

## Broadway invades the Triangle at the Little Theater of Raleigh

by Katie Starret

For a cool fall evening, the bright colors of *Guys and Dolls*, the Raleigh Little Theater's fall production, lit up the stage. Directed by Haskell Fitz-Simmons, choreographed by Freddie-Lee Heath, and musically directed by Suann Strickland, the 341st production at the theater got some heat from the critics immediately after opening night on September 3rd. However, this critic enjoyed immensely the community theater production.

The play takes place in New York City during the 1930's. It centers around Nathan Detroit, the coordinator of "the oldest established floating crap game of New York," his fiancée of 14 years, Adelaide, one of the best gamblers in New York, Sky Masterson, and his love, Miss Sarah, the Mission Sargeant on Broadway. These are coupled with many other crapshooters and Adelaide's "Hot Box Girls," girls who sang with Adelaide in a club called the Hot Box.

William C. Rodgers' sets were absolutely excellent. They were colorful, vivid and displayed splashes of 1930's New York City. The props and scenery crew had their work cut out for them and ended up with a wonderful product.

Heath's choreography was appropriate and fit the era very well. However, the dancing talent of the cast didn't par up to the choreography. There were obviously some talented dancers, but the group as a whole was not, which caused the more talented to stick out.

There were two definite stars of the show. The first was, without a doubt, Adelaide, a slightly overweight valley girl, played by Alison Lawrence-Smith. Her star songs of the show included "A Person Can Develop a Cold" and her duet with Miss Sarah, played by Delia Hinkley, "Marry the Man Today." They were excellent songs and allowed Lawrence-Smith's incredible acting talents to show through. The second "star" of the show, was Sky Masterson, played by Jeffrey Hargett. Hargett's star song was "Luck be a Lady," probably the most well known song of the Broadway show. His acting abilities showed in his scenes with his "love," Sarah, and the audience reacted to him well.

Raleigh Little Theater's version of the Broadway musical, *Guys and Dolls*, was a very enjoyable play and has done well on its one month run. Upcoming RLT productions include *The Cemetery Club*, *Smoke on the Mountain*, *Purple Fan* (Youth Series), and *Cinderella*.

## NCSSM gains a new cheerleader, Phillip Ashley

by Melinda Nickelson

A new figure is appearing at athletic events this year. Phillip Ashley, a senior on Second Bryan, is now the official school mascot. He will be leading the cheers and promoting school spirit at the games in unicorn style. Phillip became interested in the position of school mascot last year as a result of his involvement in the disciplinary action of what was considered negative student behavior at varsity games. Together, he and Robert Anderson decided that one way to increase school spirit and to be a positive school influence was to institute a school mascot. Ashley, with the support of Dr. Barber, obtained a unicorn head and began his tenure as school mascot. Robert Anderson will be joining Phillip with a Unicorn flag at NCSSM Varsity athletic events. The purpose of the school mascot is to get crowds involved in games and to promote school spirit. "We want to let teams know that the school is behind them, not only in basketball, but in all sports", says Ashley.

Ashley plans on having a "very jocular relationship" with the referees. He will also be performing skits in addition to leading the crowd in cheers, crowd chants, and waves. Ashley would also like to send a strong message to students about student behavior and attitude at varsity games. "I strongly discourage any negative school spirit," says Ashley. Phillip has already begun supporting NCSSM at Soccer and Volleyball games this fall. Come help him cheer the Unis towards victory throughout the year.

