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The May 17 and May 24 2002 DNA legislative and media summary (combined as one) is listed below.

These reports are prepared by Tim Schellberg and Lisa Hurst of Smith Alling Lane (253) 627-1091, on behalf of Applied Biosystems. Text of legislation can be obtained by following the appropriate state-link at this site: <http://www.ncsl.org/public/sitesleg.htm>. Please see the appropriate media website for the newspaper articles.

COMMENTS

Illinois and Arizona enacted laws to expand the DNA database to include all convicted felons. The California Senate passed a bill to allow use of force in collecting DNA from convicted felons, and a California appellate court overturned a previous ruling that prohibited the use of force in such collections.

Congress is weighing its options on how to assist states and local jurisdictions with mounting DNA backlogs, and such backlogs made the news in Florida, Massachusetts, Ohio, Los Angeles, and Boston. The Oklahoma Senate has passed a bill to remove the statute of limitations for rape when DNA is available. Ohio is using federal money to pay local jurisdictions \$100 for each old rape kit they submit.

“Cold hits” made the news in Missouri (rape), Colorado (rape), Pennsylvania (murder/rape), Wisconsin (rape), Arizona (two rapes linked), and Alaska (serial rapist). DNA evidence solved crimes in Kentucky (envelope), Illinois (discarded food), and Wisconsin (beer bottle, cigarette butt, duct tape). DNA also solved 3 crimes in Chicago in one week, and has identified a serial rapist (16 counts) in New York City.

A post conviction testing case in Virginia has confirmed the inmate’s guilt. New post conviction testing efforts are underway for inmates in Idaho and Nebraska, and a Missouri county is reviewing potential cases for testing. Federal legislation to allow greater access to post conviction DNA testing continues to gain steam in the House.

In international news...Ireland is conducting a “DNA dragnet” in the search for the mother of a dead child, and in another case is using DNA from a cigarette to identify a killer. Over 200 missing persons have been identified in Bosnia through DNA testing and databasing (22 in April alone), and China used DNA to identify victims of a plane crash. Hungary is using DNA in a massacre investigation, and DNA from a domestic abuse arrestee in the UK linked the man to an unsolved child rape and murder. South Africa is improving its DNA testing and is reviewing 1 million cold cases, and a city in India is getting a new DNA testing center. Several Australian states continue to augment and fine-tune their DNA databases, and a new DNA testing lab has opened in New Zealand.

STATE LEGISLATION

Forensic DNA

1. New Jersey SB 1501 -- Requires state crime to meet the standards for accreditation established by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board. Requires the Legislature to provide annual funding, in an amount certified by the Attorney General, necessary for these laboratories to maintain accreditation.

Genetic Privacy / Research

2. Arizona HB 2709 – For insurance purposes, preexisting condition does not include a genetic condition in the absence of a diagnosis of the condition related to the genetic information.
3. Michigan HRes 354 – Urges Congress to prohibit human cloning.

Paternity

4. New York SB 7402 – Requires courts to provide relief from a child support order if subsequent genetic testing indicates that the man is not the father.

Agriculture

5. Illinois SRes 429 – Encourages the Department of Animal Science, Food, and Nutrition of Southern Illinois University to begin, within its available resources, the development of a premium meat initiative pilot program. Refers to a need to “provide producers with genetic tools to efficiently improve quality.”

