

POP STOP

This week's gossip column inches have been dominated by intrigue and secret love in the Mando-pop world. Teen idol and self-made acrobat **Jolin Tsai** (蔡依林) grabbed headlines, not for her new album *Butterfly* (花蝴蝶), but for being an alleged cheater and copycat.

The story goes something like this: a couple of years ago, Tsai's old flame **Jay Chou** (周杰倫) implied that celebrated music impresario **Chen Tse-shan** (陳澤杉) had knowingly manipulated the charts for his clients including Tsai. Now, the diva is bent on revenge.

When preorders of *Butterfly* broke the 120,000-mark, that is 30,000 more than those for Chou's *Capricorn* (魔杰座) last year, the songstress' label Warner Music (華納音樂) wasted no time in holding a press conference on Sunday, where an attorney was present to validate the veracity of the figures.

According to Chou's record company, JVR Music (杰威爾音樂), Warner Music fiddled the figures. "You can't fool those in the business," the company's spokesperson was quoted as saying.

Perhaps what troubles the Mando-pop queen most is the recent accusation that she copied Japanese pop sensation **Ayumi Hamasaki**. Local media have commented on what they believe are striking similarities between the two stars' new looks.

As **Stefanie Sun** (孫燕姿) readies to open her tour with a concert at Taipei Arena (台北巨蛋) next month, the Singaporean singer's sweetheart of two years, a hitherto well-kept secret, has conveniently surfaced and garnered media attention.

Dubbed "mustache man" (鬍鬚男) by media, 31-year-old **Nadim van der Ros** is Dutch, a high-ranking manager at Aviva, and what's more, a hunk and able athlete who caught the star's eye at a triathlon competition held by his company.

Sun's is not the only secret to see the light of day. **Chu Ko Liang** (豬哥亮), who went into hiding after running up a huge gambling debt more than a decade ago, has reportedly irked his old showbiz chums who have tried to help.

Claiming to have plenty

of job offers lined up for Chu, entertainer-turned-lawmaker **Yu Tian** (余天) said he was frustrated that the fugitive funnyman remains elusive and difficult to reach.

Kao Ling-feng (高凌風) says he has an influential friend in Malaysia who is willing to fund a film tailor-made for Chu. The former comedian, however, has shown little interest.

"Chu wants someone to pay off his debt [reportedly upwards of NT\$200 million] all at once. But that's not possible," Kao was quoted as saying.

Chu should look up to **Judy Chiang** (江蕙) when it comes to gambling troubles. After her older sister, who managed her assets, gambled away all the money and went on the lam earlier this year, the reigning queen of Taiwanese-language music has quietly started again from scratch by releasing the DVD version of her 2008 concert.

Though her sister lost all her savings, to the tune of more than NT\$100 million, Chiang took the blame herself.

"It is all my fault. I should have paid more attention to my sister," Chiang told the *Liberty Times*, the *Taipei Times*' sister newspaper.

— COMPILED BY HO YI

Bygones can't be bygones when it comes to Jay Chou, below, and Jolin Tsai.



PHOTO: TAIPEI TIMES



SPRING SCREAM INFORMATION

WHERE: Oluanpi Lighthouse National Park (鵝鑾鼻燈塔公園)
WHEN: Tonight until Sunday. Doors open at 3pm today; the music starts at 5pm tonight, 1pm tomorrow and Sunday. Shows run until midnight every night
ON THE NET: www.springscream.com

TICKETS

Contrary to recent rumors, Spring Scream has not sold out of tickets and is not likely to do so. Tickets are available at the door and Family Mart convenience stores (全家便利商店) through Sunday. Prices are NT\$1,790 for a three-day pass; NT\$990 for tonight only, NT\$1,190 in advance for Saturday (NT\$1,290 day of the show) and NT\$490 in advance for Sunday (NT\$590 day of the show). You must purchase a three-day pass to use the campgrounds.

THE 'REAL' SPRING SCREAM

There will be parties all throughout the Kenting and Hengchun area; one party in

Kenting even bears the name that translates as "Kenting Scream Spring Party" (鑿丁吶喊春天派對). The original, official Spring Scream (春天吶喊2009) takes place at one location — Oluanpi Lighthouse National Park (鵝鑾鼻燈塔公園). If that's where you want to be, don't let anyone tell you otherwise.

