

Closeup

Dentist hopes for gold to fill office

Most of Dr. Robert Vavrik's patients have no idea what their dentist does in his spare time and those he tells usually don't believe him. He says they'll just have to wait to see the gold record hanging in his office when one of his songs makes the big time. Vavrik, a resident of Hoffman Estates whose dental office is in Palatine, just finished writing the lyrics for three songs that will appear on a newly released album by singer Peter Brown. Vavrik wrote the songs "Give Me Up," "Heaven In Your Eyes," and "Satisfaction Guaranteed" on the album entitled "Back To The Front." His budding career in the music industry won't interfere with his chosen career in dentistry because, he says, song writing is only a diversion. "It's something different," Vavrik said. "I'm not writing songs because I'm bored with being a dentist. I'm not bored at all because I've been interested in being a dentist since I was in the sixth grade. I enjoy both activities." Involved in music since he was a child, Vavrik



Dr. ROBERT VAVRIK

met Brown when they were in high school and they played together in a band. Brown "went on to bigger things" in the music industry while Vavrik decided to go to dental school. They've remained friends throughout the years and Vavrik says he has enjoyed watching his friend's success. Without any formal training in writing music, he says he decided to give it a try anyway. "Peter and I are close friends and we have similar feelings about things so the whole thing really worked out." Brown wrote the music and Vavrik wrote the words. "I'm really excited about this. None of my patients know about this and most people don't believe you when you tell them. I'll just have to wait for the gold record to hang on the wall."
—M. Eileen Brown