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QUOTE OF THE DAY

Nikki
Blind Date contestant



"My problem with fellas is that I can't seem to find one I want to stick with for more than six weeks." Big Brother's Nikki discusses her issues with men on a 2003 edition of Blind Date, unearthed by ITN. She chose Lee but later dumped him for welder Alex.



Outstanding
Charitable
Maria's top
of the world

AN IRISH woman has been named as The Outstanding Young Person of the World for her charity work.

Maria Kidney (35) set up her own charity in 2000 to help disadvantaged people in a region of Kenya known as Londiani.

Since then Friends of Londiani has built schools and hospitals and water systems benefiting scores of communities.

Maria, pictured left with schoolchildren in Londiani, is an IT analyst from Cobh, Co. Cork. She said she was inspired to set up the charity when she went mountain climbing in Kenya. After being mugged in Nairobi she used her contacts through the local Girl Guides in Co. Cork to stay with the Girl Guides in the area. It was there she met a woman whom she said inspired her.

"When I came home I decided to set up the charity and we went out to carry out work in 2003," she said.

Maria was nominated by the Junior Chamber International (JCI) Ireland and she beat off competition from 145 entrants from across national organisations and countries.