

US 'Dream Team' in Athens

Los Angeles Lakers star Lamar Odom signs autographs on Tuesday in front of the Hellenic Parliament and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Athens' central Syntagma Square. Odom along with the rest of the US "Dream Team" players visited the Greek capital's main square, where they were greeted by teen players from Panathinaikos Athens coach Zeljko Obradovic's youth academies and by officials from the tourism ministry and the Greek basketball federation. Players signed numerous autographs for gathered tourists at the popular site and were also photographed with members of the elite Evzone presidential guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

ANA-MPA / K. MAVRONA.



Archaeologists hail unique find in Albania

Archaeologists unearthed a Roman bust from the 2nd century AD hailed as the most important archaeological find of the last 50 years in Albania, experts said Friday.

"It is an exceptional discovery, the most important in the last 50 years in Albania because the bust is still intact," French professor Jean-Luc Lamboley, who led the dig at Apollonia with Albanian archaeologists, told AFP.

Experts say the bust of an unknown athlete found at the Apollonia site, some 120 kilometers (75 miles) from Tirana, was of a remarkable quality.

Apollonia is one of the biggest archaeological sites in Albania and the fact that no modern town was built on its ruins makes for excellent excavating conditions.

The team of French and Albanian archaeologists digging at the scene are studying how Apollonia evolved from a Greek colony founded in the 7th century BC to a Roman settlement in the 3rd century AD.

"This spans a thousand years of history and we can study here how the classic Greek civilisation was transmitted, evolved and enriched in Roman times," Lamboley said.

"For security reasons the bust was moved Friday to the Tirana archaeological museum as the Apollonia museum still has no security system in place," the French expert added.

After the fall of communism in the early 1990s and following public unrest in 1997 several art works were stolen from Albanian museums probably to be sold to foreign art lovers at very high prices.

Article and photo from Yahoo News



Police NEWS



Police arrest man over robbery

Minto

Police have arrested and charged a man over a violent robbery in Sydney's west. About 10.45pm on Monday 10 August, a 44-year-old security guard from Prestons was performing security duties on Longhurst Road in Minto when it is alleged he was assaulted by three offenders and robbed of his utility. His guard dog was located in a caged section in the back of the utility at the time of the robbery. The victim was taken to Campbelltown Hospital where he was treated for injuries received during the robbery.

On Tuesday 11 August police located the vehicle and dog in the Airds area. The vehicle had been burnt out and the dog was running loose. Following extensive investigations, detectives from the Macquarie Fields Local Area Command attended an address in Ambarvale and charged a 22-year-old man with six offences including aggravated robbery, steal motor vehicle, steal dog, and drive while disqualified. The man was bail refused and appeared in Campbelltown Local Court.

At this stage police do not believe this incident is linked to last Monday's aggravated robbery of two security guard's in Minto. Operation Rapina has been established to investigate that incident and detectives continue to appeal for information from the public.

Girl charged after break and enters

South-western Sydney

A teenage girl faced court yesterday after nine alleged break and enters at homes and unit blocks in south-western Sydney. It will be alleged the break-ins took place in Wiley Park and Roselands between August 3 and 20. Investigations by Campsie detectives culminated yesterday with the arrest of a 14-year-old girl in Denman Avenue at Wiley Park. The Punchbowl teenager was taken to Campsie Police Station and subsequently charged with nine counts of break, enter and steal. The girl was refused bail and appeared in Parramatta Children's Court.

Man charged with escaping custody

Batemans Bay

A teenager remained in custody overnight and will appear in court later after allegedly escaping from custody. Shortly after 10.30am on Tuesday 24 August, 2010, Police from the Far South Coast Local Area Command arrested an 18-year-old man at Catalina regarding an earlier allegation of stealing and goods in custody. The man was taken to Batemans Bay Police Station where he was placed into custody.

About 1.30pm the teenager was allowed to use a phone in the charge room to speak with a relative.

Police will allege that whilst using the phone the youth fled from the charge room. He continued through the station and eventually jumped the front counter running out of the Police Station onto Orient Street.

Batemans Bay Police chased the teen on foot and caught him approximately 500 metres from the station with the assistance of a member of the public. The man was then taken back to the station and charged with several offences including escape police custody, breach of bail, larceny and having goods in custody. He was refused

bail and appeared at Bega Local Court yesterday. The Far South Coast Local Area Command will review the circumstances of the incident.

Vintage weapons and jewellery stolen

Beechwood

Police are investigating the theft of vintage firearms, antique weapons and jewellery from a house on the NSW mid-north coast. Between 2.45pm and 4.30pm on Monday 16 August, an unknown persons or persons entered the house at Mungara Place, Beechwood, by smashing a glass panel on a door. Once inside, 14 vintage pistols dating back to the 1750s to 1800s were removed, as well as an antique bayonet and dagger and numerous jewellery items, including pendants, bracelets and rings. Most of the jewellery was also antique. The pistols are no longer operational. Police from the Mid North Coast Local Area Command were contacted and have forensically examined the house and canvassed the local area. Officers have been told two males believed to be aged between 16 and 18 and well dressed were seen walking through Beechwood Primary School with suitcases. Police would like to speak to the youths.

Man charged following discovery of clandestine drug laboratory at Canley Vale – Drug Squad

A man has been charged following the discovery of a clandestine drug laboratory at a home in Sydney's south west yesterday.

In July 2010 State Crime Command Drug Squad's Chemical Operations Team began investigations into the manufacture of prohibited drugs in Sydney's south west. Following inquiries, about 5am police from the Chemical Operations Unit executed a search warrant at a home in Bechenham Street, Canley Vale, and located a clandestine drug laboratory with chemicals and equipment relating to the alleged manufacture of methylamphetamine (Ice). About 7am another search warrant was executed at a home in The Avenue, Canley Vale, where police located chemicals and equipment allegedly used for the manufacture of methylamphetamine. A 28-year-old local man was arrested at the second address and taken to Cabramatta Police Station where he was subsequently charged with manufacturing a prohibited drug, supplying a prohibited drug and possessing a precursor with intent to manufacture a prohibited drug. He was refused bail and is due to appear at Liverpool Local Court today. A 27-year-old local man was also arrested at The Avenue address for allegedly possessing an amount of methylamphetamine. He was taken to Cabramatta Police Station and charged with possessing a prohibited drug. He was bailed to appear at Liverpool Local Court on 17 September 2010.

Anyone who witnessed any of the above incidents is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.