

Spring Scream picks

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SKARAOKE

Skaraoke's frontman Thomas Hu (胡世漢) is as engaging and professional as Money Shot's Dooley Chandler, with the manners of a dapper gentleman and the style of a streetwise hepcat. The group's big band sound is full of raging horns and toe-tapping beats that speak ska, reggae, rocksteady, swing and jazz. There's even a bit of karaoke in the mix. www.myspace.com/skaraoke



PHOTO COURTESY OF SKARAOKE

COLLIDER

Collider has lost none of its dark, soul-wringing power, despite several lineup changes. Its newest member, bassist Thomas Squires, helps create an angst-ridden and beautifully torturous sound. www.myspace.com/colliderrockband



PHOTO COURTESY OF COLLIDER

NEW HONG KONG HAIR CITY

New Hong Kong Hair City has set the bar for expat female talent with lead vocalist and keyboardist Danielle Sanger belting out and growling songs full of passion and vigor. Macgregor Wooley matches her intensity on vocals and saxophone. www.myspace.com/newhongkonghaircitytw



PHOTO COURTESY OF NEW HONG KONG HAIR CITY

POINT 22 (.22)

Composed of a trio of "founding fathers" from the expat music scene, including festival co-founder Wade Davis, Point 22 (.22) is a rock band with songs that are either gut wrenchingly funny or so catchy that they stick in your head for days. www.myspace.com/point22



PHOTO: ALITA RICKARDS

BLOOD ORANGE

Blood Orange (血橙) is what would happen if you sent a bunch of punks back in time to the jazz age and told them to form a band. With chaotic, discordant melodies that smack into full stops then twist back around for more, it is an instrumental band that doesn't need a vocalist — the music is the frontman. www.myspace.com/bloodorangeretw



PHOTO: ALITA RICKARDS

BY DAVID CHEN AND ALITA RICKARDS



SPRING SCREAM INFORMATION

BY ALITA RICKARDS

WHERE : Oluanpi Lighthouse National Park (鵝鑾鼻燈塔國家公園)

WHEN : Today through Monday. Tonight bands will be setting up, and there will be performances from 6pm to midnight. Tomorrow and Sunday the music goes from noon until 12:30am, and on Monday performances run from noon until 9pm, or later, depending on the whims of the musicians.

ON THE NET : www.springscream.com

ADMISSION : Tickets are available at the door or from 7-Eleven ibon kiosks. A three-day festival pass is NT\$1,600 if bought today, or NT\$1,700 at the door. Tonight there is a sound check and

pre-party for bands and holders of three-day tickets. On the door, entry to tonight's event is NT\$600. One-day passes are NT\$1,100 for tomorrow, Sunday and Monday. Only three-day pass-holders are entitled to use the campgrounds.

THE 'REAL' SPRING SCREAM : There is only one Spring Scream, though this weekend there will be many raves and concerts in the Kending area. The original Spring Scream (春天吶喊) is the one held at Oluanpi Lighthouse National Park (鵝鑾鼻燈塔國家公園).

GETTING THERE : For chartered buses to Spring Scream from Taipei, check www.kitravel.com.tw/servlet/springscream.bus for updates. Other bus companies run regular services to Kending via Kaohsiung. Contact them directly or

through Taipei Bus Station (www.taipeibus.com.tw, or by calling (02) 7733-5888).

The fastest, if not the most economical, way to go is to take the Taiwan High Speed Rail (www.thsrc.com.tw, tel: (02) 6626-8000) to Kaohsiung's Zuoying Station (高雄左營車站) and then share a taxi or minivan to the Spring Scream site at Oluanpi Lighthouse National Park (鵝鑾鼻燈塔國家公園). If you are in a full minivan, the cost is about NT\$450 per person. The Taiwan Railway Administration (www.railway.gov.tw/en/index/index.aspx, tel: (02) 2381-5226) also offers train services to Kaohsiung from Taipei. Buses also run from Kaohsiung to Kending from both Kaohsiung Train and Zuoying stations.

