

# New waves of HIV could be lurking

By Lisa Soderlindh  
Special to Sentinel-Voice  
UNITED NATIONS  
(NNPA) - A quarter-century into the HIV/AIDS pandemic, researchers fear that a lack of preparedness for large-scale social changes,

driven by factors like armed conflict and climate change, could lead to explosive new outbreaks affecting millions of people.

Since cases of a severe pneumonia affecting gay men were described for the

first time in a U.S. public health report in June 1981, more than 65 million people have become infected with HIV and 25 million have died, according to the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS),

which estimates the current number of people living with HIV at 37 million to 45 million.

"We should not accept living with this epidemic at the level it has reached," Paul DeLay, director of monitor-

ing and evaluation at UNAIDS, said. "Today, we have a much clearer understanding of the epidemic itself and what we need to do."

Pointing to the most important advances of the last 25 years, he said the real breakthrough from the standpoint of science has been cheaper, simpler treatment and diagnosis, and drugs that prevent mother-to-child transmission.

But according to researcher Samuel Friedman, "We are not really looking ahead to what may be coming down the road at us."

"There has been a general lack of attention to social science and large-scale issues of

any kind in the conversation around AIDS," he told IPS, adding that the focus has been on individual behavioral and medical interventions.

Mr. Friedman, director of the Social Theory Core at the Center for Drug Use and HIV Research at the U.S.-based National Development and Research Institutes (NDRI), and researchers from Argentina, Australia, South Africa and the U.S., have identified a number of larger social factors that may affect the spread of HIV and the world's ability to respond to the changing global epidemic — at the cost of derailing the

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## Duke rape case still splits Durham

By Cash Michaels  
Special to Sentinel-Voice  
DURHAM, N.C. (NNPA) - While some in the African-American community have accused the news media and defense attorneys' of engineering a "high-tech lynching" of the Black female alleged victim in the Duke lacrosse gang rape case, the court proceedings continued this week with defense motions seeking to portray her as a dishonest drug addict and alcoholic with a criminal past.

"From the beginning, we demanded that the defense lawyers had a community responsibility not to demean the accuser in public, which only incites passion," N.C. NAACP President Rev. William Barber told a mass church meeting recently.

"This case cannot be decided between the front page and the sports page of the newspaper. It must be decided, after careful presentation of all the evidence, by the judge and the jury."

This comes on the heels of reports of death threats

against the 27-year-old woman—a mother of two, a Black college student and an U.S. Navy veteran—after her name, address and pictures were widely disseminated on the Internet. Her family said she is so frightened, she screams when she sees White males, and has threatened to withdraw her complaint so she can go on with her life.

Sources confirmed that famed litigator, attorney Willie Gary of Florida, has met with the parents of the victim to offer his services as a legal advisor and advocate. But the woman is reportedly so frightened, however, that she will not come out of hiding with her children to meet with Gary, Barber, or any of the other Black leaders who have sought to help her.

Her family says she is so embattled at this point, that she trusts no one. But for now, she will testify if, and when the case goes to trial.

"We have, and continue, to reach out to her in numerous ways," Barber said. "I will not discuss all the ways

publicly this has been done because I want her to know, if she is watching and chooses to reach back, that our concern will not be exploitive, but is an act of true compassion."

Duke lacrosse players Colin Finnerty, 19, of Garden City, N.Y., and Reade William Seligmann, 20, of Essex Fells, N.J., were recently indicted by a grand jury for first-degree sexual offense, first-degree forcible sexual offense, and first-degree kidnapping after being identified by the alleged victim as two of three White male lacrosse players she says brutally beat, kicked, strangled and sodomized her at a wild, off-campus party the morning of March 14.

A third unidentified suspect is expected to be indicted by May 15, when a second set of DNA results, and the next court hearing in this case, are expected to occur.

If convicted those felonies carry a minimum of 12 years in prison each.

