

# 'Educating Rita' heartwarming, entertaining

By **SHERYL THOMAS**  
Staff Writer

*Educating Rita*, starring Michael Caine and Julie Walters, is a delightfully entertaining film. It does not pretend to make an intellectual statement about student-teacher or man-woman relationships, nor does it rely on theatrics to capture the audience's attention. Instead, it is a film that purely entertains.

*Educating Rita* opens with a shot of Professor Frank Bryant (Michael Caine) strolling down the cobblestones of a prestigious English university. The scene is strictly academic; the professor's greenish-brown jacket, his straggly beard and the gray granite facades of the buildings tell all.

### Review

The first glimpse of Dr. Bryant in the classroom reveals his sad disillusionment with his literary work and his attempt to become "re-illusioned" by frequently applying alcohol. When accused by a student of being drunk during the tutorial, Frank sympathetically replies: "Of course I'm drunk. Do you expect me to teach this (William Blake's poetry) when I'm sober?"

Yet into the midst of Bryant's stagnant life blows a breath of fresh air in the form of a bleached blonde hairdresser. She is his newest student, one who requires private tutoring as an "open university" student. Rita (Julie Walters) is a 1980 Eliza Doolittle who wants an education rather than manners to rescue her from the dead-end road on which her life is traveling. She is intelligent and determined, and she makes her tutor smile.

Together they struggle through the thoughtful but ultimately worthless "literary criticism" that Rita produces. But her essays develop from a humorously correct one-liner about Ibsen's *Peer Gynt* to an insightful essay on Frank's favorite poet, Blake.

More important than Rita's development as a student is her development as a person. She bursts onto the college scene as a total misfit, her bleached hair streaked to match the color of the miniskirt she wears. Her studies are sprinkled with personal crises. She is divorced from a husband who will not understand her desire to learn. She separates herself completely and painfully from the stifling society in which she grew up. She quits her job as a hairdresser because she can no longer stand the irrelevant drivel spoken at the shop. In the end, she has developed into a sophisticated young woman, barely recognizable as the brash bird who had

bounced into Frank's office two years earlier.

Rita's scholarly and personal development is definitely an admirable accomplishment. But her most decided victory is the single-handed transformation of Frank. When she meets Frank, he is a pitiful alcoholic who does not care to live, much less teach. At their first meeting, he tells Rita that he is going to arrange another tutor for her because he is an abominable teacher; he says that the only thing he knows is that he knows nothing. In a manner characteristic for Rita, she refuses to take "no" for an answer, informing Frank that he is the tutor to whom she was assigned and that he will continue to be her tutor. Throughout *Educating Rita*, Rita educates Frank about himself, herself and life. Ultimately, one wonders at the irony of the film's title, asking if it should be retitled *Educating Frank*.

Rita and Frank develop a deep affection for one another during the time of their collaboration. Happily, *Educating*

*Rita* does not take any of its many opportunities to develop their fondness for one another into a torrid love affair. In one instance near the end, Rita declares that Frank has given her so much and that she has given him nothing, but that things are going to change. It looks like the big moment. She provocatively removes her denim jacket, and eagerly approaches Frank to give him what she had threatened from the beginning — a haircut.

She declines his offer to accompany him to Australia for a two-year sabbatical, saying that she wants to stay in England and be young. Their parting at the airport is full of conflicting emotions: happiness at having given and taken so much from one another and sadness at having to say goodbye.

*Educating Rita* is a film in the classic style. It does not try to make any profound statements, nor does it rely on theatrics or sex to lure an audience. *Educating Rita* is just a good, heartwarming film to which one can escape for a few hours of genuine entertainment.

### Campus Calendar

The Carolina Student Fund/DTH Campus Calendar will appear every Monday and Thursday. Announcements to be run on Monday must be placed in the box outside the Carolina Student Fund office on the third floor of South Building by 5 p.m. the Friday before they are to run. Announcements to be run on Thursday must be placed in the box by 5 p.m. of the preceding Tuesday. Only announcements from University recognized and campus organizations will be printed.

