

# WHY ORGANIZED CHARITIES FAIL TO CONNECT WITH LATINOS

By Rhonda Smith

Latinos and African Americans are largely untapped markets when it comes to making charitable contributions and volunteering, a freshly released national survey by a non-profit coalition in Washington, D.C., shows.

The authors of the Independent Sector study say a central reason for this is that these populations often aren't approached for help. People are three to four times more likely to volunteer when called upon to do so, they state.

The survey reports these participation rates for organized charities in 1995:

Whites...Hispanics...Blacks  
In percentages:  
Volunteers...51.9...40.4...35.3  
Contributors...72.6...56.9...52.8

"It is imperative that charities reach out to under-asked populations," says Sara Melendez, president of Independent Sector, a coalition of 800 voluntary organizations, foundations and corporate giving programs. "If they don't, they are missing their future."

The survey authors claim giving and volunteering could be measurably boosted if volunteering increased among Hispanics and African Americans, single individuals, those between the ages of 18 and 24, and persons in households with incomes under \$20,000. The average contribution among all donating households in 1995 was \$1,017, up 16 percent from \$880 in 1993.

The national assessment, "Giving and Volunteering in the United States, 1996," involved personal interviews with 2,617 adults.

Latino leaders contacted by Hispanic Link say Hispanics lag behind white households in part because of language barriers, cultural insensitivity, and mistrust on both sides.

"People will volunteer where they feel

comfortable," explains Tucson, Ariz. middle school teacher Darlene Chavez. "If they see their language and culture reflected, they will volunteer."

Chavez teaches in one of Tucson's poorest neighborhoods. She says there has been a general decline over the past 15 years in the number of parents who help out in classrooms or accompany students on field trips. "Their time is being usurped by their jobs," she says.

Independent Sector officials attribute lower Latino and African-American giving and volunteering rates to three primary factors: low average household income, a lower percentage are married, and a much lower proportion have college degrees.

However, the study found that in 1995 contributors who earned less than \$10,000 donated an average of 4.3 percent of their household income, while those with incomes from \$40,000 to \$50,000 contributed an average of 1.3 percent of their household income.

Latinos who have successfully recruited Hispanic volunteers say organizations must overcome certain obstacles.

"Language is one barrier, but there are more serious ones," says Frank Cota-Robles Newton, cluster director for the Corporation for National Service's southwestern region. The federal program uses volunteers and offers stipends to participants in its VISTA, Americorps and Senior Service Corps programs.

"One of the most serious barriers is ignorance of our programs," he says. "Potential volunteers simply don't know about them and, largely, it's our own fault. We don't reach out."

Newton suggests using the Spanish-language media more and going door-to-door in communities to explain programs.

Loretta Gutierrez Nestor, executive director of the Washington, D.C.-based

Hispanic National Bar Association, agrees.

"There are subtle messages organizations send that show they might not be sensitive," she says. "If their publications don't contain pictures of people from diverse backgrounds, if the speakers at their events or the pictures on their walls all look the same, these messages might tell a different story than what members of the organizations are saying."

When Gutierrez Nestor coordinated American Red Cross efforts during the 1980s to recruit Hispanic volunteers in Los Angeles, her strategy involved creating a governing body made up of Spanish-speaking members from the community, training them in group dynamics and leadership skills, and encouraging them to recruit volunteers themselves.

"They helped us reach areas that we never would have gotten into because they knew which schools, community centers, churches and community-based organizations to approach," she says. "People need to be empowered to help themselves."

Community members are more likely to volunteer or make financial contributions when they are committed to an issue or an individual.

"When I ran for political office, I had Hispanic volunteers coming out of the woodwork because they believed in my cause and in my candidacy," recalls consultant Laura Campos, who served in Colorado's House of Representatives from 1976 to 1982.

Campos, now a consultant to the Hispanic National Bar Association, concludes, "A lot of times, we want to be asked. If you ask us, we will be there."

(Rhonda Smith, a contributing columnist with Hispanic Link News Service, lives in Greenbelt, Md.)

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# News Briefs

## CA Ends Affirmative Action

Californians struck a blow at 30 years of U.S. affirmative action policy on Tuesday, voting to scrap many state programs giving preferential treatment to women and minorities, reports Reuters.

California, with its large, ethnically diverse population, is the first state to roll back affirmative action programs and the referendum was closely watched in other states and the nation's capital.

With almost 80 percent of precincts reporting, Californians voted 55-45 percent in favour of the California Civil Rights Initiative, which bans state and local government affirmative action programs in public employment, education and contracting in California that are based on race or sex.

