

CELEBS

celebs

Depp denies slapping ex-wife

AFP | London

Hollywood actor Johnny Depp denied claims that he slapped his ex-wife Amber Heard, as he faced a second day of questioning in his high-profile libel trial in London.

The "Pirates of the Caribbean" star is suing British tabloid The Sun for a 2018 article which claimed he was a "wife-beater".

Both Depp, 57, and Heard, 34, were in court as lawyers for The Sun's publisher, News Group Newspapers (NGN), questioned

him about allegations of violence during the couple's time together.

NGN is disputing the claim for libel, and said there is "overwhelming evidence" that he attacked Heard while under the influence of drink and drugs between 2013 and 2016.

The couple first met on the set of the 2011 film "The Rum Diary", married in 2015 but divorced two years later.

Lawyer Sasha Wass, representing NGN, put it to Depp that he had slapped Heard three times after she

made fun of a "Wino Forever" tattoo on his arm in March 2013, when he was drinking heavily.

"I'm sorry but that is not true, you are mistaken... I didn't hit Ms Heard," the actor replied.

The tattoo originally read "Winona Forever" and referred to the actress Winona Ryder, with whom he had had a previous relationship. He changed it after they broke up.

NGN is relying on 14 separate claims of domestic violence in its defence, all of which Depp denies.

The case opened at the High Court on Monday with Depp insisting in a witness statement that had "never abused Ms Heard, or, indeed any other woman" in his life.

He said Heard, an actress, was calculating, sociopathic, narcissistic and emotionally dishonest, with a diagnosed borderline personality disorder, and was intent on destroying his life.

Priyanka Chopra appointed ambassador of Toronto International Film Festival

ANI | Washington

Adding another feather to her cap, actor Priyanka Chopra announced that she has been chosen as the ambassador of the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) 2020.

Priyanka has joined the list of 50 celebrated filmmakers and actors who are invited as the ambassadors of the TIFF.

The 37-year-old star put out a post on Instagram and shared a montage featuring snippets of her empowering addresses at the TIFF. Along with the video, Priyanka noted that the TIFF has been a second home for her.

She wrote, "Throughout my career TIFF has been a second home for me, with many of my films, as both an actor and producer, making their world debut at the festival."

Talking about the film festival that focuses on special stories and storytellers, the 'Dostana' star added, "TIFF has always been at the forefront of supporting and championing global content that showcases diversity and inclusion, a charge led by my friend @cameronpbailey and his talented team, who work with passion to shine a spotlight on these special stories and story-

tellers."

"Even more than that, one of the most exceptional parts of the festival are the fans of cinema who congregate to celebrate the magic of the movies, and who have always embraced me with so much warmth and love," Priyanka added.

She shared that she feels proud to serve as the ambassador to the festival and noted, "I am very proud to serve as an ambassador this year, and I look forward to continuing a relationship that I value tremendously."



Priyanka Chopra

Thandie Newton says Tom Cruise got 'frustrated' with her on 'Mission: Impossible 2' set

Fox | Los Angeles

"Westworld" actress Thandie Newton shared a story about a difficult day she had while filming "Mission: Impossible 2" alongside Tom Cruise.

The actress starred in the movie with Cruise in the sequel to the film series that would go on to be one of the most massive action franchises in Hollywood.

However, her character never returned for any of the subsequent movies. Speaking to Vulture in a recent interview, the actress explained that she was never asked to do another movie.

She also noted that she was "so scared of Tom" and recalled a difficult moment they had together on set, when a scene for the movie wasn't going well.

"He was a very dominant individual. He tries superhard to be

a nice person. But the pressure. He takes on a lot. And I think he has this sense that only he can do everything as best as it can be done," Newton said.

"There was one time, we were doing this night scene, there were so many extras with pyrotechnics and you name it, and it was a scene with him and me on the balcony," she added. "And I don't think it was a very



Thandie Newton

well-written scene. I get angry with him. We're frustrated with each other. And we're looking out over Spain. It wasn't going well."

She noted that director John Woo was of no help at the time because he had "made a decision" that he didn't speak Eng-

lish. Newton explained that she believed the problem for her character had to do with the fact that she didn't have great lines in the scene. That's when Cruise had a less-than-helpful suggestion.

"And he gets so frustrated with having to try and explain that he goes, 'Let me just — let's just go do it. Let's just rehearse on-camera,'" she explained. "So we rehearsed and they recorded

it, and then he goes, 'I'll be you. You be me.' So we filmed the entire scene with me being him — because, believe me, I knew the lines by then — and him playing me. And it was the most unhelpful... I can't think of anything less revealing. It just pushed me further into a place of terror and insecurity. It was a real shame. And bless him. And I really do mean bless him, because he was trying his damndest."



Brad Pitt

Brad Pitt boards 'Bullet Train'

IAANS | Los Angeles

Hollywood superstar Brad Pitt will be leading David Leitch's upcoming assassin action thriller "Bullet Train".

Based on the popular Japanese book "Maria Beetle" by Kotaro Isaka, "Bullet Train" is about a group of hitmen and assassins with conflicting motives on a train in Tokyo, reports hollywoodreporter.com.