GETTING THERE

Spring Scream's chartered buses direct to Oluanpi are already full. On public transport, a fast way to travel for groups of three or four persons is to take the Taiwan High Speed Rail (www.thsrc.com.tw, (02) 6626-8000) to Kaohsiung's Zuoying Station (高雄左營車站) and then share a taxi to the Spring Scream site at Oluanpi Lighthouse National Park (鵝鑾鼻燈塔公園). The Taiwan Railway Administration (www.railway.gov.tw/en/index/index.aspx, (02) 2381-5226) also offers trains services to Kaohsiung, and buses run from Kaohsiung to Kenting from both train stations.

From Kenting, public buses leave for Oluanpi every hour. There is a bus stop near the McDonald's

and 7-Eleven.

Expect heavy traffic if you're driving. According to the organizers, last year it took more than 3 hours to travel the short distance from Hengchun to Oluanpi by car during the day. The organizers highly recommend an alternative route, which starts east of Hengchun and passes through Qiaotou Road (橋頭路) and Jae Highway (佳龍公路). See the "traffic" section of the festival's Web site for a map or visit www.springscream.com/doc.php?id=77. Consider late evening or early morning travel to avoid traffic snarls.

WHAT TO BRING

Sunscreen and hat: Err on the safe side when it comes to protecting yourself from the sun.

Comfortable shoes: A must, as you'll likely be walking back and forth between eight different stages, which are spread throughout the park. Most of the food vendors are located at the entrance, while the campground is located at the far end of the

park, approximately 500m away.

Flashlight: Useful for walking along the paths between stages in the evening and pitching a tent when it's dark.

Cash: For food, merchandise and drinks available in the park grounds. There are no nearby ATMs.

Swimming attire: The hotel neighboring the park grounds has a swimming pool. There is also a beach near the park.

Toiletries: Shower and restroom facilities are located at the campground.

Acoustic guitar, ukulele, kazoo, etc: What's an evening of camping without a sing-a-long or a jam?

Sleeping bag and tent: See below.

ACCOMMODATIONS
As of press time, the Uni-President Hotel (鑿丁統一渡假村, (08) 885-1078) located at Oluanpi Lighthouse National Park has a

limited number of rooms left. The Kenting and Hengchun areas also offer accommodation, but prepare to pay high-season prices.

Spring Scream organizers strongly recommend camping at the park's campgrounds, which have soft grass, trees for shade, running water, showers and toilets. Camping fees are NT\$1,000 per tent (not included in ticket price), payable at the Spring Scream entrance. All tent occupants must have a three-day ticket. Those who didn't reserve in advance will have to provide their own tents and sleeping bags, as Spring Scream's rental services were available only by advance order.

In Taipei, tents for eight people are available for rent at Hongye Mountaineering and Diving (弘野登山潛水) at 291, Dingzhou Rd Sec 3 (台北市汀洲路3段291號, (02) 2365-4358) or for purchase at Dengshanyou (登山友) at 18, Zhongshan N Rd Sec 1 (台北市中山北路1段18號, (02) 2311-6027).
— David Chen

TOP FIVE MANDARIN ALBUMS MARCH 20 TO MARCH 26

- 1 Fish Leong (梁靜茹) and *Fall in Love & Songs — Don't Cry for Him Anymore* (靜茹&情歌 — 別再為他流淚) with 10.42 percent of sales
- 2 Wang Lee-hom (王力宏) and *Heart Beat* (心·跳) with 7.59%
- 3 Alan Kuo (柯有倫) and *One Day* (2009柯有倫全創作) with 5.48%
- 4 Ji Jia-song (紀佳松) and *Blue J* with 4.31%
- 5 Show Luo (羅志祥) with *Trendy Man* (潮男正傳) with 3.64%

ALBUM CHART COMPILED FROM G-MUSIC (WWW.G-MUSIC.COM.TW), BASED ON RETAIL SALES



OTHER PARTIES

MOONLIGHT

WHEN: Today and tomorrow, from 11pm to 7am
What's the point of going to Kenting without taking advantage of its beautiful surroundings? You will not go wrong with this beach party organized by Kenting's longest-running outdoor-rave-party outfit. Did we mention it was free? The party features **Apple, Cougar, Vertigo, Daniel, Jimmy Chen, Victor Cheng** and more.
WHERE: Xiaowan (小灣), the beach across from the Caesar Hotel (6 Kenting Rd, 鑿丁路6號)
TICKETS: Free

STOP VICIOUS CIRCLE (SVC)

