Loewenstein and Problematic theatrical performances were enlightening. The Rice Players, known for their memorable experiences, attempted to present an "enlightening" play called "The Zoo Story." From the moment he and Dennis Kear, playing Peter, a happily bom-familial publisher, squared off, until the time the "zoo story" was committed and told, the audience was held in complete fascination.

Communication

Here Jerry and Peter communi- cated only to the point where Peter, almost unintentionally, in the midst of a mock fight, kills Jerry, giving him what he told Peter he would read about in the paper the next day: Jerry's death. Loewenstein's lines did not reflect the long hours of me morizing necessary to master his large part, but rather it seemed as if he were creating the script on the spot, guided by his own ingenuity, and his character's yearning to be understood.

In a Scene Collection

The opener of the evening was Harold Pinter's one act, "The Collection." If it was a collection, it was slow to be completed. Slow perhaps because, on a split set, it was necessary to move actors from stage right to stage left back- stage, perhaps because there was much fiddling with coffee cups and newspapers into which many lines were delivered, but I think more definitely because of a lack of definition of the characters in the play by its author. 

Relations

Barry Naylor and Drew Meyer, as Harry and Bill res- pectively, represented one "couple," a relationship on the homosexual level, and Mike Cooper and Mary Streiter as James and Stella, represented that of the heterosexual.

It was not until Harry visited Stella, until he confessed his "bringing up of Bill out of the gutter" that his jealousy really became clear, and it had to be Mike Cooper who tied over the rough spots and the sometime sluggish pace.

Something Needed

Perhaps director Joe Carl Parsons needed Pinter to tug over the question of the erring wife and the offending Bill, or perhaps he needed to supply more relief from the continually intense plot. The playing area was well received by the audience, but I'm afraid it provided few memorable moments. Here, her professionally produced three years now it amazes me, each time I see one of the Player's pro- ductions. Much credit is due to Neil Havens, the Di- rector in Residence, and to each person who plugged in a light cord or pulled a curtain. It might be going a bit too far to mention this, but I heard one richly dressed female patron say Saturday night, "All that and they study, too?" Well, ma'am...