

Wednesday, August 20, 2008

## 'Housewives' play nice at the Irvine Improv

An all-female comedy troupe performs stand-up comedy for a packed audience that includes stars of the reality T.V. show.

By CAMERON BIRD  
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER  
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"You know you're in trouble when you're bombing in the green room," comedian Vince Harper jested on Tuesday night at the Irvine Improv.

Frances Dilorinzo let out a self-deprecating laugh. That impromptu one-liner she just delivered elicited only baby laughs from fellow Funniest Housewives of the O.C.

Prepping for their first show together, members of the all-female comedy troupe padded on makeup and chatted in a small, secluded room. Beyond the walls, an audience of homemakers, breadwinners, grandmas, grandpas and a few scattered sons coalesced.

Most of the ticket proceeds, which totaled about \$7,000, went to the Susan Samuelli Center for Integrative Medicine.

In the front row of the sold-out show sat stars from the Bravo TV show, "The Real Housewives of Orange County," with whom one of the Funniest Housewives shares a telegenic bond.

Dilorinzo, who was originally slated to appear on the reality series, redeemed her failed green-room joke with a stand-up act that several times poked fun at the Real Housewives.

And then, baby laughs evolved into big ones.

Asked whether the Funniest Housewives were generating laughter at her expense, Real Housewife Jeana Keough made an offer.



"I'd be glad to give them more material," she said.

After the show, the whole bunch of housewives gathered outside the theater for photo ops. A line of people waiting for a late-night show at the Improv formed next to the ladies.

Katherine Langley, who was staring at the women from the front of the line, suddenly realized who she was looking at.

"Oh, they're from the (TV) show!" she said, before qualifying her glee. "I think my mom would enjoy them."

### For moms and non-moms alike, here's a small sampling of Tuesday night's stand-up repartee:

- It's good to be at the Spectrum, "the only place in the country where you can valet your car to go to Target." – *Frances Dilorinzo*
- "When I have a stressful day I stop off at the pharmacy and buy one of those home pregnancy tests ... and I take it. No matter what, for the rest of the day, I can say, at least I'm not pregnant." – *Lola Gillebaard*
- "I got so excited when I heard about Big Brothers of America. I thought it was a dating service." – *Julie Kidd*
- "My dad played for the (Pittsburgh) Steelers." (Cheers from audience). "I only told you that so you know what the daughter of an NFL player looks like." – *Vicki Barbolak*
- With those brown vests and caps that we wore in the Girl Scouts, "We looked like little Jewish UPS drivers." – *Cindy Burns*

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FINALE: The Funniest Housewives of the O.C., left to right, Lola Gillebaard, Frances Dilorinzo, Vicki Barbolak, Julie Kidd and Cindy Burns give one last bow with special comedy host Vince Harper at the Irvine Improv, Tuesday night.

KEN STEINHARDT, THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

#### What's next?

**October 7** at the Brea Improv, 120 South Brea Blvd.

**October 21** at the Irvine Improv, 71 Fortune Drive # 841

