

By Anthony Scaduto, Doug Vaughan, A.J. Benza and Linda Stasi

## Jagger Lovelorn? The Saga Continues

Ready for more in the Jerry-and-Mick soap opera? London sources report that Mick Jagger recently made two "desperate" trans-Atlantic calls to Jerry Hall, begging her not to divorce him. A "family friend" reportedly told the London Express about the calls, all the way from L.A. to France. Said the friend: "Mick does not want to end his relationship with Jerry. . . . He wants to keep together for the sake of the children." (They have three, including a 6-month-old daughter.) "Mick has told Jerry he still loves her." (So which is it, mate, for the sake of the children or because you love her?) Hall recently announced she had split from Jagger and was considering divorce because he'd been playing around with a 24-year-old Italian model, Carla Bruni — and the last straw was his sneaking Bruni into the French chateau he'd bought to "seal his love for Jerry Hall," as the Express scripted it. Mick, who's in L.A. working on a new album, is expected to return next month to the Loire Valley mansion where Jerry's been holed up since their soaper began its run.

## Madonna-Seinfeld?

Now we know why Jerry Seinfeld is still a bachelor. US magazine writer Mark Morrison asked the current king of sitcom: "So now that you and Luke Perry are the hottest stars on TV, what would you do if Madonna called for a date?" Simple question, huh? Listen to this: "A date?" Seinfeld responds. "I don't think she dates. Madonna probably has some sort of laser system now for sexual gratification. She doesn't need anybody. . . . I'm sure I would go out with her. I think to have sex with Madonna would be really fun. Because I would love to just hitch up my pants afterwards and say, 'I'll bet you thought that was something, huh?'"

## Me? Isle Be Fine

Looks like a new "Blue Lagoon" — sort of — for Brooke Shields, a college grad who hasn't had a lot of work lately. Shields just signed on to guest-



Photo by James Edstrom

**ENJOYING THE LIMELIGHT.** Geraldo Rivera, Bill O'Reilly, Wayne Darwen, Maury Povich and Steve Dunleavy seem to be having a really good time at Darwen's birthday bash at the Limelight Wednesday night.

star on an upcoming episode of "Quantum Leap," sources tell us. "She'll play a rich '50s socialite who gets marooned on a deserted island with a Greek sailor [played by "Quantum" star Scott Bakula]," the source said. "It's a role that she knows well."

## Dr. Ruth's New Hat

Hold onto your seats, folks — Dr. Ruth has a new book coming out soon, and there's not one bit of sex advice in it. The book — written with Steven Kaplan, a prof at Israel's Jerusalem University — has the unsexy title, "Surviving Salvation, the Ethiopian Jewish Family in Transition." So how did Dr. Ruth, sexologist, become Ruth Westheimer, chronicler of starving Ethiopian Jews? According to Niko Pfund, an editor at NYU Press, the good doctor was so moved by TV images she saw in 1991 (showing about 14,000 Ethiopian Jews fleeing to Israel) that she did a documentary about their new life in the Holy Land. She then offered to do a book that would be a companion to the documentary. The film and the book will both be bowing around the same time — Oct. 25. That's the day the TV show will be shown on PBS.

## Too Saxy for GOP?

Several members of The Creative

Coalition, including Billy Baldwin, Jill Clayburgh, Mary Stuart Master-son and Jayne Keyes, left yesterday to crash the Republican Convention. According to Keyes (former head of NYC's film office and now a film agent with William Morris), TCC will host two conferences before tossing a party at a hot Houston night club, a party that might rival the bash it tossed for the Dems at Planet Hollywood last month. And although TCC is nonpartisan, Keyes told us she plans on wearing a "Clinton / Gore" button which is shaped like a saxophone. Crazy.

