

# Global health watchdog wants flu virus destroyed

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**  
**LONDON** — Thousands of scientists were scrambling Tuesday at the urging of global health authorities to destroy vials of a pandemic flu strain sent to labs in 18 countries as part of routine testing.  
 The rush, urged by the World Health Organization, was sparked by a slim, but real, risk that the samples could spark a global flu epidemic. The vials of virus sent by a U.S. company went to nearly 5,000 labs, mostly in the United States, officials said.  
 "The risk is relatively low that a lab worker will get sick, but a large number of labs got it, and if someone does get infected, the risk of severe illness is high and this virus has shown to be fully transmissible," WHO's influenza chief, Klaus Stohr, told The Associated Press.  
 It was not immediately clear why the 1957 pandemic strain, which killed between 1 million and 4 million people — was in the proficiency

test kits routinely sent to labs.  
 It was a decision that Stohr described as "unwise," and "unfortunate."  
 That particular bug was "an epidemic virus for many years," Stohr said from the U.N. health agency's headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. "The risk is low but things can go wrong as long as these samples are out there and there are some still out there."  
 The 1957 strain has not been included in the flu vaccine since 1968, and anyone born after that date has no immunity to it.  
 Dr. Nancy Cox, chief of the influenza branch at the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, said her agency was notified of the situation Friday morning. She also said officials strongly doubt someone deliberately planted the dangerous germ or that this was an act of bioterrorism.  
 "It wouldn't be a smart way to

start a pandemic to send it to laboratories because we have people well trained in biocontainment," she said.  
 The concern over the shipment of pandemic flu virus to thousands of labs renews questions about the safe handling of deadly germs — an issue that led to toughened U.S. rules after anthrax was sent in the mail in 2001, killing five Americans.  
 Most of the flu samples — 3,747 — were sent starting last year at the request of the College of American Pathologists, which helps labs do proficiency testing. The last shipments were sent out in February.  
 Dr. Jared Schwartz, an official with the pathology college, said a private company, Meridian Bioscience Inc. of Cincinnati, Ohio, is paid to prepare the samples.  
 The firm was told to pick an influenza A sample and chose from its stockpile the deadly 1957 H2N2 strain.

## ZONING

**FROM PAGE 1**  
 staff is exploring ways to exempt Carolina North from acreage limits, and Alderman Alex Zaffron suggested that a new and purely commercial zone be used.  
 Alderman Mark Chilton added that the town has not been specific about where it wants to see commercial development. Until it reaches a decision, plans for Carolina North

and other areas will stay tenuous.  
 Locals are also worried about what dense commercial zoning will mean for the peace and quiet of existing neighborhoods.  
 "My main concern about Carolina North is that nobody really knows how traffic is going to work," Vanke said.  
 A possible compromise for Carolina North might be creating purely residential areas to house University employees, Broun said.

"The village idea is great if it's planned well," Vanke said.  
 Several aldermen said commercial districts should only go on main roads where the town can feasibly support them.  
 "The reality is that there are only a few places with the infrastructure to support commercial zoning," said Mayor Mike Nelson.  
*Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu*

## BANQUET

**FROM PAGE 1**  
 Scott was second, and Jawad Williams went last. He said the 8-20 season "broke me down, (and) I didn't want to play basketball any more," but closed by saying, "When we came in, people pointed their fingers at us. Now they just point those fingers straight up in the sky

because we're No. 1."  
 Earlier in the evening, UNC's coaches presented individual awards for the season, and Felton and May were named co-MVPs after receiving an equal number of votes from their teammates.  
 That means both Felton's No. 2 and May's No. 42 will hang in the rafters as honored jerseys.  
 But another, more important

piece of fabric will forever grace the Smith Center ceiling as well, commemorating the 2005 national champions.  
 Said Roy Williams, "For those of you leaving our program ... there's going to be a big banner up there for the rest of your life."  
*Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu*

## BRUTON

**FROM PAGE 1**  
 proud of our students."  
 Many of those in attendance learned of the event through class listservs, and several said the discussion helped enliven their regular curriculum.  
 "I'm really glad I came because the class, you know, it's sort of dry

sometimes," said sophomore Julie Soforenko, referring to her trans-Atlantic policy course. "This was really engaging, and I feel like I got a lot out of it because he's so knowledgeable and a very vibrant speaker."  
 The impression was apparently mutual, with Bruton offering plenty of praise for those who put forth challenging queries.

