Hoffman portrays complex "Tootsie' theme well

By FRANK BRUNI Assistant Arts Editor

A great film has the ability to entertain on a purely emotional level while it makes an important statement about people and the society in which they live. Tootsie is such a film.

For starters, Tootsie is unequivocally the funniest motion picture of 1982. Its superb screenplay, a wonderfully complex maze of mistaken identities and misconstrued intentions, focuses upon an unemployed actor's most desperate attempt to find work - as an actress.

At age 39, Michael Dorsey finds that his perfectionism has ostracized him from the casting directors and producers in New York City. Both his friends and his acting students recognize his brilliance as an actor, but that's not paying the bills. Besides, Michael is yearning for an acting challenge. So he creates a new identity in the form of an overweight, unattractive, but forceful, woman named Dorothy Michaels and, as Dorothy, lands a lead role in one of daytime television's most popular serials.

Problems inevitably arise. Dorothy becomes a national heroine as a result of her soap opera character's refusal to let herself be dominated by the male chauvinists around her. And Dorothy's similar offscreen attitude wins her the friendship of the soap's leading lady, Julie Nichols. To complicate matters, Michael falls in love with Julie.

Review

To further twist the plot, Julie's widowed father is hoping to make Dorothy his second wife, and Michael's best friend and sometimes lover, Sandy, wants to know where Michael is spending all of his time.

Although the core of *Tootsie's* story is rather farcical, the film proceeds to make many shrewd observations about sex roles in our society while satirizing both the acting community and the glorification of celebrities in America. Best of all, Tootsie does all this in a manner so warm and lighthearted it is never the least bit offensive or didactic.

More than anything else, Tootsie is a film about personal growth through a broadening of perspectives. As Dorothy, Michael experiences humiliations and situations he never before recognized, and these revelations create a new sensitivity in his character. Becoming Dorothy also serves as a lesson in values for Michael. Because Dorothy is his creation, Michael takes great pride in endowing her with virtues he himself never exhibited. He lets his defenses down and learns how to be a

sympathetic and principled, yet flexible, human being. Dustin Hoffman manages to create two distinctly dif-

ferent characters without ever losing a sense of the link which bonds the two. When he is Dorothy, he is at his very best, subtly letting the responses of his masculine alterego show through an ambiguous glance here or an almost imperceptible twitch of his lips there.

As Julie, Jessica Lange tugs at the viewer's heartstrings with her loveliness and vulnerability. The supporting cast, headed by George Gaynes, Dabney Coleman, Teri Garr and Bill Murray, is outstanding.

Director Sydney Pollack keeps things moving at a ferociously funny pace, but the essence of Tootsie is actually quite serious. Tootsie demonstrates that human beings can escape stereotypical existences and ignore society's meaningless role distinctions. When Michael and Les, Julie's father, meet after Les has discovered that Dorothy was in fact a man, the initial tension between the two and Les' hard feelings dissipate as each man recognizes the mutual enjoyment of their time spent together. In much the same way, Julie realizes that the friendship she had with Dorothy can become a courtship with Michael. After all, the same emotional bond is present.

Because of its faith in human sensitivity and its ability to see beyond superficial gender distinctions, Tootsie leaves one with an emotional high which lingers long after leaving the theater. This is entertainment at its most rewarding, and American moviemaking at its most skillfully exuberant.

Faculty members to give free concert

Cellist Brent Wissick and pianist Michael Zenge will give a free concert tonight at 8:15 in Hill Hall auditorium.

Wissick and Zenge are both members of the UNC music department faculty.

Band to perform tonight

The Shake, a popular student rock band, will perform tonight at 9 in the Great Hall of the Carolina Union. The free concert is being sponsored by the Union Social Committee, and students may bring wine or beer.

get boost from Michaels decided that it would be in his best interest

By MICHAEL PERSINGER Staff Writer

Young UNC wrestlers

Early this season, the UNC wrestling team was struggling through a schedule that included several of the top teams in the country, and they were doing it with a lineup that included several freshmen.

That early-season experience is beginning to pay dividends for UNC wrestling coach Bill Lam, with the most recent and impressive returns coming last weekend in the Virginia Duals in Hampton, Va.

Lam said he was pleased with the effort of this young team, and proud of the way they are coming together.

"We start the ACC season next week against Duke in Durham, and I think we are coming together as a team at just the right time," Lam said. "With a team as young as ours, you can never be sure just how good you will be. We're getting good leadership from our older guys, and the freshmen are really coming along."

The Tar Heels are getting some leadership from an unexpected source, in the form of two-time All-American Jan Michaels. Michaels was considering sitting out the '82-'83 campaign, but he has decided to go ahead and wrestle this

"We were really planning on redshirting him this year, but he has a wife and a daughter and after talking to him we to go ahead and let him wrestle this year," Lam said.

The decision paid off in the Duals when Michaels whipped Old Dominion's Scott Giacobbe to secure the champion-

ship for the Tar Heels. The Duals turned out to be a showcase for all the Tar Heels, both young and old. The leaders throughout the tournament were co-captains Bill Gaffney and Bob Shriner, both of whom were 3-0 for the

Tar Heel wins by freshmen Chip Mc-Ardle, with a major decision over Joe DaBiero, and Leo Palacio, a pin of Brian Barrett, along with wins by sophomore Matt King and junior Wes Hallman staked North Carolina to an early lead, and UNC never looked back. Victories by Gaffney, Michaels and Shriner sealed the Monarchs' fate.

