

NATIONAL

You know it's true—songs faked

NEW YORK (AP) — Milli Vanilli, the dreadlocked pop duo whose debut album sold 7 million copies, could become the first act to be stripped of a Grammy after it was learned they didn't sing a single note on the record.

"If there's been a substantial, fraudulent, misrepresentation of the entity, I think there is a high likelihood that the academy would have to take some action," said Michael Greene, president of the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences. The academy administers the Grammy Awards.

He said the academy's action could include taking back the group's 1989 Grammy. He said no one has ever been stripped of a Grammy in its 33 years.

Frank Farian, the German producer who turned a pair of anonymous pretty boys into an international phenomenon, revealed in an interview this week that hunky dudes Fab and Rob — Robert Pilatus and Fabrice Morvan — were actually the fabulous bunko boys.

Farian said the bare-chested vocalists once described by The New York Times as "exotically sexy" did nothing more than look good and lip sync for videos and TV and concert appearances while others did all the singing.

"The record company never knew that. I never told them

anything," Farian said. "Later on, after the record was out, there were some people who raised some questions."

The Vanillis won a Grammy for Best New Artist and Rob and Fab became international stars. "Girl You Know It's True" and "Blame It On the Rain" were both huge hit singles for the band. At the MTV awards, the boys boasted they were better than Elvis or Bob Dylan.

Farian would not say who the real singers were but added that they will appear on his next album — not a Milli Vanilli album.

He said Wednesday he was forced to go public with the revelations when the boys told him they wanted to sing on the follow-up to *Girl You Know It's True*.

"I said, 'No. I don't go for that.' Sure, they have a voice, but that's not really what I want to use on my records," Farian said.

In a statement Thursday, Rob and Fab said, "We have insisted since 1989 that we be allowed to sing on all Milli Vanilli records. We have been ready, willing and able to record our own vocals and have been prevented by Frank Farian from doing so."

They also expressed their "reluctance to participate in that kind of misrepresentation.

Through a variety of coercive maneuvers, our wishes to creatively participate in our recordings have been denied."

The revelation didn't bother Arista, the label that raked in the cash when *Girl You Know It's True* topped the charts.

"Seven million albums? Embarrassing?" asked Roy Lott, vice president for operations. "I don't mean the end justifies the means. But we sold 7 million albums."

According to Farian, the idea to hire Rob and Fab as front men for the band came to him when the pair arrived at his studio in Germany shortly after the recording of *Girl You Know It's True*.

"It suddenly clicked in my mind, and it was kind of evident: I had the music, there were the people who wanted to perform outside," said Farian. "And I said, 'Hey, let's put that together and make a great record out of it.'"

Lott said the label is unconcerned about the dupe, and it plans to distribute Farian's new album.

As for Rob and Fab, their future's a bit more uncertain.

"We are purely their distributor. We do not have a specific deal with Rob or Fab," Lott said.

now," Axline said.

Johnson was present at the Thursday meeting, although he declined to comment. "At this point in time, you don't need me to tell you I'm in a very tenuous position," Johnson told the audience.

Holland wrote in a memo to the Eugene chapter of the National Lawyer's Guild on Thursday afternoon affirming the school's support for academic freedom and stating it would "undertake a careful review of the situation."

LAW

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freedom in the classroom but discourage the discussion of "controversial matter which has no relation to the subject."

"At minimum, we have to admit there is a controversy within the law school community," law Professor Michael Axline said. "I think problems would be better addressed early than late. I propose there should be a dialogue between administration and students

SANDERS

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says he is more interested in the controversy in Central America.

Is the young Sanders inclined to follow his father into the political arena?

"Being a politician is too stressful. It's impossible to please people all the time," Sanders said.

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THE FAR SIDE By GARY LARSON



And so it went, night after night, year after year. In fact, the Hansens had been in a living hell ever since that fateful day the neighbor's "For Sale" sign had come down and a family of howler monkeys had moved in.