

SONG OF THE DAY



Fahad AlSabah
Staff Writer

Song: Silent Movie
Artist: Natasha Bedingfield
Album: *Unwritten*
Genre: Pop

In short: After the huge success of 2004's "These Words," it seemed like everybody around the globe knew who Bedingfield is, but the thing is, most people don't know half the story. On her debut, *Unwritten*, Bedingfield successfully created a polished, harmless, pop record that is, to me, timeless. "Silent Movie" is one of the odd tracks that helped furnish the album's eccentric ambience.

To listen to the song visit www.alwatandaily.com
E-mail your feedback to falsabah@alwatandaily.com

A president proposed to me, says Miriam Faris

Yaser Al-Ela
Staff Writer

KUWAIT: Al Watan recently met Miriam Faris, a young artist with an incredible passion for music and dancing. Her numerous talents have thousands captivated for she has a unique way of reaching people's hearts with spontaneity and elegance. She is young and adventurous and full of life; her new music videos that appeal to this generation show her speeding in a car and even riding a motorcycle.

What do you wish for in 2010?

Faris: On a career level I hope for larger successes, on a personal level I pray on a daily basis to God to bestow on me and my family good health and wellness.

Where will you celebrate the New Year?

Faris: In Dubai where I'm holding a concert. I'm really excited.

How successful was your last album?

Faris: Well it was a major global success, even the Turkish singer Mustafa Sandal called and praised my album and asked for the rights to one of the songs so he can put it to Turkish lyrics. The Russians also loved my songs, which is amazing as I ended up doing six concerts in Russia

Did the Chechen President really propose to you?

Faris: Well people love my music and playing it in their cars, restaurants. But I was surprised when President Ramzan Kadyrov who is married with kids asked me to marry him. He said that since he's a Muslim he is allowed to marry more than one woman, but I declined and that's all.



Faris decorating her house. (Al Watan)

Are you working on any films?

Faris: I have been receiving different movie scripts over the past three years from many production companies in Egypt. Ahmed Ezz and Tamer Hosni both have asked me to

act with them in movies but I haven't decided whether I'm taking that step yet.

I would start off with romantic comedy as I don't really like action-packed movies.

Barakat Al-Waqayan



Al-Waqayan before his departure to Boston. (Al Watan)

Faisal Al-Jassim
Staff Writer

KUWAIT: Television star Barakat Al-Waqayan left the country on Monday afternoon heading to Boston, Massachusetts for medical treatment. Al Watan met with him in the airport before he departed where Al-Waqayan said that he has no complaints and is not worried.

Barakat has recently injured his shoulder along other parts of his body and was planning on traveling to Germany for treatment but then took Sheikh Khalifa Ali Al-Sabah's advice to go to

Boston's Grand Hammett medical hospital with its specialized doctors in the field of serious surgical operations.

Barakat noted that he is grateful to Sheikh Khalifa for his help and advice.

Though the operation has not yet been scheduled as tests are required, the treatment period is estimated to take one to three months. Before leaving Al-Waqayan thanked his fellow journalists and artists and said "thank you for the amazing support, gifts and flowers. I ask you to pray for my healthy return and speedy recovery so I can return to my audience."

Charlie Sheen's wife says that he threatened her

DENVER: Charlie Sheen's wife told police the actor pinned her on a bed, put a knife to her throat and threatened to kill her in a Christmas Day fight in Aspen that began when she said she wanted a divorce.

An arrest warrant affidavit released Monday quotes Brooke Mueller Sheen as saying that the actor straddled her on a bed with one hand grasping her neck and the other holding the knife. She said Sheen told her: "You better be in fear. If you tell anybody, I'll kill you."

He also told her, "Your mother's money means nothing, I have ex-police I can hire who know how to get the job done and they won't leave any trace," according to the affidavit.

The 44-year-old Sheen denied threatening his wife with a knife or choking her, and told officers they had slapped each other on the arms and that he had snapped two pairs of her eyeglasses in front of her, according to the affidavit. An ambulance was sent to the house in Aspen, but police say no one was taken to the hospital.

Charlie Sheen, who is listed in the affidavit as Carlos Irwin Estevez, told police he and his wife have been having marital problems and that she abuses alcohol.

No phone listing could be found for Brooke Sheen, and it wasn't clear whether she has an attorney. The affidavit refers to her as Brooke Mueller. Sheen was arrested on suspicion of menacing, second-degree assault and criminal mischief. The affidavit also lists a charge of domestic violence, which authorities had not previously mentioned. Sheen is free on \$8,500 bond. His lawyer and his agent didn't immediately return calls on Monday.

The couple began arguing around 3:30 a.m. on Christmas Day, the affidavit said. Brooke Sheen told her husband she wanted a divorce and would get custody of their children, according to the affidavit. The couple have twin boys born in March. Charlie Sheen told police he "became very upset with this threat (of divorce) because of prior experiences." He went through a bitter divorce and custody battle with his previous wife, actress Denise Richards.

