



is pleased to announce the showing of these films at the Killam Library, Dalhousie University, Halifax

Episode 1: Friday, February 22, 8 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Friday, February 29, 8 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Episode 2: Friday, March 7, 8 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Episode 3: Friday, March 14, 8 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Episode 4: Episode 5: Friday, March 21, 8 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

You are invited to see these films.

There will be no charge of admission.

## entertainment

## Kramer vs.Kramer

by donalee Moulton and Heather Myers

With Kramer vs. Kramer Hollywood presents the child custody film to follow the love story and divorce films, and if Love Story or An Unmarried Woman didn't send you clutching for the Kleenex, this one will.

The film opens with an ending-Joanna Kramer (Meryl Streep) leaves her home, her husband, and most importantly her five-year-old son Billy, in order to find an identity apart from her role as Mrs. Kramer, wife and mother.

At this point what she is becomes secondary to what her husband Ted (Dustin Hoffman) must become-a mother. An ambitious, selfabsorbed businessperson in a high pressure job, he is suddenly faced with a multi-tude of tasks he has always left to his wife. The scenes that depict the growth of Ted's character are often funny and moving, and ultimately endear both father and son to us.

The acting of each is superb. And when Joanna returns, it is again not the acting that gets the film into trouble. Meryl Streep is a match for anyone. The scenes in court during the custody trial that ensues tug at the heart strings mainly because

of her performance.

But the plot is flawed with puzzling omissions and pat solutions. Would a child of five, separated from his mother for eighteen months, rush to greet her with joy and eagerness the way Billy does in Kramer vs. Kramer? People who know children of that age say no-he would more likely be shy or even uninterested. And how convenient that Joanna Kramer, housewife for five years and with apparently little professional experience, should immediately find a job that pays \$31,000 a year. The biggest puzzle however, is where, when, and how did the Kramers' divorce take place? The gap might not be so glaring if it did not contribute so much to the sketchy treatment of Joanna's character and our subsequent lack of understanding of her motivation throughout the film. Since we see so little of Joanna we are inevitably biased in Ted's

But Kramer vs. Kramer presents a man learning, convincingly, the role of a nurturing parent, and portrays too some of the mystery of the ties between parents and children. This may not make it great art, but it raises it above the level of just another

tear-jerker

HAPPENINGS ..... by your Entertainment Staff

Ronnie [the Hawk] Hawkins is at the Moon all week, backed up by Kevin Head. . . Tracy Kane is playing at Clancy's, and at the Matador are Mason Dixon upstairs and Cheyenne downstairs. Frank MacKay is at Zapatas until Friday when Snakeye takes over the remainder of the week, to present their new

album. Gini Grant will be on the Middle Deck for the next two weeks. . . Peggy Gillis and Tony Quinn are at Dick Turpins, and McGinty is at the LBR for the week. . . also Keith Jollimore is at the Eager Beaver.

Keep supporting enthusiastic amateur talent at Theatre 1707. The Serpent, a play by the Acadia Drama Program will be performed Feb. 22 and 23.

