

Early success in white-water comeback

KAYAKING by Kristine Walsh

IT was only a couple of weeks ago that a US-born, Gisborne-based filmmaker announced that, after a five-year hiatus, she had reinvigorated her career as a white-water kayaker.

And Polly Green is off to a blistering start, having placed second in the head-to-head at the country's premier white-water event, the Wairoa Extreme Race.

Held last weekend on the Wairoa River, near Tauranga, the race attracted 50 competitors for what organiser Johann Roozenburg said were some of the most closely contested races in the event's 12-year history.

Head-to-head racing down the grade five "rollercoaster" provided some upsets, Roozenburg said.

Rotorua's Bradley Lauder took out the men's event ahead of Jared Meehan (Tauranga), while Green (Gisborne) was pipped to the post by Aucklander Toni George in the women's race.

"The women's final was one of the most exciting ever seen," Roozenburg said.

"There was quite a bit of



PADDLING BETWEEN ROCKS, TAKE ONE: White-water kayaker Polly Green is documenting her competitive comeback in a feature-length film she is calling *A Fire Burning*. Picture by Brydie Thompson

contact and bumping of boats as they paddled off the first waterfall and the lead was

exchanged four or five times before George snuck past Green right before the line. Roars

from the crowd could be heard echoing through the gorge." A former world No 5 white-

water kayaker, Green did not do so well in the time trial at her first competition in five years, but Roozenburg believed that could have been due to the directions she was receiving.

"But once in the head-to-head she could have a look at the rapids, and she had sweet lines and good speed," he said.

"She was pretty stoked to have Andi Uhl from paddle-power.com help her get her boat back to the top, as it's a gruelling portage up over big boulders."

Green, 40, two weeks ago announced she was coming out of retirement and was determined to take top honours at the 2011 white-water kayaking freestyle world championships in Germany.

Already an award-winning creator of short documentaries, she is documenting her comeback in a feature-length film, *A Fire Burning*.

"You have to approach these things with a sense of humour so the film should be quite funny, as well as being very personal," Green said.

"It will be very raw, very real, but should have a few life lessons along the way."

Midway to contest Day of Giants surfboat challenge

SURF LIFESAVING

GISBORNE club Midway are among the competitors in the Day of Giants surfboat challenge at Piha today.

This annual event pits four of Australia's best crews against New

Zealand's finest, and is the start of a two-day programme.

Tomorrow's feature will be the Piha Big Wave Classic, which doubles as the last of four rounds in the national series. Swell is forecast to peak at three metres.

Victorian crew Jan Juc are warm favourites for today's event, having collected the Australian series title last year. They are seeking their third title at Piha and go in as defending champions.

Current Victorian state champions

Lorne and North Queensland titleholders Tannum Sands will also compete, along with New South Wales entry Bronte.

The New Zealand challenge will be led by hosts Piha, swept by former Kiwis rugby league representative

Mark Bourneville. Piha are currently in second place in the New Zealand series and won the world surf boat title in Biarritz last year.

Gisborne's Midway, Wellington's Lyall Bay and Piha B are the other crews. Racing was due to start at 11am.

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

1179 EASY

SUDOKU

SUDOKU is a logic puzzle made up of 81 squares on a 9x9 grid. To solve the puzzle, each row, column and 3x3 grid within the larger grid must end up containing each number from 1 to 9, and each number can only appear once in a row, column or box.

A sudoku grid has a single unique solution, which can be reached without using guesswork.

Solution in next publication.

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

1178

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

For Saturday, February 20, 2010 by Eugenia Last

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:
Rihanna, 22; Brian Littrell, 35; Andrew Shue, 43; Cindy Crawford, 44

Happy Birthday:
You must separate your emotions from your professional plans and maintain a practical approach. Focus on the here and now and what it will take to remove any connection to past problems. In order to move forward and pursue what means the most to you, dedication will be required. Your numbers are 2, 13, 17, 20, 26, 31, 44

ARIES (March 21-April 19):
Don't run from situations that need to be fixed. Secretive action will only lead to more trouble. Get things out in the open and you will find a solution. Someone else's limitation may be to your benefit.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20):
Your power of persuasion will work wonders if you address a group or organization that can benefit from your services. Don't let someone you live with upset you when your focus should be on your professional goals. Be direct.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20):
A user-friendly environment will equate to greater production. Don't let someone you love cost you financially or emotionally. If you overspend, you will not be able to complete what needs to be done.