"I found that since coming to the United States, American student audiences are, I think, a lot more informed about the European Union than a lot of European student audiences would be," he said. "I was asked some questions I hadn't thought of before."  
*Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu*

# Scrushy perjury charge nixed

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**  
**BIRMINGHAM, Ala.** — A federal judge said Tuesday she would dismiss three perjury charges from the 58 total counts against Richard Scrushy as jurors got an in-depth look at the vast fortune prosecutors say the former HealthSouth CEO made because of a huge fraud.  
 Opening court after a break for jurors, U.S. District Judge Karon Bowdre granted a defense motion to bar jurors from hearing evidence about Scrushy's sworn statement to an investigator from the Securities and Exchange Commission. Scrushy was charged with three counts of perjury for allegedly lying during the statement, given in 2003.  
 Bowdre told jurors they would have "three fewer charges to deal with" because of her ruling, which

gutted the government's perjury case. Bowdre said she would release a written order later.  
 Outside court, Scrushy lawyer Lewis Gillis said Bowdre's ruling marked "a great day for the defense," which claimed that civil investigators with the SEC improperly assisted the Justice Department in its criminal probe of Scrushy. "The defense has been able to knock out three other major counts in this case," he said.  
 U.S. Attorney Alice Martin said the dismissal "does not impact the strength of our accounting fraud case."  
 Scrushy was initially named in an 85-count indictment in 2003, but that was replaced last year with a 58-count indictment that consolidated some of the original charges and added new ones, including perjury.

Besides perjury, Scrushy was charged with conspiracy, fraud, money laundering, obstruction of justice and false corporate reporting in the first case of a CEO being accused of violating the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, passed in 2002.  
 Scrushy could get what amounts to a life term and be ordered to forfeit as much as \$278 million in assets if convicted, without the perjury counts.  
 As testimony resumed on the money-laundering charge, a government consultant testified Scrushy received bonuses of \$13.5 million from early 1996 through 2002 for meeting financial targets set out in HealthSouth's business plan. Scrushy got another \$34.5 million under a bonus plan for management, he said.

## STUDENTS

**FROM PAGE 1**  
 it provides the council with guaranteed student input.  
 "There's obviously a lot going on (on the Maryland campus) that we didn't know about," she said.  
 The Athens-Clarke County Commission in Athens, Ga., used to have a similar position — but Jean Spratlin, commission clerk, said it has been vacant for quite a while.  
 But students at the University of Georgia say they do not passively watch the commission's actions.  
 Andrew Dill, a UGa. senior and co-chairman of the student government association's external affairs committee, said his group serves as a liaison between students and local politicians.  
 The group does have its struggles, Dill said. Sometimes tedious government meetings don't always appeal to students.  
 "At some points, it's hard to get students to sit through a meeting for five or six hours," he said.  
 The process for town-gown communication in other college towns is not as formal.  
 Officials in Ann Arbor, Mich. — home of the University of Michigan — said they have no official student liaison to their city council.  
 The story in Tuscaloosa, Ala., is a similar one.  
 City Clerk Stan McCracken said that some University of Alabama students have been involved in local

politics but that the town does not have any seats on its council specifically allotted to students.  
 McCracken was quick to point out that the council does not turn a deaf ear to students. Tuscaloosa's council is split into districts, one of which — the fourth — includes the UA campus.  
 "The council member who represents that area takes a great interest in the student body," McCracken said of Lee Garrison, who represents that district.  
**A fine blend**  
 Chapel Hill's approach to the issue has a taste of its own. It seems to be a mix of the programs that have worked elsewhere — with a unique Tar Heel twist.  
 For starters, Chilton said, the UNC student body president typically appoints a liaison to work with local government officials.  
 The position was created in the late 1980s as a compromise to a request for a permanent student seat on the council, he said.  
 "It seemed that (a permanent student seat) would not be possible ... because it would require a change in state law," Chilton said.  
 But the effectiveness of the post is debatable. Students typically get involved only when they have a stake in town government's actions, Chilton said.  
 Council member Mark Kleinschmidt shared similar sen-

timents, saying many students shy away from local politics because they think they don't know enough to participate.  
 But he said council members always want to hear student input, especially on town boards and commissions.  
 "The sitting council is eager to appoint students," he said.  
 Despite Kleinschmidt's enthusiasm, the council has yet to make a formal decision on requests for permanent student membership on boards affecting them, such as the transportation board.  
 In November 2003, then-Student Body Secretary Frances Ferris asked the council to reserve a student seat on such boards.  
 Kleinschmidt pointed out that the turnover in the student body would make it difficult for the council to oblige the request.  
 But both he and Chilton said they would not be surprised to see another student elected to the council in the future.  
 "It could happen again quite easily," said Chilton — still the only UNC undergraduate ever to sit on the council.  
 Kleinschmidt made it clear that the opportunity for a student to serve on the council is available.  
 "I don't think there is a per se resolve by the Chapel Hill electorate to deny a student a seat."  
*Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu*

