

First he danced, now he sings

COLOMBO FAMILY CAPO Michael Franzese will become the highest-ranked New York mobster to testify for the government when he takes the stand against an old friend.

Franzese is set to testify, as early as today, in federal court in Chicago that he bankrolled Norby Walters, the controversial sports and talent agent, and was his muscle against college athletes and entertainers, including superstar Michael Jackson.

When word reached New York a few months ago that Franzese was cooperating with prosecutors, he sent word through lawyer John Jacobs that it wasn't true.

Franzese "danced" with them but "gave them nothing," said Jacobs — who now stresses that he is Franzese's former lawyer.

It seems that after his dance, Franzese let U.S. Attorney Anton Valukas take him home and agreed to become a stool pigeon.

Walters, 58, and partner **Lloyd Bloom**, 29, are charged with racketeering, mail fraud and extortion.

Yesterday, former Jackson Five manager Ron Weisner testified that Walters and Franzese tried to muscle their way into a concert tour in 1981.

Weisner said that after he rejected Walters' repeated efforts to join the tour as booking agent, Walters and Franzese told him, "If we don't go along with it, we're going to have some kind of problems. It was threatening, I mean the point came across."

Franzese is the son of legendary Colombo capo Sonny Franzese. He has done well for himself since he pleaded guilty three years ago to a \$15 million gasoline tax ripoff and agreed to pay \$14 million in restitution.

He has been serving his time in California, where he has a movie production company. Under his plea agreement, Franzese has been busy running his company trying to pay the restitution, often supervised by private guards he pays for himself.

The next payment he makes will be his first.

A reputed mob associate has implicated reputed Genovese mobster Federico (Fritzi) Giovanelli in a 13-year-old mob hit that was recently added to Giovanelli's racketeering case.

Sources said Keeran (Butchie) Sullivan will testify that Giovanelli and co-defendant Steven Maltese killed Charles Bentivegna in 1976, to prevent Bentivegna from cooperating in a probe of loansharking and bookmaking.

Giovanelli, Maltese and Carmine Gualtiere are awaiting trial in Manhattan Federal Court on racketeering charges. These include the 1986 murder of Detective Anthony Venditti, who was killed while on stakeout duty.

Giovanelli and Maltese were tried twice in Queens Supreme Court in Venditti's murder, with both cases ending in mistrials. Gualtiere was acquitted at the second trial, but will face the charges again in the racketeering case, which also includes bookmaking and loansharking.

Federal Judge John Sprizzo called federal prosecutors incompetent last week when he acquitted seven reputed Sicilian mobsters of heroin conspiracy charges. But 23 years ago, when he was a prosecutor himself, Sprizzo had much the same thing happen to him.

And Sprizzo learned his lesson the same way prosecutors Margaret Groban and Alfred Pavlis did — by having a judge acquit seven defendants of conspiracy charges on grounds that the defendants were not part of the same conspiracy.

In 1966, Sprizzo prosecuted a case in which a former state banking official, three former IRS workers and three businessmen were charged with being part of a \$500,000 tax fraud conspiracy.

Not high on 'em, but not against 'em

SAN DIEGO — The police department is considering lifting a ban on recruits who have tried LSD or other hallucinogenic drugs.

"We want to be current and reflect society," said Leroy Brady, department personnel administrator. "We don't want to punish what was experimental drug use."

Some department officials and beat officers question the wisdom of relaxing the ban while police are trying to crack down on illegal drugs.

The Associated Press

GANG LAND

JERRY CAPECI



At the end of a long, hard-fought trial, Judge Inzer Wyatt acquitted the defendants of the conspiracy count and taught Sprizzo a lesson he never forgot.

Groban and Pavlis likely will never forget Judge Sprizzo.

More fallout from the conflict between convicted Westies killers James (Studs) McElroy and Francis (Mickey) Featherstone, over who really killed mob loanshark Vincent Leone.

McElroy says Featherstone killed Leone. Featherstone said Westie Kevin Kelly did it, and helped prosecutors win Kelly's indictment.

To avoid a courtroom conflict, prosecutors dropped Featherstone as a witness against John Gotti, who allegedly got the Westies to shoot a union official. Last week, they quietly dropped the Leone murder charges against Kelly.

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HOCKEY

NHL

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA. Rows include Rangers, Washington, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Devils, Islanders.

