

*FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2001*

# **The New York Times**

**WHITING TENNIS**, Derek Eller, 526-530 West 25th Street, (212) 206-6411 (through Oct. 6). Using sheets of paper whose textures were made by woodcut printing and other techniques, Mr. Tennis neatly pieces together Cubist collage pictures of melancholy rural American scenes. The muted convergence of Modernist abstraction and pastoral nostalgia is unusual. Judging by the exhibition's biggest picture, which depicts a small farmhouse with an old collapsed shed sitting in the foreground, it is worth pursuing on a more ambitious scale (Johnson).