

The Courier Mail



Hail the Legend

IT REALLY IS GOODBYE FROM THE CHAMPION » SPORT

A MAN has fallen from the balcony of a Surfers Paradise apartment, the second fall in two days.

The man, believed to be in his mid-20s, was in a critical condition in Gold Coast Hospital last night.

He fell from a first-floor balcony of a building on the corner of Hanlan St and The Esplanade just after 6.30pm (AEST) yesterday.

Police said the man was not part of the annual Schooles celebrations on the Gold Coast which began on Friday night.

The injured man was treated for critical back and head injuries.

On Saturday, a man in his 30s died after plunging from another highrise in Surfers Paradise Boulevard, only a few hundred metres away.

Police said the death was not being treated as suspicious and investigations were continuing.

Baggaley released from jail

FALLEN Olympic kayaker star Nathan Baggaley has been released from a NSW jail after serving four years for manufacturing and dealing ecstasy.

A NSW Corrective Services spokesman said Baggaley (pictured) was released from Grafton Correctional Centre on the NSW north coast yesterday morning. He was picked up by his father. The dual silver medalist was convicted of charges relating to the manufacture and supply of a commercial quantity of ecstasy tablets in 2009.

The State Parole Authority said it had granted Baggaley's release following the end of his non-parole period. In 2009, at the age of 32, he was sentenced to a maximum of nine years in jail after pleading guilty to manufacturing ecstasy and supplying more than 1500 tablets.



Bathers hurt in dumping surf

FOUR young girls were swept out in a rip, an 11-year-old boy suffered a suspected spinal injury and a swimmer was hurt by a stringy barb in a dramatic day on Sunshine Coast beaches.

The undertow at Caloundra's Bulcock Beach was too much for a group of 12-year-old friends escaping the heat, dragging them to the mouth of the Pumicestone Passage. They were rescued by lifesavers in an inflatable Rescue Boat (IRB).

Surf Life Saving regional officer Peter Lucas said an 11-year-old boy was helped by lifesavers and was taken to Nambour Hospital as a precaution after being dumped by a wave at Alexandra Headland. Noosa was the scene of a similar case, where a 47-year-old man also had to be transported to hospital with a spinal injury.

At Bribie Island, a 47-year-old male swimmer stood on a stringy and was treated with hot water before going to a doctor.

Trucker tackles defector

THE LNP has chosen a woman to win the state seat of Dalrymple from former member turned Katter's Australian Party candidate, Shane Knuth.

Livestock transport operator Liz Schmidt has won preselection to challenge the seat for the party.

LNP leader Campbell Newman welcomed Ms Schmidt to the fold and said he looked forward to campaigning alongside her as the party fought to stop Bob Katter's party claiming its seats at the looming state election.

Ms Schmidt said in a statement that she looked forward to the challenge, before taking a swipe at Mr Knuth.

"The residents of Dalrymple need a local representative who is part of the game, not someone in the cheap seats," Ms Schmidt said.



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