With the learning experience of the tough early season slate now behind them, Lam expressed only one concern.

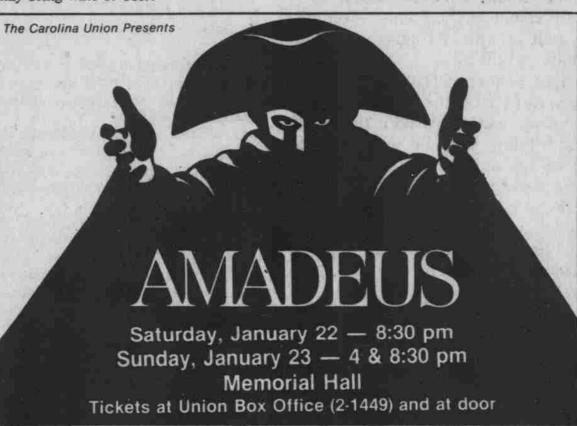
"The only thing I was worried about in terms of the schedule was that you can learn to lose just like you learn to win, and we lost a few to some tough teams early," Lam said.

Now, it seems, the North Carolina wrestling team is learning to win, and it's not a moment too soon.

Photographers needed; apply at 'DTH'

Anyone interested in becoming a DTH staff photographer should come by the DTH office by Wednesday and speak with

Al Steele. Experience is necessary. All persons should bring a portfolio, clips, and other comparable material with them.



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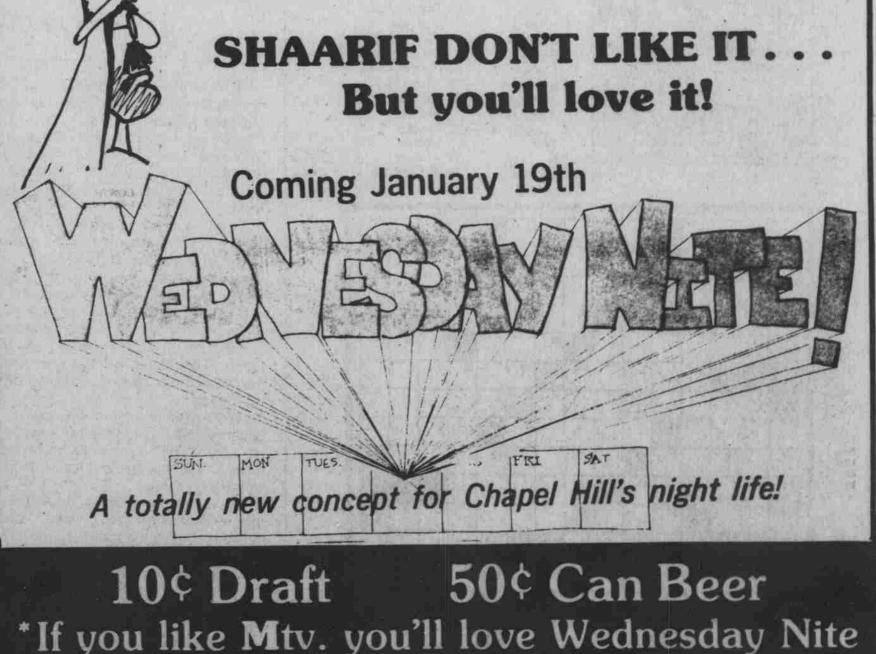
> James Caan Kiss Me Goodbye (PG) 3:05 · 5:05 · 7:05 · 9:05 Eddie Murphy Nick Nolte

Sally Field

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See Wednesday DTH for details.

From page 1

· The master of science in public health courses will probably be dispersed nursing program, specifically geared to education, is a two-year program, Hindman said. If the public health nursing department

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- one of nine departments in the School of Public Health - is dissolved, the

throughout the school, Ibrahim said. The move will also open up the possi-

bility of establishing a doctoral program in nursing, an increasingly important program for public health nurses, he said.

Ibrahim said there was a need for more

watch it. We need to expand and improve on it."

tion doesn't mean we can stand still and

public health nurses, especially for those

"We're responding to that need,"

Ibrahim said. "Having a national reputa-

with doctoral degrees.

Proposed oil fees would up gas prices

The Associated Press

nurse

WASHINGTON - The Reagan administration is leaning toward tax increases in fiscal 1986 - and beyond that would impose fees on crude oil and tack a 1 percent surcharge on personal income, administration sources said Monday. The oil fees could raise gasoline prices by 12 cents a gallon.

At the same time, the administration is likely to seek a six-month delay this year in cost-of-living raises in pensions for Civil Service employees, veterans, and railroad names used, said the cost-of-living delay

workers, as well as in the disability pay for coal miners with black lung disease, the sources said. Congressional analysts said that would save \$1 billion in the current

The six-month freeze in the automatic yearly inflation triggers would parallel a similar delay for Social Security recipients, a move proposed over the weekend by a national commission and endorsed by President Reagan and House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill Jr., D-Mass.

The sources, who did not want the

also might be extended to other federal programs with automatic inflation triggers, including food stamps.

Administration officials said Reagan has not yet given final approval to the contingency taxes, which would raise approximately \$40 billion in each of the three years, if needed to keep the annual deficits under \$100 billion. But a presidential okay

The president's proposed budget for the fiscal year that begins next Oct. 1 is to be delivered to Congress on Jan. 31.

tuesday

jan. 18

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