

News Notes

to have called her up to 30 times a day. The girl is accused of terrorizing her teacher and her partner by phoning the teacher at home on a considerable number of occasions and of behaving in a threatening manner. The alleged terrorizing started two years ago when the girl gave her teacher a note describing her romantic feelings for the teacher. The student is said to have tried to get in touch with the teacher to discuss the incident with the note but the teacher firmly dismissed all her attempts. The public prosecutor asked for a NOK 3000 fine for the student. The student's lawyer said her client should be acquitted.

Netherlands: HIV is up among gay couples

AMSTERDAM, Holland — The vast majority of HIV infections in the Netherlands among gay men are occurring between partners in long-term relationships rather than via casual sex, a Dutch epidemiologist has found. With 45 percent of British gay men reported having at least one experience of unprotected sex last year, in Holland the figure was only 25 percent. However, the prevention messages were aimed squarely at encouraging condom use in casual sex. As a result, the vast majority of new HIV cases among gay men in Amsterdam are now occurring within steady, committed relationships. Dr. Maria Xiridou of the Amsterdam Municipal Health Service found that no less than 86 percent of new HIV infections in the city were occurring within long-term relationships.

Gays attack Sun's 'homophobic' Big Brother offer

LONDON, England — The Sun has come under fire from gay rights groups after it restricted an offer of £50,000 for the first Big Brother contestants to have sex on TV to heterosexual couplings. Pressure group Stonewall said the offer showed the Sun was "out of touch" and would alienate Big Brother viewers who had demonstrated their rejection of homophobia by voting an openly gay contestant to win two years ago. "We think it's bizarre the Sun is excluding lesbian and gay people from their contest. Brian and Anna, two previous gay and lesbian contestants, topped the competition and their subsequent media careers have been strong compared with other straight contestants who have sunk without a trace," said Sacha Deshmukh, Stonewall's director of parliamentary affairs. "The Sun's competition is clearly out of touch with Big Brother viewers, who have shown they reject homophobia."

Coming out pays off for McKellen

CANNES, France — Sir Ian McKellen believes that he would never have become an international film star if he had not revealed that he was gay. Speaking to The Times in Cannes, the Oscar-nominated star of films including the Lord of the Rings films, X-Men and Gods and Monsters, said: "I get offered the big parts and people tell me I'm a movie star. That didn't happen before I came out." Sir Ian, 63, said that until he declared his sexuality at the age of 50, he had not joined the human race on his own terms. "I was leading a secret life, hiding and lying about something that was central to my nature. Now I have nothing to hide. Acting is no longer about lying. It's now about revealing the truth. People are at ease with me now. Honesty is the best policy."

Bardot says gays are ruining France

PARIS, France — According to retired actress Brigitte Bardot the 'ruination of France' is being caused by Muslim immigrants, fast food chains and gays. Her new book claims that gays should keep their sexuality secret and be more like those from the 50s and 60s. Of gays today she says: "They jiggle their bottoms, put their little fingers in the air and with their little castrato voices moan about what those ghastly heteros put them through." The 68-year-old also has nothing good to say about Paris prostitutes. "Our lovely, kind street-walkers have been replaced by girls from the East, Nigerians, travellers, transsexuals, drag-queens, bearers of AIDS and other friendly gifts. Having a risk-free go is becoming a real exploit." She also attacks Islam on numerous occasions in her book *A Cry In The Silence*.



Brigitte Bardot



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