### Friday

- 7:15 p.m. **IVCF Bible Dig-In** led by Jimmy Long in the Union.
- 8 p.m. **Dr. Dwight Allen, of Old Dominion University** will speak on "New Schools for a New Century" in Hamilton 100.

### Today

- 3:30 p.m. **U.S. Navy Captain Eugene McDaniel** will speak at a Veteran's Day commemoration ceremony on the quad. Sponsored by the UNC AFROTC and NROTC.
- 4 p.m. **AIIESEC Officers** meeting. Senior Class Committee meeting.
- 4:30 p.m. **Walk for Humanity** meeting in the Campus Y lounge. Call 967-3720.
- 6 p.m. **Kappa Alpha Psi** sponsored party at Polaris.
- 7 p.m. **IVCF off-campus, Northwest** will meet at the Bible Church basement.
- IVCF South Chapter** meeting in the Teague Social room. Call 933-4104.
- IVCF Granville Chapter** meeting in Granville South. Call 967-3793.
- 8:30 p.m. **Fellowship of Christian Athletes** meeting in the Union; Albert Long, guest speaker.

### Weekend

- 9-11 a.m. **Anglican Student Fellowship** Breakfast at Chapel of the Cross. Call 933-7735.

### Monday

- 5:30 p.m. **Christian Aerobics** in the Baptist Student Center. Call 942-4266.
- 6 p.m. **Teach-In on Grenada and Lebanon** in Hamilton 100.
- 8 p.m. **UNC College Republicans** will meet in the Union (968-0626).

### ITEMS OF INTEREST

**Career Planning and the Liberal Arts Student** is a course for freshmen and sophomores who are undecided about career direction and major (Special Studies 90, Section 2, Spring Semester). To register, contact the instructor in Nash Hall. Sign up for the Union squash tourney at the Union desk Nov. 1-11. Men and women of all skill levels are welcome. Prizes will be awarded. More information is available in Room 200 of the Union.

Monday, 4 p.m.-5:30 p.m., and Tuesday and Thursday from 6:45 p.m. until 8 p.m. on Ehringhaus field. The brothers of the Psi Delta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity will be coming around the dorms during the week of Nov. 7-11 to collect canned and dry foods for needy families. Please help them to make Thanksgiving a happy holiday for everyone. The UNC Women's Squash Club practices every Sunday and Tuesday from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the Fetzer squash courts. The Women's Volleyball Club is now holding practices from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. every Tuesday in Fetzer A-2. For more information, call Michelle at 967-2030. Attention College Work-Study Students: Time sheets for the

pay period ending Nov. 13, 1983 are due in the Student Aid Office by noon on Wednesday, November 9. The Department of Classics will sponsor a special lecture (A New Discovery) Wednesday at 4 p.m. in the studio art building room 117. The Law School Admissions Test registration deadline was Nov. 3. Late registration accepted for \$15 extra if postmarked by Thursday, Nov. 10. Applications are available in Nash Hall. Applications are now available for the Orientation Committee. Come by OI Steele Building immediately. The CGA will elect officers for the current year and handle other business at the business meeting Monday, Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. in the Union. Check Union schedule for meeting room. Health Science Job Fair will be Tuesday Nov. 15, from 9