CANCER (June 21-July 22):
Travel for business or pleasure will pay off. You need to be aware of what's available if you are going to make the right choices. A move or a change of scenery will do you good and will help you get ahead personally and professionally.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):
Refuse to give in to anyone trying to get you to do something you don't want to do. An argument can be expected but it's still better than getting stuck with responsibilities you don't want. Compromise won't work.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):
Play every card you've got in order to finalize a deal with someone you care for. A commitment can be made and plans put into play. Visit someone who can provide you with the information you need to move ahead with your plans.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):
Proceed with caution. Taking a chance when it comes to financial investments will lead to loss. A creative outlet or group that you join will help you see where you are headed. Expressive dialogue will result in much-needed support.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):
This is not the time to waffle or to let someone get the upper hand. Love is in the stars, so discuss your personal plans with someone special. An evening out or enjoying a common interest will help you explain what you want long term.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):
If you move too fast, you can expect to make mistakes and suffer financial, emotional and personal loss. Travel or dealing with an authority figure will not turn out well. Delays and last-minute alterations will contribute to greater confusion.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):
Look, see and do. There is nothing you can't accomplish if you set your mind to it. An interesting change in your surroundings will be conducive to love and romance. Don't let someone else's responsibility become your burden.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):
You may have to deal with emotional issues if you haven't been completely upfront. A personal reevaluation will help you express your plans with greater enthusiasm and clarity, so that no one feels jilted by your recent decisions.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):
Love is apparent and you should be planning an elaborate evening with someone you want to spend more time with. Old emotional feelings will surface, confirming that you are in the right place with the right person.

DOUBLE CROSSWORD No 15,347

1		2		3		4		5		6
7					8					
9								10		11
				12	13					
		14								
15						16				
									17	
18						19		20		
21								22		

CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- It's drunk to a saint (5)
- There's no let up for the rich (7)
- Insect swallows fruit for nourishment (7)
- Not seeing a window-screen (5)
- Will it give a ghostly light? (6,4)
- Nominally it forms a loose attachment (3-2,5)
- Make a score (5)
- Eavesdroppers of low degree (7)
- It's nicer as a poison (7)
- Time for music (5)

DOWN

- Tear things to pieces, and put them in order again! (10)
- It's the custom to put it on (5)
- It may spoil the look of a lid (4)
- Can he carry his drink? (6)
- How to get browned off (8)
- Point wrongly claimed (7)
- Cause of dejection in weathermen? (10)
- Liking for a swan-song (8)
- He knows the drill, presumably (7)
- A portion for each (6)
- It burns Alf up, then me! (5)
- This nation is sound (4)

SOLUTIONS TO PUZZLE 15,346

CRYPTIC

Across: 1 Barometer; 8 Use; 9 Train driver; 11 Unarmed; 12 Reign; 13 Menace; 15 Leader; 17 Rates; 18 Succeed; 20 Illogically; 22 Elm; 23 Dispenser.

Down: 2 Air; 3 Minim; 4 Tirade; 5 Reverie; 6 Hurried meal; 7 Seeing red; 10 Against time; 11 Unmarried; 14 Castled; 16 Usages; 19 Cache; 21 Lie.

QUICK

Across: 1 Transient; 8 Owe; 9 Destruction; 11 Penance; 12 Ideal; 13 Roused; 15 Allege; 17 Erase; 18 Valiant; 20 Interjacent; 22 Act; 23 Disengage.

Down: 2 Rue; 3 Siren; 4 Eschew; 5 Trivial; 6 Confederate; 7 Recollect; 10 Singularity; 11 Perpetual; 14 Erected; 16 Averts; 19 Learn; 21 Nag.

QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- Damp (5)
- Calculate (7)
- Unfathomable (7)
- Centre (5)
- Tyranny (10)
- Inexpert (10)
- Call forth (5)
- Withdraw (7)
- Deliberative assembly (7)
- Awaken (5)

DOWN

- Spotless (10)
- Prophetess (5)
- Check (4)
- Of the eye (6)
- Stress (8)
- Crazy (7)
- Unable to speak out (6-4)
- Sham (8)
- Bold decorative style (7)
- Seldom (6)
- Indistinct (5)
- Weary (4)

1		2		3		4		5		6
7					8					
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		14								
15						16				
									17	
18						19		20		
21								22		

Eugenia's Web sites: astroadvice.com for fun, eugenialast.com for confidential consultations
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