The vote came two years after Californians approved another racially charged measure to cut off services to undocumented immigrants. That initiative has been tied up in the courts ever since and this latest measure is also expected to face legal challenges.

Affirmative action policies have been used in the United States since the 1960s to expand opportunities for women and racial minorities.

Supporters of the California measure, also known as Proposition 209, said racial and gender preferences were unfair and discriminated against someone else who may be better qualified.

Opponents said minorities and women still faced discrimination in education and the workplace and affirmative action policies were needed to "level the playing field."

## Celebrating a 10-Year Pro Bono Partnership

An agency and an advocacy organization are commemorating an unusually long collaboration on pro bono campaigns, reports The New York Times.

The agency is Fallon McElligott, the Minneapolis shop that has developed a reputation for rule-breaking creativity and lists among its paying clients marketers like the Ameritech Corp., BMW of North America and Timex Corp. The organization is the Children's Defense Fund HN3208@handsnet.org, the Washington-based group that lobbies on issues like health care, nutrition and education.

"It's hard keeping any client that long, paying or otherwise, in this day and age," said Mary Warlick, executive director of the One Club for Art and Copy in New York, which administers the annual One Show for Creativity. The One Club is sponsoring a retrospective exhibit, "The First 10 Years," devoted to the campaign. It is the first show there to be centered on the pro bono efforts of a single agency.

The work that Fallon McElligott has produced for the last decade - commercials, print advertisements, posters - is provocative and surprising, yet does not serve up shock for shock's sake. The ads, which use exhortative themes like "Leave no child behind," look to raise consciousness along with eyebrows.

One sign that the campaigns are not typical pro bono work: more than 130,000 copies of posters of the print ads have been sold, generating more than \$500,000 for the Children's Defense Fund.

"You usually get what you pay for," Marian Wright Edelman, president of the organization, said of groups like hers as they seek agencies for pro bono work. "You feel like a beggar at the table. But with Fallon McElligott, we've become full-fledged partners," she added.

Ms. Edelman discussed the anniversary in a telephone conference-call interview in which she was joined by Patrick R. Fallon, chairman of Fallon McElligott. At one point, she spoke directly to Fallon, saying, "You've treated us as if we were a \$100 million client."

Fallon replied that the reason for the agency's devotion was that early on "we didn't have any" clients that spent so lavishly. "We didn't know when we started that it would turn out to be 'Till death do you part,'" he added.

In fact, Fallon confided, "We're only partners because they wouldn't take no for an answer." His reference was to Ms. Edelman and other executives who had asked the agency to work for the Children's Defense Fund.

## CIA Denies Drug Ties

The CIA says it had no link to Nicaraguan drug dealers and others who allegedly operated a 1980s cocaine ring in California and funneled the profits to a CIA-run guerrilla army, reports Reuters.

In a legal declaration filed in federal court in San Diego on Monday, the CIA said it knew as early as 1984 that Norvin Meneses was a major cocaine trafficker. But it said a 1986 search of the agency's records at the FBI's request failed to produce any evidence of a CIA relationship with Meneses, the Los Angeles Times and The Washington Post said.

The CIA inspector general is investigating allegations that the agency was involved in the introduction of crack cocaine into the United States.

Inspector General Frederick Hitz has said it might take months to examine fully records of the relationship between the CIA and Nicaraguan Contra members implicated in 1980s cocaine trafficking in California.

Hitz said recently, however, that a preliminary investigation found "no credible information" to support allegations raised in a series of articles published in August by a California newspaper, the San Jose Mercury News.

The Mercury News' three-part series, "Dark Alliance," [http://www.sjmercury.com/drugs/start.htm] detailed how a Bay Area drug ring sold tons of cocaine to the street gangs of South-Central Los Angeles and funneled millions in drug profits to a CIA-run guerrilla army. The series traced the crack cocaine explosion to the two Nicaraguan cocaine traffickers, Meneses and Blandon, who were civilian leaders of the Frente Democratica Nicaraguense (FDN), an anti-communist commando group formed and run by the CIA during the 1980s.

Blandon, who is now an undercover informant for the Drug Enforcement Administration, admitted in federal court recently that his biggest customer was the Los Angeles dealer, Ross, who turned Blandon's cocaine into crack and distributed it to the Crips and Blood street gangs. Blandon told the DEA in 1995 that at the height of his business with Ross, he was providing 100 kilos of cocaine a week to the gangs.

Media critics and other newspapers, including The Los Angeles Times, The Washington Post and The New York Times, have questioned the Mercury News' findings.

## Controversy Could Delay RU-486

A legal dispute that has erupted over the U.S. license for the French abortion pill RU-486 could delay the introduction of the controversial pill in the United States, reports Reuters.

