir and will be attending a band and choral workshop at Fanshawe next week.

Since he was a soprano in Grade 2, Veall has enjoyed singing as well as playing hockey and lacrosse and been successful at all of them.

From appearances at the Midland Y's Men's Music Festival, Veall graduated to the Youth Singers and studies at the

Royal Conservatory of Music.

This year, as well as singing with the YSO, Veall plans to audition for the Ontario Youth Choir, a 44-voice group that boasts the best young vocalists in the province.

From a sporting standpoint, Veall plays for the Midland all-star Juvenile team and was a member of the lacrosse team that represented the Midland area at the Ontario Playdowns last fall.

"It's hard to picture a hockey player as a choir member and Veall admits his teammates find the combination amusing sometimes.

"They rib me about it once in a while, but hockey and singing do mix well. Sometimes the schedules conflict, though, and I have to make a choice."

Hockey is definitely a second priority for Veall and the choice poses no serious dilemma for him.

"There are more opportunities to play hockey than sing, so if it comes down to one or the other, I

will usually go sing, unless of course, we were in an important tournament or something."

Music is the main focus of his attention and as well as singing Veall studies piano and plans to take up music writing.

The future for him will involve yet another ambitious undertaking as he plans to study medicine when he leaves Midland Secondary School next year.

"I thought of taking law for a while, but I can't talk well enough for that, I'm not sure what I'll do exactly, but at least I have another year to think about it."

A definite possibility is that Veall will attend Philipps University in his native Marburg, Germany, near Frankfurt.

Veall left Marburg with his family when he was three-years-old and lived in England for two and a half years before moving to Midland in 1966. He may return to Marburg to study at the 450-year-old institution, because being born there entitles him to be admitted; one of the

legacies of the university's founders.

"I'd like to go there to study if I can brush up on my German enough to get admitted."

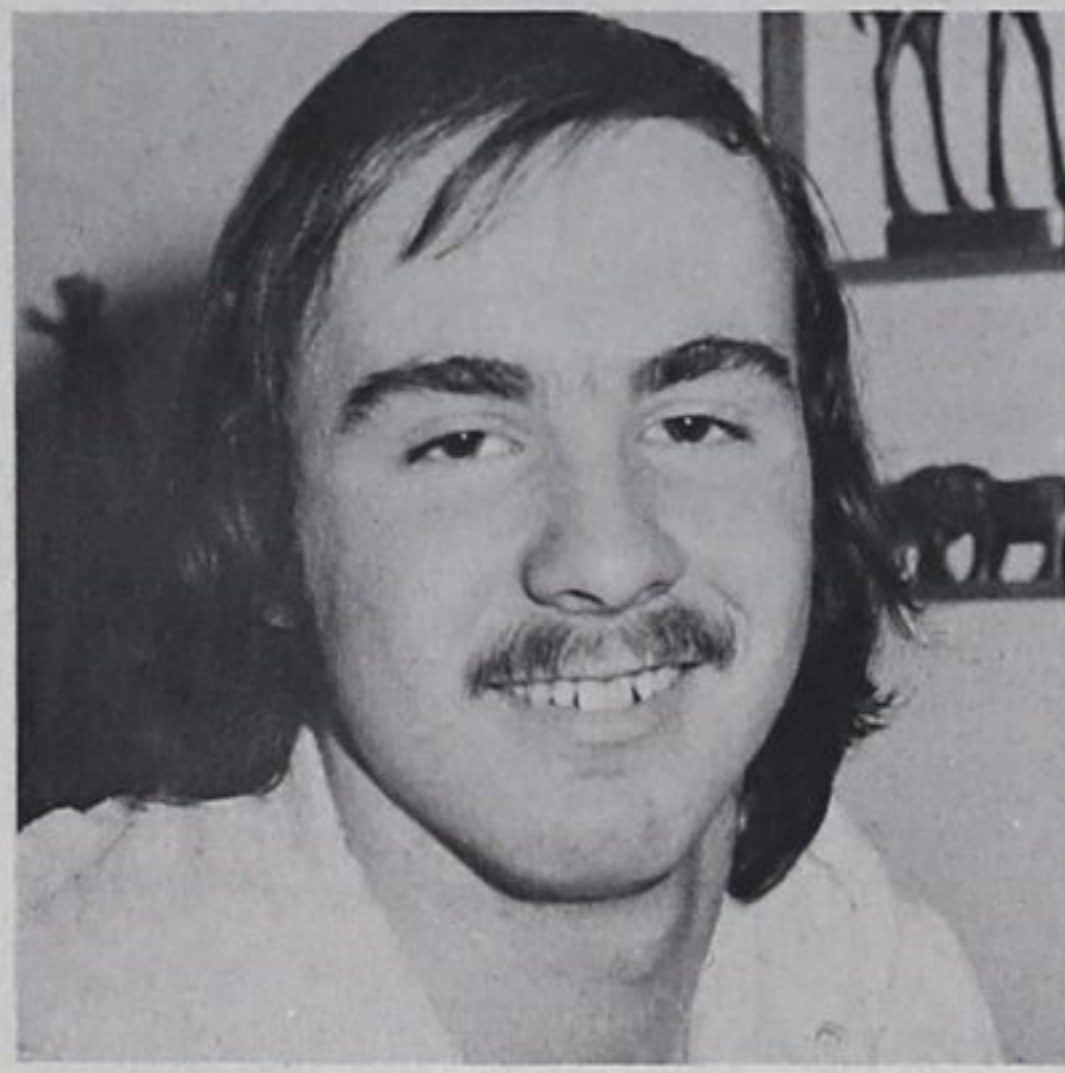
If Europe proves to be too far, then Veall will also look into the University of Toronto or the University of Western Ontario.

Hockey will definitely have to take a back seat whatever choice Veall makes.

"I've given up hockey I think" he says, "I only have two years of Juvenile left."

Although he enjoys his sports, Veall feels his singing has given him more opportunity to meet people.

"I make more friends singing. You make more enemies than friends playing hockey and lacrosse."



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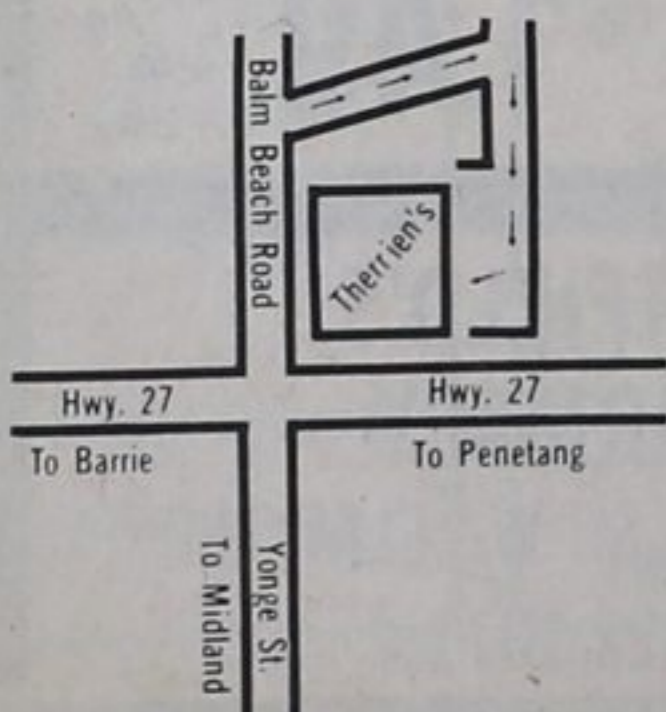
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