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Ft. Wayne (Indiana)
**Picture 'All
About Eve' Is
Smart Comedy**

BY FLOYD LOGAN

A hold-over hit in its premiere in New York and a box office success where it has been shown in the larger cities, "All About Eve" opened at the Palace Thursday night to audiences which stood in line to see the film.

A film which plays to a waiting line on opening night in Fort Wayne is a rarity. With so happy an opening, "All About Eve" should continue to attract capacity audiences for the remainder of its city run. It should be seen in its entirety, from start to finish, else its carefully contrived and original plot loses its effect.

"All About Eve" is a comedy essentially; but it is bitter, driving, hard-punching comedy. Its dialog is from the heart of show business; it is good, sharp, purposeful talk. It is adult entertainment in that it is mature and

does not settle for anything less than being The Best.

About Show Business

"All About Eve" is a document about show business and the people in it. Four players contribute portrayals which show the effect of knowledge, of study of characterization and a complete understanding of their assignments.

Bette Davis fans will find "All About Eve" gives her one of her most delightful roles. She plays a fortyish actress who is the victim of as cruel a plot as could be devised. The events of the sadistic plot against her, clothed in innocence as they are, threaten to engulf her personal as well as her professional life. Miss Davis plays the role with understanding, with conviction. She injects into it a delightful touch of just plain ham . . . it is this flavoring which makes her performance something pretty special.

Hoosier Lass Stars

Hoosier-born Anne Baxter gives a most impelling performance of the stage-struck girl who reaches the stellar regions of the theater by an exceedingly unwholesome route. Cast in the part of the ambitious girl who utilizes every tool and means to realize her ambition, Miss Baxter establishes herself, even if she had had no previous screen experience, as a player who will be able to choose her own vehicles. As the Eve of "All About Eve" Anne Baxter emerges as perhaps the best of the upcoming young players in Hollywood.

Celeste Holm, whose professional reputation is as sound as the gold vault at Fort Knox, turns in a keenly exercised and charming portrait of the wife of a playwright . . . "the lowest form of celebrity."

Matched Men

The three men who meet their matches in the characters of the three ladies heretofore mentioned are played by Gary Merrill (already in real life become the husband of Bette Davis since the picture was made) who is cast as the director for Miss Davis' theater creations; Hugh Marlowe the playwright, happily married to Miss Holm (in the film, that is) and George Sanders, paired eventually with the predatory Eve, is actively loathsome as a blackguardly theater critic.

Choice and delightful persons in the supporting cast who add more brilliance and greater authenticity to the plot are Thelma Ritter, as Miss Davis' maid; Walter Hampden as an aged actor; Gregory Ratoff as a Broadway producer; Marilyn Monroe as an incendiary blonde; and Barbare Bates . . . her role will not be named for fear of spoiling the plot . . . but who nonetheless does a splendid job.