

## Here comes the Spiderman!

### Superhero visits Masonic for stunt-packed play

BY LANA MINI  
STAFF WRITER

Spiderman is swinging on his web into metro Detroit for an action-packed family event running six days at the Masonic Temple Theatre Nov. 12-17.

*Spiderman Live!* is a stunt-show play that blends art flying illusions, trapeze stunts, wild pyrotechnics and multimedia special effects to impress children who love Spidey.

In the play, of course, Peter Parker is bitten by a radioactive spider and is transformed into a stronger-than-human superhero. All of Spidey's popular exploits will be brought to life onstage — including his rescue of true love Mary Jane Watson from the evil Green Goblin.

Actor and critically acclaimed gymnast Colin Follenweider, formerly of Colorado but now a Los Angeles resident, was chosen to play Spiderman and his resume is extensive. Follenweider received most of his onstage experience performing in the prestigious Cirque Du Soleil's water show *O* in Las Vegas. He also was one of the rope-swinging pirates at MGM in Las Vegas and performed as a stuntman and dancer with David Cassidy in *Elvis*.



Gymnast Colin Follenweider plays Spiderman.

#### SPIDERMAN LIVE!

Where: Masonic Temple Theatre, Detroit  
When: Tuesday-Sunday, Nov. 12-17, Tuesday through Friday evening performances at 7 p.m. Saturday performances at noon, 3:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday performances at 11 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. No performances on Monday  
Cost: Tickets range from \$18.50 - \$29.50. (248) 645-6666. For additional information, call (313) 832-2232.

"I like being a superhero," Follenweider, 27, said from his cell phone while on the road in Providence, R.I. "I get to perform great gymnastics, wrestle the bad guys and save the girl... and swinging on a web through Times Square isn't so bad



Powl Crash! Spiderman fights a bad guy in *Spiderman Live!* The action-filled show comes to The Masonic Temple on Tuesday, Nov. 12.

either." Because the play is so action-packed, and to keep the flow of Spiderman smooth and fast, there are actually three different actors portraying Spiderman in *Spiderman Live!* — but the

audience never sees any switches. However its Follenweider who portrays Peter Parker and the "main" Spiderman.

The best part of the show for Follenweider is the children's boisterous reactions as explo-

sions light up the stage and Spiderman saves the day. "While I'm swinging across the city chasing the Green Goblin I can hear the children

PLEASE SEE SPIDERMAN, B4



Brittany Murphy and Eminem star in *8 Mile*. The movie, which was filmed in Detroit, opened Friday.

## Eminem is riveting in '8 Mile' performance

BY VICKI DIAZ  
CORRESPONDENT

It's here — what so many Detroit area moviegoers have been waiting for. The film *8 Mile* shot entirely in Detroit and environs and based loosely on the life of hip hop superstar Eminem opened in theaters appropriately Nov. 8.

Is it worth the wait? If you're a fan of hip hop you'll probably think so. If you're not a fan, you may have some reservations about whether or not *8*

*Mile* really works as a film.

Directed by Oscar winner Curtis Hanson (*LA Confidential* and *Wonder Boys*), *8 Mile* focuses on one Jimmy "Rabbit" Smith Jr., a high school drop out who lives with his edgy mother Kim (Basinger) and his small sister (Cloe Greenfield) in a seamy trailer park just off *8 Mile*. He's got a lousy job at a monstrous stamping plant, he's just broken up with his girlfriend, and his family is going to be homeless any minute.

The only thing that seems to

keep Jimmy going is his dedication to hip hop. He wants more than anything else to make a mark in it somehow and he spends much of his time writing words and ideas on bits of paper that he carries with him just about everywhere he goes. But when the chips are down and he gets a chance to show his stuff, he's utterly paralyzed by self doubt and stage fright. In front of a boisterous, demanding crowd at The Shelter, he freezes and is unable to compete in the open mike "battles," in which

each competitor has 45 seconds to present their raw rhymed rap and win over the audience. Miserably he has to beat a retreat off the stage to the sounds of "choke choke choke."

Through some further tough life experiences, the continued support of his small circle of friends, and a little bit of love from a girl named Alex (Brittany Murphy) Jimmy eventually gets up his nerve and comes out a big winner.

PLEASE SEE EMINEM, B5

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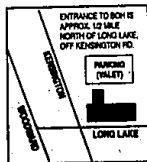
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