## Tabloid Boys

There were plenty of tabs (chuckle, chuckle) at the bar when TV tabloid folks Steve Dunleavy, Maury Povich, Maureen O'Boyle, Wayne Darwen and Burt Kearns bellied up at the Lion's Head after spilling out of Darwen's birthday bash at the Limelight Wednesday night. That's the bash Geraldo Rivera tossed for Wayne. And for a moment, it looked like Dunleavy, who's thrown a fist or two in his day, might throw another one Kearns' way. Why? As payback for Kearns' allegedly pirating satellite footage of Amy Fisher a few months back. "I'm gonna kick your ass," said Dunleavy, as the color left Kearns' face. The Aussie was only kidding, and he even bought Kearns a vodka and tonic. "What you don't

know," Dunleavy told us, "is that the drink has a slow-acting debilitating affect over a period of weeks, and it'll render him impotent by the time he's about to get married."

## Fast Facts

**MARRIAGE AT MORT'S:** Mort Zuckerman's East Hampton house will be ever-so-festive this weekend. Screenwriter Alec Sokolow, son of producer Diane "The Amy Fisher Story" Sokolow and the late Mel Sokolow, will wed photog Leslie Ann Hill at Zuckerman's estate on Saturday. Zuckerman and the Sokolows are close family friends. . . . **RISING, RISING:** Just back from two sold-out shows in Boston and Philadelphia, Rise Robots Rise will headline at the Wetlands tonight. Their debut album (which is self-titled) recently hit local record stores. . . . **DAN & TANYA:** Even though Tanya Tucker is an unwed mother, she'll be singing the national anthem at the Republican National Convention. "Hopefully I can change [Dan Quayle's] views," Tucker tells Entertainment Tonight. "If I'm going to be rubbing elbows with him, hopefully I can get him to listen to a few of my views — and those will be speaking for the single mothers of America."

Linda Stasi Is on Vacation

## She's Coming Back, on CBS

By Ben Kubasik  
STAFF WRITER

One-time NBC "Today" co-anchor Deborah Norville is coming back to TV news as one of the reporters for the Thursday-night CBS news magazine "Street Stories." She starts in October. "I got in this business to be a reporter, so it's right for me, not sitting under klieg lights," Norville said yesterday. "I'm glad CBS News thinks so, too."

CBS News President Eric Ober said Norville "will play an important role in the growth of 'Street Stories,'" which is hosted by Ed Bradley and begins a full-season run this fall. Norville's 16-month association with "Today" began in a controversy that never abated because of continued public perceptions that Norville had pushed out 13-year "Today" veteran Jane Pauley.

After her now 17-month-old son, Niki, was born, she did not return to "Today" but instead hosted a late-night ABC-Radio talk-interview program.

Paul D. Colford contributed to this story.



Deborah Norville

## Jab Fails to Connect

The national purse would be less depleted than it has gotten to be if we could have trusted congressmen to be half so wary of savings and loan bankers as alarmed about organized criminals.

But habit is habit. And so, on Wednesday, a Senate committee sat shuddering over Michael Franzese's tales of the Mafia's dominion over boxing. One has to be moderately informed and thus by definition unlectable to know that Satan is far too canny a man of business to think that corrupting the already thoroughly corrupted is a profitable investment of his resources.

So long as Don King rules the ring and owns the flesh in both corners, boxing is safe from penetration by the Honored Society. He is



Murray Kempton

shrewder than any wise guy and badder than most.

Strain credulity though the general tenor of Franzese's revelations may, he did stray from orchestrations over-suggestive of the fanciful to a single chord ringing with the authentic and that lapse provided an anecdote tellingly illustrative of King's authority over his dominion.

In 1976, he said, he had been party to a sitdown between King and Paul Castellano, in time to come the Gambino crime family's Boss of All Bosses, and two of his captains.

They "berated him," Franzese said, for not telling them when he knew "the outcome of

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# Test Finds Cocaine

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By Kevin McCoy

STAFF WRITER

Newspaper drivers union President Douglas LaChance recently tested positive for cocaine use, a finding that could jeopardize his federal parole, law-enforcement and union sources told New York Newsday yesterday.

LaChance, on parole after serving 55 months in prison for a 1980 labor-racketeering conviction, tested positive during a random urine analysis he was required to take by an officer for the U.S. Parole Commission, the sources said.