Businessman Joseph Pike, who bought the U.S. license to the pill, was accused in a lawsuit filed by KCC Delaware in Los Angeles on Thursday of using the venture as an illegal money-making scheme.

The New York-based Population Council, which holds U.S. patent rights to the abortion-inducing drug mifepristone and sub-licensed them to Pike's companies, said it has asked him to sell his controlling interests. "Mr. Pike is not an appropriate person to be involved in the introduction of mifepristone in the United

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# EL EDITOR

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Lubbock, Texas

## Comentarios de Bidal

by Bidal Agüero

Chicanos throughout West Texas will definitely play a vital part in the election of the next State Senator in District 28.

This was very apparent

in looking at voting results of last Tuesday's election when particularly looking at Hispanic dominated boxes in Lubbock and the area.

In Lubbock Lorenzo "Bubba" Sedeño's showing in boxes 1, 4 & 5 was within single digit differences figures as compared to David Langston, the front runner in the Democratic party. In box 3, Sedeño received almost 40% of the vote with Langston getting the majority. Box 26 which is approximately 75% Hispanic shows Sedeño receiving almost 50% of the vote.

Sedeño also did very well in area counties including Tom Green where he bested both Duncan and Langston. In Ector where he got more than 10% of the vote and in Dawson in which he got 16% of the vote.

Sedeño managed to get the majority of the Hispanic vote despite relatively little money being spent. The strong showing by Langston can most probably be attributed to strong support from many of Lubbock's Hispanic leaders and the endorsement of El Editor Newspaper.

The other democrat is the race Gary Watkins received minimal support from minority boxes in Lubbock despite endorsements from Lubbock City Council person Victor Hernandez and other prominent hispanic political leaders.

The run-off election between Robert Duncan and David Langston has already been scheduled for December 10th. Langston has already show his commitment toward addressing the needs and wants of the Chicano community, it will be interesting to see if Duncan will even bother.



## Celebración del Día de los Muertos

Aficionados del arte y la musica se juntaron en la escuela Cavazos el dia 2 de Noviembre para celebrar con las actuaciones de el Teatro Crisol Bufons y el Ballet Folklorico Aztlan. El programa fue fundado con una concesion de el Consejo de la Ciudad a la recomendación de el Lubbock Arts Alliance.

Photos by Omar Rodriguez

## Por Que Las Entidades Benéficas Organizadas Dejan De Comunicarse Con Los Latinos

Por Rhonda Smith

Los latinos y afroamericanos son mercados vírgenes en gran medida cuando se trata de hacer contribuciones caritativas y de ofrecer voluntarios, según muestra una encuesta nacional publicada hace poco por una coalición no lucrativa de Washington, D.C.

Los autores del estudio hecho por el Sector Independiente dicen que una razón principal para esto es que a menudo nadie se acerca a estas poblaciones en busca de ayuda. Las personas tienen de tres a cuatro veces más probabilidades de ofrecerse como voluntarios cuando se les pide que lo hagan, dice la encuesta.

La misma informa las

siguientes tasas de participación para las entidades benéficas de índole formal en 1995:

"Es imperativo el que las entidades benéficas se proyecten hacia las poblaciones a quienes no se les pide a menudo", dice Sara Meléndez, presidenta del Sector Independiente, una coalición de 800 organizaciones de voluntarios, fundaciones y programas empresariales de donativos. "Si no lo hacen, están pasando por alto su futuro".

Los autores de la encuesta alegan que los donativos y los voluntarios podrían ser aumentados apreciablemente si aumentara el ofrecimiento de voluntarios entre los hispanos y afroamericanos, las per-

sonas solteras, las comprendidas entre las edades de 18 y 24 años y las que pertenecen a familias con ingresos por debajo de \$20,000 anuales.

La contribución promedio entre familias donantes en 1995 fué de \$1,017, un aumento del 16 por ciento desde \$880 en 1993.

La evaluación nacional, titulada "Donativos y Voluntarios en los Estados Unidos en 1996", involucro' entrevistas personales con 2,617 adultos.

Los dirigentes latinos con quienes se comunicó Hispanic Link dicen que los hispanos van a la zaga de las familias blancas en parte debido a las barreras idiomáticas, la insensibilidad cultural y la desconfianza por ambas partes.

"Las personas se ofrecerán como voluntarios donde se sientan cómodas", explica la maestra de escuela intermedia de Tucson, Arizona, Darlene Chávez. "Si ven su lenguaje y

	Anglosajones.....	Hispanos.....	Negros
(Porcentajes)			
Voluntarios.....	51.9.....	40.4.....	35.3
Contribuyentes.....	72.6.....	56.9.....	52.8

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# Reflexionando Sobre Cusi Y Otros Inmigrantes Legales

Por Miguel Pérez

En estos días pienso en él a menudo. Mi amigo de la niñez, Cusi, viene a mi mente cada vez que los políticos lanzan ataques baratos hacia los inmigrantes legales que todavía no son ciudadanos naturalizados de los Estados Unidos.

