

**DNA Evidence and Crime-Solving**

“DNA leads to conviction in 2001 killing of woman,” The Baltimore Sun January 20, 2005.

Timothy Hawkins, 34, of Baltimore, was convicted of second-degree murder after he was forced to provide a DNA sample to authorities for a parole violation. The DNA sample matched DNA in 2 cold case murders from 2001.

“One leg and a murder charge after 21 years,” The Daily Telegraph (Sydney, Australia) January 20, 2005.

21 years after the brutal murder of 24-year-old Johanne Coral Hatty, David Flemming, 51, now obese and one legged, has been charged in her murder. The NSW homicide squad used new DNA matching technology to find the suspect.

“Trial starts in '79 slaying of Capitol Hill woman; Then 25, she was raped, strangled - DNA evidence links defendant to crime,” Seattle Times January 19, 2005.

25 years after the brutal rape of Sylvia Durante, William Greene has been charged in her death after new DNA testing matched his DNA to sperm left on Durante's body.

“Metro; In Brief,” The Washington Post January 19, 2005.

Brandon Crawford, 20, a convicted murderer serving a life sentence, has been charged with a 3 year old homicide after he was linked to the slaying through a DNA sample that he was forced to provide as part of his current sentence.

“Police Have Suspect in Montgomery Attacks,” The Washington Post January 19, 2005.

Jorge Rivera-Aleman, a 37-year-old, has been charged with raping a Montgomery teenager on her way home from school. Authorities are testing Rivera-Aleman's DNA for a link to at least 4 other attacks on women and teenage girls since 2003.

“Cold-case trial set in DuPage; Man accused of killing couple in '78,” Chicago Tribune January 18, 2005.

The trial of Billy Lee Warren will begin this week in the double murder case of a couple back in 1978. The prosecutor's case is expected to be aided by modern DNA testing that was not available in 1978.

“Clothes had slain boy's DNA,” The Toronto Star January 18, 2005.

In the murder trial in the death of a 12-year-old boy from 2003, a forensic scientist testified that blood on the clothes of two of the three teenagers who are accused of the gruesome murder, contains the DNA of the victim.

“US court sentences Briton to 150 years for five rapes,” Telegraph (London) January 16, 2005.

Paul Edward Capener, a 42-year-old British man who raped 2 American women, has been sentenced to five 30 year sentences to be served consecutively. Through DNA testing it has also been established that Capener is responsible for the rapes of 5 other women in England.

“Police Link Sally Killer to Unsolved Murder,” Scotland on Sunday, January 16, 2005.

David Atkinson, the Scottish soldier who raped and murdered Sally Geeson and then killed himself last week, is now also suspected in the murder of a 13 year old girl in the same area in 2003. Atkinson is also of interest to the German police who are seeking his DNA in a series of attacks in the area where he was stationed some years before.

### **Controversies Concerning DNA Databanks and Laboratories**

“Two bills fine-tune DNA use One widens rape victims' rights; the other limits police powers,” Omaha World-Herald (Nebraska) January 20, 2005.

Under a new legislative bill introduced, rape victims would be able to anonymously report sexual assaults and still have DNA evidence from the assault collected and preserved.

Another bill introduced would limit when law enforcement officials could demand DNA samples, and require that the samples be returned if the possible suspects are ruled out. The bill was filed as a result of the case where Omaha police took DNA samples from black male employees of Omaha Public Power District where no one was arrested and the DNA samples were not restored.

“Rape victims in west must travel to approved facilities,” The Irish Times January 19, 2005.

Due to the lack of Government funding for sexual assault units in Ireland, victims of alleged sexual assault and rape must travel several hours to approved forensic facilities. The Rape Crisis Network of Ireland says that there is no point in investing State resources in the debated DNA database, when there are so few forensic examining facilities.

**Expanding the DNA Databank**

“DNA skills highlighted,” The Dominion Post (Wellington, New Zealand) January 17, 2005.

Environmental and Research Institute of New Zealand has provided Thailand with a \$250,000 gift in DNA forensic software to help identify victims of last month’s tsunami. The new technology will help identify victims by linking to Thailand’s existing forensic DNA system.

**DNA Science and Technology**

“DNA Scans 'Could Identify Criminals within Minutes',” The Scotsman January 18, 2005.

British scientists are developing a way to profile DNA that will enable police to use a hand held scanner to develop results in minutes as opposed to weeks. Using a massive DNA database they will be able to discover the perpetrators of crimes within minutes. The hand-held scanners will be in use, scientists believe, within five years.