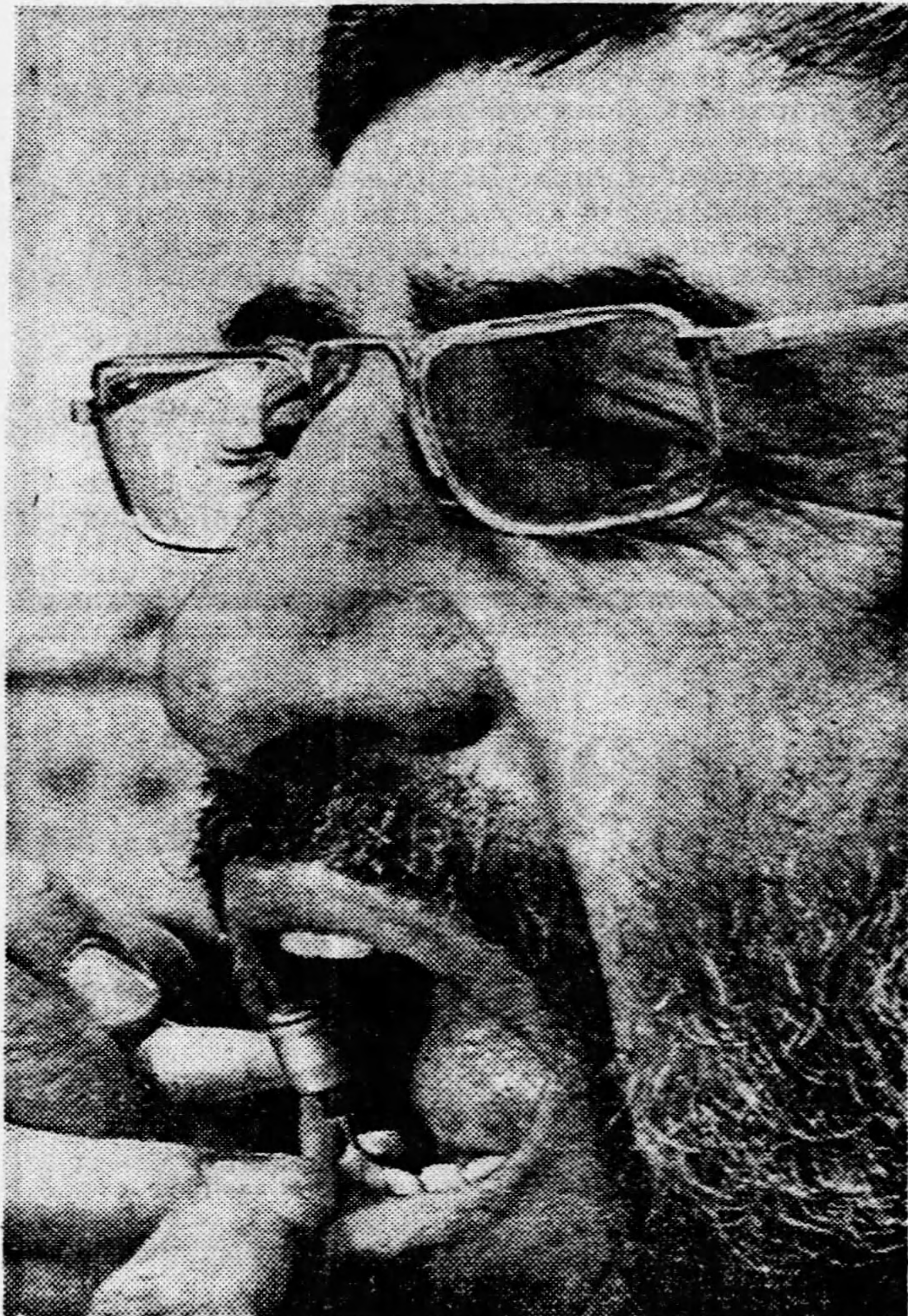


Self-serving



THIS MAY HURT just a bit," Israeli dentist Evgeni Griliches tells himself as he begins to dig into his own root canal. The objective was to make the Guinness Book of World Records, which is why dental surgeons and lawyers were on hand as witnesses. Griliches did it with mirror in 40 minutes.

Family laundry?

Feds say singer Franzese's life in peril

By **JERRY CAPECI**
Daily News Staff Writer

CHICAGO — The father-in-law of former Colombo capo Michael Franzese is expected to back up his story today at the racketeering trial of talent agent Norby Walters. Law enforcement officials expressed fears that the mob has a contract on Franzese's life.

"There is no way (Mafia boss) Carmine Persico can allow Franzese to publicly testify about family business

without ordering his death," said a high-ranking Justice Department official.

"The integrity, if that's the right word, of the mob is at stake," said another federal official, who said he couldn't believe Franzese testified.

In his testimony, Franzese said he used threats, muscle and \$50,000 in cash to help Walters obtain singers and college athletes as clients and to keep them on board when they wanted out.

Today, his father-in-law, Fred Garcia, is expected to

testify that he accompanied Franzese to Walters' New York office in early 1985 when the cash was delivered to Walters.

Walters, 58, and partner Lloyd Bloom, are charged with using cash to lure college athletes as clients and then using threats of violence when they tried to renege on the contracts.

In his testimony, Franzese implicated his father, his brother and, most importantly, Persico, who is sure to mark Franzese for death when the news reaches his cell in nearby Marion Federal Prison, if it hasn't already. Persico is serving a 39-year term for racketeering.

Under questioning by Chicago U.S. Attorney Anton Valukas, Franzese said he informed the government that Persico and other Colombo family mobsters discussed possible retaliation against federal law enforcement officials at a meeting he attended in 1985.

Speed a factor in TA crash

The Broadway local that rammed a parked train last Friday, injuring 45 people, apparently was traveling 10 mph over the speed limit just before the crash.

Initial state Public Transportation Safety Board tests show that the train was going 28 mph in an 18 mph zone, said Ed Plasberg, the board's chief of rail safety.

To keep trains from speeding, the TA relies on an operator's judgment and the fact that trains operate at three power levels that correspond to different speeds, spokesman Termaine Garden said.

— Joel Siegel

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