

FUNDDAY

Today's Horoscopes

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
It's wise to look for the upside of a situation, especially if it's a bad situation. You recognize the downside, of course, but it would be pointless to dwell there.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
In today's case, ignorance will not be bliss. Ignorance will be something more akin to apathy. Bliss isn't on the menu today anyway, but you will be happier seeking knowledge than not.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
If your eyes were sun lamps, you'd be giving a certain someone a face tan. The exchange of extra attention will be good for both of you. On a side note, your nutritional needs are changing. Consider changing your eating style.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
Sleep is underrated. It's a healer and a spiritual tool. It's a teleoperation system, an entertainment system, a protection system. Bottom line: Get more sleep.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
At the juncture of an important decision, you may be worried that you'll do something you'll regret. Don't. People usually don't regret their mistakes. What they regret is their missed opportunities.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Someone is hiding his or her true feelings from you, probably afraid of being an inconvenience. But convenience isn't everything. Make your caring heart known. Be a soft place to land.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
If you could fix what another person is going through, you would. It's painful to watch without being able to do something about it. Getting involved would mean crossing a line - not always a bad thing, but certainly worthy of careful deliberation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
There are those who won't be able to keep up with you, and you'll have to find a work-around for this. Everyone doesn't have to get there at the same time, but stay hopeful that all will get there eventually.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
People are good at different things. You may look at the next guy and wonder how he does it, but you can bet that in a different category, others think the same thing about you. Give yourself more credit today.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
You feel it's time to prove your worth to your boss or loved one. The trouble is, you have to believe it, or it's not going to work. Furthermore, once you believe it, proving it to others will be a moot point.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Before you embark on a project, ask yourself: Who would be the most fun person to do this with? Then ask: Who has the expertise I most need? The right person will bring both levity and serious skills to the table.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Complaining is a favorite pastime for the modern human ... or maybe it's more of a disease. While it's important to move the problem, to stop there would be folly and weakness. It's why you take action today.



ANDY CAPP BY REG SMYTHE



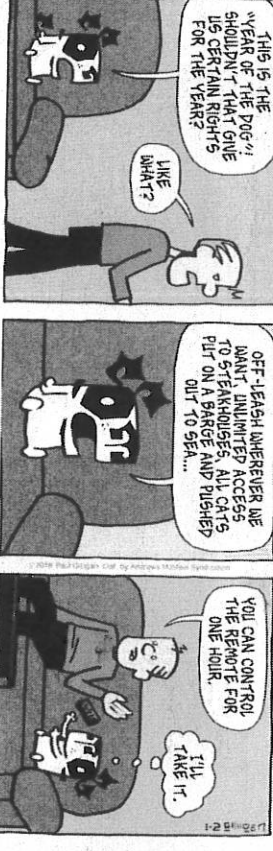
CALVIN AND HOBBS BY BILL WATTERSON



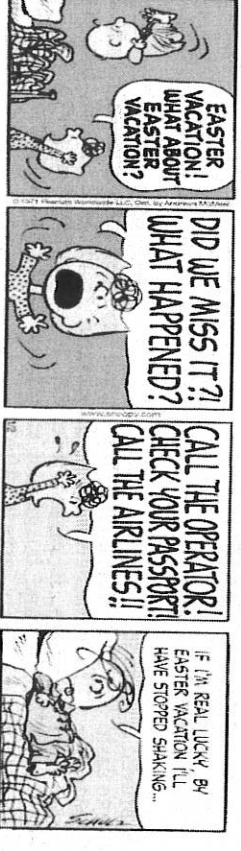
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POOCH CAFE BY PAUL GILLIGAN



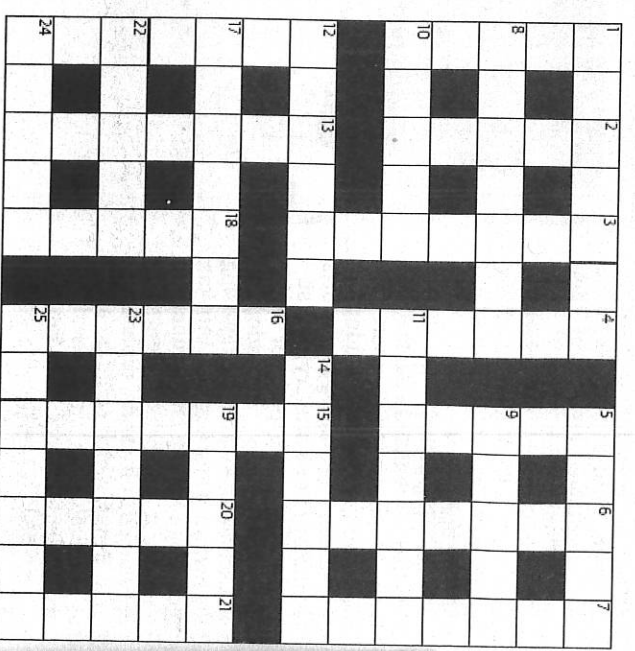
PEANUTS BY CHARLES SCHULZ

Photography

Find the word puzzle

C L O S E U P E D S F I L L T E R X C I
E N G D A U A A M L E F L E F E A R G
E N I S W F R E E A I N R S O H L O N
R L L O N K E V E X R U G D C S L P I
S E L L A R E I L I M S F N E A I A P T
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S I O I A C H Z T L E F R L P L A R N
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B A L A N C E E N L A R G E R
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C O N T R A S T H O T S H O E
C O P P I N G L I G H T M E T E R
D A R K R O O M L I G H T I N G
D E V E L O P E R N E G A T I V E
O V E R E X P O S U R E
P A N N I N G P A N O R A M A
P A R A L L A X P H O T O F I N I S H E R
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T O N E
T R I P O D
U N D E R E X P O S U R E
V I E W F I N D E R
Z O O M L E N S