In Kending, buses leave for Oluanpi hourly with stops near the McDonald's and 7-Eleven.

As this is a holiday weekend,

expect heavy traffic. The short trip to Oluanpi from Hengchun (恆春) can take more than three hours. Spring Scream organizers recommend an alternative route. Start east of Hengchun and pass along Qiaotou Road (橋頭路) and Jiaie Highway (佳鴉公路). See the "traffic" section of the festival's Web site for a map. Traveling in the wee hours may help.

ACCOMMODATION : Camping at the Spring Scream site is available for three-day pass holders and performers only. The fee is NT\$2,000 per tent (not per person) for five days, starting today. The campsite has complete bathrooms and hot showers.

Other campsites are located alongside the road between Kending and Oluanpi and charge around NT\$100 to NT\$200 per person per night.

WHAT TO TAKE

BY ALITA RICKARDS

All packed up and ready to Scream!

Spring Scream is a chance to meet friends from around the country and catch some of the best live music Taiwan has to offer, all in a beautiful outdoor location. It's a breath of fresh air to get out of the city, but there isn't a 7-Eleven or Sogo on every corner if you forget to bring something essential. A decade of attending the party has honed this list of what to bring:

Sleeping

- If camping, bring a tent, a blanket or light sleeping bag, and a sheet (or sarong). The campgrounds on site are on grass, which is quite soft.
- A pillowcase can be stuffed with clothes at night and used as a pillow.
- I strongly recommend earplugs, a blindfold and any other sleeping aids you need to be able to wake up refreshed the next day for more dancing.

Flashlight

- For finding things in your tent, getting back at night from the stage area, and looking in your bag or reading on the overnight bus, a headlamp can't be beat. Don't forget batteries.

Sun protection

- Sunglasses not only look cool, they also hide tired eyes — and prevent sun damage. Also bring sunscreen and a hat.

Toiletries

- A plastic bag with hotel or



Forgotten something?

PHOTO: AFP

travel-sized shampoo, conditioner, toothbrush and toothpaste, deodorant and wet wipes, and a second plastic bag for disposal, painkillers if you drink, any other medications.

- There are toilets, sinks, and showers at the campsite.

Clothing

- A sarong is lighter than a towel and can double as a bed sheet, dress, skirt, kilt, scarf, mat to sit on, or shower cover-up. It can be hand-washed and will dry in a couple

of hours. Invaluable for anyone who travels.

- Bring a swimsuit as the nearest hotel has a pool and there are many beaches.
- Leggings or tights are far lighter than jeans or trousers and are warm enough for the evenings.
- One pair of flip-flops and one pair of comfortable slip-on shoes or trainers for dancing, walking around the huge grassy venue, and traveling.
- A couple of light outfits, and a hoodie in case it gets cold at night.
- An empty plastic bag for dirty clothes.

Miscellaneous

- A camera and an extra battery and flash card.
- Cell phone and extra battery.
- A musical instrument if you play, even if you aren't performing, for jamming.
- Your passport if you want to rent a scooter or hotel room.
- A small bag or holster to carry your valuables: Leaving a big purse on the ground while you dance invites trouble, and a belt pack is for your dad.
- A good attitude a smile, and enough cash for food and drinks as there are no nearby ATMs.

From the horse's mouth

- Spring Scream organizer Jimi Moe suggests bringing the following: a Frisbee or hula-hoop, and a cape or costume so you can participate more fully in the festival.

THE VINYL WORD

BY QUEEN BEE AND DAVID CHEN

Spring Wave 春浪

In its fifth year, Spring Wave has become one of the biggest attractions for ravers and music lovers who flock to Kending over the weekend. And not just because of the media hype — the event's program is solid.

Spring Wave takes place at two locations. The electronic music party is located at Hengchun Airport (恆春機場), which hosts Australian electro-rock band **Infusion**, Israeli psy-trance DJ **Yahal** and **Blueman** tomorrow, and Brazilian DJ **Anderson Noise**, German trance DJ **Ronski Speed** and **Xuan** (劉軒) on Sunday.