WHEN: Today and tomorrow, from 6pm to 3am
Now in its second year, this indoor event features two stages (hip-hop and trance/electronic) and four of *Djmag's* latest "top 100" DJs (**Simon Patterson, Richard Duran, Greg Downey and Marcel Woods**). However, if these international superstars float your boat, check for final confirmation of the lineup before purchasing your ticket as last year **Christopher Lawrence** turned out to be a no-show. The highlight on the hip-hop front will be the West Coast gangsta rap crew **Boo-Yaa T.R.I.B.E.**
WHERE: Howard Hotel (福華飯店), 2 Kenting Rd (鑿丁路2號)
TICKETS: NT\$1,200 (per day)

SPRING COLOR (香艷)

WHEN: Tomorrow, from 3pm to 9pm
This yacht party features an array of events (various water activities, a barbecue, KTV and fishing) in the afternoon and a hip-hop bash

(by MCs **Bin, Gary** and DJ **Vinny** from Club Deep Passion) after 6pm. Admission is a bit pricey but includes the whole shebang. Be sure to get to the port before 3pm to catch the boat.
WHERE: Houbihu Yacht Port (後壁湖遊艇港)
TICKETS: NT\$3,800

KENTING SCREAM (鑿丁吶喊)

WHEN: Today and tomorrow, from 3pm to 3am
Tonight's do is a hip-hop party with music provided by **Li Chiu-Che** (李玖哲), **Iron Monkey** (鐵猴子), **Machi** (麻吉), DJ **Chicano** and MC **George** (張兆志). Tomorrow sees pop concerts before midnight featuring **Alin, Tizzy Bac, Fan I-chen** (范逸臣), **Chen Sheng** (陳昇) and a "night-market techno" party with **Jerry** (羅百吉) after midnight.
WHERE: Hengchun Airport (恆春機場)
TICKETS: NT\$1,000 for today, NT\$1,200 tomorrow, or NT\$1,500 for both days

SAFARI

WHEN: Today through Monday, from 2pm to 6am
This open-deck party offers you an opportunity to spin in case you have an urge to be a DJ. Just bring your own music.
WHERE: Illusion Kenting (夢幻鑿丁), 888 Kenting Rd (鑿丁路888號)
TICKETS: Free
— QUEEN BEE

[EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT]

Theater

Dubbed the Queen of Henan opera, an art form that is also known as *bangzi* (梆子), star performer Wang Hai-lin (王海玲) teams up with Taiwan Bangzi Company (台灣豫劇團) to perform **Granny Liu** (劉姥姥), which is based on the story *Granny Liu Visits Daguan Park from Dream of the Red Chamber* (紅樓夢).
► Metropolitan Hall (城市舞台), 25, Bade Rd Sec 3, Taipei City (台北市八德路三段25號)
► Today and tomorrow at 7:30pm, Sunday at 2:30pm
► Tickets are NT\$200 to NT\$1,200, available through ERA ticketing or online at www.ticket.com.tw

► Today at 7:30pm, tomorrow at 2:30pm and 7:30pm, Sunday at 2:30pm
► Tickets are NT\$500, available through NCTH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Having toured Europe, Australia, Japan and Hong Kong and received rave reviews, **La Fin des Terres** is the latest work by Compagnie Philippe Genty, which is led by master illusionist of the theater, Philippe Genty. It tells a story about a meeting of two persons set against a landscape of dreams, using a fascinating mixture of puppetry, mime, dance and illusions.
► National Theater, Taipei City
► Thursday at 7:45pm, Sunday at 2:30pm, Monday to Wednesday at 7:30pm
► Tickets are NT\$400 to NT\$2,500, available through NCTH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Sindian Riverside Culture Festival (新店水岸文化節) offers a weekend filled with family-oriented entertainment including outdoor art and book fairs, magic shows, concerts and a performance by U-Theater (藝人神鼓) that runs from 3pm to 4:30pm

on Sunday.
► Eastern bank of the Bitan (碧潭) riverside area, roughly a five minute walk from Xindian MRT station (新店捷運站)
► Tomorrow and Sunday from 10am to 5pm
► All activities are free of charge. For more information, call (02) 2918-3181 X14

Classical

The First Taipei International Lyricism in 20th Century Music Festival (第一屆台北國際二十世紀美好音樂節) presents a series of concerts that run until April 15. Tonight's concert will feature soprano Evelyn Chen (陳秩怡) and the Jade Quartet. The program will include Schonberg's *Verklarte Nacht Op. 4* and *Vier Lieder Op. 2*, Hindemith's *Des Todes für Eine Frauenstimme* and Karl Weigl's *Bilder und Geschichten*. Tomorrow's program will feature works by Korngold and Berg, and Sunday's program will feature Viennese composers from the first half of the 20th century, including Webern,

