

ENTERTAINMENT



Now, Fab Fabio's into food

by ALAN HUSTAK
Montreal Gazette

MONTREAL (CP) — The guy can't act, yet he's been in a TV series.

He's no singer, but he's recorded a CD. He's not an author, yet his name appears on the dust jacket of several books.

So what's Fabio, 33, got that others don't?

Great marketing.
He's certainly not a chef or a dietitian, but Fabio is credited with creating a special low-fat menu for a new Montreal nightspot, the Tucson Cafe — the first of six to open in North America.

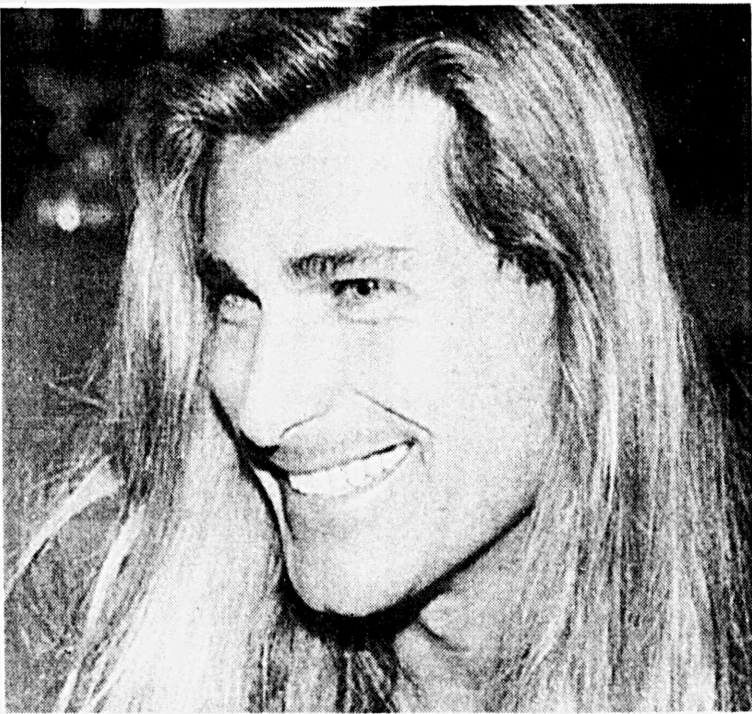
Others are planned for Toronto, Calgary, Vancouver, South Beach, Fla., and Beverly Hills, Calif., with Fabio as a shareholder.

"I never project myself as a dietitian," he said, seeming wounded at the suggestion in an interview. "I just project my lifestyle. The cafe is a reflection of me."

As Fabio arrived in a white stretch limo to inspect the place recently, a crowd of about 50 admirers of both sexes milled around outside.

He's 6-foot-3, wears an open blue silk shirt with burnished buttons over a tank top that exposes a 48-inch tanned chest. A silver studded-leather belt is wrapped around his 32-inch waist.

"I'm quite meticulous and he's welcome in my bedroom, in my bed, anytime," squealed Robyne Berman. "Even my husband knows that."



Fabio, 33, has good looks and a great talent — marketing. Here, he's all smiles at the opening at the Tucson Cafe in Montreal.

Asked about the mob scene, Fabio managed a shy grin and took the comments in stride.

"Looks are a double-edged sword," he admitted. "Women — sometimes they rush, and for the man, it doesn't mean anything. Other people hate you just because the way you look. They're so jealous."

"It's what you think of yourself that is important. I am a real per-

son, and I don't think of myself as a fantasy."

"The secret of life is one word. Self-esteem. It only takes one person with self-esteem to be an achiever. It is the people who don't believe in themselves who end up as dreamers."

Fabio takes his seat at a table and picks at a dish of red snapper and rice pilaf.

"We live in a very superficial

society," he continued. "If you are overweight, whose fault is it? Unfortunately, we have only one body. What's wrong with taking care of yourself?"

"If you look after yourself, you look better. And if you look better, you will feel better about yourself."

He should know.

Fabio has appeared on the cover of more than 100 romance paperbacks. He's so popular he once posed for 16 book covers in a single afternoon. His next ghost-written pulp adventure, Viking, is due in October.