Drivers union attorney J. Kenneth O'Connor challenged the accuracy of the test, the sources said, and LaChance flatly denied he had used cocaine. But LaChance was instructed to report regularly to a drug-counseling program pending a hearing on the chal-

lenge, the sources said.

"If he doesn't show up for an appointment, the presumption is that he's guilty, and his parole could be violated," said one law-enforcement source familiar with a widespread investigation of the city newspaper-and-magazine-delivery industry.

LaChance, now negotiating over the sale of the Daily News, said of the allegation, "It's not correct. It's not correct at all," and declined to comment further.

O'Connor could not be reached yesterday, and Sam Shoquist, East Coast regional administrator for the U.S. Parole Commission, declined to comment.

Without discussing LaChance's case, Shoquist said that federal parolees who fail drug tests face penalties ranging from a reprimand to reimprisonment.

Last month, New York Newsday reported that prosecutors supervising the newspaper-and-maga-

zine-delivery investigation received allegations that LaChance bought cocaine last year.

According to an affidavit by Manhattan Assistant District Attorney Sean Dwyer, a self-acknowledged drug dealer told investigators he sold cocaine to LaChance and at least two others in 1991.

While LaChance denied the allegation, the transcript of a secretly recorded September, 1991, conversation quoted the union leader as saying he "put the fear of God" in the dealer, warning him not to provide incriminating evidence to prosecutors.

LaChance was convicted of taking more than \$300,000 in payoffs from newspaper distributors in exchange for labor peace. He was paroled in December, 1985, and was elected to a second term as union president last year. Shoquist said he will be on parole until March.

## Dinkins the Peacekeeper Or the 'Anticop' Mayor?

By Michael H. Cottman

STAFF WRITER

In Washington Heights, Mayor David N. Dinkins is struggling to keep the peace on two fronts: on the streets, where a police shooting of a local resident sparked a spasm of violence in the predominantly Dominican neighborhood, and among some rank-and-file cops, who viewed the mayor's peacemaking efforts in upper Manhattan as undermining the police.

The anticop brand has a particular sting for a mayor who has worked methodically to present himself as a law-and-order champion, the "toughest mayor on crime."

But ever since Dinkins enlisted the help of the family of slain Washington Heights resident Jose Garcia, he has been under fire by the Patrolmen's Benevolent

Association President Phil Caruso and a number of political opponents — such as likely mayoral opponent Rudolph Giuliani — for not sufficiently standing up for police.

The charges, if they stick, could be detrimental to the mayor at the polls next year when he runs for reelection, some law enforcement experts said.

"The mayor is perceived as someone who is not a proponent of law enforcement and soft on crime and it could affect him politically," said Alice McGillion, a former Police Department spokeswoman. "I think his image is mixed right now."

"The way he handled that shooting in Washington Heights was a disgrace," one officer assigned to the 34th Precinct said privately yesterday. "He paid for the guy's funeral with taxpayer dollars, gave him a big parade and jumped to conclusions about him before we had a chance to investigate it. We think he's anticop."

But other cops insist that such a view is not only unfair, but uncommon. Said Sgt. Lloyd Finley, president of the Grand Council of Guardians, the black police organization: "In my heart, I really believe that a large percentage of white cops don't know what to think about the mayor. They just follow Phil Caruso."