NEWS ARTICLES

1. “Cooley Labels Crime Lab Plans Inadequate.” Los Angeles Times, May 22, 2002.
The Los Angeles District Attorney is warning that plans for a \$96-million regional crime lab are grossly inadequate and threaten to expand a backlog of unsolved murder and sexual assault cases. According to the district attorney's office, the LAPD has projected about 12,500 square feet and 34 employees for its DNA section in the new lab. But Cooley said the LAPD's DNA section will need 72 criminalists to accommodate requests for testing and to make a dent in the backlog of unsolved cases. The LAPD's current lab near downtown Los Angeles now receives 60 to 80 requests for DNA testing each month and already has an annual backlog of at least 400 unsolved cases, he said, and the needs will be even greater in the future.
2. “DNA from man who mailed letters to police leads to indictment.” The Associated Press State & Local Wire, May 22, 2002.
Police in Kentucky have linked a man to three rape cases after he sent a taunting letter to authorities that contained his DNA and fingerprint. DNA collected from the flap on the envelope was matched to the unsolved rapes. The man was eventually caught in Dallas after cell phone calls were traced. After eluding police for nearly eight years on burglary charges, the man has finally been indicted on charges of rape, burglary, and a parole violation. "He was probably trying to throw us off," an investigator said. "I guess he didn't know about the DNA technology."
3. “Dead baby: DNA hunt for mother.” Belfast Telegraph, May 21, 2002.
In Carryduff, Ireland, police are to begin voluntary DNA screening in the area in a bid to find the mother of a murdered baby girl. Around 600 women will be asked to take part in the testing which will be done through buccal swabs. Detectives hope to screen women between the ages of 13 and 45 who are not currently pregnant, and have given assurances that the swabs will be destroyed and the DNA information will not be kept on a data base for any other purpose.
4. “Evidence Baked At Lab, Technician Testifies.” The Hartford Courant, May 21, 2002.
In a Connecticut murder case, a former crime lab employee testified that crucial DNA evidence in the case was kept in a utility room that often reached temperatures of more than 100 degrees. Another defense witness testified that intense heat can damage DNA samples and cause them to break down. The prosecution is pinning much of its case on this DNA evidence.
5. “National Briefing Midwest: Ohio: Incentive To Submit Rape Kits.” The New York Times, May 21, 2002.
Ohio will pay police departments \$100 for each rape evidence kit forwarded from evidence rooms to a laboratory for testing in cases where there is no suspect. The Cleveland department, the first to participate, has 650 kits stored in its evidence room.
6. “Do Not Abandon.” The Plain Dealer, May 21, 2002.
Most Ohio police departments are failing to send physical evidence from their unsolved rape cases to the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation, where that state agency could use DNA testing to possibly identify rapists. About 650 such unprocessed rape kits sit on a shelf in the Cleveland Police Department. Akron has 350; Toledo, 800. In East Cleveland, rape kits were tossed out until BCI offered storage space to the small, overwhelmed police department. There are 4,500 rape cases in Ohio annually.

