Written by Robert ID2996 Wednesday, 06 September 2006 01:43 -

In 1996 a small underground hip-hop event was launched at London's Shepherds Bush Empire. Its aim was to put a much needed spotlight on the effect and reach of b-boy culture by showing the art of battle between hip hop b-boy crews. With a rare UK appearance from b-boy icon Crazy Legs promised and live performances by the UK's very own London Posse and one of Philly's finest, Schoolly D, a crowd of hip-hop heads and old skoolers packed the venue to witness the birth of the U.K B-Boy Championships and a ever developing relationship with Sony Computer Entertainment. The vibe, combined with the genuine emotion of the almost forgotten heroes of the scene and the amazing spectacle, set in motion a tidal wave of breakin" fever and b-boying's second coming!

The PlayStation U.K B-Boy Championships has established itself as one of the worlds greatest Hip-Hop events, with national qualifiers in Japan, Korea, USA & Europe. The Championships features the best Solo Breakers, Poppers, Lockers and the greatest B-boy Crews from across the world. It also plays host to some of the most exciting Hip-Hop artists to visit the UK. The Championships is easily the most eagerly anticipated event in the Hip-Hop calendar.

And if sponsoring the event itself for the last 11 years wasn"t enough, PlayStation's affiliation with the UK B-Boy Championships has finally led to the creation of a new game, B-Boy(TM). Developed by FreeStyleGames, in collaboration with Crazy Legs and DJ Hooch, B-Boy is due for release in September 2006 on PlayStation Portable (PSP) and PlayStation 2.

B-Boy the game uses a dynamically controlled fighting system to help you battle the best b-boys on the planet and even features scenes from the UK B-Boy Championships within it. In "B-Boy Life" mode, players build up a crew and battle against real-life superstar b-boys including in-game and real-life host Crazy Legs.

Carl Christopher from PlayStation commented: "Over the many years of sponsorship, we have talked about taking the inspiration from the Championships to create a B-Boy game. Now it's here, we are all excited. This games comes with all the authenticity of b-boy culture, featuring the top b-boys from the around the world, and the dynamic game play we always dreamed of, enjoy!"

Sony Ericsson is also now heavily committed to the Championships after becoming involved last year. The association with the b-boying stems from Sony Ericsson's ability to allow music to

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be carried anywhere and anytime through the stylish Walkman(R) range of handsets, and the diverse urban culture of the b-boys perfectly encapsulates this distinct approach to music and fashion.

Sony Ericsson is soon to launch/has recently launched the W710i handset, which will feature at the Championships, enabling physical performance to be measured whilst listening to your favourite music on the move, the perfect accessory for budding inner-city sports addicts.

"THE MOST INCREDIBLE THING YOU WILL SEE THIS YEAR"

This year's competition staged annually at London's Brixton Academy, will be held over two days on Saturday 7th & Sunday 8th October, watched by a capacity crowd of 10,000 people!!