Su nombre era Wilfredo Zamora. El vino aquí como refugiado cubano.

Durante los meses recientes, cuando el Congreso aprobó y el Presidente Clinton promulgó la legislación sobre la asistencia económica pública que quitaba los beneficios a los inmigrantes legales, la idea de Cusi me persiguió. Volví a pensar en él cuando el Congreso y el presidente aprobaron la legislación sobre inmigración que llevará sin duda a la discriminación en el empleo contra los residentes legales. Esa misma ley dificulta que los refugiados legítimos, como Cusi, prueben que merecen el asilo político.

Pensé en él otra vez cuando la Cámara de Representantes aprobó un proyecto de ley que declara el inglés como nuestro idioma nacional oficial, denegando servicios a aquellos inmigrantes que todavía necesitan aprender el inglés. Puesto que su dominio del inglés era defectuoso aún, Cusi habría sido afectado por esa ley.

Aunque él no había estado aquí durante suficiente tiempo como para cualificar para la ciudadanía, Cusi fue llevado al Ejército de los Estados Unidos a mediados de 1960. A nadie pareció importarle si era ciudadano o hablaba inglés. Y a Cusi no le importó tampoco. El estaba más que dispuesto a hacer una contribución a su patria adoptiva.

Su recuerdo me volvió a

regresar el mes pasado, cuando los políticos empezaron a poner en tela de juicio si debería permitírsele a los inmigrantes legales el hacer otra clase de contribución, en la forma de aportaciones económicas a los candidatos políticos.

Eso empezó cuando los demócratas y republicanos comenzaron a señalarse mutuamente con el dedo por aceptar donativos de intereses extranjeros -- una práctica que debe censurarse en los términos más fuertes -- pero terminó con algunos políticos pidiendo una ley que prohibiera el que todos los inmigrantes legales hicieran contribuciones a las campañas políticas.

Nadie está pidiendo que se les prohíba ser miembros de las Fuerzas Armadas. Ellos pueden sacrificar sus vidas, pero no queremos su dinero porque, Dios no lo quiera, pueden influir en un político para que considere las necesidades de un grupo étnico en particular.

Esto no es nada nuevo. Durante toda la historia, los inmigrantes -- naturalizados o no -- han cabildeado a los políticos estadounidenses sobre los asuntos de política extranjera. Sus preocupaciones para ayudar a definir los intereses de los Estados Unidos han sido conformados no sólo por la lógica, sino por las líneas de sangre. Nuestras raíces en las tierras anglo-sajonas de Inglaterra y la Europa del norte y el oeste nos hicieron oscilar hacia nuestra intervención en dos guerras mundiales.

En estos días, los políticos étnicos ayudan todavía a determinar nuestros "intereses nacionales". ¿Quién va a decir que los coqueteos de Clinton

con el dirigente de Sinn Fein, Gerry Adams, no tiene nada que ver con el gran número de electores irlandeses-americanos en el nordeste del país? Se puede argumentar que no es una buena política exterior, pero es en verdad una buena política étnica.

¿Quién ha de argumentar que la presión del Grupo Congresional Negro no tuvo que ver con las sanciones de los Estados Unidos contra Sur-Africa y Haití? ¿O que los cubano-americanos del sur de la Florida y de Nueva Jersey no han hecho oscilar a los políticos para dar forma a la política de los Estados Unidos contra el régimen de Fidel Castro? ¿Quién ha de decir que los judíos estadounidenses no ayudan a redactar nuestro programa de trabajo para el Medio Oriente? En la ciudad de Nueva York, donde la mayoría de los candidatos a la alcaldía pasan algún tiempo haciendo campaña en Israel, se dice que no se pueden ganar unas elecciones sin salir en defensa de la causa de las tres Ies -- Israel, Irlanda e Italia.

Tradicionalmente, en una nación de inmigrantes tan diversa étnicamente, los políticos que atienden a las comunidades étnicas han sido reembolsados con las aportaciones y la lealtad de los electores -- especialmente en los estados en que la población nacida en el extranjero es numerosa y opulenta.

Pero una mano lava la otra, y las comunidades inmigrantes obtienen una oportunidad para ayudar a formular la política exterior de los Estados Unidos hacia sus naciones de origen. Esto resulta de costumbre en el mejor interés de los

Estados Unidos, porque los inmigrantes -- ya sean residentes legales o naturalizados -- ayudan a instruir a nuestros dirigentes acerca de lo que sucede en ultramar.