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA. Rows include y-Montreal, x-Boston, Buffalo, Hartford, Quebec.

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA. Rows include x-Detroit, St. Louis, Minnesota, Chicago, Toronto.

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA. Rows include y-Calgary, x-Los Angeles, x-Edmonton, Vancouver, Winnipeg.

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA. Rows include y-Montreal, x-Boston, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Toronto, Los Angeles, Minnesota, St. Louis.

NHL summaries
RANGERS 4, FLAMES 3

Calgary 0 1 2-3
Rangers 2 1 1-4
First Period—1, Rangers, Sandstrom 26 (Patrick, Wilson), 17:08 (pp).

ISLANDERS 5, CANADIENS 3

Islanders 2 0 3-5
Montreal 0 3 0-3
First Period—1, Islanders, Kerr 16 (King, LaFontaine), 4:32.

Filling the Net

Table with columns: Player, Goals, Season. Lists players like Gretzky, Esposito, Kurri, Lemieux, Bossy, Esposito, McDonald, Gretzky, Esposito, Bossy, Kurri, Esposito, McDonald, Gretzky, Esposito, Bossy, Kurri, Esposito, McDonald, Gretzky, Esposito, Bossy, Kurri, Esposito, McDonald.

EXPOS 4, METS 3, 11 inn.

Table with columns: Mets, Montreal. Rows include Dykstra, Teufel, Savage, Magadan, Strwbry, Reed, Carter, Liddell, Mazzilli, Lyons, Sasser, Elster, Darling, Corbin, Beatty, Lmbrd, Aase, Shipley.

One out when winning run scored. DP—Mets 1, Montreal 1. LOB—Mets 6, Montreal 8.

Table with columns: IP, H, R, ER, BB, SO. Rows include Darling, Beatty, Aase, Savage, L, 0-1, Montreal, DeMartinez, Bottenfield, Barrett, Souveur, W, 1-1, Balk.

Exhibition linescores

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
TWINS 8, REDS 7
At Plant City, Fla.

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA. Rows include Minnesota, Cincinnati (ss), Toliver, Straker, and Mercado.

BLUE JAYS 2, PIRATES 0
At Dunedin, Fla.

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA. Rows include Pittsburgh, Toronto, Kramer, Madden, Taylor, and Prince.

CARDINALS 8, ASTROS 1
At St. Petersburg, Fla.

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA. Rows include Houston, St. Louis, Scott, Childress, Stapleton, Costello, DiPino, Peters, Pena, Pagnozzi, Whitt, Brenly, W, Musseman, L, Kramer, O-I, Sv, Castillo.

WHITE SOX 11, PHILLIES 6
At Clearwater, Fla.

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA. Rows include Chicago (A), Philadelphia, Peterson, Bittiger, Pawlowski, Kutzler, and Merullo.

BRVES 3, ORIOLES 1
At Miami

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA. Rows include Atlanta, Baltimore, Glavine, Sutter, Puleo, Nezelek, and J. Davis.

TIGERS 11, DODGERS 3
At Lakeland, Fla.

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA. Rows include Los Angeles, Detroit, Hershiser, Morgan, Horton, and Sciascia.

RANGERS 7, REDS 5
At Port Charlotte, Fla.

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA. Rows include Cincinnati (ss), Texas, Browning, Charlton, Kaiser, and Reed.

RED SOX 7, ROYALS 7, tie
At Winter Haven, Fla.

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA. Rows include Kansas City, Boston, Aquino, Olwaine, Vasquez, Stoffelmyre, Gleaton, DeJesus, and Boone.

CUBS 6, GIANTS 0
At Mesa, Ariz.

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA. Rows include San Francisco, Chicago (N), Downs, Wilson, Samuels, and Manwaring.

BREWERS 8, PADRES 4
At Chandler, Ariz.

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA. Rows include San Diego, Milwaukee, Show, Booker, and Parent.

INDIANS 5, ANGELS 3
At Tucson, Ariz.

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA. Rows include California, Cleveland, Blyleven, Fraser, Cliburn, and Parrish.

MARINERS 7, ATHLETICS 4
At Phoenix

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA. Rows include Seattle, Oakland, Powell, Solano, Wilkinson, and Schooler.

ROAD RUNNING

Brooklyn 1/2 Marathon

Through streets of Brooklyn with finish in Prospect Park
Top 10: Pat Petersen 1:05:02, Ira Meyers 1:07:04, Felix Pinto 1:07:30, Brian Ronan 1:08:47, Luis Borja 1:09:27.

