

Two ACT men found not guilty of rape

GOLD COAST: A jury took just 35 minutes yesterday to find two ACT men not guilty of raping and indecently assaulting a 20-year-old woman during an end-of-season football trip to Surfers Paradise last year.

David Mark Cox, 20, of Mawson, and Lauchlan Boyd Ross, 31, of

Banks, each pleaded not guilty to one charge of rape and two of indecent assault of the woman at the Islander Resort on October 2.

Southport District Court heard Cox and Ross, of the Woden Valley Rams Rugby League Club, met the woman at a nightclub the morning she alleged she was raped.

Both admitted having sex with her, but by her consent.

Defence counsel Shane Herbert, QC, told the court the woman, who once worked as a receptionist in a brothel, claimed she did not know what "rape" meant.

"If she came from Mars you could believe that, but she comes

from [the Gold Coast suburb of] Tugun," Mr Herbert said.

He described her as "someone who lies in your face".

"She complained to police that she had been raped by two men and makes a complaint later to being raped by between six and eight men," Mr Herbert said.