## BASKETBALL

**FROM PAGE 1**  
 well done and reflecting so well upon themselves and upon us."  
 Rep. Joe Hackney, D-Orange, followed, comparing basketball to the legislature before introducing Williams.  
 "You have to work as a team, the shots you take have to be good shots, and sometimes you just need good defense," said Hackney, a UNC graduate.  
 Williams, who won his first national title last week after returning to his alma mater two years ago, told the crowd how proud he was of his players and how hard they had worked.  
 "They are a very gifted group of individuals, and the only reason they're the 2005 national champions is because they worked as a team," he said.  
 "It's something our players will remember for the rest of our lives."  
 Williams and the team were honored with a plaque from the

General Assembly presented by House Speaker Jim Black, D-Mecklenburg, and Senate President Pro Tem Marc Basnight, D-Dare.  
 "We do hope that all these men will come back next year," joked Black, referring to reports that junior Rashad McCants will go pro next year and the rumors that others might follow.  
 After statements by a few legislators and no debate, the resolution passed after only a few minutes with 47 votes in favor and none opposed.  
 But the team wasn't just brought to Raleigh for its skill on the court. Lawmakers also wanted to recognize the players for their academic achievements, Rand said.  
 Under the NCAA's new academic standards, which penalize schools for players who drop out of good academic standing, the Tar Heels received a perfect score. They were one of only a few top-25 teams to do so.  
 "They represent the best of what an athlete can be," said Sen. Ellie

Kinnaird, D-Orange, after the chamber passed the resolution.  
 "I hope that they appreciate that they hold a special place in our hearts for not only being the best in athletics but the best in academic achievement."  
 After the passing of the resolution, Williams posed with lawmakers and UNC Chancellor James Moeser for pictures, departing with the team soon afterward as dozens of fans followed seeking autographs.  
 Hackney, who was on Franklin Street for the championship wins in 1982, 1993 and last week, said after the session's end that the resolution was part of a tradition worth continuing.  
 The General Assembly honored the previous two UNC teams that took home the national title.  
 "It's our leading state university. ... It's just appropriate that we honor the people who made it possible."  
*Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu*



**We'll ship your stuff home. (Even if home is halfway around the world.)**  
 Let our packaging experts handle your packing and shipping needs.  
 Some things are meant to be difficult. Like that chemistry final you've been dreading. But shipping things back home — that should be easy. At The UPS Store®, our specialty is packing and shipping — we can take care of all your moving needs, so you can focus on more important things — like getting through finals.  
 We have everything you need to make your move a smooth one:  
 • Variety of moving boxes  
 • Packaging supplies including bubble cushioning, packing peanuts, tape, markers and more  
 Whether you're moving across the state or across the world, we can ship your stuff:  
 • Low rates direct from UPS® on our wide range of shipping options — from ground service to air to international shipping  
 • Freight services for your larger items  
 • Highest packaging standards  
 We have all the resources and expertise — plus a convenient location near you.  
 1289 Fordham Blvd  
 Next to the Holiday Inn  
 Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514  
 919.932.9117 Tel  
 919.932.1508 Fax  
 M-F 8am-6:30pm  
 Sat 9am-2:30pm

**15% OFF MOVING & PACKAGING SUPPLIES** (includes boxes, tape, bubble cushioning, etc.)  
**15% OFF PACKAGING SERVICE**  
**15% OFF UPS® AIR SERVICE**

**Jack Sprat CAFE**  
 sandwiches • salads • soups • pastries • coffee • desserts  
 161 E. FRANKLIN STREET • CHAPEL HILL • 933-3575

**News Talk 1360 WCHL Presents Al Franken**  
**Live from Chapel Hill!**  
 TODAY, April 13, 2005  
 12:00 noon - 3:00 p.m.  
 Carolina Union Auditorium on the campus of UNC-Chapel Hill  
 Doors Open at 10:30 a.m. Admission is first-come, first-served.  
 News. Talk. Tar Heels  
**1360 WCHL**  
 Chapel Hill - Carrboro  
 Franklin St. Realty  
 CROWN BRANDS OF SOUTHEAST  
 FLYING BURRITO  
 Jax