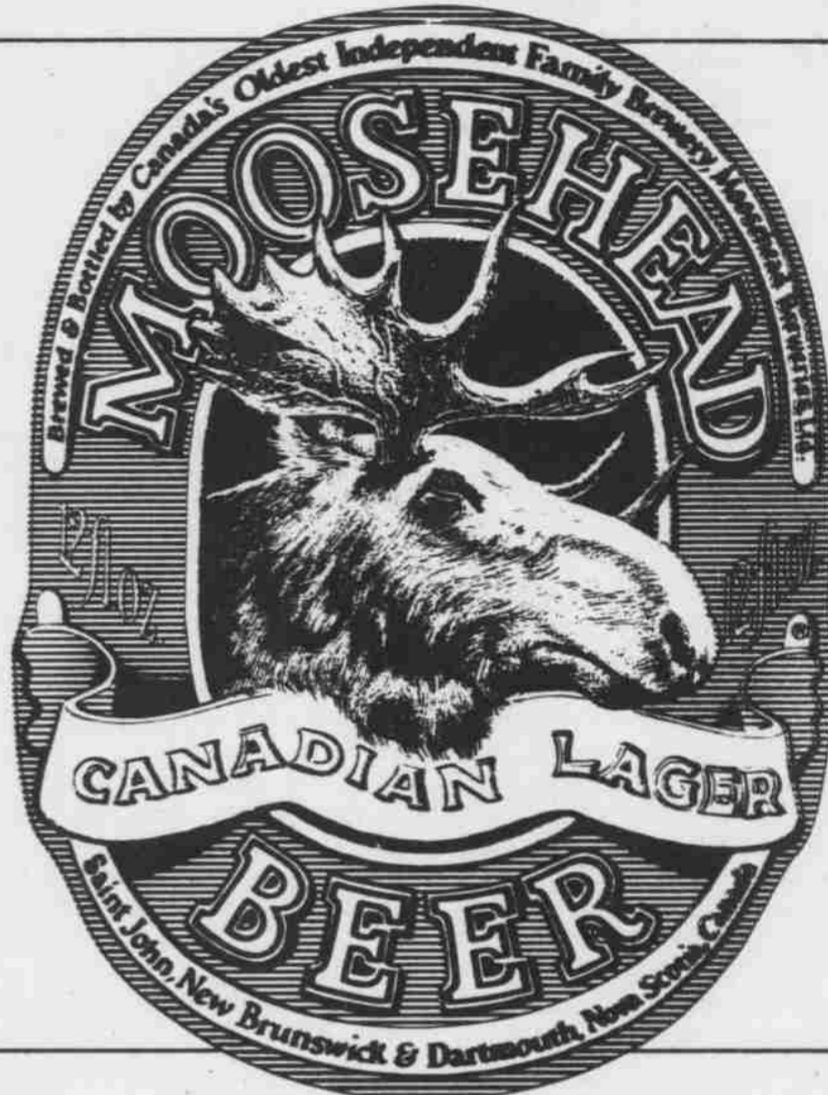
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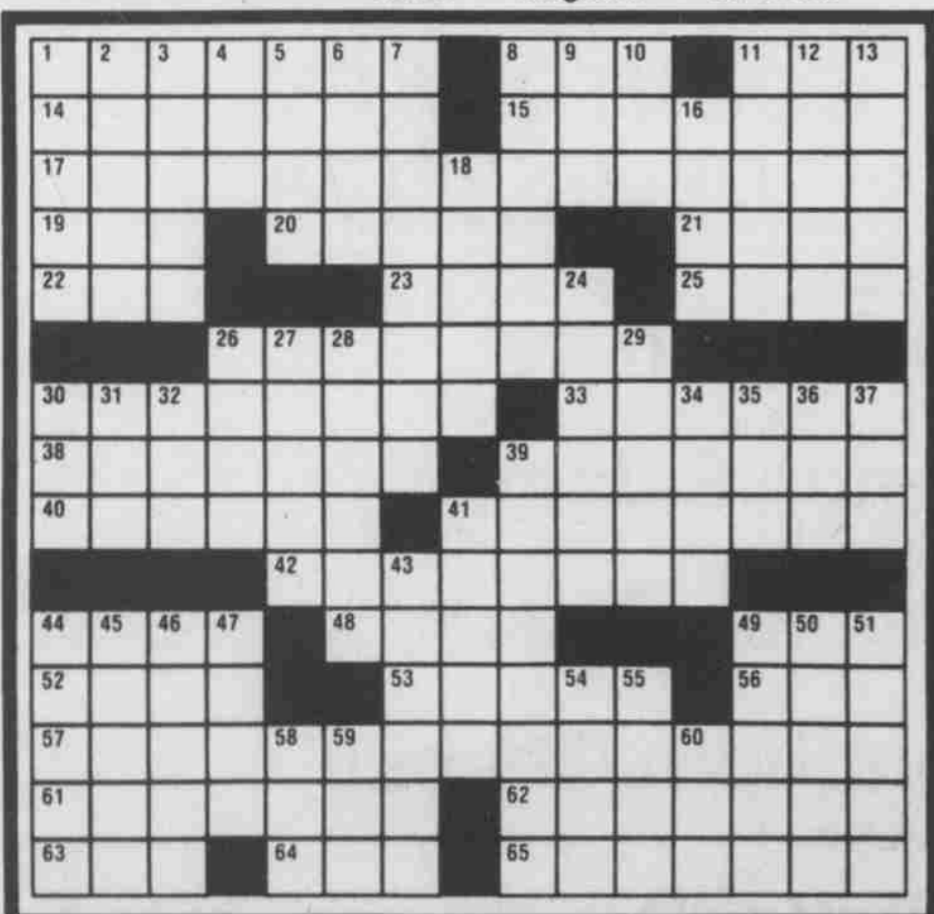
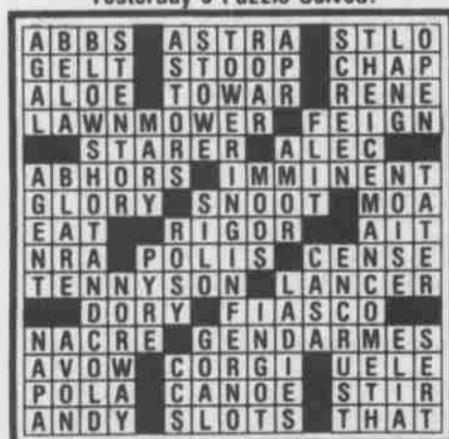


