

Re: Brookhaven Responds to black hole report

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.physics/2005-03/11913.html>

From: Mark Martin (qed100_at_hotmail.com)

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Al wrote:

> http://www.bnl.gov/RHIC/black_holes.htm

"...the rapid deceleration of RHIC ions as they smash into each other for a very short period of time (about 10^{-23} second) is similar to the extreme gravitational environment in the vicinity of a black hole. This means that RHIC collisions should emit a bunch of thermal particles similar to the "Hawking radiation" emitted by a black hole."

That's a truly deep insight. In this sense alone the experiment is also a test of the equivalence principle, of general relativity, under extreme conditions.

—Mark Martin