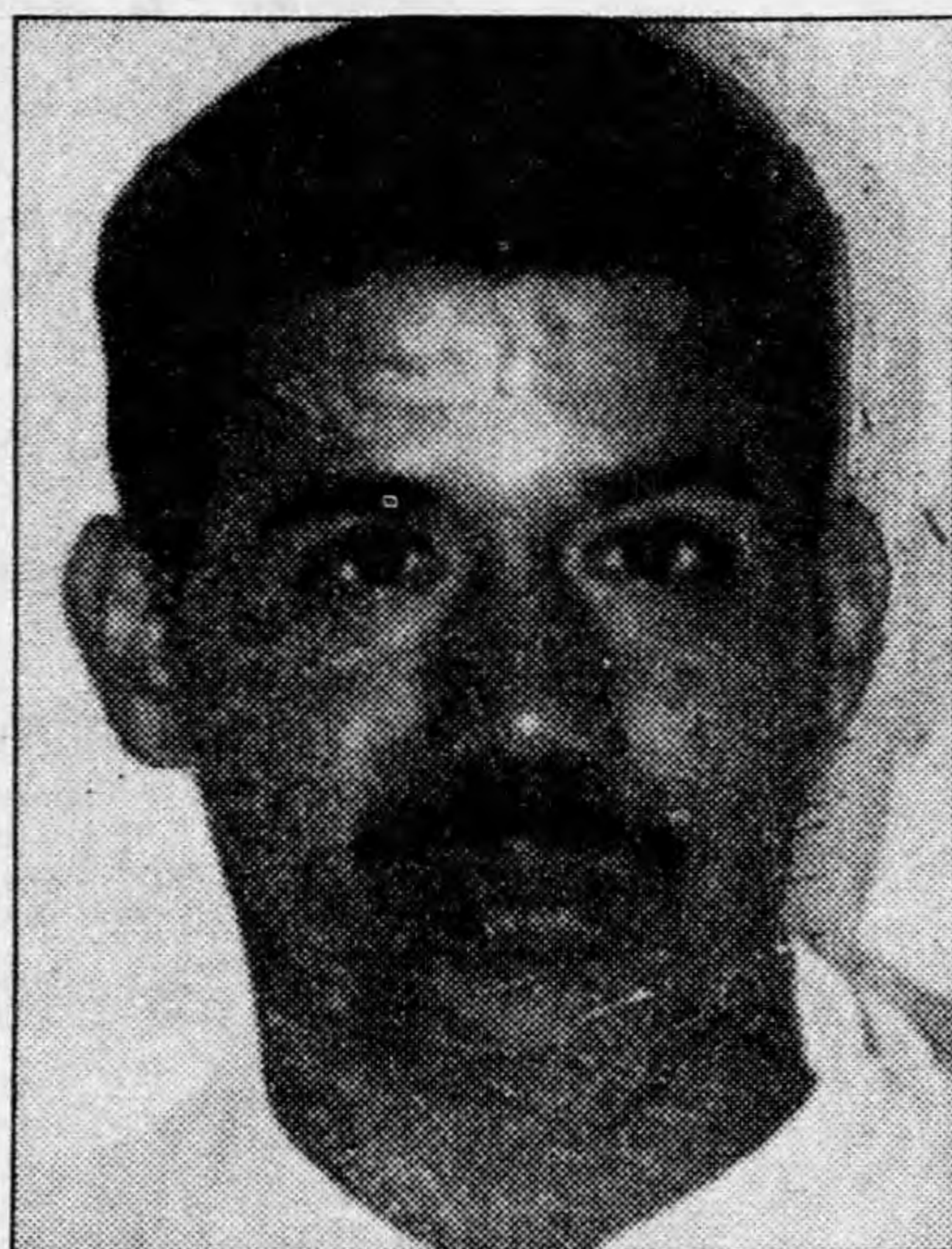
Some suggest that cops' views on Dinkins are not politically crucial because about 50 percent of the city's police force lives outside the city and can't vote.

But that by-the-numbers approach is limited. As one law enforcement source said, "The PBA has the ability to embarrass the mayor and they can establish an image of someone who does not like police and that takes away from the mayor's efforts."

Nobody is more aware about the mayor's image than the mayor himself. Dinkins insisted his image was intact until Caruso and Giuliani joined forces to blast him on issues of law enforcement.

"I think we were doing pretty well, because I think the police understood the efforts that this administration went to provide the resources to the police department, the announcement of the new academy in the Bronx, the Safe Streets, Safe City program," the mayor said yesterday.

"I can't see how those who really care about the Police Department think it is in their interest to have the police department think the administration doesn't care about them," he continued. "How in the hell is that useful?"