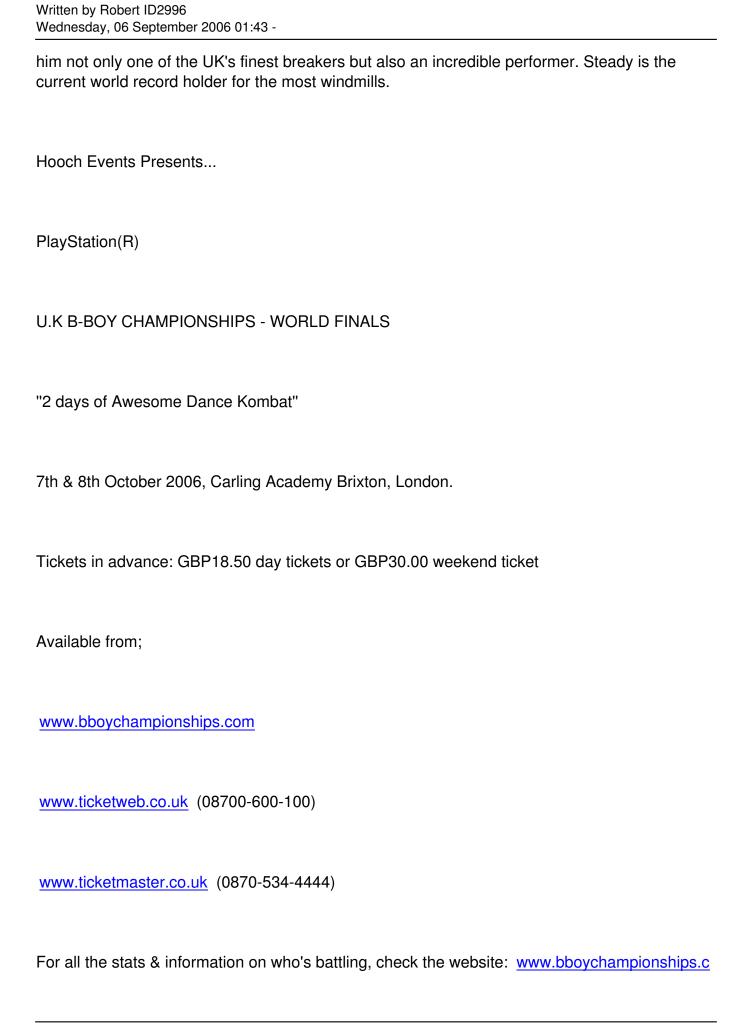
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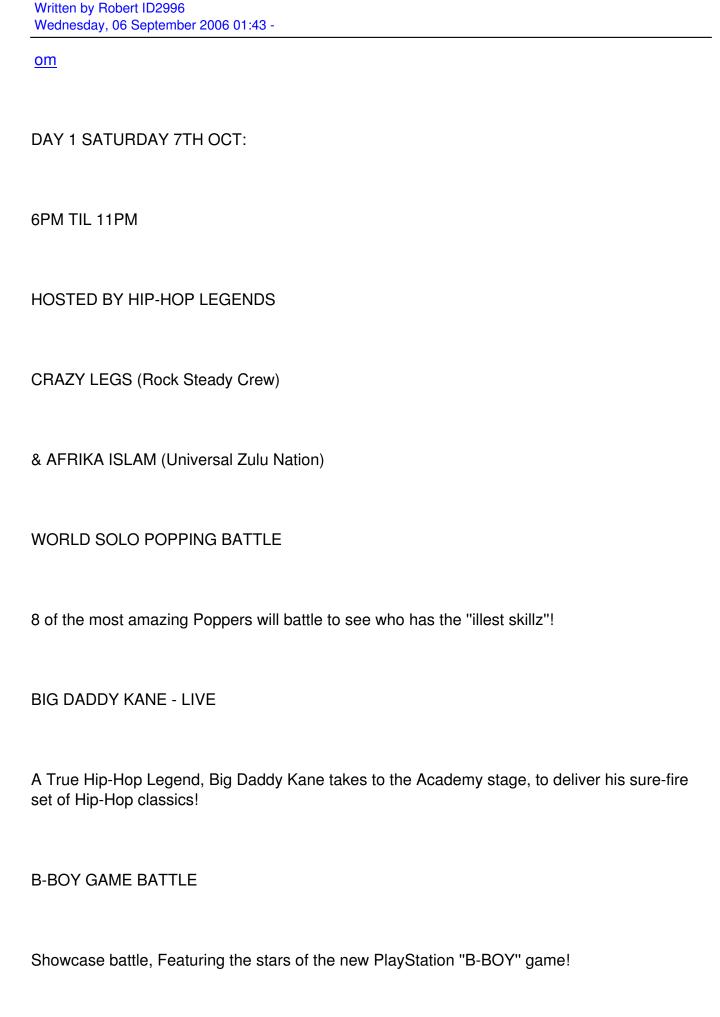
Mouse