Cross word puzzle



- Across**
- 1 (5,2,5)
 - 5 See 1
 - 8 Softly bright or radiant; flickering (7)
 - 9 International Call sign: appreciation shown at the opera (5)
 - 10 Bo ----- co-star of Dudley Moore in '40' (5)
 - 11 Vocation (7)
 - 12 Announcement of an event or piece of news (6)
 - 14 Originally an alpine cowherd's hut (6)
 - 17 Precise detail; small, trivial matter (7)
 - 19 Place; site (5)
 - 22 Florida key: musical slow movement (5)
 - 23 Ice cult? (anag) (7)
 - 24 Being about to publish (5,2,5)
 - 25 See 24
- Down**
- 1 Bound up (5)
 - 2 Turkish port, formerly Smyrna (5)
 - 3 Small cucumber pickled whole (7)
 - 4 Field of vision? (6)
 - 5 Actionable words (5)
 - 6 Pertaining to the ice ages (7)
 - 7 Content of cognition (7)
 - 12 Bony coins (7)
 - 13 Bony coins (7)
 - 15 Crest or crown of an upland area (7)
 - 16 Surgical knife with a pointed double-edged blade; pointed Gothic arch (6)
 - 18 Leather strip that forms the flexible part of a whip; excuse for underwear (5)
 - 20 Revolution, ie one complete turn (5)
 - 21 Skids, bringing a vehicle's back-end around (5)

Samoaobserver

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RIS - FRI/SUN/WED 01 31/01/18

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P- 22- 23- 24- 27- 20/12/07 - No: 47333

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F-61/18/19/20/12/17 - No: 5094

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P-17- 20/12/17

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RENTAL PROPERTIES!!



LEPEREA

Two bedroom rental home with two bathrooms. Air con and hot water systems installed. Very close to town location!
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TALIMATAU

3-bedroom, home opposite Sports Complex at Tuainamato! Fully air con with hot water and furnished. Securely fenced with handy location!
RENT: \$2,600 PER MONTH



VAIWASE TAI

3-bedroom home with hot water & air con, and one shared bathrm. Fully fenced with quiet neighbors. A short drive to NUSI
RENT: \$2,000 PER MONTH



VAIMOSO

Recently renovated 3-bedroom home with single shared bathroom. Fully fenced with ideal close to town location. Also has hot water installed!
RENT: \$2,000 PER MONTH



LOTOPA

2 bedrm home with security fencing. Open plan dining, kitchen and living area. Home is fully air conditioned, with hot water and is fully furnished.
RENT: \$2,500 PER MONTH



TULAELE

3-bedroom home with air con and hot water. Handy location to town with good neighbors. Close to Sports Complex, Tuainamato.
RENT: \$2,300 PER MONTH



VALIWA

Two bedroom home with air con and hot water. Walking distance to Myra's Mini-mart and SPREP. Fully fenced and comes fully furnished!
RENT: \$2,200 PER MONTH



VALGAGA

Fully furnished 2-bedroom home in fenced compound. Hot water and air con already in place, covered patio out front and carport/laundry room.
RENT: \$2,100 PER MONTH



VAITELE

Relatively new 2-bedrm home with hot water system. Comes fully furnished and securely fenced. Wraparound patio for outdoor entertainment.
RENT: \$1,600 PER MONTH



SINAMOAGA

Fully furnished 3 bedroom home with air con and hot water. Covered patio, carport, and laundry room with extra toilet. Handy to town location!
RENT: \$2,600 PER MONTH



TOOMATAGI

Two bedroom rental unit opposite NUSI Home is securely fenced, with air con and hot water. Laundrymat is walking distance away!
RENT: \$1,600 PER MONTH



ULULOLOA

Fully furnished modern home with 3 bedrms, 2 bathrms, carport with laundry area, hot water & air con. Expansive ocean views to boot!
RENT: \$4,800 PER MONTH

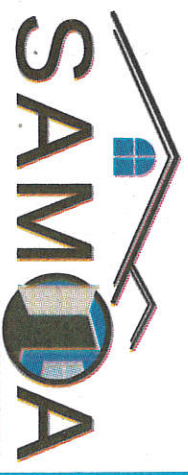


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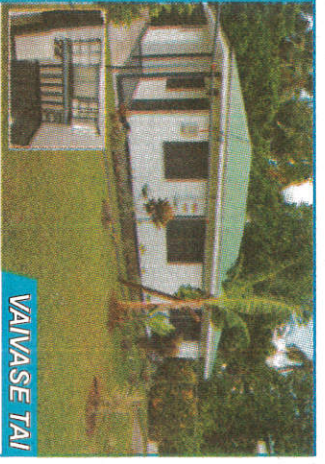
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RENT: \$1,700 PER MONTH

Entertainment & Arts

"Gun Crazy" star, Peggy Cummins, dead at 92

NEW YORK (AP) — Peggy Cummins, a Welsh-born stage and film actress who worked just a few years in Hollywood but left behind an indelible performance as the lethal, beret-wearing robber in the noir classic "Gun Crazy," has died at age 92.

Cummins, who retired from acting in the early 1960s, died on Friday in London. Her friend Dee Kirkwood said she died of a stroke.

A child star in England, Cummins was not yet 20 when brought to the United States in 1945 by studio boss Darryl F. Zanuck to play the title role in an adaptation of one of the decade's traciestr novels, "Forever Amber." The petite blonde was passed over in favor of Linda Darnell, allegedly because she was too young, but Cummins was most certainly of age for "Gun Crazy," which came out in 1950.