7. "Defense attorney to investigate claims of innocence by seven in Idaho." The Associated Press State & Local Wire, May 21, 2002.
Attorneys for the Innocence Project have agreed to investigate claims of innocence by seven prison inmates in Idaho. The Innocence Project recently helped Idaho exonerate its first wrongfully convicted man through new DNA tests.
8. "From garbage to vital DNA evidence." Chicago Daily Herald, May 20, 2002.
A discarded dinner collected from the scene of a massacre in Chicago has finally resulted in a DNA match that helped solve the case. The dinner was the last item sold on the night of the 1993 murder of 7 people at a chicken restaurant. Fortunately, a crime lab employee had the foresight to save the leftover chicken which was recently matched to a buccal swab from one of the primary suspects.
9. "Let's make way for more DNA convictions as well." Lewiston Morning Tribune, May 20, 2002.
Column supports congressional efforts to make more money available for DNA testing of backlogged casework and offender profiles. "Since DNA became a crucial factor in criminal justice, most of the publicity has gone to cases in which its evidence has been used to exonerate people wrongly convicted of crimes. But genetic fingerprints can be used no less convincingly to put people out on the street behind bars. And they should be"
10. "DNA evidence picks up where fingerprints end." Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, May 20, 2002.
In Wisconsin, a group of men who murdered two victims were identified through DNA on a discarded beer bottle, cigarette butt and duct tape which were all found at the crime scene. In 2000, the Wisconsin State Crime Laboratory matched crime scene evidence with perpetrators just six times through DNA technology. In 2001, it matched 45; so far this year, it's 36.
11. "Prosecutor, Group Butt Heads Over DNA Tests On Rapists." St. Louis Post-Dispatch, May 20, 2002.
In St. Louis County (Missouri), a Circuit Attorney and the Innocence Project are at odds over making DNA tests available to convicted rapists who dispute their guilt. An Innocence Project lawyer says St. Louis prosecutors are "outlandish" in their opposition to tests that could lead to freedom for wrongly convicted prisoners. The Circuit Attorney replies that it supports DNA testing, but only in cases where there is a reasonable chance of exonerating a prisoner. The Circuit Attorney is developing a plan to review about 1,400 old cases of rape, murder and assault to see where new DNA tests would be warranted.
12. "Man charged in 16-year-old rape case." The Associated Press State & Local Wire, May 19, 2002.
In Missouri, DNA evidence in a 16-year-old rape case has led to charges against a prison inmate. The man is serving 30 years on a 1987 sodomy conviction. Prosecutors said the case is the oldest one in Jackson County in which charges were filed because of DNA evidence. And Missouri State Highway Patrol officials said they believe the case is the oldest of its kind in the state. Jackson County prosecutors plan to file more charges against suspects identified through so-called "cold hits" to the prison database.
13. "Crime lab under the scope." The Boston Herald, May 19, 2002.
The Boston crime lab, which should be receiving accreditation shortly, processes rape kits in about one week and has no backlog. A recent study in Massachusetts found that the state police crime labs are so understaffed that district attorneys are allowed to submit only one or two cases per month for DNA analysis. Meanwhile, the state police DNA lab completes just 120 of about 620 cases submitted for profiling yearly, adding 500 cases per year to the mounting backlog. Since Boston established the DNA lab in 1998 - the only municipal police department in Massachusetts to do so - the lab has made it a priority to enter every DNA profile its staff generates into the FBI's Combined DNA Index System. So far, Boston has linked 18 rapes to suspects whose profiles already had been entered into the database.
14. "Missing blood prevents DNA test in 1988 slaying." Omaha World-Herald, May 19, 2002.
In the first hearing since a Nebraska post conviction DNA testing law was passed last year, a court will consider whether an inmate should be granted a new trial. Testing of evidence from the original trial has found none of the suspect's blood can be found on the victim's clothing - in fact, no blood was found on the clothing at all. In the original trial, experts testified that blood found on the clothing tied the man to the crime.
15. "Police let rape evidence gather dust." The Plain Dealer, May 19, 2002.

In Ohio, State officials estimate that more than 3,000 kits containing rape evidence have been gathering dust in local police department evidence rooms, in some cases for decades. Victims are often unaware that police have set aside, or worse, tossed out, evidence of an attack that nurses collected from the victims' bodies. Some departments, forced by heavy caseloads to prioritize cases, still have policies dictating that kits be analyzed only when a suspect is known. Others simply don't recognize the new databases' value - and the chance that a bit of extra work could yield an arrest. Congress is considering measures to provide millions of dollars in federal aid to erase the backlog of untested rape kits, and the Ohio Attorney General has announced a financial-incentive plan, paid for in part by a \$2.2 million federal grant, to kick-start the flow of stored rape kits to BCI. About \$200,000 of the grant money will be used to give \$100 to Ohio police departments for every rape kit they submit.