Bloch, Wellesz and Weigi. Further information can be found at www.taipei-festival.org.
► Today, Saturday and Sunday at 7:30pm
► Novel Hall (新舞台), 3-1 Songshou Rd, Taipei City (台北市松壽路3-1號)
► Tickets are NT\$300 to NT\$1,000, available through ERA ticketing or online at www.ticket.com.tw

Everlasting Light — An Evening of Beethoven (永恒的光輝 — 貝多芬之夜) will see the Evergreen Symphony Orchestra (長榮交響樂團) under Gernot Schmalfluss perform with outstanding local soloists including violinist Lu Si-ching (呂思淸) and pianists Yang Shu-yuan (楊淑媛) and Wei Tse-tao (魏子鎔). The program will include Beethoven's *Triple Concerto in C-Major, Op. 56*, *Piano Concerto No. 5 in E-Flat Major "Emperor," Op. 73* and *Symphony No. 5 in C-Minor, Op. 67*. Further information can be found at www.proartist.com.tw.
► Tomorrow at 7:30pm
► National Concert Hall, Taipei City
► Tickets are NT\$250 to NT\$2,500, available through ERA ticketing or online at www.ticket.com.tw

NSO Song of Wayfarer 2009 — On the Highway 66 (NSO 旅人之歌 — 馳騁66號公路) features violinist Joseph Lin (林以信) performing with the National Symphony Orchestra (國家交響樂團) under the baton of Ling Jahja Taipei City (台北市松壽路3-1號). The program will include Tzyen Hsiao's (蕭泰然) *Violin Concerto in D, Op. 50*, as well as Bernstein's *Candide Overture*, the Asian premiere of Chesky's *New York Variations* and Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess Suite*.
► Today at 7:30pm
► National Concert Hall, Taipei City
► Tickets are NT\$600 to NT\$1,500, available through NCTH ticketing or online at www.artsticket.com.tw

Contemporary

No shows are scheduled this weekend at **The Wall** (透牆) and **Witch House** (女巫店), as everyone will likely be at Spring Scream. [See stories on Pages 13 and 14, and above.]

Tomorrow night **VU Live House** hosts **Kenny From Casino** (賭場肯尼), a group that combines emo, punk, Brit-pop and garage, and **Mary Sees**

the Future.
► B1, 77, Wuchang St Sec 2, Taipei City (台北市武昌街二段77號B1). Tel: (02) 2314-1868
► Show begins at 11pm
► Entrance fee is NT\$500 for men and NT\$400 for women, all you can drink
Experimental jazz quintet **Freetalk** (馬野黨概念五重奏) plays at **Riverside Cafe** (河岸留言) tonight. Mando-pop singer **Lan You-shi** (藍又時) appears tomorrow.
► B1, 2, Ln 244, Roosevelt Rd Sec 3, Taipei City (台北市羅斯福路三段244巷2號B1), next to Taipower Building (台電大樓). Call (02) 2368-7310 or visit www.riverside.com.tw for more information
► Show starts at 9:30pm tonight and 9pm tomorrow
► Entrance fees: NT\$400 tonight and tomorrow; includes one drink

Tonight **Riverside Live House** (西門紅樓展演演廳) hosts Mando-pop singer **Lan You-shi** (藍又時). Tomorrow afternoon Japanese acapella group **Chicken Garlic Steak** takes to the stage, while in the evening **JS** and **Z-Chen** (張智成) play classic Western rock covers of the 1990s.

► 177 Xining S Rd, Taipei City (台北市西寧南路177號). Call (02) 2370-8805 or visit www.riverside.com.tw for more information
► Shows tonight and tomorrow evening start at 8:30pm, tomorrow afternoon's show runs from 2:30pm to 5pm
► Entrance NT\$450 tonight and tomorrow night; tomorrow's cover charge includes one drink

Metamorphosis (變形蟲爵士樂團), one of the first jazz groups in Taiwan to perform and record original music, plays tonight at **Sappho de Base**. Tomorrow Canadian singer-songwriter **Mister Green** and **Highway 9** (九號公路) take to the stage. **T and T Jazz Trio** plays Tuesday, and **Emo Jazz Trio** appears Wednesday. **Double J and Friends** take to the stage on Thursday.
► B1, 1, Ln 102, Anhe Rd Sec 1, Taipei City (台北市安和路一段102巷1號B1). Call (02) 2700-5411 (after 9pm) or visit www.sappho102.biz for more information
► Performances begin at 10:30pm on weekends, 10pm on weekdays
► No admission fee