Initially dismissed by The New York Times as "pretty cheap stuff," the low-budget "Gun Crazy" was directed by Joseph H. Lewis and secretly co-written by the blacklisted Dalton Trumbo, who devised a tale of sex and violence and of love destroyed by greed.

Cummins played Annie Laurie Starr, a sharpshooter in a traveling carnival who hooks up with a local marksman, Bart Tare, played by John Dall. Tare is an ex-reform school student who wants to go straight, but

Starr shames (and seduces) him into a life of crime, telling him: "I want things, a lot of things, big things." His reluctance to fire a gun is more than compensated by her willingness to kill anyone.

"I told Peggy, 'You're a female dog in heat, and you want him. But don't let him have it in a hurry. Keep him waiting,'" Lewis later explained.

The film's erotic energy and documentary style eventually made it a cult favorite, with admirers including the French New Wave directors Francois Truffaut and Jean-Luc Godard. In the mid-1960s, when writers David Newman and Robert Benton were trying to sell a synopsis for what became "Bonnie and Clyde," Truffaut arranged a screening of "Gun Crazy" and suggested it as inspiration. In 1998, the Library of Congress selected "Gun Crazy" for preservation for being "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant."

Cummins made just a handful of American movies, including "Escape" and "The Late George Apley," before returning to England in 1950. She did briefly date then-aspiring politician John F. Kennedy and was asked out by Howard Hughes, only to have the wealthy aviator crash his plane and cancel their dinner plans. Back in England, she married William Herbert Derek Dunnett and remained with him until his death in 2000. They had two children.



WELSH-BORN ACTRESS: FILE - In this Dec. 26, 1945, file photo, actress Peggy Cummins, 20, smiles in Superior Court, in Los Angeles, after her contract with Twentieth Century-Fox Studio had been approved. Cummins, who gave an indelible performance as the lethal, beret-wearing robber in the noir classic "Gun Crazy," has died. Cummins' retired from acting in the early 1960s, died Friday, Dec. 29, 2017, in London at age 92. Photo / (AP Photo/File)

Famed Alabama Muscle Shoals music producer Rick Hall dies at 85

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — Alabama record producer Rick Hall, who recorded some of the biggest musical acts of the 1960s and '70s and helped develop the fabled "Muscle Shoals sound," has died.

Hall died at his home Tuesday following a fight with cancer, said longtime friend Judy Hood. He was 85.

Hall founded FAME Recording Studios in northwestern Alabama in 1959 and went on to record major acts including R&B stars Aretha Franklin and Wilson Pickett. Hall also recorded country artists including George Jones and Brenda Lee and produced pop acts including Paul Anka and the Osmonds.

A new generation of listeners knows Hall through the 2013 documentary "Muscle Shoals." The movie tells the story of Hall, the region's musicians and their distinctive, soulful sound

featuring heavy bass, guitar and electronic organ or piano.

David Hood, Judy Hood's husband and a member of the "Swampers" rhythm section immortalized in the Lynyrd Skynyrd song "Sweet Home Alabama," said Hall "had a very definite idea of how things were supposed to sound."

"I think his real fix was as a mixer," said Hood. "He inspired us all and made sure we were playing what he wanted."

Performers including Jason Isbell took to social media to praise Hall and his legacy.

Isbell tweeted: "Rick Hall and his family gave me my first job in the music business, and nobody in the industry ever worked harder than Rick. Nobody. American music wouldn't be the same without his contributions. His death is a huge loss to those of us who knew him and those who didn't."



ALABAMA RECORD PRODUCER: Rick Hall, who recorded some of the biggest musical acts of the 1960s and '70s and helped develop the fabled "Muscle Shoals sound", has died.

Country music singer-songwriter Mac McAnally sent a tweet calling Hall the "Godfather of Muscle Shoals Music," adding: "Godspeed my friend!"

Hall, a native of Mississippi, received a Trustees Award from the Grammy Awards in 2014, and he is a member of the Alabama Music Hall of Fame.

Singer Carrie Underwood also injured her face in

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Country singer Carrie Underwood is bringing in 2018 by sharing more details about more injuries that she suffered after a fall that broke her wrist.

In a blog post to fans on New Year's Day Underwood says she sustained a facial injury that required 40-50 stitches and that she's "not quite looking the same."

She says that she is grateful the injuries weren't much worse and for the people who have helped her since the November accident. She also cautioned fans that she might not look the same when she's ready to be seen on camera again.

"I'm hoping that, by then, the differences are minimal, but, again, I just don't know how it's all going to end up."

Underwood also says she'll be in the studio next week.

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TICKET PRICES	
ADULTS	\$15.00
CHILDREN (12 YEARS UNDER)	\$ 8.00

APOLLO

ADVOCATE RATINGS

PG

MOVIE SESSIONS CINEMAS

Thursday 4th January

- 12.30pm All The Money In The World
- 2.00pm Pitch Perfect 3
- 3.30pm Ferdinand
- 6.00pm Star Wars: The Last Jedi
- 7.30pm Jumanji
- 8.30pm Downsizing (PREMIERE)

Friday 5th January

- 12.30pm Jumanji
- 3.30pm All The Money In The World
- 5.00pm Paddington
- 6.00pm Pitch Perfect 3
- 7.30pm Downsizing
- 8.30pm Jumanji

Saturday 6th January

- 12.30pm Pitch Perfect 3
- 2.00pm Downsizing
- 3.30pm All The Money In The World
- 5.00pm Ferdinand
- 6.00pm Star Wars: The Last Jedi
- 7.30pm Jumanji
- 8.30pm Downsizing