16. "Seven-Year Scratch Bill Ends Limits on Sex Crime Charges." The Sunday Oklahoman, May 19, 2002. The Oklahoma Senate has unanimously passed a bill to eliminate the current seven-year period in which persons can be charged with a sex crime based on DNA evidence. The bill corrects a situation in which the guilty go free because DNA evidence points to their involvement only after the seven years have elapsed. "DNA evidence is being used to free innocent people from prison long after a crime was convicted. This is an important development for the justice system in that no one not guilty of a crime should serve even a day in prison if evidence to exonerate him becomes available...The same should be true in reverse: If DNA evidence gathered at the crime scene points to a suspect years later, that evidence should be available at a trial. But under the statute of limitations, the suspect could not be charged if more than seven years had passed since the evidence was gathered."
17. "DNA links suspect to '92 killing, cops say." Chicago Tribune, May 19, 2002. A decade long investigation in Illinois ended when the DNA of a Chicago man was linked to a 1992 murder, marking the third case in one week where the DNA revealed new leads in unsolved murders in the metro area.
18. "Man convicted in 12-year-old Boulder rape case." The Associated Press State & Local Wire, May 18, 2002. In Colorado, a man has been convicted of kidnapping and raping a University of Colorado student 12 years ago. The man was charged with rape in 1998 after a DNA database of convicted felons connected him to the assault. He was serving a sentence in a state prison for vandalism when he was arrested. The man has prior convictions of forgery, robbery and burglary in Colorado from 1983 to 1986, and he was convicted of theft in Oregon in 1984.
19. "Rapist convicted, suspect in 4 more." The Florida Times-Union (Jacksonville, FL), May 18, 2002. In Florida, a Jacksonville man suspected of raping five women from 1995 to 1998 has been convicted on one charge each of armed sexual battery, armed kidnapping and attempted armed robbery. DNA evidence tied him to the assaults.
20. "DNA Evidence Fingers Suspect." Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, May 18, 2002. In Pennsylvania, a Morningside man linked to a 1998 murder by DNA evidence was ordered held for trial on charges of homicide, rape and burglary. The crime had gone unsolved for more than three years until a cold hit was made on the DNA database. The man is already serving a 20-to-40-year sentence for a 1999 assault, and pled guilty to the murder after the DNA link was discovered.
21. "Suspect Is Charged In The 'Patty' Rape Case." Wisconsin State Journal, May 18, 2002. In Wisconsin, a man has been charged with a 1997 unsolved rape, thanks to a cold hit on the state's DNA database. The break in the case came last June when a state crime lab forensic specialist found that a DNA sample taken from the suspect in prison in 1996, had been re-analyzed with a tool not available to the lab in 1996. The man is currently serving an 18-year sentence for armed robbery.
22. "Opposition queries new DNA laws." AAP Newsfeed, May 17 2002. In Queensland, Australia, the Opposition party is charging that laws introduced to free up forensic scientists from having to attend every court case involving DNA evidence could foster miscarriages of justice. However, the law does allow lawyers to query DNA tests. The Opposition spokesman said the Attorney-General needed to do all he could to ensure DNA testing was carried out properly at all times and forensic centers were adequately funded. The legislation has passed the state parliament.
23. "Prisoners' DNA to be collected." The Australian, May 17 2002.

In Western Australia, prisoners will have their DNA taken in a bid to close outstanding investigations and create a database to help catch those responsible for future crimes. The Budget has set aside \$6.3million for taking DNA swabs from at least 90 per cent of the state's 2800 prisoners. A further 2000 convicted criminals already released from prison or on home detention would also be required to have swabs taken from them. Another \$1.8 million will go towards establishing a home for the DNA library. Legislation enabling the swabs to be taken passed through state parliament last month.