Jose Garcia

File Photo

## Heights Officer Testifies

By Emily Sachar

STAFF WRITER

The police officer who killed a Washington Heights man last month testified yesterday for two hours before the Manhattan grand jury that will determine whether he should be indicted.

Michael O'Keefe is among 36 witnesses slated to be called to testify about the July 3 shooting of Jose Garcia. The grand jury, which will decide whether the shooting was justifiable, began sitting on Monday and is expected to continue hearing testimony through the end of the month. Prosecutors wouldn't comment on details of O'Keefe's testimony; grand jury proceedings are confidential. But sources said he may be called back to testify again.

Among those witnesses still to be called are O'Keefe's two partners, two witnesses, and dozens of medical and forensic experts. One partner, Thomas McPartland, is scheduled to testify Aug. 25. His other partner, Mateo Brattesani, is scheduled early next week.

Sources close to the probe said yesterday that lead prosecutor Peter Casolaro also plans to ask several experts who were hired by the Garcia family to testify before the grand jury. One of those, Peter DeForest, is a professor of criminalis-

tics at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in Manhattan. He would present details of laser studies he completed at the shooting scene that determined how well eyewitnesses were able to witness the shooting.

The other expert, Michael Baden, is a former medical examiner in New York who performed his own autopsy on Garcia's body.

Casolaro also plans tomorrow to visit the building at 505 W. 162nd St. where Garcia was gunned down. Garcia family lawyer Santo Alessi said that Casolaro will probably examine the spots where the eyewitnesses say they viewed the confrontation. Those witnesses, who have been called to testify Tuesday afternoon, are expected to tell the grand jury they saw O'Keefe hitting Garcia with a walkie talkie moments before the shooting, Alessi said.

## He Fails To Connect With Mob's Reality

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fighters in advance because he owned both fighters."

King fended off these complaints by assuring Castellano "that the families would not lose money on any deals they had going together." We might think a Boss of Bosses would feel entitled to livelier expectations than a vague promise that he won't lose money. But he could only swallow this cold comfort. The balance of power was too plain: Don King owned the store and Castellano was just a dissatisfied customer ineligible to sue.

Franzese's witness sounds otherwise like the workings of the imagination and thus identifies him as the master fabulist that students of the mob lost awhile ago and have ached for ever since. As fact, the Mafia is pretty grungy; but as myth it has abundantly enhanced the revenues of novelists and advanced the careers of public prosecutors. Popular art and politics have battered off it; and now, just when it seemed to wither, Michael Franzese emerges as the folklorist who can refertilize it.

He was the forbidding Sonny Franzese's first-born and thus an anointed princeling in the families. The knockabout chores of his hereditary trade were not for him; he chose instead the ways of peace without honor. He became a swindler and remains an artist in the craft. In the '80s, the Brooklyn Federal Organized Crime Force caught him in a gas-tax skimming fraud on Long Island. Having lost his immunity, he redeemed it by offering to be a witness for the U.S. prosecutors. The bargain earned him a short prison term and a \$14-million dollar fine.

He was out in three and a half years and off to the West Coast when the prosecutors awoke to the reality that he had chattered for two years, never told them anything useful and then compounded the cheat by stiffing them on the fine. He was found in luxurious circumstances in Los Angeles where he professed himself unpropertied and inoffensively making do with bad check kitings. He went back to prison and was there inspired to new premises to tell all.

He has, of course, told nothing of substance. Michael Franzese's genius is for the gossip that at once titillates but cannot be verified. He has returned glamor to the Mafia myth while remaining steadfastly uncommunicative about what Mafia fact might exist. Already he has given us Don King and that jolliest of all apostles, the Rev. Al Sharpton.

Our dreams can start to teem with visions of legendary Hollywood agents, CEOs, and ornaments of Eurotrash in unindictable converse with mob dons. Mike Franzese will redeem for bloom the parched soil of Mafia folklore. It is especially pleasant to know that, being a swindler without truly malicious bent, he will tell nothing that'll land anyone in jail.