

TONIGHT

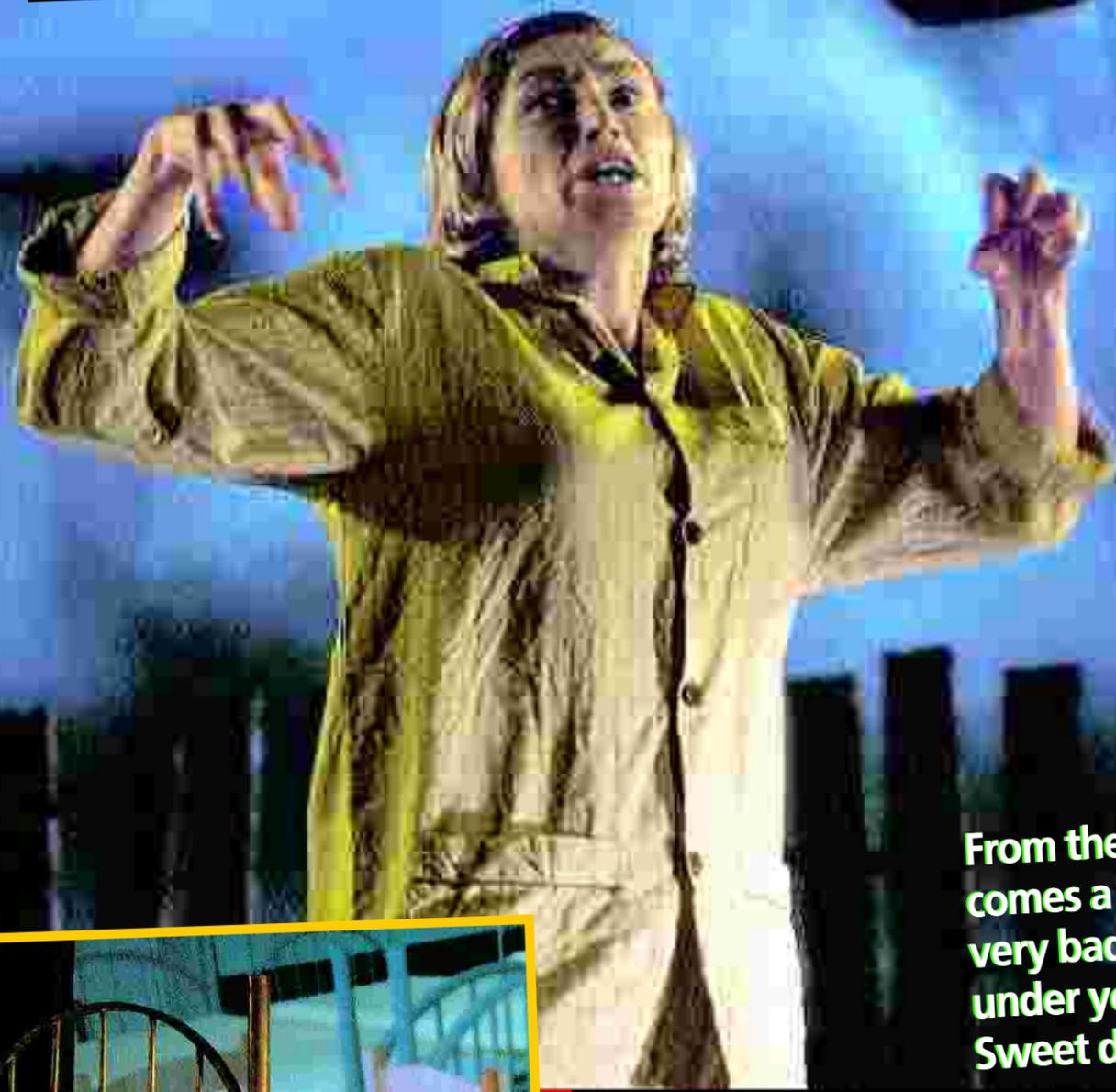
PRAKTICA
DIGITAL SUPERIORITY

- Lux Media 5408
- 5.2 Mega Pixels
- 8 x Optical Zoom
- 4 x Digital Zoom
- Video Sequencer with Voice Memory

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PICTURE: NEO NTSOMA

STAGE FRIGHT



From the Netherlands, comes a torturous tale of the very bad things brooding under your bed! Sweet dreams ...



RUN FOR COVERS: Tanya Sprong is captivating in *Tokolosh*.

BY THERESA SMITH

Grahamstown is currently festooned with posters – some good, some bad – but the cleverest one thus far is the little speech bubble sticker the Tokolosh production people have been sticking onto all the posters they can reach. The strategically placed speech bubble makes the figure in any poster utter the words “I’d rather go and see TOKOLOSH!”, in the best tradition of ambush marketing. Of course, the children’s adventure story Tokolosh is not to be confused with the Fringe comedy show *Tokoloshe Come*

and Go, which has actually been profiting from Tanya Sprong’s marketing. Sprong is the writer/director of *Tokolosh*, which has been having a problem attracting audience, despite being a pretty good production. For something that is meant to be children’s theatre *Tokolosh* uses some pretty sophisticated technology to create a fast paced adventure story where animation meets live action. Written and directed by Sprong, the one-woman play uses video projection to create a changing background and at one stage she even interacts with a person on the screen. Using a multi-media format

makes the production accessible to today’s average 8-year-old. Static two-dimensional backgrounds are so last century. Sprong plays several characters, including the protagonist, young Serena Bailey, who has been sent to boarding school. Not only does she have problems with the school bully but a tokolosh seems to have moved in under her bed. While the play might be aimed at children, Sprong’s believable performance is entrancing enough to capture the parents in the audience. Poor PR means few people know about this Dutch production, A pity because it is a classy production.