Pero debería hacerse una distinción entre las aportaciones de los residentes legales que tratan de ejercer influencia sobre sus dirigentes políticos y los donativos políticos que vienen del extranjero y se dedican al cuestionable comercio de influencia, como los del conglomerado de banca indonesia que dió aportaciones de seis cifras a Clinton y a los demócratas. Los republicanos también han recibido donativos de intereses extranjeros.

Deberíamos evitar que los cabilderos extranjeros compren los políticos para influir en la política exterior de los Estados Unidos. Eso puede hacerse mediante la reforma del financiamiento de las campañas políticas.

Pero no deberíamos empañar la imagen de todos los residentes legales por hacer lo que los inmigrantes han hecho siempre. Deberíamos permitirles que ingresen en nuestro quehacer político haciendo pequeñas contribuciones de campaña. Después de todo, nadie pone objeciones cuando los residentes legales que no son ciudadanos se enlistan voluntariamente en las Fuerzas Armadas. Nadie puso objeción cuando mi amigo Cusi, a los 22 años de edad, realizó el sacrificio supremo el Cuatro de Julio de 1969. Ese fue el día en que lo mataron en Viet-Nam.

(Miguel Pérez es columnista del "Bergen Record", en Bergen, Nueva Jersey.)

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# Sittin' Here Thinkin' Election Day

by Ira Cutler

I started writing about the election in April, 1995 when I wrote a column endorsing Dave Thomas from Wendy's for President. He seemed to me to be down to earth, had family values and, best of all, did not want the job. Later that month I wrote about the "Big Lie" -- that government was at the root of all our problems -- that was being told on both sides of the aisle. In June I noted that the Democratic Party had been soliciting me for funds and was conspicuously staying away from words like poverty, minority or union. In August I complained that we, the traditional liberals, were giving up too much ground and were capitulating to a conservative tide rather than standing on our principles.

In October I was intrigued by the Colin Powell story and reported that the media feared that, if Powell did not run, they would be left with the crushingly boring story of Clinton

versus Dole, a sure ratings loser. By November Powell had dropped out and I noted that no major party candidate had ever been other than a white, Christian male and I wondered how long that would continue to be so. By December they had closed the government for a few days and no one cared and I wondered if the folks who dismiss politics as not only corrupt but irrelevant might not be on to something.

In January of 1996 I expressed the hope that a Hillary versus Elizabeth debate would be in the offing and would be entertaining even if irrelevant. I also reported that month that The Powers That Have Always Been (TPTHAB), the people who really run the world, did not care about the election because they did not believe that either Clinton or Dole would change any important thing in any fundamental way. In March I reported that at the diner not a soul liked or respected Bill Clinton or was very much excited by Bob Dole. They looked at the whole sorry field and saw no one that they would want to lead their country.

In July I suggested that the Presidential Games be scored like the Olympics, on degrees of difficulty, and I posed a number of difficult domestic and foreign policy issues that we should expect candidates to address. I have just reviewed that column and can report to you now that no candidate addressed any of these issues fully or forthrightly. Big surprise.

In August I wrote to the President, and reprinted my letter here, telling him that if he signed the so-called "welfare reform" bill, I could not vote for him. He wrote back and told me that he, too, "found the legislation far from perfect, and it includes some provisions I deplore and am determined to fix." I imagine that people who wrote in congratulating him on "ending welfare as we know it" were not told about the deplorable parts.

In September I endorsed Hubert Humphrey who, although dead, at least used to stand for something. I had intended to comment on the conventions and the debates but lost heart when Maureen Dowd of the New York Times said all there was to be said. Right after the first debate she commented that "It's hard to get excited about a debate between... a man who never means what he says and a man who has nothing to say." I could not top or add to that.

And so it was ironic that, after all that thought and preparation, I almost could not vote at all. I learned the hard way that the "motor voter" deal is far from foolproof and I spent the whole day on Friday getting the assistance of the Town Clerk, County Attorney, Board of Elections and a State Supreme Court Judge to secure the absentee ballot I needed to vote. I saw lots of other people, less determined or less skilled at manipulating bureaucracies, who were told that no, they were not registered and there was nothing at all that could be done.

Then, with absentee ballot in hand, I sat down to exercise my democratic rights. I have never thought so hard about a vote or been so troubled by the choices. I am not, as you might expect, easy to please politically. No one who frankly expressed my points of view on the issues could possibly be elected and I would not support anyone who held those views but pretended, for political advantage, to be more middle of the road.

