

THE



SUN

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

Arts & Entertainment

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 1992

Theater

Tonight at 8 p.m. marks the final curtain for "Plays from Prison," a program of two searing one-acts — "Ladies in Waiting" by Peter DeAnda and "The Island" by Athol Fugard — that are being given effective treatment by students of the Towson State University theater department.

Mounted in the Mainstage Theatre, both have been directed with a forceful yet meticulous hand by Mahmood Karimi-Hakak.

"Ladies in Waiting" deals with black/white relationships and the vulnerability of the human condition. Allison Adams, Michelle James, Ivana Jackson, Traci Kyle and Jennifer Moore all need to give their roles greater character projection.

However, it is the powerful performance of Brian Strowder as Winston in "The Island" that makes this play exceptional. Two black men, confined to a South African prison, struggle to maintain their ideals in the face of harsh reality. Martin Ruof plays John, the more articulate of the two characters. Mr. Ruof's performance has some strong moments.