Sunday 7th January

- 4.00pm Paddington
- 5.00pm Jumanji
- 6.00pm Pitch Perfect 3
- 7.30pm Downsizing
- 8.30pm All The Money In The World

Monday 8th January

- 12.30pm Pitch Perfect 3
- 3.30pm Downsizing
- 6.00pm Wonder
- 7.30pm All The Money In The World
- 8.30pm Jumanji

Tuesday 9th January

- 12.30pm All The Money In The World
- 3.00pm Coco
- 5.00 pm Star Wars: The Last Jedi
- 6.00pm Jumanji
- 7.30pm Downsizing
- 8.30pm Pitch Perfect 3

Wednesday 10th January

- 12.30pm Jumanji
- 2.00pm Paddington
- 3.30pm All The Money In The World
- 6.00pm Jumanji
- 7.30pm Pitch Perfect 3
- 8.30pm Downsizing

PREMIERE

PAYNE
FILM

DOWN SIZING

WRITTEN BY ALEXANDER PAYNE & JIM TAYLOR DIRECTED BY ALEXANDER PAYNE

When scientists discover how to shrink humans to five inches tall as a solution to overpopulation, Paul (Matt Damon) and his wife Audrey (Kristen Wiig) decide to abandon their stressed lives in order to get small and move to a new downsized community — a choice that triggers life-changing adventures.



LAST GALL PITCHES
IN CINEMAS DECEMBER 21

After the highs of winning the world championships, the Bellas find themselves split apart and discovering there aren't job prospects for making music with your mouth.



THE LAST JEDI
STAR WARS

Luke Skywalker's peaceful and solitary existence gets upended when he encounters Rey, a young woman who shows strong signs of the Force.



Four high school kids discover an old video game console and are drawn into the game's jungle setting...

Ferdinand is a young bull who escapes from a training camp in rural Spain after his father never returns from a showdown with a matador.

FROM THE CREATORS OF RIO AND ICE
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FERDINAND

MICHELLE WILLIAMS CHRIS OPPER PUMMER AND MARK WAHLBERG

ALL THE MONEY IN THE WORLD
follows the kidnapping of 18-year-old John Paul Getty III
WORLD

Observer Sports

Frank Warren: Daniel Dubois hits harder than Anthony Joshua

By Marcus Richardson
boxingnews24.Com

Promoter Frank Warren says he thinks his heavyweight 20-year-old Daniel Dubois (6-0, 6 KOs) already hits harder than IBF/WBA heavyweight champion Anthony Joshua (20-0, 20 KOs), and he has more potential than him.

That's quite a compliment by Warren, because Joshua is 8 years older than the 6'5", 240-pound Dubois, and he comes from a far superior amateur background. Joshua won a gold medal in the 2012 Olympics in London. The gold medal was controversial with many fans believing Joshua should have lost 2 of his fights during the London Olympics, but he still made the matches close enough for him to be given the wins in front of his hometown boxing fans.

"I think he punches harder than any British heavyweight I've ever seen," said Warren to ESPN.com. "We're talking harder than Anthony Joshua, Frank Bruno, Lennox Lewis, all of them. In terms of potential, I think he's in front of anyone I've ever had. I think he's in front of all of them at this stage of his career, he could win the British title tomorrow."

Dubois is said to have dropped Joshua in sparring in the past. That's an accomplishment if it's true. However, Dubois dropping Joshua in sparring doesn't mean that he could do it in an actual fight. If Dubois can do that in an actual fight, he would really make a big name for him, especially if he wins.

Dubois is probably at least 3 years away from a title shot against Joshua if he holds onto his heavyweight titles. It also depends on whether Warren wants to move Dubois quickly or not. If he has Dubois challenge Joshua at 23, that's a pretty early age to be having him fight for a world title.

If Warren waits until Dubois is 25 or 26 before having him fight for a world title, Joshua may not be at the top at that point. Anything is possible in the heavyweight division.

Joshua could lose to Deontay Wilder or Tyson Fury in 2018. He might even lose to WBO



HEAVYWEIGHT BOXER: Daniel Dubois (6-0, 6 KOs) already hits harder than IBF/WBA heavyweight champion Anthony Joshua (20-0, 20 KOs), and he has more potential than him.

heavyweight champion Joseph Parker. There are always young heavyweights coming up that could get to Joshua before Dubois does.

The sparring rumors about Dubois knocking Joshua down stem from a sparring session that took place in early 2016. When

asked, Dubois doesn't deny that he knocked Joshua down.

Dubois has looked very good recently in stopping the following heavyweights:

- Dorian Darch in 2 rounds TKO
- AJ Carter in 1 round TKO
- Mauricio Barragan in 2 rounds KO

- David Howe in 1 round KO
- Blaise Mendouo in 1 round TKO

- Marcus Kelly in 1st round TKO
- Warren would do well if he put Dubois in against the British heavyweight champion Sam Sexton (24-3, 9 KOs) in 2018. Matching Dubois against Sexton

this year would be a good test for him. Sexton has a lot of experience and good punching power. The hype train would be going at high speed if Dubois knockout Sexton the same way that he's been doing the other heavyweights he's been facing.



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SPORTS

Hayne set to return to Parramatta Eels training but this will be no fresh start

(AAP) - Jarryd Hayne is expected to press ahead with his long-awaited return to Parramatta training this week, despite a rape allegation stemming from a US civil suit hanging over his head.

On Wednesday or Thursday, Hayne is due to turn out in Eels colours for the first time in more than three years as the prodigal son makes his comeback to the club where he first wove his magic in 2006.

However any hopes Hayne had of a fresh start at Parramatta in the new year were diminished in December, when a woman known only as 'Ms V' brought a civil suit against the 29-year-old in California.

