

cause of Vegas Throat. I've had to cancel. Barry Manilow the last time he was in here worked two days, canceled four, worked two more and canceled the rest of the show. This weather is the worst for entertaining in the country. The desert just wasn't made for people to

song out of the air and go with it. Concert work is much more fun for the performer."

Getting hyped up for a show that runs seven days a week, two shows every night in the same spot is difficult for an entertainer in Las Vegas, he says. An idea has popped up in town recently that a performer could fight the monotony by creating entirely different early and late shows, to which Valli says no: "One of the audiences is going to get cheated. People want entertainers to do certain songs. The only kind of performer who could do something like

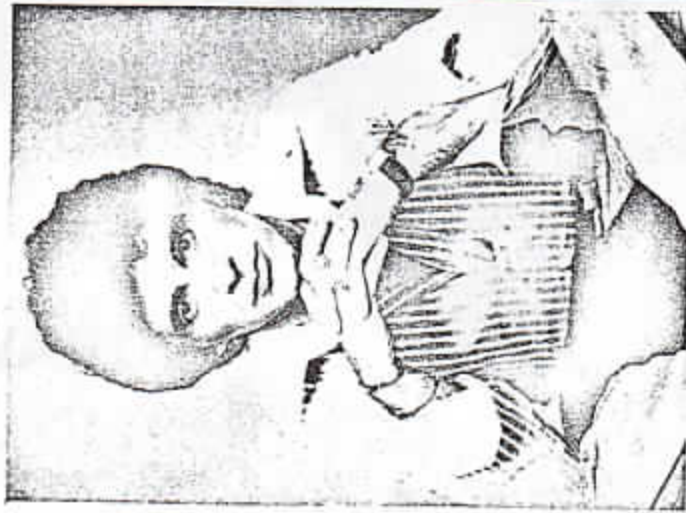
Even knowing how hard back he is doesn't prepare you for the casual way he drops the surprising news that he's been working to get back with the Four Seasons to do a tour and record an album from it. "There's a possibility that we may do a reunion tour so that we cut a live



SUDDENLY, THERE'S A VALLI
Frankie returns to Aladdin showroom.

FRANKIE VALLI IS THE WORD
Frankie Valli

Since he doesn't have the Four Seasons or, at 43, his falsetto to fall back on anymore, Valli's durability is a little hard to explain. But then the success of his single, *Grease*, is certainly not due to the lyrics ("Grease is the way we are feeling") or pedestrian melody, so maybe it's the former Frank Castelluccio's comforting, low-key delivery. The rest of this album is relatively restful disco ma-



Even without his falsetto, Frankie Valli has churned out another hit, *Grease*.

terial—perhaps aimed at Valli's early-'60s fans, no longer up to really spy stepping. Fulist Hubert Laws and tenor man Ernest Watts, among other backup musicians, are wasted in a set of formula arrangements that are boring but competent. It all lends retrospective value to his 1960s hits *Big Girls Don't Cry* and *Canary Girl*, which had the virtue of being so bad they were enjoyable.

Walking through the breathtakingly beautiful home of FRANKIE VALLI, it

is difficult to imagine that this soft-spoken man was once Frank Castelluccio, a poor "street kid" who survived his teenage years by hustling pool in the tenements of Newark, New Jersey.

"Being poor did it," stated Frankie sipping a glass of O.J., "At a certain point I realized that if I was ever going to make something of myself, I was going to have to do something spectacular... and I was going to have to do it on my own. No one was going to lead me by the hand. There was no patron waiting to send me off to college to become a doctor... there was just me. Yes, I thought I had some talent, but who doesn't? There were a lot of other kids in my environment who were into music and they felt the same way. Any sustaining success comes out of hard work. There IS no other way." It's that same drive that has recently motivated Valli to strike out on a new career as a solo performer after 15 years of unparalleled success with "The Four Seasons" a group which amassed more top-40

hits than any other in American recording history. Frankie continued, "Going solo is something every lead singer dreams of doing. You always wonder what you could do on your own, with the freedom to make artistic choices, to experiment, to stretch the limits any way you see fit. The curiosity is overwhelming." Frankie described the music of his latest Warner Brother album "Frankie Valli Is The Word" as "close to the spirit and energy of an early '4 Seasons' record. We got exactly what we shot for and it was probably the most fun of any album I've ever cut. We wanted the album to sound like we were enjoying what we were doing and feel as natural as possible. When everyone's into each other and loving what they are doing, it comes through."

Las Vegas Showbiz Weekly Magazine March 6th, 2005 with Frankie Valli Article

A CONWAY & HARVEY KORMAN TWO TIMES THE FUN

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BILL ENGVALL
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FRANKIE VALLI
TAKE YOUR EYES OFF OF HIM

TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE

FRANKIE VALLI HITS THE HIGH NOTE

By **Carla J. Zvosec**

His songs like "Sherry," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Walk Like a Man," "Dawn" and "Rag Doll" were greatly responsible for defining the musical sound of the 1960s: A fusion of '50s doo-wop music inflected with influences of rhythm and

blues. And, combined with **Frankie Valli's** amazing ability to hit the high notes, The Four Seasons were able to develop a sound that was not only distinctive, but also enduring. Pretty astounding really, as this was during the British Invasion and the Beatles were dominating the music charts.

Valli, who was born in May 1937 in New Jersey, dreamed of being a singer from the time he was a young boy. His inspiration was seeing Frank Sinatra perform live. By the time Valli turned 16, he had recorded his first album. Soon after, he headed a singing group, The Four Lovers, that he

... The Four Seasons were able to develop a sound that was not only distinctive, but also enduring.

and three other boys formed. They produced an album that garnered the minor hit "You Are the Apple of My Eye."

In 1962, the group changed its name to The Four Seasons, and recorded the hit single "Sherry" and several other hits. The Four Seasons are still the only group in history to have at least one hit in five consecutive decades.

Although still devoted to The Four Seasons, Valli began recording as a solo artist in 1967. The same year, Valli recorded his million-selling hit "Can't Take My Eyes Off You." It was around this time that Valli began suffering from the incurable ear disease otosclerosis, which eventually could have left him totally deaf. But despite his condition, Valli continued to sing, his audiences none the wiser to his condition. Eventually, Valli received operations that helped him recover some of his hearing.

But despite his condition, Valli and The Four Seasons toured extensively for years, packing concert halls across the United States, Europe, Australia and Asia.

Throughout his career, Valli has managed to accumulate 19 Top-10 hits between his solo and group recordings and has sold over 100 million records worldwide. Also, in 1990, Valli was inducted into the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame and was honored as longevity champ of the rock era by *Billboard* magazine. *Flamingo*, 7:30 p.m. March 8-12, (702) 733-3111

