

celebs

Snoop Dogg ‘in love’ with Australian Rules football

AFP | Los Angeles

American rapper Snoop Dogg said he was “in love” with Australian Rules football on Thursday, ahead of his performance at the sport’s grand final.

The 53-year-old will take to the stage at the Melbourne Cricket Ground today, which will be jammed with up to 100,000 fans watching as Geelong face Brisbane.

“I’ve been coming to this country for years and I understand

what this game is and what it means,” he told Australian media at a function where no questions were permitted.

“I know that it’s not just a sport, it’s a way of life. I just fell in love with the sport,” he added.

“I always would watch it, but never really understood it.

“It reminded me of American football, rugby and a couple of other things, but now that I understand it, I like it and want to know more about it before the grand finale.”

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SNOOP DOGG

AFL, which is similar to Ireland’s Gaelic football, traces its roots back to 1858 and is Australia’s most popular spectator sport.

Snoop Dogg’s pick as the grand final entertainment has been divisive in Australia, given his past use of misogynistic and offensive lyrics in some of his songs.

The AFL was accused of hypocrisy for hiring him in August while at the same time banning Adelaide star Izak Rankine for four games over a homophobic slur against an opponent.

AFL chief Andrew Dillon defended the decision to hire the American, whose real name is Calvin Broadus.

“I’ve been really confident with the choice of Snoop,” he said.



Snoop Dogg

Matthew McConaughey ‘studies’ becoming Governor of Texas

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

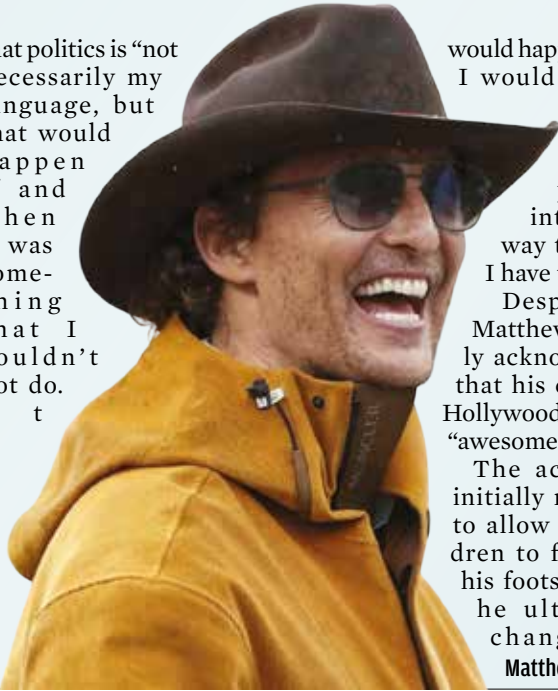
Matthew McConaughey remains interested in becoming the Governor of Texas one day.

The 55-year-old actor previously expressed an interest in the political role, and Matthew has now revealed that he continues to “study” the possibility.

The movie star - who was born in Uvalde, Texas - told People: “Like I said, it’s something I started looking into probably six years ago and something I’ve continued to study what that arena is, what it would mean, how could I be useful in it, would I be useful in it?”

The Hollywood star noted

that politics is “not necessarily my language, but that would happen if and when it was something that I couldn’t not do. I t



would happen when I would look up and see that I’m pulled into it in a way that, ‘Oh, I have to.’”

Despite this, Matthew recently acknowledged that his career in Hollywood has been “awesome”.

The actor was initially reluctant to allow his children to follow in his footsteps, but he ultimately changed his

Matthew McConaughey

mind after reflecting on his own experiences in the movie business.

The award-winning star - who has Levi, 17, Vida, 15, and Livingston, 12, with Camila Alves - told People: “The first 15 years in Hollywood I was like, ‘I’d never want my kid to grow up in the business.’ And when I hit about 40, right about the time we had Levi, I looked around at how many special people I’ve met in my life, how much travel and what an awesome, healthy, cool experience that’s been for me in my life. I was like, ‘Where are you coming up with this idea you don’t want any of your kids to do it?’ It’d be a privilege if they would be able to.”

Emily Blunt surprised by ‘contemplative’ Dwayne Johnson

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Emily Blunt was shocked to discover that Dwayne ‘The Rock’ Johnson is so “contemplative”.

The 42-year-old actress first worked with the wrestler-turned-actor on 2021’s Jungle Cruise, and the Hollywood duo instantly struck-up a good friendship.

Speaking at the Toronto International Film Festival, Emily explained: “We just

became very fast friends, like an immediate secret language, which I think you feel with certain people that you work with.”

Emily admits that Dwayne, 53, was totally different to how she imagined him to be.

The actress - who has reunited with Dwayne to star in The Smashing Machine, their new sports-drama movie - explained: “We just talked and shared our souls. And I was just really taken by, I guess, how different he was from what I

had imagined.

“He was so gentle and quite interior and sort of contemplative and kind, just easy. Like, so lovely to be around, funny and quick, all these qualities.”

Dwayne also heaped praise on his co-star, describing Emily as one of his “best friends”.