24. "DNA on cigarette butt 'link' to murder." Irish News, May 17 2002.
In Ireland, A DNA test on a cigarette butt linked has allegedly linked a suspected "Ulster Defense Association" leader to a brutal murder. The court was told that the odds against the link being anyone else had been put at one billion to one.
25. "DNA from attack on Bisbee woman matches DNA from Mesa cases." The Associated Press State & Local Wire, May 16, 2002.
In Arizona, DNA evidence has led police to believe that an unknown man wanted in six sexual assault cases in the Mesa area since 1999 may be the same suspect police are looking for in an attack on a Bisbee woman last year. DNA collected from a cup in the Bisbee victim's apartment matched DNA from the other cases.
26. "Appeals court upholds taking DNA samples from death row inmates." The Associated Press State & Local Wire, May 16, 2002.
In California, an appellate court has ruled that the Department of Corrections can take DNA samples from condemned. The decision reverses a 1999 Sacramento Superior Court ruling that the department's regulations for collecting samples were insufficient. The department halted all collections pending the appeal. The ruling comes as the Senate unanimously approved a bill that would let the Corrections Department take DNA samples from inmates by force if they don't comply voluntarily. The bill now moves to the Assembly. The department plans to have those regulations in place by January.
27. "House votes to collect felons' DNA." Chicago Daily Herald, May 16, 2002.
In Illinois, the state House of Representatives has voted 100-6 to expand of the state's criminal DNA database to include all felons. Currently, only convicted violent felons, such as rapists, are required to submit DNA samples to the state. The bill now goes to the Senate for concurrence (the Senate had already passed this bill in a slightly altered version). Up to 100,000 convicts' samples will be entered per year under the plan. The database expansion is expected to cost the state nearly \$6 million next year and about \$2 million every year thereafter. The proposal will require felons be fined \$200 to pay for the cost of processing their DNA sample. A person convicted of misusing the DNA data could face up to three years in prison under the proposal.
28. "ICMP Achieves 22 DNA Assisted Identifications In One Day In April." ONASA News Agency, May 16, 2002.
In just one day in late April 2002, the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP) made 22 successful DNA-assisted identifications of recovered human remains. Throughout April, ICMP achieved an average of five - 10 identifications per day, bringing the identification total to more than 200 since the first in-country identification, November 16, 2001.
29. "DNA Testing Confirms Man's Guilt in Va. Rape." The Washington Post, May 16, 2002.
In Virginia, an inmate whose request for DNA testing generated national attention, has received his long-awaited laboratory results -- and they confirm that he is guilty of the 1989 rape that put him in prison. The man's case cast a spotlight on the issue of post-conviction DNA testing last year when a federal judge for the first time found that felons have a constitutional right to scientific analysis that could prove their innocence. That ruling was overturned, but the inmate subsequently won testing under a 2001 Virginia law that made such lab work widely available. About half of all conclusive post-conviction tests inculcate the inmate, rather than prove his innocence.
30. "Scientist: Money Needed for DNA." Associated Press Online, May 15, 2002.
Lack of money is resulting in hundreds of thousands of DNA samples going untested even though they could identify or clear alleged rapists, witnesses told a Senate panel. Moreover, state and local governments have not entered enough DNA samples from convicted felons to match to the DNA samples that police and hospitals take from rape victims. "To fight crime effectively, we must test all rape kits and enter all convicted felons into

the system," said Senator Biden.

31. "State police assign detective to oversee crime lab." The Associated Press State & Local Wire, May 15, 2002. In Massachusetts, a State Police detective has been assigned to oversee Massachusetts' troubled crime labs. The former commander of the Middlesex County detective unit has been put in charge of the department's laboratories and Crime Scene Services Unit. A recent study commissioned by the state's public safety secretary revealed that crime labs across Massachusetts are routinely forced to cut corners and deny requests from law enforcement because they don't have enough money or staff to handle their caseload. Because of budget woes, the report stated, the main State Police Crime Lab in Sudbury frequently refuses to run DNA tests in rape and other cases where no suspects have been identified, but where the sample could be compared with the national DNA Convicted Offender Database.
32. "Sheriff's Office unveils wishes." Contra Costa Times, May 15, 2002. The Contra County Sheriff's Office has presented the Board of Supervisors with its "wish list", which includes a \$30 million new crime lab.
33. "Rape victim urges Congress to reduce DNA sample backlog." Knight Ridder Washington Bureau, May 15, 2002." Sen. Joseph Biden, D-Del., a senior Judiciary Committee member, proposes to spend \$365 million over four years to clear up the backlog. Reducing the DNA backlog is also a House and Bush administration priority. Dwight Adams, head of the FBI's DNA database, estimated that there are at least 500,000 unprocessed DNA samples nationwide and said the number is growing "exponentially." About 5,000 cases have already been solved through DNA matches, Adams said.
34. "Changes proposed in DNA handling." Las Vegas Review-Journal, May 15, 2002. Las Vegas police are recommending some sweeping changes to the way DNA tests are handled in Southern Nevada following a police clerical error that nearly landed a wrongly accused man in prison for life. The man's name was mistakenly placed on the DNA profile of another man by the police forensics lab in 2001. The mistake led to the man being wrongly charged with at least two rapes that were dismissed after the error was detected. But in addition to confirming the error, the police review also found that forensics lab safeguards aimed at catching such mistakes failed. For example, after the DNA testing was complete, two police lab employees reviewed the findings and did not detect the error.
35. "Hungary declares national day of mourning for bank robbery victims." Associated Press Worldstream, May 14, 2002. In Hungary's deadliest ever bank robbery, officials are requesting DNA samples from at least one of the suspects. The suspect has refused to comply with the DNA request. Seven people died in the robbery, and another remains critically injured.
36. "US Said To Be Compiling Al Qaeda DNA Database." The Bulletin's Frontrunner, May 14, 2002. The Boston Globe (5/14, Bender) reports, "The United States is compiling a DNA database as part of its global campaign against terrorism and has gathered blood, tissue, and hair samples from hundreds of suspected Al Qaeda and Taliban members, dead and alive, government officials said. The database could be used to identify a few high-profile suspected terrorists, such as Al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden, who may have been killed in Afghanistan, by comparing the samples with DNA that officials hope to get from living relatives or from traces left behind in caves or other hiding places by known Al Qaeda members.
37. "New Forensic Studies Centre Seeks Funding." Canberra Times, May 14, 2002. In Canberra, Australia, a new National Forensic Studies Centre of Excellence aims to formally expand the scope of forensic science beyond the core disciplines of biology and chemistry. A collaborative effort by the University of Canberra and the Canberra Institute of Technology, the centre was launched at the opening of an international forensic science conference. With no new funding, the centre will initially draw on existing resources of both institutions along with in-kind support from the Australian Federal Police.
38. "News Conference On The Innocence Protection Act." Federal News Service, May 14, 2002. US Representatives LaHood (R-IL) and Delahunt (D-MA) announce that the federal legislation to allow inmates greater access to post conviction testing now has 232 cosponsors. The bill has been granted a hearing, but no additional commitments have been made.