For the record and to assure that I can never hold any political office, let me tell you that I favor total gun control; oppose capital punishment; am pro-choice although I find abortion repugnant; oppose legalizing marijuana; favor school choice within an accreditation system; oppose free trade when it hurts American workers or enslaves foreign ones; think the global economy is a scam; favor gays in the military if they want to be there and do not care who marries whom; am for a steeply graduated income tax with higher top rates than now exist; oppose prayer in school; favor affirmative action; am for a single-payer national health insurance plan; would "means test" social security but impose it gradually; think class warfare and soaking the rich are pretty good ideas; favor a guaranteed annual income instead of public welfare; would provide necessary assistance to all legal immigrants and certainly health care to the children of illegal immigrants; would remove American troops from Korea before we get into trouble there; would lighten up on Castro; think Russia was never the problem we were led to believe but is likely to be more of a problem in the near future than anyone is now talking about; would spend billions more on space, highways, bridges and public housing; and think Richard Jewell is only one out of lots of people who are falsely accused by the police and sometimes convicted.

I do not expect anyone to run on or govern based on my principles and political views. The truth is that I would be delighted to find someone who acted consistently and forthrightly on their own political views and did not pander to polls, exploit prejudices or respond to daily shifts in public opinion. I would, despite differences on individual issues, vote gladly for someone whom I believed would thoughtfully consider issues and then act in whatever he or she honestly believed was the best interests of the American people, regardless of the personal or political price to be paid.

I looked at the ballot and I saw no such candidate. I did not know much about the small party candidates and had only ever heard of Nader. I did not know what the Natural Law Party stands for but I like the name and maybe I should have bothered to find out more. The media decided that these people could not win and conspired to keep us from knowing about them -- a self fulfilling prophecy if ever there was one. Maybe one of them, maybe Nader with his intense earnestness and stubborn refusal to take campaign funds, represented some of what the top two so clearly lack. But I just did not know enough about them to cast my hard-earned vote their way.

And in the end, sadly, I voted for every office but President. I want my vote, my firm and unequivocal non-vote, to be understood to mean that I am deeply dissatisfied and angry that we have been treated so disrespectfully -- lied to, fooled with and manipulated. My non-vote says that I am ready to devote time, energy and money to alternatives to a two party system that has consistently produced such lame candidates. I hope that next time, or the time after, I can proudly pull down a lever for a candidate that I would be proud to elect.

But this time, I pass.

# Reflecting On Cusi & Other Legal Immigrants

By Miguel Perez

I think of him often nowadays. My childhood friend Cusi comes to my mind every time politicians take cheap shots at legal immigrants who have yet to become naturalized U.S. citizens. His name was Wilfredo Zamora. He came here as a Cuban refugee.

During the last few months, when Congress passed and President Clinton signed welfare legislation taking benefits away from legal immigrants, the thought of Cusi haunted me. I thought of him again when Congress and the president approved immigration legislation that will undoubtedly lead to employment discrimination against legal residents. That same law makes it harder for legitimate refugees, like Cusi, to prove they deserve political asylum.

I thought of him again when the House passed a bill declaring English our official national language, denying services to those immigrants who have yet to learn English. Since his English was still rough, Cusi would have been affected by such a law.

Although he had not been here long enough to qualify for citizenship, Cusi was taken into the U.S. Army in the mid-1960s. No one seemed to care whether he was a citizen or spoke English. And Cusi didn't mind. He was more than willing to make a contribution to his adoptive homeland.

His memory came rushing back to me again last month when politicians began to question whether legal immigrants should be allowed to make another kind of contribution, in the form of donations to political candidates.

It started with Democrats and Republicans pointing fingers at each other for accepting donations from foreign interests -- a practice that should be condemned in the strongest terms -- but it ended with some politicians calling for a law forbidding all legal immigrants from making campaign contributions.

No one is asking to ban them from the Armed Forces. They can sacrifice their lives, but we don't want their money because, God forbid, they may influence a politician to consider the needs of a particular ethnic group.

This is nothing new. Throughout history, immigrants -- naturalized or not -- have lobbied U.S. politicians on foreign policy matters. Their concerns to help define U.S. interests have been shaped not only by logic, but by bloodlines. Our roots in the Anglo-Saxon homelands of Britain and northern/western Europe swayed our intervention in two world wars. Nowadays, ethnic politics still help determine our "national interest." Who's to say that Clinton's flirting with Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams has nothing to do with the large number of Irish-American voters in the Northeast? You may argue that it's not good foreign policy, but it's certainly good ethnic politics.