Hayne's lawyers have "unequivocally and vehemently" denied the allegations, which include claims the 29-year-old raped the drunk woman in late 2015 during his NFL stint with the San Francisco 49ers.

Regardless, the ongoing saga is likely to overshadow Hayne's return to Eels training, after he signed with the club following his World Cup stint with Fiji.

Hayne returned from a religious trip to Israel last week, and dodged cameras as he was ushered out a side door at Sydney airport.

But it's understood he could still have to answer questions from both the NRL's integrity unit and his club, with the Eels having since claimed they were unaware of the "serious allegations" when they signed him last month.

Hayne spoke to local investigators after the woman went to the police in May 2016 before the criminal case was rejected by the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office in October of that year.

According to court documents, the DA's office told the woman at the time that "there was not enough evidence to prove the crime of rape beyond a reasonable doubt."

However the woman is now pursuing the two-time Dally M winner on claims of sexual battery, gender violence, infliction of emotional distress and negligence.

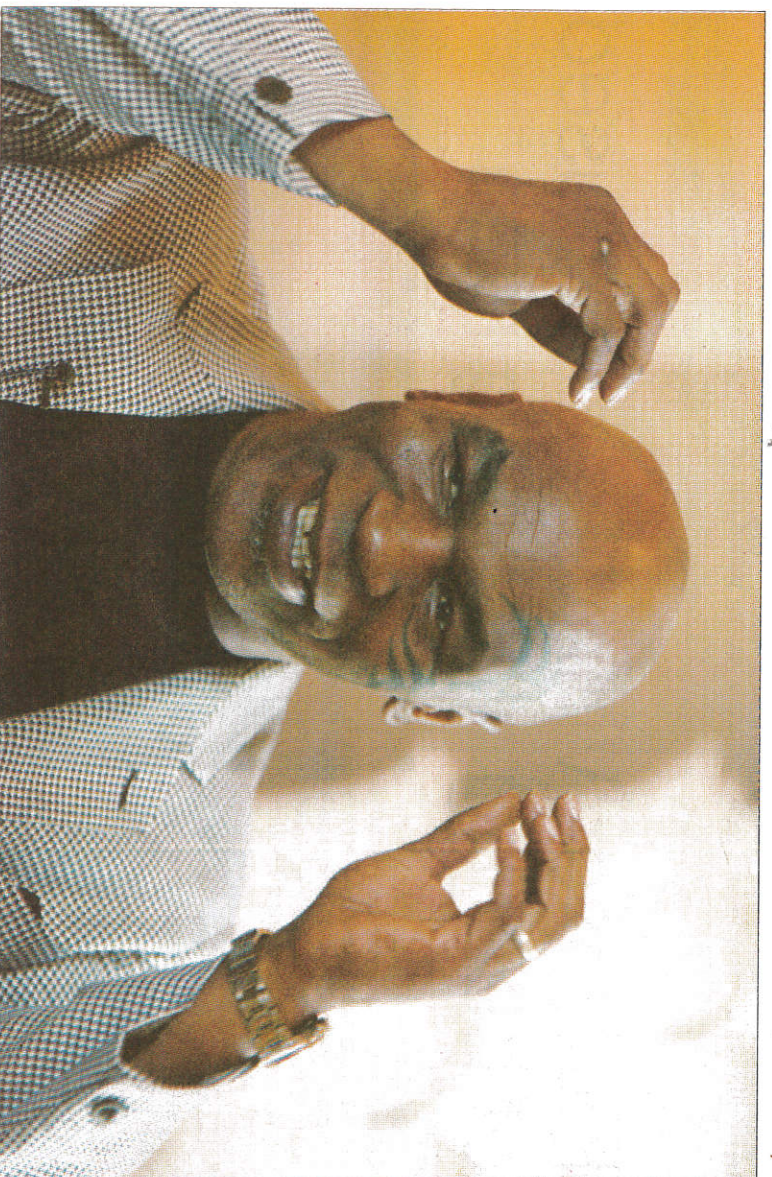
Hayne was signed in August 2016 by the then-NRL-owned Gold Coast Titans, who have also claimed they were unaware of the investigation at the time.

Hayne hasn't appeared in Parramatta colours since September 2014, before his shock announcement a month later that he would pursue a career in the United States.



Jarryd Hayne returns to the Eels with his last competitive outing for Fiji Bat in the recent Rugby League World Cup.

Mike Tyson breaks ground on California marijuana ranch



FORMER HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: Mike Tyson speaks during an interview with The Associated Press, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Tyson is becoming a California marijuana entrepreneur. TheBlast.com reports that Tyson and partners on Dec. 20, 2017, broke ground on a plot for a cannabis resort in California City, a remote Mojave Desert town that's about a 110-mile drive north of Los Angeles. Photo / AP Photo/Kamran Jebreili, File)

CALIFORNIA CITY, Calif. (AP) —

Former heavyweight champion Mike Tyson is becoming a California marijuana entrepreneur.

TheBlast.com reports that Tyson and partners on Dec. 20 broke ground on a plot for a cannabis resort in California City, a remote Mojave Desert town that's about a 110-mile (177-kilometer) drive

north of Los Angeles.

Partner Robert Hickman tells the website that the undeveloped lands are primed to be cultivated and that Tyson Ranch will be an oasis.

In a video of the event, California City Mayor Jennifer Wood thanks Tyson for his commitment to the community, saying the industry

will provide medical marijuana to people in need, revenue, jobs and income for residents.

Calls and emails from The Associated Press to a Tyson representative and the mayor were not immediately returned Tuesday.