39. "PA State Police Crime Labs Earn Accreditation From National Organization." PR Newswire, May 14, 2002. The Pennsylvania state laboratory has earned national accreditation from the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB).
40. "Bill OK'd to expand DNA testing to all convicted felons." The Associated Press State & Local Wire, May 13, 2002.
In Arizona, the legislature has enacted legislation requiring DNA from all convicted felons for the state's DNA database.
41. "Air China Crash Victims Identified." The Korea Herald, May 13, 2002.
The special relief center for the April 15 Air China crash said that it has completed identification of all 127 bodies found so far. Authorities had to employ DNA tests to identify the bodies of 121 of the victims, officials said.
42. "Suspect In Attacks Is Identified Through DNA." The New York Times, May 13, 2002.
A suspect in 16 sexual attacks in New York City who fled from a police interrogation room in the Bronx has been positively identified through DNA tests. The man remains on the loose and was linked to 15 of the attacks through a match of DNA samples recovered at 15 of the crime scenes and a saliva sample he provided to detectives before he escaped from the Bronx Special Victims Squad on May 6. The attacks on women and young girls occurred between March 5, 1997, and Feb. 26 of this year.
43. "Safeguards, DNA Database Would Improve Justice System." The Seattle Post-Intelligencer, May 13 2002." Column argues for a comprehensive DNA database of everyone – coupled with strong privacy laws. "A comprehensive database would also treat all citizens equally, unlike current laws that often give authorities vast discretion to test some Americans but not others. Best of all, this database, protected by strong privacy laws, would increase the odds of finding the guilty, freeing the innocent and vindicating the victim."
44. "Army chef jailed for 21-year-old murder." Belfast News Letter, May 11, 2002.
In the United Kingdom, a man whose DNA sample was taken last year after he was arrested on suspicion of an assault on his wife has been linked through the national database to the rape and murder of a 14-year-old girl 21 years ago.
45. "South Africa; Regular Crime Stats Demoralising." Africa News, May 10, 2002.
In South Africa, the new Safety and Security Minister Nqakula announced that the police hoped to reopen about one million unsolved criminal cases by the end of the year. This would be achieved through improvements to the police's science laboratory, DNA testing methods and an updated computerized finger-printing system. "Those criminals who have been sitting smug in the belief that the crimes they committed will never be uncovered, have a second thing coming," he said. "We will ensure that everyone who commits a crime in this country ... will take responsibility for what they do."
46. "White Plains: Man Convicted In Killings." The New York Times, May 10, 2002.
In New York, a man whose DNA tied him to the murders of three young women in Westchester County has been convicted of second-degree murder. The man could be sentenced to 75 years to life for the murders, which took place in 1987, 1988 and 1990. The three women were also sexually assaulted. Until the DNA tests, no one thought that the killings were committed by the same person because the victims were different ages and races and their deaths occurred in different locations.
47. "A Neglected Law Enforcement Asset." The New York Times, May 9, 2002.
Column urges congressional support for federal funding for DNA analysis. "State and federal databanks containing DNA profiles of convicted criminals and suspects offer law enforcement officers a powerful new tool for catching sexual assailants with a criminal record and preventing them from striking again. The same databanks can also be used to help establish a person's innocence. But budgetary constraints have hurt the effectiveness of this weapon by limiting the authorities' ability to analyze thousands of semen samples collected from rape victims."
48. "Alaska digest." Anchorage Daily News, May 8, 2002.