Mando-pop and indie performers appear at the festival's Maobitou Park (貓鼻頭公園) site. **Sodagreen** (蘇打綠) and **Tanya Chua** (蔡健雅), perform tomorrow, **Jam Hsiao** (蕭敬騰), **Tiger Huang** (黃小琥) and **Van Fan** (范逸臣) on Sunday.

WHEN: Tomorrow and Sunday from 4:30pm to 3am
WHERE: Hengchun Airport (恆春機場) and Maobitou Park (貓鼻頭公園)
ADMISSION: One-day passes are NT\$1,300, available at the door or through Hi-Life (萊爾富) Life-ET electronic kiosks
ON THE NET: www.spring-wave.com

Peninsula Pop Music Concert
 半島音樂盛世演唱會 &
Peninsula Electronic Party
 極電半島電音派對

The other festival located at Hengchun Airport features carnival rides, a food court and DJ **Niki Belucci**, who is

known for playing topless (she spins both nights), plus local favorite DJ **Mykal** (林哲義), UK trance DJs **Matt Darey** and **Activa** and Irish trance duo **Agnelli & Nelson**. Other performers include **Stanley Huang** (黃立行), MC **Hotdog** and **Da Mouth** (大嘴巴) tomorrow, and **Stefanie Sun** (孫燕姿) and **Crowd Lu** (盧廣仲) on Sunday.

WHEN: Tomorrow and Sunday from 5pm to 3am
WHERE: Hengchun Airport (恆春機場)
ADMISSION: For the concerts, one-day passes are NT\$890 to NT\$1,200, and for the electronic music party, one-day passes are NT\$590 to NT\$800, available at the door or from FamilyMart (全家) FamiPort electronic kiosks
ON THE NET: www.ktpmusic.com.tw

Cool Down 墾丁全球抗暖化音樂季

If you go all the way down to Kending and would still rather party indoors, this event is worth considering. Expect to hear everything from metal and hip-hop to house and psy-trance from acts including **Kou Chou Ching** (拷秋勤), **The Tonic** (主音樂團), Japanese DJ **Tsuyoshi**, **Code**, **Dragon**, **Tiger**, **Vertigo**, and many more.

WHEN: Tomorrow and Sunday from 5pm to 2am
WHERE: Howard Hotel (福華飯店), 2 Kending Rd (墾丁路2號)
ADMISSION: Tickets are NT\$1,300 per day, available at the door or from 7-Eleven ibon electronic kiosks
ON THE NET: www.cooldown.tw

Moonlight

Moonlight was started 10 years ago by a group of electronic dance music fanatics who live in Kending. Though the party isn't nearly as big as it used to be, it is now a free event and occupies one of the best locations. The party begins early afternoon and runs through to sunrise with a string of local and expat DJs including **Sam**, **Marcy**, **Cougar**, **Point**, **F*Daniel**, **Code**, **Askahsu**, **Matty Diesel** and **Saucey**, among others.

WHERE: Hsiaowan (小灣), the beach across from the Caesar Hotel, 6, Kending Rd (墾丁路6號)
WHEN: Tomorrow and Sunday from 2pm to 6am
ADMISSION: free

Bikini Electronic 比基尼FUN電派對

Parties that feature "topless" female European DJs seem to be the new wheeze this year. **Bikini Electronic's** lineup includes Dutch DJ **Mata Hari**, **DJane Baby Face** and **Sexation**, whose shtick is performing in the buff from the waist up. They will be joined by **Danny Taylor** and German DJ **Pedro del Mar**.

WHERE: Dajian Mountain (大尖山)
WHEN: Tomorrow and Sunday from 8pm to 4am
ADMISSION: Passes are NT\$700 per day, or NT\$1,200 for both days, available at the door or from springscream.hotkt.com

For more information, visit spring-scream.hotkt.com (Chinese only)