

## SF AIDS group soars into cyberspace

The San Francisco STOP AIDS Project now has an address on the World Wide Web. The grass-roots organization, which started 12 years ago, has focused its efforts on preventing the spread of AIDS and HIV. The organization uses street outreach, small group workshops and neighborhood mobilization to bring the message of prevention to San Francisco's gay and bisexual men.

The site was designed and produced by WebScouts, a San Francisco-based Web design and on-line marketing service. WebScouts donated more than \$10,000 worth of research, design, production and maintenance to the project. Sirius Connections donated the server space, and money to register the domain name was provided by Gay.Net.

Information available on the Web site includes safer-sex information and AIDS-prevention resources, a description of the STOP AIDS Project's programs and services, and a comprehensive list of links to the sites of other HIV/AIDS organizations.

The site can be found at: [www.stopaids.org](http://www.stopaids.org).

## Health fund set up for Leslie Feinberg

A fund to help defray the medical bills of author Leslie Feinberg has been formed. Feinberg, who wrote *Stone Butch Blues* and *Transgender Warriors*, has been seriously ill since last December. S/he (the pronoun that Feinberg prefers) has suffered a series of bacterial infections and spiking fevers. Feinberg has no health insurance, and lives in a state that has eliminated Medicaid. S/he has already spent more than \$12,500 combating this illness.



Leslie Feinberg

Contributions to the fund are tax deductible. Checks made payable to the Column Foundation and earmarked for the Leslie Feinberg Health Fund may be sent to: Leslie Feinberg Health Fund, c/o William Sachs Esq., Column Foundation, 370 Seventh Ave., 7 Penn Plaza, Suite 830, New York, NY 10001.

## Christian radio station sacks fundamentalist

Wyatt Roberts, executive director of the right-wing Christian group the American Family Association of Texas, was notified in mid-April by Austin Christian radio station KIXL-AM, that his weekly radio show has been canceled.

In recent months, Roberts has used his program in an attempt to organize a boycott of businesses that advertise in the *Texas Triangle*, a gay and lesbian newspaper based in Austin. The boycott effort failed.

The radio station's general manager said Roberts' program was terminated as part of a reshuffling of the station's broadcast lineup.

## AIDS vaccine volunteer infected

One of the 24 people who volunteered to be vaccinated with an experimental AIDS vaccine has become infected with HIV, according to a Reuter report. The vaccine was developed by

United Biomedical Inc., of Hauppauge, N.Y.

Writing in the March 18 edition of *AIDS Weekly*, Dr. James Kahn of the University of California at San Francisco reported that the infected person received four doses of the vaccine. The vaccine is not believed to be the source of the infection, however, because the vaccine does not contain live virus.

## Three-drug combo may be best choice against HIV

A study appearing in the April 18 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine* contends that



a combination of three drugs is more effective in reducing HIV's ability to reproduce than any combination of just two drugs.

The study, AIDS Clinical Trials Group protocol 229, was a double-blind study of 229 patients at 10 AIDS-trial units.

According to researchers, patients who were given a combination of two Hoffmann-LaRoche drugs—saquinavir, also called invirase, and zalcitabine, also known as ddC—and the Glaxo-Wellcome drug AZT experienced "significantly greater reductions in plasma HIV with the three-drug combination than with the other regimens."

Other participants were given a combination of either AZT and zalcitabine or AZT and saquinavir.

## Lesbians beaten by neighbors

Two Long Beach, Calif., women were allegedly severely beaten by nearly a dozen of their neighbors wielding sticks that resembled police batons. They were attacked, according to some in the neighborhood, because they parked their car a little too close to some neighbors' vehicles, and because they are lesbians.

Long Beach Police spokeswoman Maria Mendez told the *Los Angeles Times* that anti-gay remarks were made during the beating: "There were words exchanged to indicate that it was a hate crime," she said.

By the time police arrived all the attackers had fled.

## Transsexual murdered in Chicago

A 24-year-old transsexual woman was found brutally murdered in her apartment on March 22. Her body was discovered by firefighters who were responding to arson reports.

Christian Paige was beaten, strangled and stabbed numerous times. Her assailant then set fire to the apartment.

It is believed that Paige met her assailant through a telephone dating service. She told her roommates she had spoken with a man twice by phone before making a date with him. Police found glasses on a table where the two apparently shared a drink before Paige was murdered. Fingerprints were destroyed by the fire. Police are attempting to trace the assailant through the dating service phone records.

Paige had recently moved from Nashville, Tenn., to Chicago. She was working to save money to pay for sex-reassignment surgery.

Compiled by Kristine Chatwood

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