

# A 'Very Special' Night

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

conscious about the issues. The tension on opening night was nothing like the tension on benefit night.

"It was more than a performance for them. And such a bond developed between them and the audience — there was an electricity. In the audience, there was no fidgeting, no coughing. And the ovation was the most spontaneous of any of the nights. The audience sprang to their feet even before the lights went up for the curtain call.

"The whole night was very special." Media coverage helped make the play a financial success.

"About 10 days before we opened," Martin said, "it just kind of exploded: National Public Radio called us, the Associated Press, The Observer, WSOC and WBT — doing it not as an entertainment story but as a news story. Then

newspapers in Raleigh, Greensboro, Wilmington and Asheville picked it up."

Martin and Steve Umberger, the play's director, convinced Little Theatre board members to schedule a full summer production after a reading of the play at Spirit Square in April drew 150 people in a space that seats 110 with 53 others turned away at the door.

When the board met after the July run, Martin related, one board member said, "If I had known the extreme language and the intensity of the subject matter, I might have voted not to schedule it. But after having seen it, I'm very pleased we did it."

"All the board members," Martin said, "felt that doing 'As Is' in the long run will enhance Little Theatre's image. They felt we've now reached every aspect of the community and we are a community theatre."

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## Oleen's August Shows

Friday, Aug. 7

Saturday, Aug. 8

Grand Prix, Tracey Morgan

Friday, Aug. 14

Saturday, Aug. 15

Coco Vega

Friday, Aug. 21

Brittany Gwen,

Misty St. James

Friday, Aug. 28

Sabrina White, Casey King

Saturday, Aug. 29

Sabrina White, Casey King,

Sasha Tate

Oleen's Presents

## CARNIVAL OF HOPE

All Proceeds To

Metrolina AIDS Project

Saturday, Aug. 1

Open At 3 p.m. ■ Cookout, Games

Of All Kinds ■ Show Starts At 10

■ More Than 20 Performers

Sunday, Aug. 2

Open At 3 p.m. ■ Yard Sale In

The Bar ■ "Live" Country Show

At 10 ■ Camp Beauty Contest At 11

■ No Cover Until 8

## NTE Returns!

SATURDAY, Aug. 22. Don't miss the Southeast's favorite male stripper/dancers!

## Double Deejays!

THURSDAY, Aug. 13. That's right! Edward Kirkland of The Scorpio joins our own Steve Pressley! Cover charges to QCQ: \$2 members, \$3 guests.

## Every Sunday

It's Brittany's "Bargain Basement Review" weekly throughout August.

## Wednesdays

50¢ draft and \$1.50 drinks, PLUS pool tournament at 10 p.m. with \$20 prize.

