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Champion supporters attend a Knoxville hearing.

Staff Photo--Rudi Schwab

Professor offers Champion answer

By Joan Snyder
Managing Editor

It all began, innocently enough, when a few Tennessee residents decided that the color of the murky Pigeon River which flowed through their state wasn't quite what they had in mind.

It has now mushroomed into a heated debate involving top governmental officials, a federal agency and the lifeline of a small North Carolina town.

It is the controversy surrounding Champion International Co., a paper mill located in Haywood County some 20 miles west of Asheville, and its use of the Pigeon River for the discharge of treated wastewater.

The problem began for Champion when Tennessee residents complained that the plant was polluting the Pigeon River, thereby preventing a possible tourist trade from developing.

Residents sought the help of the Environmental Protection Agency, which issued a draft permit requiring Champion to lessen the levels of coloration, chloroform and toxicity of its discharge into the river. Since 1983, the state of Tennessee has filled several lawsuits requesting that Champion meet those federal standards.

Champion officials said, however, that the stipulations of the permit could not be met and, thus, the 83-year old mill which provides 2,200 jobs to Haywood County would be forced to close, causing economic

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Staff Photo--Andy Rhinehart
The Champion Mill in Canton

Faculty express criticism of CCR

By Julie Ball
Editor

UNCA officials hope to establish a more "unique" image of the university with the Center for Creative Retirement (CCR), according to the new interim director of the center.

Dr. Ben Holden, former president of Warren Wilson College, was recently named interim director of the center. Holden said the Center gives UNCA real visibility. He cited articles in the Christian Science Monitor and the Associated Press as proof of the increased visibility.

The stated goal of the center is to "advance the quality of life for retirees and pre-retirees and the quality of the communities in which they live," according to a College For Seniors brochure.

CCR creates financial advantages for UNCA in addition to the improving the quality of life for retirees, according to Holden. Some of the retirees may be so impressed with UNCA that they will want to donate to the school.

"They're hoping that some of these people will be so influenced by UNCA that they will donate," said Dr. Alan Comer, associate professor of biology.

Despite Holden's positive view of the center, several faculty members have expressed criticism of the program.

One faculty member who did not wish to be identified said he perceives skepticism and mistrust of CCR among the faculty.

"I don't think anyone disputes the value of the center for Creative Retirement. What concerns people is how it ties into the liberal arts, teaching orientation of the school, and how it's going to get paid for," he said.

"There are more pressing concerns that are not being taken care of." These include space, library funding and supplies.

"A classroom is gone (as a result of CCR)," said another faculty member.

One classroom (Owen 132) has been set aside for CCR functions, according to Tom Byers, special assistant to the chancellor. The room will also be used as a meeting room, Byers added.

"The intent is to set this room aside for the activities of the center," said Byers.

"I think the classroom is

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Parking penalties to pick pockets

By Scarlet Bell
Asst. Entertainment Editor

When UNCA students return from spring break in early March, they will face increases in parking fines if they choose to park illegally on campus, according to one UNCA official.

Dr. Eric Iovacchini, vice-chancellor for student affairs, said that the current system of varying prices for varying offenses will be replaced by a single penalty much stiffer than those currently in use.

"Both the \$2 and \$5 parking fines will be raised to \$10."

Iovacchini said. "However, if students pay their fines within seven days of receiving the citation, they will only have to pay 50 percent of the ticket."

Iovacchini said he hopes the increases will stop students from parking illegally and will persuade them to pay their fines within a week of receiving the ticket.

"What we're trying to do is to get students to park in students' zones," he said. "The \$2 citation just hasn't done that for us in the past."

"Another problem is that

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Students get lost in geography

American students don't know very much geography, studies released during recent weeks show.

Separate surveys of students' geography knowledge at the University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh and California State and Mankato State universities found some collegians were unable to find the Soviet Union on a map, thought Nicaragua was an Asian island or didn't know who the U.S.'s leading trade partner was.

Weather

Friday: Partly cloudy, morning low in the low 20s, afternoon high around 50.

Saturday: Partly cloudy and warmer, low in the mid-20s, high in the mid-50s.

Sunday: Partly cloudy, morning low around 30, afternoon high in the 50s.

The UNCA Atmospheric Sciences department provides this information to the campus community weekly in The Banner. The 24-hour weatherline is also available at 251-6435.

Cults not a problem at UNCA

By Sharon Joyce
Asst. News Editor

Despite the tone of a recent article, UNCA's director of religious affairs insists that there is no problem with cults on campus.

Smith responded to an article appearing in the Asheville Citizen-Times on Dec. 13, 1987 in which he gave the impression that UNCA has a major problem with 'cult-like' religions.

"I don't want to create the impression that I'm on a witch hunt," Smith said last week.

Smith, who said he was contacted by telephone and asked to comment on cults, said, "I was talking in general about problems in general. With respect to UNCA, I don't think

we're any different from any other campus."

"We do, on occasion, have organizations that have historically exhibited 'cult-like' characteristics, such as the Unification Church, or 'Moonies,' attempt access to the campus, but they occupy very little of my time."

The last thing he wanted to do, Smith said, was to portray himself as a crusader against cults.

Smith, director of the United Campus Ministry for UNCA, said that any organization, religious or otherwise, is free to visit UNCA's "open campus," as long as they don't disrupt or interfere with the daily flow of the university.

Smith, who calls his office

"I don't want to create the impression that I'm on a witch hunt."
David Smith

"the means by which the religious community can provide to the students the resources

necessary for the exercise of freedom of religion," describes his job as one of telling religious groups what they may and may not do on campus.

"I don't censor what they have to say," Smith said.

He says there are limits, however, as to where organizations can go and what they can do.

"Some religions view college campuses as stalking places to recruit people to their cause,"

Smith said.

He describes college students who are away from home for the first time as vulnerable to the recruiting tactics of these groups.

"It can be as innocent as the Gideons handing out New Testaments," Smith said.

"My job is simply to make sure that they abide by the same university regulations as any other organization coming on campus."

Holding students longer than they wish to be held or forcing them to take literature are violations of the students' rights, Smith added.

"Ordinarily, though, they just stand out on the steps, hand their stuff out and there's no problem," he said.