A woman who identified herself as "Brooke"



FILE Actor Charlie Sheen with his wife Brooke Mueller arrive at the 59th Primetime Emmy Awards. (AP)

and said she was Sheen's wife called 911 around 8:30 a.m. In an audio recording of the call released Monday, the woman can be heard weeping and sometimes her words are inaudible. At one point she said: "My husband had me (inaudible) with um, with a knife, and (inaudible) he threatened me." Later, she said, "I thought I was gonna die for one hour."

Police say Charlie Sheen surrendered a folding knife with a 4-inch blade.

Chief Deputy District Attorney Arnold Mordkin said Monday the menacing charge is the most serious, usually carrying a sentence of two to eight years in prison and a fine of \$2,000 to \$500,000. Mordkin said Sheen's next court appearance is Feb. 8, and no decision on whether to prosecute him is expected until shortly before that.

Charlie Sheen stars in CBS' *Two and a Half Men* and Brooke Mueller Sheen is a real estate investor. The couple married in May 2008. -AP

Lil Wayne has hometown farewell show before jail

NEW ORLEANS: Lil Wayne emerged as a top-selling musician known for his clever word-play and risqué lyrics, but like rappers before him, he's staring down a year behind bars at the peak of his career. The artist returned to his hometown of New Orleans for a performance Monday on what he's calling his farewell tour. The 27-year-old rapper, whose real name is Dwayne Carter, pleaded guilty in October to a weapons possession charge and will be sentenced Feb. 9. His plea deal calls for a year in jail.

The charge stemmed from a 2007 traffic stop of his tour bus in New York when authorities said they smelled marijuana, and as they approached, he tossed aside a bag with a loaded .40-caliber handgun. In a separate case, he also faces trial in March on felony drug possession and weapons charges in Yuma County, Ariz. More recently, he had to postpone a show one day after authorities stopped two of his buses in Texas and found marijuana. The case has been referred to the sheriff's office. As thousands of fans filed through the New Orleans Arena doors Monday, many said they were disappointed with the rapper's legal troubles. "It's kinda sad, the stereotype and that he fell into it," said 19-year-old Lee Farrell of New Orleans. Lil Wayne is set to follow some of rap music's biggest names - from Tupac Shakur, Lil' Kim, Beanie Sigel and Shyne to New Orleans natives Mystikal and C-Murder - who have served a few months to several years behind bars for crimes committed after they became famous. Corey "C-Murder" Miller was convicted earlier this year of second-degree murder for the 2002 shooting of a fan during a



FILE - Lil Wayne arrives in court for weapon charges at the New York State Supreme Court on Dec. 15, 2009 in New York City. (AP)

nightclub brawl. He was sentenced to life in prison. T.I. reported to a federal prison in May for his conviction on weapons charges. He is expected to serve a year and a day. "I hope Lil Wayne will follow in T.I.'s footsteps," said 32-year-old Jed Wright of Metairie, who brought his 11-year-old stepson to the show as a Christmas present. "T.I. promised to turn his life around. Lil Wayne can do the same thing." Lil Wayne has been rapping since he was a teenager. Over the past two years, his career has reached new heights with several Grammys and

gold records. His *Tha Carter III* topped all album sales in 2008 with 2.8 million copies sold. The record had the No. 1 smash "Lollipop," and last year he won a Grammy for best rap solo for "A Milli." "He's very unique," said 18-year-old April Nguyen, of Metairie, La. "He expands his genre, even does rock music, and is constantly reinventing himself." Lil Wayne's next album, *Rebirth*, is due for release Feb. 1. After New Orleans, he is scheduled to play a couple of dates in Texas and another show in southern Louisiana. -AP

Susan Boyle brings her act to Japan

NARITA, Japan: Scottish singing sensation Susan Boyle has brought her act to Japan.

The 48-year-old church volunteer who rocketed to fame with her surprising performance on "Britain's Got Talent" arrived at Tokyo's international airport Tuesday to prepare for a guest appearance on Japan's premiere vocal variety show, which will be aired live on New Year's Eve by Japan's public broadcaster, NHK.

Boyle smiled broadly as she greeted a mob of photographers at the airport, but declined a request for an impromptu song, saying her fans would have to wait for the NHK show.

She is scheduled to sing her trademark "I Dreamed a Dream" from *Les Miserables*.

The NHK program, now in its 60th year, showcases the most popular singers of the year. Most of its guests are Japanese. Boyle was runner-up in the British talent show, but her performance became a hit on YouTube and made her one of the biggest international celebrities of the year, with more than 120 million views. -AP



British singer Susan Boyle greets fans upon arriving at Narita International Airport in Narita, east of Tokyo, Japan, Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2009. (AP)