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SPORTS

Dylan Hartley is still my leader

- England coach Eddie Jones

(The Telegraph, London) - Eddie Jones has given Dylan Hartley his wholehearted backing to continue as England captain despite the troubles at Northampton and his own poor form that has led former international players such as Lawrence Dallaglio and Austin Healey to question his right to lead his country.

The England head coach has no reservations, though, even though he says that "2018 is when you win or lose a World Cup through your planning and your preparation in developing a team that is tough enough, resilient enough and adaptable enough".

As Jones wrapped up a two-day training camp in Brighton, he extolled the virtues of the man who has been his captain since the Australian took over two years ago and embarked on a run of 21 victories in 22 tests.

"No," said Jones emphatically on Tuesday (Wednesday NZ time) when asked if he had revised his opinion of Hartley following recent events. "I don't watch club rugby to assess them on how they play at clubs."

"I watch club rugby to assess how they are going to play at international level, which is



ENGLAND TEAM CAPTAIN: Dylan Hartley has received the backing of England coach Eddie Jones to continue as captain.

completely different. Some guys can be outstanding club players and be poor at international level. Some guys can be poor club players and outstanding international

players.

"As long as Dylan's attitude is right, his body is right, he brings something to the table that we need at the moment, and that is strong leadership. We have discussed it. It's been a tough time for Dylan."

"When you are captain of a club that is struggling, a club that has just sacked their coach, it becomes a difficult time."

"I think that has been reflective of his play, but as the very good players do, they compartmentalise things, and he has done that terrifically well, come in and led

with effervescence and trained well. It is not a concern."

Even though Jones had several players unable to train because of short-term injuries, he was boosted by news that Saracens forwards Billy Vunipola and Maro Itoje have every chance of returning for their club in the Aviva Premiership match against Wasps at the Ricoh Arena on Sunday (Monday NZT).

Itoje has been missing for a month with a broken jaw, while Vunipola has been out of action since September with a knee problem, having pulled out of the

Lions tour in May with a shoulder issue.

Vunipola played only one test last season because of injury, and Jones admitted that he had been wrong to rush him back for the grand slam game against Ireland in March.

However, Jones made no attempt to downplay the significance of the 25-year-old's possible availability for the Six Nations. "I gambled with Billy against Ireland and it was a bad gamble," he said. "I am a bit more cautious this time."

"In terms of running metres per team in the world, the top three are New Zealand, Australia and France. That is one of the key metrics for winning games, and we are not in the top three. Billy is one of our most athletic guys, as he is fast for a big guy and has good feet."

Nathan Hughes, the Wasps No 8, is also on the injury list and Jones revealed that Exeter's Sam Simmonds would be in pole position if Vunipola does not come up to physical scratch over the next three weeks.

"Sam is light but runs good lines, is a good learner, a humble boy, outstanding," said Jones, whose monitoring of players extended to having a Christmas Eve chat with Wasps fly-half Danny Cipriani.

"We had a discussion about what he needs to do," said Jones. "If George Ford and Owen Farrell were out injured, then there is a possibility we'd bring him in as a main No 10, but I wouldn't have him in the squad as a supporting No 10."

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Ex-boxer Vinny Paz accused of beating up, biting man

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP) — Retired boxing champion Vinny Paz, whose comeback story after a car crash was dramatized in the 2016 film "Bleed for This," has been accused of attacking a Rhode Island man and sending him to the hospital.

The 55-year-old former champ said he had been robbed and did what he had to do.

Providence police said they were called to a home early Tuesday morning. When officers arrived, witnesses told them Paz had accused a friend of stealing \$16,000 and then assaulted him.

The man was taken to the hospital with injuries including several broken teeth, a black eye and bite marks that drew blood. Witnesses told police that Paz left before police got there.

Police issued an arrest warrant for Paz on one count of felony assault later Tuesday.

The ex-champion made a series of statements on Twitter and to a local TV station on Tuesday, telling people to "stop" with the nonsense story and defending his actions. "Bottom line is, I got robbed. And when that happens, you gotta do



FORMER BOXER: Vinny Paz. Photo / (Chris Pizzello/Invision/AP, file)

what you gotta do," he said in a brief interview with WPRI-TV outside his home in Warwick, before getting into an SUV and being driven away.

"NO COMMENT!!!!!! I'm the bad guy oh really ??? I'm the victim !!! STOP," he wrote in one Twitter message.

Paz is a five-time world champion who retired from boxing

in 2004. Since then, he has had several brushes with the law, including a 2012 no-contest plea to disorderly conduct for a fight with two women at a Providence bar. He also pleaded no contest in 2007 to drunken driving.

"Bleed for This," starring Miles Teller as Paz, tells the story of his return to boxing after breaking his neck in a car crash.

'As good as we've ever had' Experts tip these young guns for boxing greatness in 2018

After a thrilling year of action with British boxers involved in some of the career-defining fights, Starsport takes a look at the next generation emerging through the ranks.

BY **GEORGE MILLS**
dailystar.co.uk

Carl Frampton's jarring WBA featherweight title loss to Leo Santa Cruz now feels like a lifetime ago.

The beloved Northern Irishman surrendered his belt to the Mexican on points at the end of January, while two weeks earlier James DeGale sacrificed his health – and arguably his career – fighting out a brutal draw against Badou Jack at the Barclays Centre in New York.

Both men subsequently took a break to reconsider their futures in the sport – but boxing waits for no man and in their wake, the next generation have begun to capture the imagination of the British public.



British boxing enjoyed a thrilling 2017 – and things could get better next year.

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During an exclusive chat with Starsport, former WBA lightweight champion Anthony Crolla gave his picks for ones to watch in the next 12 months.

"Daniel Dubois certainly looks a handful," Crolla said.

"He looks like he could go to the very top of the heavyweight division one day."