Other facts that help Fabio's self-esteem:

—He has parlayed his looks into earnings of \$4 million a year.

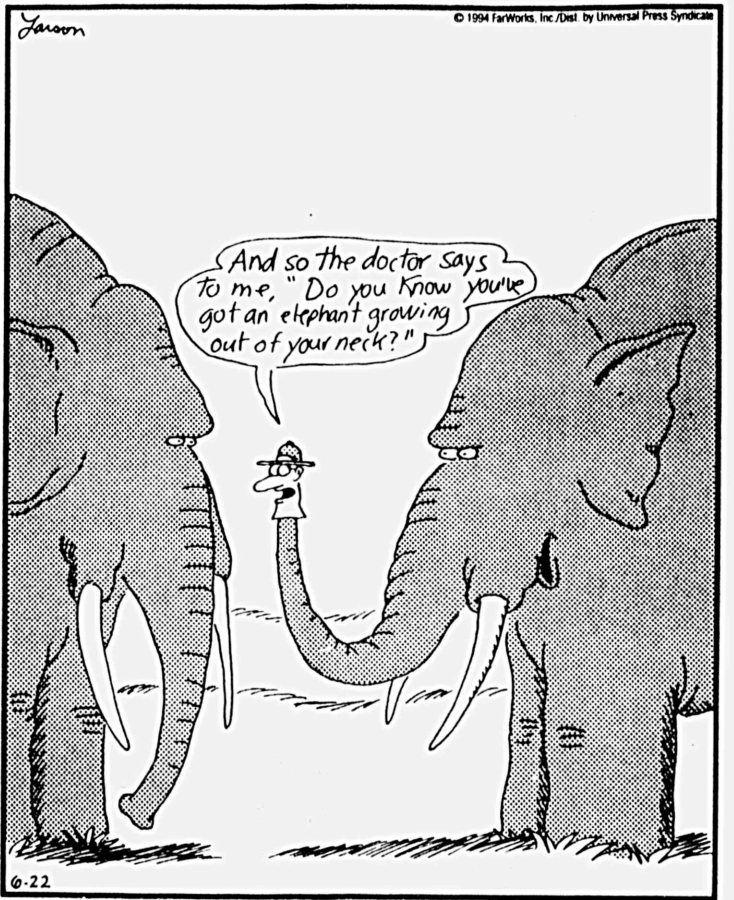
—He recently launched a custom classic car company at the Indianapolis 500.

—He has his own physical fitness magazine, Healthy Bodies, and there's a quarterly newsletter for fans, The Gentle Conqueror.

—There's a TV series in the works and plans for a \$40-million interactive feature movie.

THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



Elephantriologists

Madonna, Stallone agree

MIAMI (AP) — Sylvester Stallone and Madonna are hooking up — on the same side of a neighborhood dispute.

The pair want to build a guard-house at the entrance to their street in Miami's trendy Coconut Grove neighborhood. They're apparently worried about people who sneak in after hours to a city park next to their homes on the bay.

Stallone, whose house is worth \$8 million, has offered to pay for the construction, according to the founder of the Cliff Hammock homeowners association. But some other nearby residents are annoyed at the idea.

"They need protection?" asked Joyce Nelson, president of the Coconut Grove Civic Club. "They have more money than God."

Senators say NEA funding for HIV-positive actor improper

WASHINGTON (AP) — National Endowment for the Arts funding for a performance in which an HIV-positive artist drew his own blood on stage was "grossly improper," two senators say.

Senators Robert Byrd, a West Virginia Democrat, and Oklahoma Republican Don Nickles, warned NEA chairwoman Jane Alexander in a letter that the Minneapolis performance could endanger the agency's budget when it comes up for review later this year.

The senators, citing an article in the Washington Post, said body artist Ron Athey, who is HIV-positive, drew blood from his scalp with needles and stuck his arm with acupuncture needles.

Queen of Soul gets Respect at the White House

WASHINGTON (AP) — She lost a shoe early on, but Aretha Franklin wowed them at the White House all the same.

The Queen of Soul got top billing at an hour-long concert that also featured crooner Lou Rawls and pianist Les McCann.

Before the show was over, Franklin, wearing a Scaazi white satin gown, had shed her long white gloves and the crowd had bounced, clapped, nodded and swayed itself through a soulful evening.