Who's to argue that pressure by the Congressional Black Caucus had nothing to do with U.S. sanctions on South Africa and Haiti? Or that Cuban-Americans in South Florida and North Jersey have not swayed politicians to shape U.S. policy against the Fidel Castro regime? Who's to say

that U.S. Jews don't help to write our Middle East agenda? In New York City, where most mayoral candidates spend some time campaigning in Israel, it is said you can't win an election without taking up the cause of the three I's -- Israel, Ireland and Italy.

Traditionally, in such an ethnically diverse nation of immigrants, politicians who cater to ethnic communities have been repaid with contributions and voter loyalty -- especially in states where the foreign-born population is large and affluent.

But one hand washes the other, and the immigrant communities get a chance to help formulate U.S. foreign policy toward their native homelands. This is usually in the best interest of the United States, because immigrants -- whether legal residents or naturalized -- help to educate our leaders about what's going on overseas.

But a distinction should be made between contributions from legal residents trying to influence their political leaders and political donations coming

from abroad and engaged in questionable influence-peddling, like Indonesian banking conglomerate that gave six-figure contributions to Clinton and the Democrats. Republicans, too, have received donations from foreign interests.

We should prevent foreign lobbyists from buying politicians to influence U.S. foreign policy. It can be done through campaign finance reform.

But we should not taint the image of all legal residents for doing what immigrants have always done. We should allow them to enter our political process by making small campaign contributions. After all, no one objects when non-citizen legal residents volunteer for the Armed Forces. No one objected when my friend Cusi, at 22, made the ultimate sacrifice on the Fourth of July of 1969. That's the day he was killed in Viet-nam.

(Miguel Perez is a columnist with The Record in Bergen, N.J.)

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# New Hope For The Nation's Farmworkers

By Dick Meister

Even the most confirmed skeptic must now be convinced that the once-dormant United Farm Workers Union has come back -- and come back a long, long way.

You'll find the latest evidence in the strawberry fields of Central California, where the UFW is waging one of the biggest organizing drives in its 34-year history. It is, in fact, the biggest such drive currently being waged by any U.S. union anywhere.

It's also one of the most important drives ever launched by the UFW. Winning a union contract from the strawberry growers could be a breakthrough victory comparable to the winning of contracts from California's grape growers that led to the UFW's rapid growth a quarter-century ago.

You can be sure that campaign means a lot to the strawberry pickers. There are some 15,000 of them, mostly poor Mexican and Mexican-American men, women and

children whose jobs are among the roughest and most dangerous of all farm jobs.

Like most agricultural workers, their living and working conditions are primitive, their pay at the poverty level. They average no more than \$10,000 a year and have few, if any, fringe benefits. They're fortunate if they have fresh drinking water and clean field toilets at work. They have almost no protection against the arbitrary acts of employers. In short, the pickers need unionization -- badly.

They work bent in half, picking by hand strawberries that are too fragile to be harvested in any other way but by stooping workers who move swiftly along narrow furrows a foot deep in water, bending to ground level to snatch up a berry, then another and another, scarcely pausing to straighten.

Imagine doing that for as many as 10 or 12 hours a day, then going home to a shack or tiny apartment or house shared by two or three

families or by a half-dozen or more single men. Imagine doing that for pay that often is even less than the legal minimum.