Dubois, 20, has all the makings of the next boxing superstar.

The 6ft 5ins powerhouse is quietly spoken – but carries dynamite in his gloves, as his perfect 6-0 (6 KO) indicates.

There is a feeling that the London-born fighter possesses much higher boxing IQ and far more developed weaponry than his predecessor, Anthony Joshua, at the same age.

Having floored Joshua during sparring – according to whispers around the boxing world – Dubois' star could be one to keep a very close eye on next year.

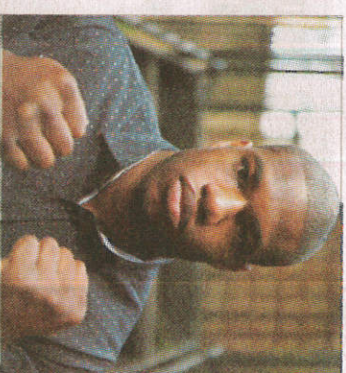
Crolla continued: "Josh Kelly is a very, very talented fighter. Everyone is speaking well of him and some of the Olympians coming through – [Joshua] Buatsi, Anthony Fowler, Lawrence Okolie. "You can't really call him a prospect anymore as he's knocking on the door for a world title but Josh Taylor looks very, very good.

"From a more local angle, I'm very excited about Zelfa Barrett, I'm excited about a few Manchester fighters.

"I'd be here all day if I listed them but those fighters I just go on and win world titles."

Boxing writer Steve Bunce, who exclusively revealed the cause of David Haye's recent injury woes to Starsport earlier this month, echoed many of the names Crolla mentioned.

"Dubois – we're hoping he's going to crack it. Anthony Yarde –



Daniel Dubois, 20, has been tipped as a potential future heavyweight world champion.

we're hoping he's going to crack it," the 55-year-old said.

Yarde, 26, has enjoyed a meteoric rise over the past 12 months, fighting five times and securing five stoppages on his way to winning the British Southern Area light-heavyweight title, the WBO European and Inter-Continental light-heavyweight titles.

His last performance, inflicting the first stoppage defeat of Nikola Stelkocic's career, leaves him perfectly placed for a shot at the world title in the not-too-distant future, occupying fifth spot in the WBO light-heavyweight rankings.

Bunce continued: "Eddie Hearn has got several over there bubbling away at Matchroom and there's all sorts of things happening with different fighters."

"Some of them not necessarily off the radar but maybe not as high profile as one or two of the others – we've got Zelfa Barrett.

"He's the nephew of Pat Barrett who won the European title but fought for the world title in the 90s, he's coming through at super-featherweight.

"We've got this kid Liam Woodstock from Leicester who is a character. These are novices as well, or relative novices.

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SPORTS

Luke 'The Jedi' Jumeau joins fellow Kiwi Mark Hunt on U.F.C. 221 fight card in Perth



KIWI WEIGHTLIFTER: Luke Jumeau won his UFC debut against Dominique Steele in Auckland last June.

(Stuff) - Luke Jumeau will join Kiwi compatriot Mark Hunt on the UFC 221 fight card.

The 29-year-old from Hamilton will fight Japan's Daichi Abe in a welterweight bout at the event in Perth on February 11, the UFC announced on Tuesday (NZT).

It will be the third UFC fight for the man nicknamed 'The Jedi'. He debuted with a unanimous decision win over Dominique Steele at UFC Fight Night in Auckland on June 10, before a unanimous decision loss to Shinsho Anzai in Saltama, Japan, on September 23.

His overall MMA record stands at 12-4, while the 26-year-old Abe is 6-0, having made a winning UFC debut against Hyun Gyu Lim at that September 23 Fight Night.

The fight card sees the 43-year-old Hunt make his return to the octagon against Curtis Blaydes, after beating Derrick Lewis by TKO in Auckland back in June.

The main event sees New Zealand-born middleweight champion Robert Whittaker defend his title against American Luke Rockhold.

Nigerian born-New Zealand kickboxer Israel Adesanya will also make his UFC debut on the undercard, putting his 12-0 undefeated record on the line against Australian Rob Wilkinson (11-1).

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Raiders fire coach Jack Del Rio after 6-10 season

(AP) - Oakland Raiders coach Jack Del Rio was fired Sunday after his third year when the impressive turnaround job he engineered for his hometown team collapsed with a disappointing six-win season.

Del Rio said owner Mark Davis told him after the team's season-ending 30-10 loss to the Los Angeles Chargers that he would not be retained as coach in Oakland.

Del Rio had signed a four-year contract extension last February after Oakland ended a 13-year playoff drought with a 12-win season.

"He told me he loved me and appreciated all that I did, but felt like we weren't going in the right direction," Del Rio said.

"He felt he needed a change, and I told him how much I appreciated the opportunity he gave me. I mean that. Very grateful. My childhood team, but it's a results business. I understand that.

"I appreciate the players and coaches and all the hard work all the effort and energy. I do believe we have established a solid nucleus. Whoever comes in here has a chance to take that nucleus and go to special places, and I'll be pulling for them."

The Raiders followed up the successful 2016 by becoming one of the league's disappointing teams. Oakland went 6-10 for the second biggest one-season drop in wins in franchise history, leading to Del Rio's firing.

Davis said in a statement that he

appreciated Del Rio's effort in building the foundation for the future and thanked his family for contributing to the community.

Davis said he will not have any other statement until after a new coach has hired, but speculation is already rampant that Jon Gruden will be back for a second stint.

Gruden was traded by the Raiders to Tampa Bay following the 2001 season and beat Oakland for the Super Bowl title the following season. He was fired by the Buccaneers following the 2008 season and has been in the broadcast booth since then. ESPN reported Saturday that the Raiders were interested in bringing Gruden back.