He said: “I also want to give Emily her flowers too. She is one of the greatest actors of our time — of all time. And also one of my best friends.



Emily Blunt and Dwayne Johnson

Idris Elba doesn’t ‘have the courage’ to enter politics

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Idris Elba doesn’t “have the courage” to enter politics.

The

52-year-old actor was recently tipped as a possible contender to run for London Mayor at the next election but the Luther star is adamant he doesn’t have what it takes to swap Hollywood for City Hall.

Speaking to journalists at the Venice Film Festival in Italy, he explained: “I think you have to give it to people that enter politics – the life cycle and going on an educative curve to become a politician means that you have to adopt that courage really early because then you’re faced with these impossible predicaments.

“It’s about your judgement then; it’s about what you know, what

Idris Elba

“It’s about your judgement then; it’s about what you know, what you’ve learned, what you’ve lived through, and your courage. So I learned I don’t have the courage to be in politics, that’s for sure!”

IDRIS ELBA

you’ve learned, what you’ve lived through, and your courage. So I learned I don’t have the courage to be in politics, that’s for sure!”

It comes after Elba - who was born and raised in London - was previously touted as a potential candidate for the Labour party at the next mayoral election which is likely to be held in 2028 as current mayor Sadiq Khan is expected not to run again.

A source told The Sun newspaper: “Idris star appeal - but he is also a thoughtful political campaigner. Labour have a choice about who we choose to run in London.

“We can pick a Labour insider and try to make them famous. Or we can pick someone famous aligned with Labour. Idris would be at the absolute top of our wish list.”



SUDOKU

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		3	9				7	6
	7		8	4		6		
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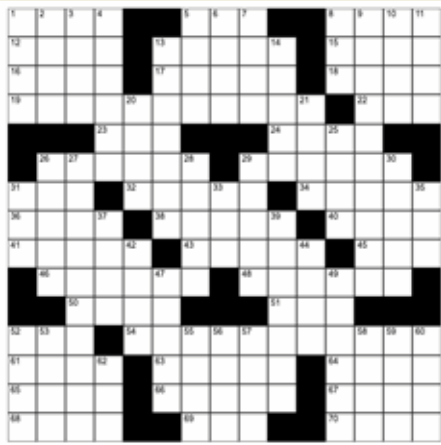
Yesterday’s solution

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

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- “30 Rock”; 5- Business VIP; 8- The most heavily populated continent on Earth; 12- Silage storage tower; 13- Bank offering; 15- Actress Daily; 16- Narrate; 17- Ford flop; 18- Scandinavian capital city; 19- An organization; 22- Light brown color, common to pale worshippers; 23- Rejections; 24- Had on; 26- Institution for mentally ill; 29- Suppose; 31- Pub preference; 32- There yet?; 34- Make happy; 36- Costa; 38- Delete; 40- Toiletries case; 41- Low-budget prefix; 43- Sigh; 45- Fingers; 46- Main course; 48- Son of the sovereign; 50- Feat; 51- Chem. or biol.; 52- Blond shade; 54- Sensible; 61- Swedish import; 63- Copycat’s words; 64- Relinquish; 65- Fish-eating eagle; 66- Take as one’s own; 67- Volunteer’s words; 68- Staffer; 69- “Wheel of Fortune” buy; 70- Identify;

Down

1- “The Thin Man” pooch; 2- Untruths, tells falsehoods; 3- Building additions; 4- New settlement; 5- Musical epilogue; 6- Dawn direction; 7- Dedicated to the Love; 8- From Z; 9- Methodical; 10- To Live and Die; 11- Long time; 13- Unhurried ease; 14- Reduces speed; 20- Soft drink choice; 21- Sniffer; 25- Govern; 26- Wonderland girl; 27- Previously owned; 28- Unite; 29- Greek fabulist; 30- Practice piece; 31- Chances; 33- Armed conflict; 35- Sue Grafton’s “for Evidence”; 37- Kitty starter; 39- Hearing distance; 42- Baseball’s Hershey; 44- Good one!; 47- Abnormal plant swelling; 49- Nicotinic acid; 52- On the ocean; 53- Rani’s wrap; 55- The sacred scriptures of Hinduism; 56- Prince William’s school; 57- Easy stride; 58- Word form for “ten”; 59- Mild cheese; 60- Sand hill by the sea; 62- Spelling contest;

Yesterday’s solution

S	L	O	P	M	A	S	T	S	N	A	P
O	E	N	O	E	P	E	E	S	A	O	N
M	A	C	S	N	E	P	A	L	L	A	T
A	N	E	T	A	R	T	E	I	T	H	E
A	R	C	S	A	N	D	I	A	R		
A	L	G	A	E	O	R	D	I	N	A	R
A	L	L	E	I	E	R	I	E			
H	O	M	E	S	O	N	S	I	G	E	T
S	W	A	N	S	O	N	G	A	P	L	U
				S	I	L	O	S	T	O	A
V	I	E	N	N	A	A	T	O	D	E	J
I	O	L	A	T	W	E	E	N	D	C	O
E	N	E	R	E	E	R	I	E	E	R	E
R	A	V	E	E	O	N	S		N	U	L