The Fresh Alternative

### THE Daily Crossword by Kathryn Righter

- |                       |                                    |                                 |                          |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ACROSS                | 33 Automaton                       | 62 Designate                    | 29 Gathering of witches  |
| 1 Corrida star        | 38 Expected                        | 63 Affirmative                  | 30 Burmese nature spirit |
| 8 Goddess of plenty   | 39 Politely                        | 64 Liable                       | 31 Overwhelm             |
| 11 Belfry resident    | 40 Made taut                       | 65 Hat for a cowboy             | 32 Tried for office      |
| 14 Fatty              | 41 Favorite of Catherine of Russia | DOWN                            | 34 Kind of bean          |
| 15 Naval vessel       | 42 Pasta stuff                     | 1 Gog and —                     | 35 Wapiti                |
| 17 Pan                | 44 Starless                        | 2 Worship                       | 36 1051                  |
| 19 "... man — mouse?" | 48 Brad                            | 3 Of ebb and flow               | 37 Thesaurus word; abbr. |
| 20 Examines by touch  | 49 Common article                  | 4 Military address              | 38 Compares texts        |
| 21 Shipshape          | 52 Kazan the director              | 5 Remove a fedora               | 41 French soldier        |
| 22 Colloid            | 53 Open space in a forest          | 6 Bone: comb. form              | 43 Fly larva             |
| 23 Very old           | 56 Arachnid creation               | 7 Warmed over                   | 44 Type of lure          |
| 25 Blunders           | 57 Pans                            | 8 Compensate for                | 45 Solo                  |
| 26 Rapturous          | 61 Toronto's province              | 9 NFL player                    | 46 Civil disturbances    |
| 30 Not so wide        |                                    | 10 Baronet's title              | 47 New Zealand parrot    |
|                       |                                    | 11 Lower                        | 49 Taunts                |
|                       |                                    | 12 Rose extract                 | 50 Word of greeting      |
|                       |                                    | 13 Trials                       | 51 Buddy the actor       |
|                       |                                    | 16 Heredity factor              | 54 Fender mishap         |
|                       |                                    | 18 English composer             | 55 Grafted, in heraldry  |
|                       |                                    | 24 Insect claw-bearing segments | 58 A Gershwin            |
|                       |                                    | 26 Goddess of discord           | 59 Tuck's partner        |
|                       |                                    | 27 Dove houses                  | 60 Relax                 |
|                       |                                    | 28 European kingdom             |                          |

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:



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### PEACE CORPS

RECRUITERS WILL BE IN THE OFFICE OF CAREER PLANNING AND PLACEMENT, HANES HALL, ON NOVEMBER 15, 16 & 17. OR VISIT OUR TABLE IN THE STUDENT UNION NOVEMBER 15 THROUGH 18.

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