In Alaska, an accused serial rapist is pleading not guilty to a 10-count indictment that includes five charges of rape, plus assault and robbery. Police say they identified the man with help from the state DNA database. Hunter was arrested in Texas in April and waived extradition to Alaska. The indictment accuses him of assaulting five women between 1996 and this January in Anchorage and Palmer.

49. "City To Get DNA Profiling Centre." The Times Of India, May 8, 2002.
In India, a DNA Profiling Centre will be set up in Bangalore on the lines of the one functioning in Hyderabad and the Union government has already approved the project.
50. "Arrest In '97 Sex Assault." The Toronto Sun, May 8, 2002.
In Toronto, Canada, a DNA match has resulted in an arrest in a five-year-old sex assault as part of a joint project launched by police and the Centre of Forensic Sciences. The "cold hit" comes as the city's police chief urging the federal government to widen the net for DNA samples to include more convicted felons, potentially solving many more cold cases.
51. "DNA helping nab offenders." Northern Territory News, May 6, 2002.
In the Northern Territory of Australia, the area's high crime rate is resulting in police having a better chance of solving sexual crimes because of the amount of DNA collected from criminals. NT police have the most comprehensive DNA database in Australia. Police solved 71 % of the 284 sexual assaults reported last year. The number of people whose DNA samples were stored on the Territory's database is larger per capita than other police jurisdiction. A recent study in New Zealand showed 85 per cent of rapists were previously convicted for break and enters.
52. "New DNA Facility – Background." Media Release.
A new \$2.1 million DNA facility in New Zealand will initially accommodate 25 staff and has a total floor area of 714m² – about the size of six small houses. The ESR's DNA profiling procedures are accredited by ASCLD/LAB (American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors, Laboratory Accreditation Board). The new facility provides a state of the art environment in which to perform molecular biology techniques, including provision for "trace" DNA work, with working areas that support the flow of processes involved far more efficiently than the older laboratories. At the same time a new DNA analyser has been purchased to increase the number of samples that can be processed. Over the next year the lab expects to test over 20,000 DNA samples and the new facility and analyser will provide space and capacity to handle this workload and the continuing growth expected.
53. "State of the Art DNA Facility Opened." Media Release
A state of the art DNA testing facility has been opened for the Institute of Environmental Science and Research (ESR), by the Prime Minister in Auckland (New Zealand). "However, over the next year we expect to test 20,000 crime scene and Databank samples. That volume growth is one of the key reasons we needed the facility, but so too are the advances in science."
54. "Lab seeking solutions to DNA backlog." Pensacola News Journal, April 5, 2002.
A statewide backlog is prompting the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to look for ways to more quickly process evidence for possible DNA. The average turnaround time for a request to process evidence is about 51 months at the FDLE's Pensacola laboratory. Analysts want to reduce that to 31 months. Among the reasons for the backlog: DNA testing is a time-consuming process, there are not enough people to work in the laboratories to move cases through quickly and more investigators are requesting DNA tests. Statewide, there were 2,684 requests pending at the end of February, and locally in Pensacola there were 259 incomplete requests through the end of March.

