



Griffin takes flight

There are not animals in the Flying Griffin Circus (elephants — who needs them?), but the acrobatics and clowning provide first-rate entertainment in the debut performance of the Actors Gymnasium's new resident circus. Distilled from Evanston artist Michael Montenegro's theatrically experimental "With a Trapezoid Heart" staged the Actors Gym last Halloween, the production retains the most memorable imagery from the original while concentrating on pure circus-style entertainment. Even better, the elusive romance between unattainable, ethereal aerialist Lijanna Hernandez and silent, soulful acrobatic clown Tony Hernandez (pictured above with talented teen acrobat Zach Hamity of Highland Park), gives the show a thematic edge that elevates it from a look-at-me-Mom demonstration of feats of derringdo. Catch The Flying Griffin Circus at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays through June 25 at the Actors Gymnasium in the Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St. Evanston. Admission is \$10. Call 328-2795. — Bruce Ingram