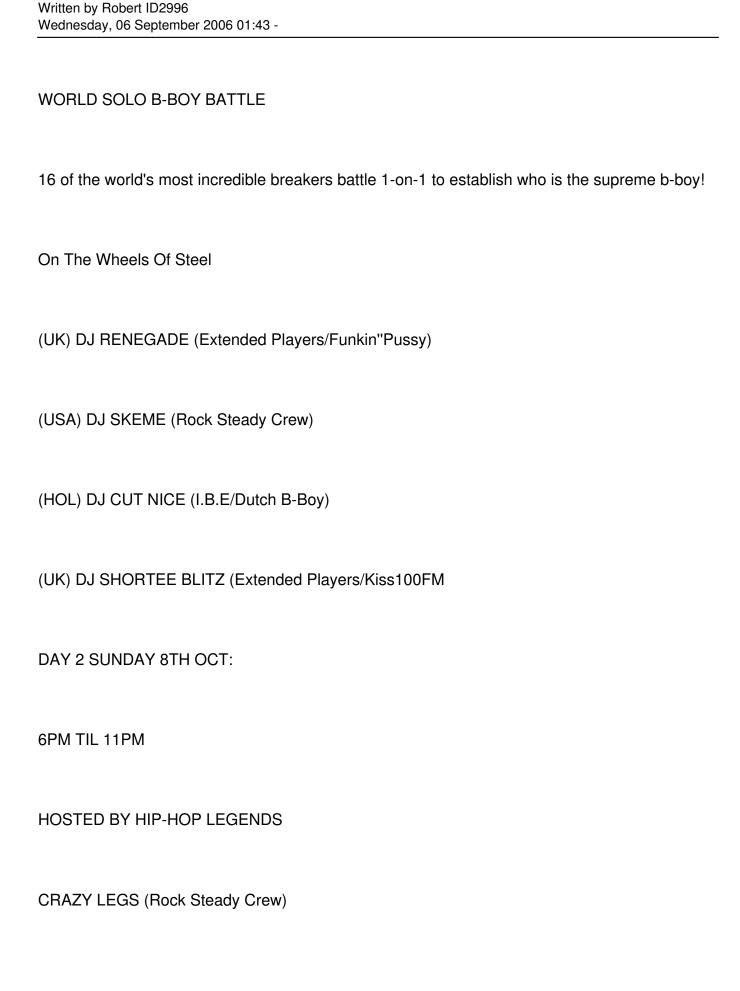
Coming from a diverse streetdance background, Ereson "Mouse" Catipon started bboying when he moved to Manchester, England in 1996 from the Philippines. The winner of numerous solo bboy titles, Mouse's name has gained international respect as the forerunner of the UK breaking scene. Mouse has qualified for next years Redbull BC One to be held in Brazil and was a finalist at the Hip Hop Challenge in Germany earlier this year losing to Korea's amazing Hong 10. He is also one of the characters from the all new PS2 & PSP game "B-Boy".

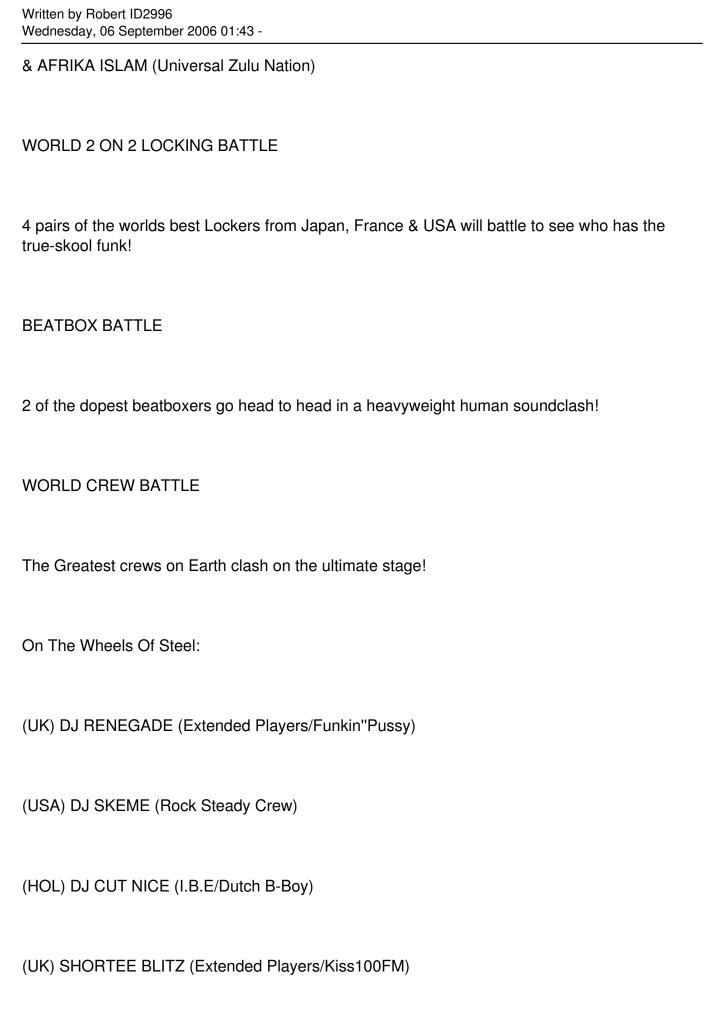
Steady

From Jamaican heritage, Steady started breaking as a cheeky kid from Derby in the 80s during the first wave of b-boys. He is one of the few originals from his generation to have maintained the dance through the years and has helped to revive the scene in the UK, introducing numerous kids to b-boying. Now, at his peak, his energy and entertaining showmanship make









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More information at www.BBoyChampionships.com