

An Inside  
Look at

# LEHMAN COLLEGE ATHLETICS

## Lightning Softball 2006 Season Preview

The Lehman Lightning softball team will look to bounce back from a difficult 5-21 season which placed them as the fifth seed in the 2005 CUNYAC playoffs. With a consistent group of returnees, and a year of experience under their belt, the Lightning will look to challenge for a conference championship.

With a team consisting of only one senior, utility **Rosaline Torres** (Gorton/Yonkers, NY), Santoiemma will count on the leadership of her juniors, many of which have started nearly 40 games in the past two years. "The success of this year's team will be due to a balance of veteran leadership and youthful talent," Santoiemma said.

Junior **Olga Torres** (St. Catherine Academy / Bronx, NY) will serve as the Lightning's number one hurler for 2006. "Olga has worked hard in the off-season to prepare for this year," said assistant coach / pitching coach, Melissa Torres. "Joining the track team has allowed Olga to not only improve her endurance but to also learn how to focus when the pressure is on."



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Twin sister **Lianee Torres** (St. Catherine Academy / Bronx, NY), who also ran for the 2005-06 Lightning Cross Country and Indoor Track championship squads and was named to the CUNYAC All-Star second Team last year, will see the majority of her time in the two spot this year as she splits her time between the outfield and the mound. The Torres twins will be caught by freshman catcher, **Tiffany Wyre** (Mother Cabrini / Bronx, NY) who will look to provide the defense behind the plate as well as the offense at the dish for the Lightning this year.

Juniors **Shirley Arrieta** (Art & Design / Howard Beach, NY) and **Yohanna "Lucia" Sufran** (Washington Irving / New York, NY), both who saw major time in the outfield last season, will look to provide the Lightning with both solid defense as well as speed on the bases.

Lehman's infield will see a variety of new faces and some old including sophomore **Nicole Petralia** (Spellman / Bronx, NY) providing a stable glove at first base. Petralia, who caught over 15 games last year, will share in the duties this year as well.

Freshman **Maryuli Roman** (Manhattan Center / New York, NY) will serve as the Lightning's third baseman but will also take some time off from the hot corner to serve as the hurler for Lehman. Junior **Marleny Felipe** (Columbus / Bronx, NY) will be the team's primary second baseman and be turning double plays with freshman transfer **Miguelina Reyes** (Santiago Guzman (Dominican Republic) / Bronx, NY). The combination of Felipe and Reyes in the middle infield will be key for the Lightning defense in 2006.



Freshman **Siul Celeste** (Fashion / Bronx, NY) will be coming off the bench to see time in the outfield when Lianee is on the mound along with freshman **Taniefha Taylor** (Yonkers / Yonkers, NY). Other freshman expected to see time are **Yianna Munoz**, **Kadian Brown**, **Jennifer Castillo**, **Kim Woodberry** and **Crystal Napoleonis**.

"We were troubled by many things from the start," said Santoiemma. "Our off-season conditioning and a year of experience will enable us to surprise some teams this year with our determination."

The Lightning starts their season this Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup> on the road versus Polytechnic University at 3:00 pm. Their home opener is this Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 12 Noon in a double header versus Mitchell College.