Franklin's contralto voice reverberated with such favorites as (You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman, Say a Little Prayer, R-E-S-P-E-C-T, and Freeway (of Love).

When she danced out of her shoe during the upbeat Freeway, Franklin told the crowd, "I was riding so hard, I ran out of my shoe."

CST Entertainment to colorize Little Rascals
CULVER CITY, Calif., (Reuter) — CST Entertainment Imaging Inc. says it had a contract to make colorized versions of most of the classic black-and-white television series, The Little Rascals.

BRIEFLY Showbiz

The series' three copyright holders, King World Productions Inc., RHI Entertainment Inc. and Germany's BetaFilm, decided to colorize the segments due to the tremendous worldwide appeal of the series, said Jody Shapiro, CST president.

Created by movie pioneer Hal Roach in the 1930s, The Little Rascals features a group of street kids, with Carl Switzer as Alfalfa,

George McFarland as Spanky and Porky Lee as Porky.

CST said it received an initial \$1.5-million US contract to colorize 850 minutes of the series, and there is an option to colorize the remaining 350 minutes of the series.

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PEANUTS

HEY, LOOK, EVERYBODY! THIS KID BROUGHT A BOWLING BALL TO CAMP!

WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO WITH THE BOWLING BALL, KID?

KLUNK!

and CALVIN

WHAT'S THAT SOUND? I DON'T HEAR ANYTHING.

THERE! SOMETHING IS CRASHING THROUGH THE BRUSH!

IT SOUNDS BIG! MAYBE IT'S A BEAR!

THERE ARE BEARS OUT HERE??

CLIMB THE TREE! CLIMB THE TREE!

IF YOU ASK ME, TIGERS ARE THE ONLY FEROCIOUS ANIMALS THE WORLD REALLY NEEDS.

"BOY, G. KILLED BY BEAR! PARENTS SAVED THE TROUBLE."

B. C.

MY HUSBAND HAS DISAPPEARED.

LOST AND FOUND

CAN YOU DESCRIBE HIM?

DESCRIBE HIM? HE'S AN ANT, FOR PETE'S SAKE!

TIGER

I'VE GOT A LITTLE PEBBLE IN MY SHOE

SHAKE IT OUT

NOT YET. I'LL WAIT 'TILL I GET SEVERAL

WHY WAIT?

MAKES IT MORE WORTH WHILE

CATHY

WHY CAN'T A MAN RESPOND TO EMOTIONAL CRISIS LIKE A NORMAL PERSON?

WHAT?

EVEN WHEN YOU RESPECT THE WOMAN'S RIGHT TO HAVE FEELINGS, YOU REFUSE TO GET WORKED UP OVER THINGS YOU SHOULD GET WORKED UP OVER!

WHAT??

WHY DOES EVEN THE MOST ENLIGHTENED MAN REFUSE TO BE CRIPPLED BY EMOTIONAL ANGST? WHY?!

I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE OR WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.

IF THE ACTUAL MAN ISN'T PRESENT, BLAME THE MALE REPRESENTATIVE.

BLONDIE

I'M TRAINING FOR THE POSTAL EMPLOYEES OLYMPICS

WHAT'S YOUR BEST EVENT?

KICKING THE FILLED MAILBAG FOR DISTANCE

DO YOU THINK YOU'LL WIN IT?

WHO CARES?! IT'S SO MUCH FUN JUST DOING IT!

JULIET

W-WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

THOUGHT I'D KEEP YOU COMPANY... WHAT ARE YOU HIDING BEHIND YOUR BACK, CAITLIN?

NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!! I THINK IT IS.

FOR BETTER

AS WE LEAVE THESE Hallowed HALLS, WE NOT ONLY TAKE WITH US OUR DEEDS... BUT WE TAKE WITH US OUR FRIENDSHIPS AND OUR MEMORIES... THESE THINGS WE WILL CHERISH FOREVER, IN OUR MINDS AND IN OUR HEARTS.

AND TODAY... AS WE STAND ON THE THRESHOLD OF OUR FUTURE, WE MUST LOOK INTO OUR HEARTS... AND WE MUST ASK OURSELVES...

DON'T ONE GUY HERE HAVE A SPITBALL?