St. Patrick's Day 10K

Conducted by Taconic RR in FDR Park, Yorktown Heights, N.Y.
Top 3: Mike Stahr 31:45 (course record), Steve Calidonna 33:49, Paul Fencer 34:54.

Sri Chinmoy 50-miler

In Flushing Meadow Park
Top 10: Ed Finnegan 6:34, Luis Rios 6:47, Don Davis 6:50, Stanley Paccione 7:08, Robert Kantor 7:15, Trishull Chens 7:25.

50K

Top finishers: Sammukh Sheridan 3:23:35, Arpan DeAngelo 3:27:42, Mark DeBartolo 3:37:38, Christine Gibbons (first woman) 3:40:51, Bob Vandekieft 3:42:03.

Calendar

SAT. MARCH 18: Nancy Waters Memorial 5K, 10 a.m. Seaford, N.Y. 616-541-4534. SUN. MARCH 19: Bank of Ireland St. Patrick's Day 3.5 mile road race, 2:15 p.m.

Former manager of Jackson Five accuses Walters

A former manager of the Jackson Five testified in Chicago that indicted sports agent Norby Walters and a reputed New York mobster tried to muscle their way into a planned concert tour. Ron Weisner, who represented the group in the early 1980s, said under questioning by Assistant U.S. Attorney Howard Pearl that he repeatedly refused overtures from Walters to join the Jackson Five tour as booking agent.

Robert Tisch, the former U.S. postmaster general, met with officials in Baltimore as part of an effort to bring an NFL expansion franchise to the city deserted five years ago by the Colts. "I think things are going well," said Tisch, the president of Loews' Corp. whose net worth is estimated at \$1 billion. He dropped out of

SPORTS WIRE

the bidding for the New England Patriots last year and declined to bid on the Dallas Cowboys because of the distance involved. "I'd like to stay within an hour of New York," he said.

Former Atlanta quarterback David Archer and offensive lineman Brett Miller, who was left off the Falcons' 37-man protected list, were signed to free-agent contracts by the San Diego Chargers. Archer was on the Washington Redskins' active roster for four games in 1988, seeing action in one game.

Ed Zubrow resigned as head coach at the University of Pennsylvania to take a job fighting drug abuse and dropout rates in the Philadelphia School District. Zubrow, who led the Quakers to two Ivy League championships and a 23-7 record in three seasons, said he accepted the job with the nation's fifth-largest school district because of the influence athletes and coaches can have on the community.

Seniors Danny Ferry of Duke, Sean Elliott of Arizona, Stacey King of Oklahoma, Pervis Ellison of Louisville and freshman Chris Jackson of Louisiana State have been named to the Nike U.S. Basketball Writers Association All-America first team, USBWA president Malcolm Moran announced.

Jackson is the first freshman in the USBWA's 33-year history ever selected to the first team. Jackson, a 6-1 guard, averaged 29.8 points a game and set an NCAA record for most points scored by a freshman in a game (55 vs. Mississippi) and in a season (895).

The University of Utah released head coach Lynn Archibald following the Utes' completion of a 16-17 season in a year they were favored for the Western Athletic Conference title. Archibald, who compiled a 98-86 record in six years at the Utes' helm, finished 6-10 in the WAC this year.

Colgate has refused to renew the contract of coach Joe Baker, announced Fred Dunlap, the school's athletic director. Baker leaves the Colgate basketball program with a three-season 14-68 record.

The NCAA informed the University of Maryland that it will conduct a preliminary inquiry into the men's program in the wake of admitted recruiting rules violations, the school's athletic director said. "The inquiry is expected to begin this week," athletic director Lew Perkins said in a statement.

Last month, coach Bob Wade admitted that some members of his staff had given rides to former Terrapin guard Rudy Archer, who was declared academically ineligible prior to this season, in violation of NCAA recruiting rules.

GOLDEN GLOVES

Saturday, March 25 - at Fort Apache Boxing Club, 1111 Fox St., Bronx. Wednesday, March 29 - (tentative) Thursday, March 30 - at St. Francis Xavier, 1711 Haight Ave., Bronx. Friday, March 31 - Yonkers PAL at Yonkers Raceway, Yonkers and Central Ave., Yonkers.