Both of the accused are

Duke University sophomores, who have since been suspended from the elite university, were arrested and brought to the Durham County Detention Facility in handcuffs. But before noon, Seligmann and Finnerty met the \$400,000 bond each imposed by a judge, and were

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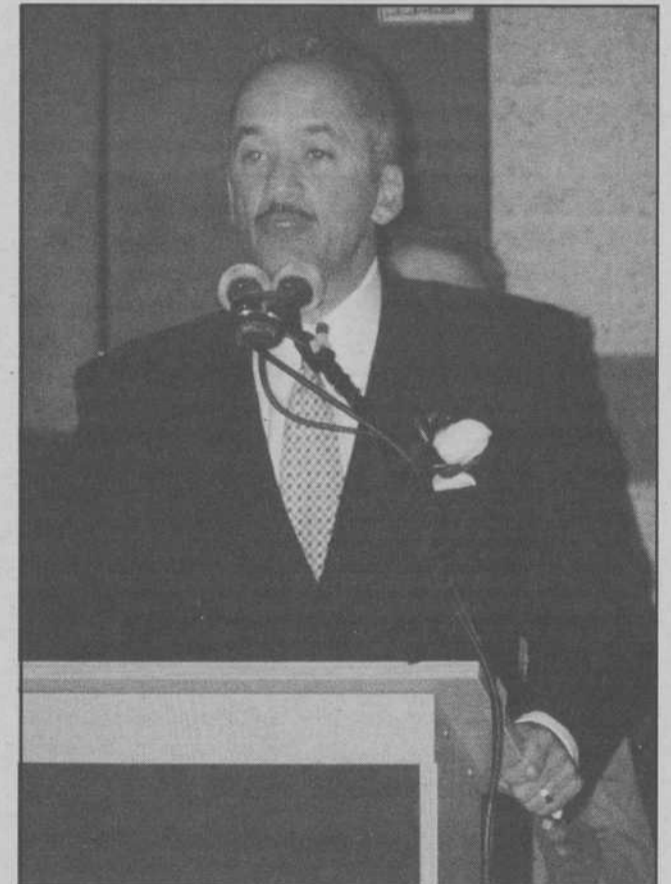
## Bailey

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Las Vegas, Clark County Commissioners, Governor Kenny Guinn's office, United States Senators Harry Reid and John Ensign, and United States Representatives Shelly Berkley, Jim Gibbons, and Jon Porter. Musical selections were performed by the school's symphonic band, advanced orchestra, women's chorus, and mariachi group.

A 15-minute video presentation about the life of Bailey was created by the staff at the school and shown to the audience.

Sharing his thoughts of the moment giving honor to his dedication and hard work, Bailey said, "Let me first say that this is one of the most exciting times since the first and last days of my honeymoon. I want to thank each and every one of you for sharing this moment with me. It's no secret that I truly love education. Education is the foundation of knowledge. We have to stress the importance of education to our



Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy

Attorney John Bailey, son of Bob Bailey, took part in the festive celebration dedicating Bob Bailey Middle School.

children and our community. This dedication is not about me, but the hard work of the teachers that will work with our students to become the future leaders of the world."

## Williams

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In welcoming the audience to the investiture ceremony, Rose stated: "This is one of the happiest ceremonies that we conduct in the Nevada judiciary. The elevation of one of our best and brightest attorneys to the district court bench is the recognition of an outstanding legal career and the beginning of a new, exciting, and challenging career as a district court judge."

He added, "You are embarking on one of the toughest jobs in the state of Nevada, but it is one of the most important jobs in our system of government. Everyone here in this room has every confidence that you can discharge those duties with distinction."

Other words of acknowledgment and appreciation were given by the Honorable Kathy Hardcastle, Chief Justice of the Eighth Judicial District Court; Carl N. Williams Jr., brother of Williams; Honorable George Assad, Judge of the Las Vegas Municipal Court, and Roy E. Smith, former law partner of Williams. Each of them commented about Williams' integrity, hard work ethics, dedication, personable character, passion to help others and willingness to go that extra mile to be successful. They also spoke about Williams as being fair, impartial, having a good temperament and objectivity, qualities that, in their opinion, will make him an excellent

judge.


Reflecting on the events of the day, Williams stated: "Today's has been a day of my investiture, and this has been a culmination of 22-year career, and I am very excited about it. When people come to my courtroom, they are going to find a judge that is prepared, having a great temperament from the bench, and fair to everyone appearing before me. Its going to be an honor serving the citizens of Clark County."

Several others shared their perspective on the ceremony and Williams.

Former State Senator Joe Neal said, "I think that the selection of Williams to the bench by Governor Guinn was excellent and that [Williams'] character and work has been beyond reproach."

Nevada Supreme Court Judge Michael Douglas said, "To get another minority judge back on the bench is good, now having two individuals representing our community, and it would be nice to have even more." Eighth Court Judge Lee Gates added, "I'm very happy that Tim is now on the bench. He's a great lawyer, and he's going to make a fantastic judge."

Following the investiture ceremony a reception for Williams was held at the Regional Justice Center where he starts presiding over cases assigned to him.



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—Ms. Kris, Las Vegas Class of 2002