

FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 1989 LOS ANGELES

THEATER

READER



Critic's Choice: ***The Voice of the Prairie***



Few of us can appreciate how delightful, powerful, and frightening the wireless radio was in its earliest days. John Olive's expertly crafted story of a sweet-but-slippery entrepreneur (Barry Gordon) and the shy tale spinner (Ronny Cox) who he makes a star, is humorous, nostalgic,

educational, and deeply moving. Bob Clark's brisk direction and a first-rate cast show how imagination and reality can become inseparable over the airwaves and in our lives. Back Alley Theatre, 15231 Burbank Blvd., Van Nuys. (818) 780-2240. Thursdays at 8 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays at 7 p.m., Sundays at 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. —Susan Armine