Davis has always been intrigued about a second stint with Gruden, but it seemed unlikely the franchise would be in for another change heading into this season. Del Rio had been the ninth coach in Oakland since Gruden left but the only the second to get the team to the playoffs.

That wasn't enough to save his job.

"I honor the owner's decision," Del Rio said. "It was a great honor for me to lead this organization and get this opportunity, and I understand it's a results business. We had a great first two years and this year was a big disappointment. Can't disagree with that."

Del Rio, who grew up in the East Bay city of Hayward cheering for the Raiders, took over a three-win team in 2015 and immediately changed the culture and helped

Oakland win seven games that season.

The Raiders had a breakthrough season in 2016 with 12 wins, but it ended in disappointment when a broken leg for quarterback Derek Carr in Week 16 cost the Raiders a chance at a division title and led to a first-round playoff loss.

Expectations were high coming into this season with Carr and most of the key offensive pieces back, along with the addition of running back Marshawn Lynch and tight end Jared Cook.

But Del Rio's decision to fire coordinator Bill Musgrave after last season despite a dynamic offense and replace him with quarterback coach Todd Downing backfired.

The offense regressed significantly this season as Carr struggled under Downing's tutelage and the defense showed no signs of improvement before firing coordinator Ken Norton Jr. after 10 games.

The Raiders had major drops in scoring (26 to 18.8), yards per game (373.3 to 324.1) and committed twice as many turnovers (14 to 28) this season as Carr took a major step back in his development after signing a \$125 million, five-year extension in the offseason.

"We have to take our ownership as players," Carr said. "That's where we're at right now. We're kind of angry we let it get to that. We're upset at ourselves. We understand the business part of it.

Disgraced Karmichael Hunt failed those who helped him, says Phil Waugh

(AAP) - Karmichael Hunt has let down Michael Cheika and other rugby hierarchy who provided him a silver opportunity to keep alive his football career, according to Wallabies great Phil Waugh.

Waugh has expressed sympathy for the Queensland Reds back after he was stood down by Rugby Australia over his arrest and drug possession charge.

But the 79-test flanker believes it's unlikely Hunt will ever play for the Wallabies again after coach Cheika gave him his debut last year, given it's the second time in three years he's faced drug-related charges.

"The sad thing is that Rugby Australia and Cheika and the Reds really stuck by Karmichael when they probably could have thrown him out the first time, although it happened before they actually took him on board," Waugh told Fox Sports.

"They picked him in squads that perhaps people questioned whether he should have been in."

"He's had opportunities that other players haven't had. It's just a wasted opportunity for such a talented athlete."

"There are so many other players who would just do anything to get this opportunity."



Karmichael Hunt has let down Wallabies coach Michael Cheika, says Phil Waugh.

And they watch instances like this and they go, 'Why would you throw it away?'
"This is just poor behaviour and a bad choice."

Hunt was arrested in the early hours of Saturday morning, with police allegedly finding a white powder after searching the 31-year-old in a car park in Brisbane's Fortitude Valley at about 12.40am. He was charged with two counts of drug possession and is set to face Brisbane Magistrates Court on January 29.

Rugby Australia is waiting for more detail on the allegations but agreed it was in all parties' best interests Hunt, who was fined A\$2500 after pleading guilty to four counts of drug possession in 2015, be stood down from training and playing.

Waugh was concerned about Hunt's life after sport.

"I actually really genuinely feel for the guy because his last 12 months in rugby has been superb," Waugh said.

"It's just a sad story because the light at the end of the tunnel's hard to see, the second time around, particularly because he's come so far in the game in such a short period of time.

"People are talking about the financial impact as of today, but you've got to look at what the financial impact is post-career.

"You already know how difficult it is for players to transition out of professional sport to life after sport, and certainly these allegations don't help."

Hunt, a former NRL and AFL player who joined the Reds at the end of 2014 shortly before his previous run-in with the law, has represented Australia in six tests, earning a two-year contract extension in November.

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Beauden Barrett snubbed for honours

(Stuff) - Beauden Barrett has been rated the second best player in the world with the All Blacks getting just two players in the top 10 list of a respected rugby magazine.

Rugby World has produced a list of the Top 100 players in world rugby and Barrett, who was adjudged World Rugby's player of the year, was kicked off the number one perch by English pivot Owen Farrell.

"He's a giant of a player a man with edge and bite," said English rugby writer Stephen Jones of Farrell in the magazine's latest online edition.

An English publication, Rugby World rated just two All Blacks, Barrett and lock Brodie Retallick, in the top 10.

England and Lions youngster Maro Itoje has been rated the fourth best player, ahead of giants of the game like Kieran Read (15) and Sam Whitelock (18).

Fiji sevens star Leone Nakarawa took the third spot on the list.

Farrell played a big role in England's Six Nations title in 2017 as well as the British and Irish Lions' drawn series on New Zealand soil.

Meanwhile, Black Ferns Kendra Cocksedge (16), Portia Woodman (26) and Kelly Brazier (72) made the top 100 list.

No French players made the top 10 while only one from Scotland, Wales and Ireland.

All Blacks Rieko loane (11th) and Sam Cane (13th) also made the top 20.



SECOND BEST PLAYER IN THE WORLD: Beauden Barrett has been rated as the second best player by Rugby World.

RUGBY WORLD TOP 20

Owen Farrell
Beauden Barrett
Leone Nakarawa
Maro Itoje
Israel Folau
Stuart Hogg
Jonathan Davies
Michael Hooper
Tadig Furlong
Brodie Retallick

Rieko loane
Jonathan Sexton
Sam Cane
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