

Breaking through the bubble

Europe, Asia see increase in HIV, AIDS cases

DUBLIN, Ireland – United Nations health officials said Monday HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, is once again spreading in Western Europe and ravaging Eastern Europe and Central Asia, according to CNN reports issued Monday.

Eastern Europe and Central Asia are experiencing the fastest-growing AIDS epidemic in the world. There are more than 1.5 million people in the two areas with HIV. According to the U.N. Development Program, one in every 100 adults in Eastern Europe carries HIV.

In the 1990s, antiretroviral drugs that slowed the progress of HIV infections into AIDS were introduced into Western Europe. As a result, the number of deaths due to HIV and AIDS dropped dramatically but infection rates skyrocketed.

HIV and the AIDS virus affect more than 40 million people worldwide, with about 75 percent of those infected living in Africa.

Eminem takes a bite out of Apple, MTV

DETROIT – Rapper Eminem's music publisher, Eight Mile Style, is suing Apple Computer, Inc. and MTV, saying that Apple ran a commercial on MTV using Eminem's song "Lose Yourself" without permission.

The ad is for Apple's iTunes pay-per-download music software and features a 10-year-old singing the song. The ad began running on MTV in July 2003 and ran numerous times for three months. The ad also appeared on Apple's Web site, according to CNN.

According to the suit, Apple Computer CEO Steve Jobs personally called Joel Martin, the manager of Eight Mile Style, to ask if Eminem would reconsider allowing the company to use the song. Eminem ended the discussions without granting Apple permission to use the song.

Eminem, whose real name is Marshall Mathers III, has sold more than 33 million albums and won a Grammy for "Lose Yourself" in 2003. The rapper also won an Oscar for "8 Mile" last

year. He has never nationally endorsed any commercial product.

Teachers up in arms over 'terrorist' comment

WASHINGTON – Education Secretary Rod Paige is being criticized for calling the National Education Association a "terrorist organization" on Monday, arguing that the group often acts against the wishes of teachers across the nation regarding school standards and accountability, according to CNN.

Teachers across the nation have negatively reacted to Paige's comments, saying his apology left much to be desired. In his apology, Paige said the union employs "obstructionist scare tactics" against the No Child Left Behind education reform campaign.

The National Education Association is an organization of more than 2.7 million teachers. The group has been pushing for changes in the No Child Left Behind program, saying it is more focused on paperwork and testing than making sure schools are provided with the necessary resources to educate all students.

Sports Illustrated gets sixth-grader suspended

BELPRE, Ohio – A 12-year-old boy has been suspended for bringing a copy of the Sports Illustrated swimsuit edition to his public school, according to ESPN.

Belpre school officials said the magazine was sexually explicit and thus not allowed on school grounds. Sixth-grader Justin Reyes was suspended for three days after a teacher confiscated the magazine. School officials also suggested he attend an alternative school.

Reyes's mother is contesting the suspension and said she would not send her son to an alternative school. She said she was outraged the public school system considered bringing the magazine to school a delinquent act.

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