Genetic Privacy / Research

55. "Ban secret DNA tests, says gene watchdog." The Daily Telegraph (London), May 22, 2002.
Britain's Human Genetics Commission is recommending that "secret" DNA testing to establish anything from a person's infidelity to their likelihood of developing cancer should be banned. The commission said Britain would turn into a "Big Brother" society without proper safeguards. Its recommendations included new curbs on genetic databases such as those held by the police or kept for medical research, to ensure that samples given for one reason could not be used for other purposes. It also urged action to prevent genetic discrimination where a

person's probable ill-health, as predicted by their DNA, could be used to exclude them from certain jobs or from obtaining insurance. The Government will respond to the commission's report in the fall.

56. "The NS Essay - Look out, Prime Minister, that napkin could be dangerous!; Your DNA could dribble anywhere, revealing explosive truths about you." *New Statesman*, May 13, 2002.
Article asks, "It is not far-fetched to imagine, within a few years, accurate and cheap DNA tests for your general susceptibility to many mental conditions from depression to intelligence. Should you be worried?" Lengthy essay.
57. "Railroad Will Pay After Genetic Testing; Workers Were Screened Without Their Knowledge." *The Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, May 10, 2002.
Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Co. will pay \$2.2 million to 36 employees the railroad sought to genetically test in secret, settling the first federal challenge involving such testing and privacy. The Fort Worth, Texas-based railroad was accused in February 2001 of violating the Americans with Disabilities Act by testing or attempting to genetically test workers without their knowledge after they had submitted work-related injury claims. In 28 states, there are laws limiting the ability of employers to collect, use or disclose genetic information, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. But the scope and content vary considerably. No federal law exists.
58. "Genetic Testing Lacks Privacy Protections." *Business Wire*, May 9, 2002.
The science of genomics holds great promise, but a new report commissioned by the California HealthCare Foundation (CHCF) makes clear that individuals cannot be assured their genetic information will be kept confidential. "While the U.S. has invested millions of dollars to promote genetic research, including the sequencing of the human genome, the federal government has yet to develop a clear policy about the collection, use, storage, and protection of genetic information,"

Paternity

59. "Of Dental Floss And DNA - And Paternity." *The Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, May 20, 2002.
Hollywood producer Steven Bing, who already is fighting a paternity claim by Elizabeth Hurley, filed a \$1 billion-plus suit for invasion of privacy and trespassing against MGM casino mogul Kirk Kerkorian. His court filing says 84-year-old Kerkorian was behind a move to steal dental floss from his trash to capture DNA in order to prove that Kerkorian's 4-year-old daughter is really Bing's child. Kerkorian's ex-wife wants \$320,000 a month in child support.
60. "Who's My Birth Father?" *Maclean's*, May 20, 2002.
"Canadians conceived with donated sperm are demanding to know their genetic roots -- but Ottawa isn't making it easy." Many Canadians born of donor insemination are demanding access to both parent's genetic information, but in many cases are finding their access to that information blocked. A newly introduced bill would allow those conceived with donated reproductive material to have access to detailed medical information, but donor identity would be handled in the same way provinces deal with birth parent information in adoption -- donors would have to consent to being identified first.
61. "Salesians Want Boy Subjected To DNA Test." *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, May 15, 2002.
In the Philippines, the Salesian missionary order has asked the mother of a 9-year-old boy allegedly sired by one of its priests to submit the child to a DNA test to establish paternity. However, the mother has rejected the offer because it was premised on the arrangement the alleged father would merely send a blood sample from the United States, where he is based. She expressed apprehension that he might send a wrong sample. "I want the National Bureau of Investigation to do the test, with my son and his father giving specimens here. I want it held on neutral ground with our lawyers present," she said.
62. "On trial by DNA it's not just Liz versus Steve." *The Evening Standard (London)*, May 13, 2002.
Paternity testing is a boom industry in Britain. Studies show that at least a tenth of British children do not have the father they think they do, and more and more couples are discovering the truth - not least as fathers challenge child maintenance demands. As a result, dozens of private companies have sprung up to sell kits over the internet or via mail order, and anyone with a couple of hundred pounds can now discover a child's true biological identity - often with traumatic results.