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Our operation is located within Grand Canyon National Park in Northern Arizona. We offer an excellent benefit program and wages equal to experience. Dormitory housing located within the Park is available. Come see us, we will be holding local interviews January 31, 1981:

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## Film

**Eraserhead**  
Starring John Nance  
Directed by David Lynch  
Bijou Theatre

Perhaps no other film has such a grotesque, yet hauntingly intriguing appeal as the cult film *Eraserhead*.

The force behind this extraordinary film lies in the artistry of writer, director and producer David Lynch. Lynch, whose recent film *The Elephant Man* won national acclaim, displays deft form in *Eraserhead* by creating a penetrating exploration into the psychological horrors of a malformed and depraved society.

The outcome is nothing less than bizarre.

The plot revolves around the dolorous — almost farcical character — of Henry (John Nance), a schizoid factory worker who's helplessly powered by the levers of industrial society. Unable to cope with his futile existence, Henry plods aimlessly on earthen mounds in the shadows of an industrial park. His sorrowful condition is accented by a tufted pompadour which sprouts from his head like an electrically charged balloon.

The story evolves when Henry appears at his girlfriend Mary's (Charlotte Stewart) house for dinner where he meets Mary's family, a gross collection of withered zombies living in the backyard lot of a squalid train yard.

Bill, Mary's father, is an ex-factory worker, laid-off work because of an arm injury. He engages Henry in one of the film's more revealing dialogues: "Well, what do you know, Henry?"

"I don't know much of anything."

As dinner progresses, reality dissimulates and disappears into the grossly absurd. Henry ends up married to Mary and finds himself the proud father of a premature baby.

Unlike most infants, however, Henry's child is anything but an adorable new babe. Rather, it is an undiscernable creature form, covered by a gelatinous membrane, and swathed in cloth up to its worm-like neck. Placed prone on a table, its malformed head propped by a pillow, it displays an amazing



proWess to cry, chatter and goob.

Undaunted, Henry and Mary care for the tyke — until, unnerved by its incessant wailing, Mary leaves for the peace and quiet of her parents' home.

His world melting around him, Henry descends into the confines of his unfettered mind, attempting to grasp the elusive controls which power his life.

But, Henry is unable to avoid the socio-industrial ills which plague his existence. And shortly, his head, dismembered from his body, rolls into the hands of a boy who sells it to a factory. At the factory, Henry's head is run through a machine and stamped into pencils with perfunctory precision.

*Eraserhead* is not a moving drama, nor a gripping thriller — rather, it is a psychological sojourn through the cluttered remnants of a fragmented mind.

The plot, often abstruse and comically absurd, offers the viewer plenty of space to turn, twist and ponder Lynch's undermining theme — a theme prevalent in many expressions of art — which alludes to the human condition as striving for one's peach-of-mind: that "heaven on earth."

A low budget production, *Eraserhead* is a high-quality ar-

tistic achievement. Filmed in black and white, the movie presents a visual abstraction of the mass industrial state.

Gray cement walls, empty train lots and endless tracks of smoldering factories present a stirring perceptual image reminiscent of war-time Germany on a gray, rainy day.

Lynch demonstrates his proficiency in the special effects department and equals his realistic accomplishments on *The Elephant Man* set. When Henry slips into a catatonic state, the screen responds with a stirring display of phantasmagoric images: a progression of transcendence from the real to the mind-boggling absurd. These surreal illusions are offset by the penetrating clangs, roars and blasts from an amplified factory boiler.

*Eraserhead* is a delicious stray from the ordinary. Its audio-visual effects offer an engrossing sensory experience. Produced in 1977 on an American Film Institute Grant, *Eraserhead* is Lynch's first full-length feature film.

The film is currently playing at the Bijou Theatre. Showtimes are Midnight, Thursday through Saturday; matinees on Sunday at 2 and 4 p.m.

By James Jiler

## HEART THROBS

20 words for \$1.50 if placed by 1 pm  
Feb. 12 at the ODE office (300 EMU),  
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Such beauty fashion can't disguise  
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**LIL UPTURN:**  
Like the wind through the trees  
Your love makes me shake  
But everytime I tell you so  
Your head begins to ache

PEANUT

**LISA:**  
Roses are blue,  
Violet are red,  
My back is cramped,  
Fix your bed.

Love, JOHN

**PHILBERT:** Why don't we get together this  
Valentine's Day and aim your arrow for my  
target. Hopelessly in love with you.

**JIMMY:**  
How 'bout some hot sauce on a cold winter  
night?

SUE