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NEW HAMPSHIRE

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Mill workers speak out

◆ **Severance suffering:** They feel frustrated that the Wausau CEO makes \$2.1 million a year.

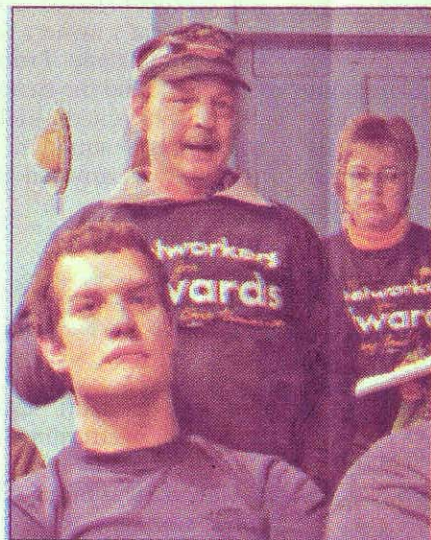
By LORNA COLQUHOUN
Union Leader Correspondent

NORTHUMBERLAND — Union officials representing 250 mill workers at Wausau Paper yesterday denounced the severance packages being offered when the mill shuts down for good at the end of next month.

"We have employees who have been here for over 40 years and to get 12 weeks of severance pay is extremely sad," said Ron Pickering, the United Steel Workers district representative for Local 61 in Groveton.

Wausau Paper, which bought the mill in 1993 and produces specialty paper, announced two weeks ago that global pressure and challenges in the paper industry led to the decision to shut down a mill many observers thought was faring better than others in the Northeast. A total of 303 workers will lose their jobs.

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Paul Mason of Groveton, standing at left, said yesterday there is a lot of worry at his home about the Wausau paper mill shutting down at the end of the year. He has worked at the mill 36 years.

LORNA COLQUHOUN