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LATE CITY FINAL

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Starr Report



BY MICHAEL STARR

Tracks on wax

Rachael Ray has taken some whacks from detractors — who can now see her in wax at Madame Tussauds, where a likeness of Ray will be unveiled today. The faux Rachel is adorned with a **Diane Von Furstenberg** dress and boots from **Faryl-robin Footwear** — run by **Faryl Robin Morse**, who appears on today's "Rachael Ray" (10 a.m./Ch. 7).

Ray's Food Network colleague, **Paula Deen**,



DEEN

meanwhile, was honored yesterday at a Ladies' Home Journal lunch at Blue Smoke. She's got a new book, "Paula Deen: It Ain't Only About the Cookin'," excerpted in the magazine's March issue.

And in the February/March issue of East West magazine, "America's Next Top Model" judge **Nigel Barker**, who's of Sri Lankan descent, comments on "Top Model" host **Tyra Banks** referring to him as "Indian" on the show (he gives her a pass — barely). "[I had to] bite my tongue," he says. "It was a faux pas on her behalf. I knew what she meant. I wasn't going to correct her on national television."

Last, but not least:

★ Ch. 13 president **Bill Baker** and "American Masters" creator **Susan Lacy** will be feted Tuesday by the Lincoln Center Institute for the Arts in Education at its annual gala (Rainbow Room). Dr. Baker receives the first-ever Mark A. Schubart Award.

★ At CBS News: **Bob Orr** upped to the Justice Department beat (he'll continue covering homeland security).

★ "Days of Our Lives" star **Alison Sweeney** is replacing **Caroline Rhea** as host of "The Biggest Loser."

★ **Jane Krakowski**, **Rachel Dratch** ("30 Rock") at a **FredERIC Fekkai**-sponsored screening of pal **Molly Shannon's** new movie, "Gray Matters."

★ Congrats to Queens native **Pam Ruben Golum**, who's been promoted to president, Entertainment West Coast, at The Lippin Group. Pam's a Rye High School grad (altogether now, *Ruben on Rye*).