The project is being tonally described as "Speed", the Keanu Reeves-starrer set on a bus, meets "Non-Stop", the Liam Neeson thriller set on a plane.

According to sources, Pitt will be essaying the role of American hitman named Ladybug.

The script is being written by Zak Olkewicz with Leitch overseeing revisions.

The project is a contained thriller, which means it can be shot on a contained set -- falling in sync with the health restrictions in the Covid era. The studio plans to shoot the movie later this year.

Filmmaker Antoine Fuqua, who originally developed the project, is producing alongside Leitch and Kelly McCormick as well as Kat Samick.

Pitt recently picked up an Oscar as Best Supporting Actor for his role in Quentin Tarantino's "Once Upon A Time In Hollywood".

David Schwimmer: 'Friends' reunion tricky to pull off amid pandemic

IAANS | Los Angeles

"Friends" star David Schwimmer says the upcoming reunion special of the popular sitcom is proving "really tricky" to pull off amid the Covid pandemic.

While talking to "Entertainment Tonight", the actor, popular for the role of Ross Geller in the iconic sitcom, opened up about the reunion special, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

"I can tell you that we are hoping to shoot (the

reunion) in August, in mid-August, but honestly, we will do it when it's safe. There has always been a hope that a component of that reunion show will have a live audience, which makes the whole thing really tricky," he said.

"We are obviously not going to risk anyone's health by doing this," the actor added.

Schwimmer confessed that he has "no idea" when everyone will be able to get together to shoot the reunion special.

Recently, the show's co-creator Martha Kauffman shared that the filming could happen in August.

She said: "We are hoping to be able to shoot in August, if all is well and there is no early second wave and the studio is open. If everything is in place and we understand all the protocols and we can still make a good show, we'll be shooting it some time, mid-to-late August."

David Schwimmer

SUDOKU

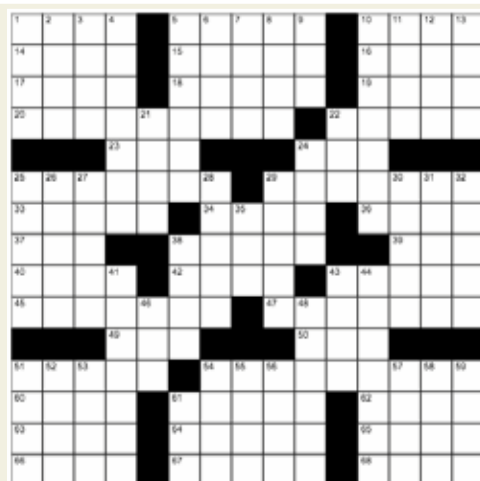
4				8		5		
	7	3						2
	5					7		6
3			8		1			
		2	5		7	3		
			3		9			8
9	5							8
	1					6	3	
	6		1					7

Yesterday's solution

9	4	8	1	5	3	7	6	2
3	5	7	6	9	2	8	4	1
6	1	2	8	4	7	3	9	5
7	2	1	4	8	9	5	3	6
5	3	9	7	2	6	4	1	8
4	8	6	5	3	1	2	7	9
1	6	3	2	7	8	9	5	4
8	7	4	9	6	5	1	2	3
2	9	5	3	1	4	6	8	7

How to play

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.



CROSSWORD

Across
1- Burn slightly; 5- Western Australia's capital; 10- Meat dish; 14- As it happens; 15- Old French expression meaning "goodbye"; 16- Actress Raines; 17- Hgt.; 18- Archie Bunker's wife; 19- Nothing, in Nice; 20- Exclude; 22- Family tree member; 23- The works; 24- Extra-wide shoe size; 25- Deceive; 29- Comfortably familiar; 33- You... right; 34- Long objects used to row a boat; 36- Legal wrong; 37- Bon...; 38- Strong string; 39- Inlet; 40-... uproar; 42- Take apart; 43- It's a plus; 45- Tidal river; 47- Plastering tools; 49- First name in horror films; 50- Half and half; 51- Coral island; 54- Tigerstripe precursor; 60- Mongolian desert; 61- Rice...; 62- Bit; 63- It's over your head; 64- Blathered; 65- Ollie's partner; 66- Confederate; 67- Adhere closely; 68- Can't stand;

Down

1- Staff leader?; 2- Hawaiian city; 3- Declare; 4- Discloses; 5- Spanish rice dish; 6- Other name for taro; 7- Journalist Jacob; 8- Mal de...; 9- Whadja say?; 10- Utmost; 11- Writer Wiesel; 12- Novelist Waugh; 13- Alley; 21- Jazz singer Laine; 22- Homer's TV neighbor; 24- Additional; 25- Jackie's predecessor; 26- Golf clubs; 27- Assail; 28- Fluffy; 29- Ready...; 30- Stallion, e.g.; 31- Projecting window; 32- Les...-Unis; 35- Helping hand; 38- Go sour; 41- Render legally void; 43- Bang-up; 44- Start for fish, meatballs, or massage; 46- "You've got mail" co.; 48- Roaming; 51- Pearl Mosque city; 52- Kit item; 53- Ancient Greek coin; 54- Like some history; 55- Burt's ex; 56- A party to; 57- Roster; 58- Rat...; 59- Ruin; 61- Circle segment;

Yesterday's solution

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