

Carolina has twins

Theater total now at 15



Staff Photo by Charles Hardy

The Carolina Theater has just reopened after being remodeled into two smaller twin theaters: the Carolina Blue and the Carolina White.

If it is possible to have too much of a good thing, then Chapel Hill, erstwhile "haven for film enthusiasts," may be nearing the cinematic saturation point.

It all started last fall when the longtime moviehouse triad of Carolina-Varsity-Plaza (itself a tripleheader) was joined by The Movies 1-2-3 in the downtown NCNB Plaza. Early hopes for a commercial-cultural synthesis down behind Blimpies never materialized, though; besides featuring TV-size screens and electric color schemes, the closest The Movies 1-2-3 ever came to the hinted at "artsy" foreign films in the small house were "art" films like the X-rated "Flossie" and "SuperVixens."

Christmas saw the advent of the largest multiple theater in the area, the Cinema 1-2-3-4 at South Square. Hidden under the parking deck at the rear of the Durham mall, these theaters continued the current trend toward a cluster of the tiny and the fashionably

tacky.

And finally, Chapel Hill's answer to the Roxy, the once-spacious downtown Carolina Theatre, has just undergone a sort of multiplication of its own, a multiplication by division — the Carolina has split into two twin theaters: the Carolina Blue and the Carolina White.

Manager Scott Reid said the twinning meant that "we can now get some films we couldn't get before and keep the ones we do get a little longer."

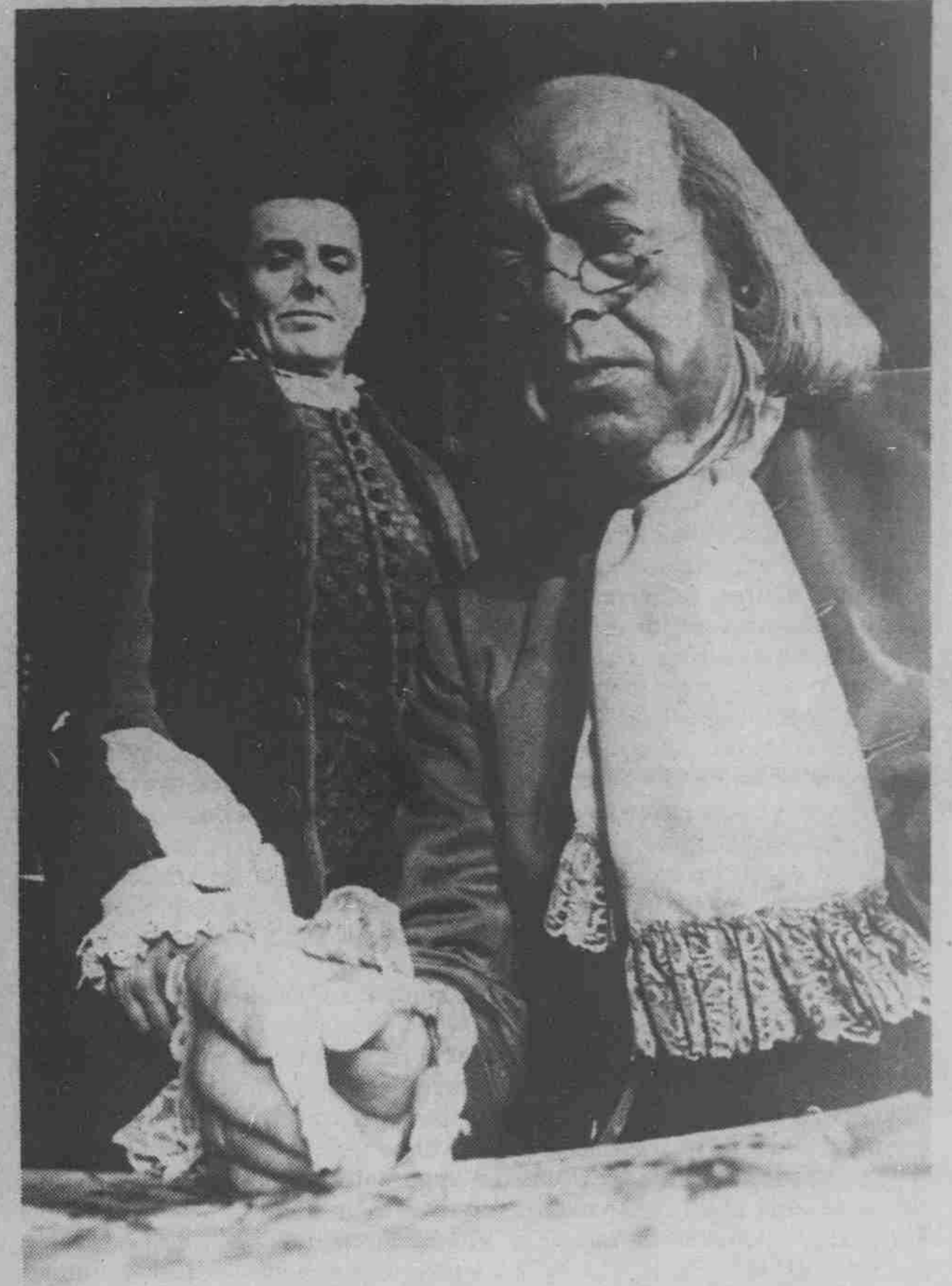
Reid reported that one house would seat 450 people — "still the biggest theater in the area" — and the other, 350. Both would run late shows on all three nights of the weekend.

Whatever the official rationale for the current movie boom, the motivation remains economic and the benefits, limited. With as many as 15 theaters on the road between the Carolina and the Yorktowne, and six of those on one block in Chapel Hill, convenience is

Wanted

The Daily Tar Heel features staff now has openings for a few good writers interested in writing general features and/or book, movie, art or classical music reviews on a regular or semi-regular basis. Interested students should see George Bacso in the DTH office in the Union between 3 and 5 p.m. today or Sunday.

— Michael McFee



Two of the main architects of the Declaration of Independence in the musical hit "1776"—on the left, Don Perkins as John Adams of Massachusetts, and Sam Kressen as Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania. Tuesday, Jan. 13, in Memorial Hall, 8 p.m. Tickets \$4 & \$5, available at Carolina Union Desk.

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