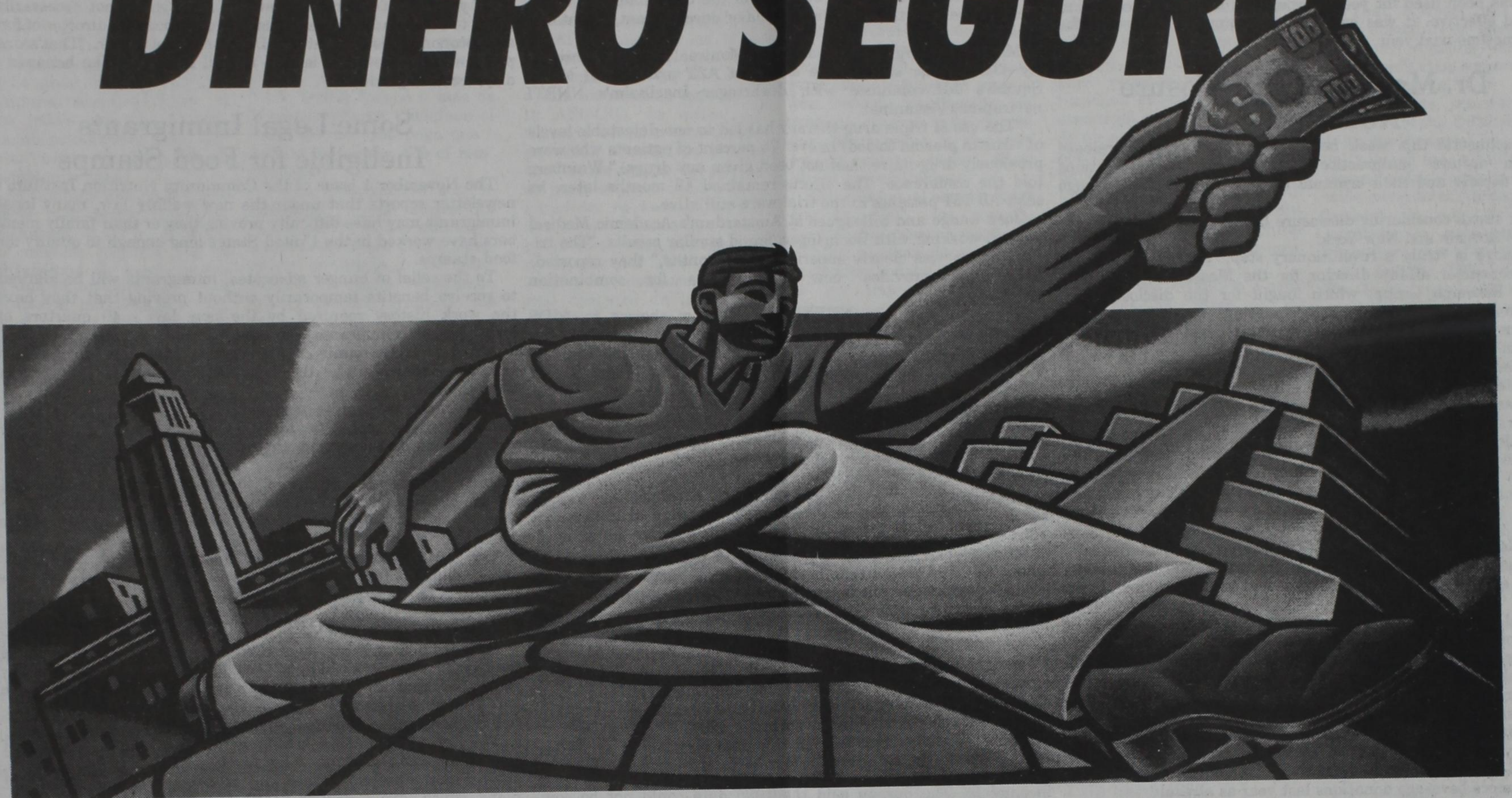
Workers who fall ill -- and many do because of the extraordinarily heavy use of pesticides by strawberry growers -- get little or no help from their employers or the government.

The UFW's battle to win union rights for the pickers has been raging for more than a year in the Salinas and Watsonville areas of the state that alone produce more than half the strawberries consumed in the United States and Canada. It's the heart of a \$650 million-a-year industry.

Although the area's 270 growers have steadfastly refused even to consider the UFW's demand for an industry-wide union contract, the UFW's pressures have forced them to make important concessions to workers to try to dissuade them from joining

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# NEWS BRIEFS NEWS BRIEFS NEWS BRIEFS NEWS BRIEFS NEWS BRIEFS

States," the council said in a statement.

Despite the legal controversy, the Population Council said: "This project will go forward. The individuals to whom we entrust this essential role must exhibit the highest standards of integrity."

The French company Roussel Uclaf, a unit of Hoechst AG, donated the U.S. patent rights for the drug to the council, which set up a company called Advances in Health Technology Inc. in Washington to market it.

But because of anti-abortion sentiment in the United States and violence at abortion clinics, the name of the American manufacturer and distributor had been kept a secret.

The Food and Drug Administration recently ruled the drug, which has been used for years throughout much of Europe, was safe and effective. It was expected to approve it for use in the U.S. sometime next year.

## Dr. Malpractice Disclosure Now MA Law

Massachusetts this week becomes the first state to release data on doctors' malpractice payouts, disciplinary actions against doctors and their criminal records, reports The Chicago Tribune.

Other states considering disclosure laws include Florida, California, Wisconsin and New York.

The move is "truly a revolutionary step," said Deirdre Cummings, consumer affairs director for the Massachusetts Public Interest Research Group, which fought for the disclosure bill signed in August and taking effect Thursday.

Anyone who wants data on a physician's history - good and bad - can call the Board of Registration in Medicine's statewide hot line and get up to 10 profiles faxed or mailed free.

Hospitals, HMOs and malpractice insurers also want the information, said Wayne Mastin, who is in charge of the project.

Doctors generally have opposed the release of malpractice information, arguing that excellent physicians in risky specialties may draw more malpractice claims.

## Food Donations Drop

The November 1 issue of the Community Nutrition Institute newsletter reports the US's largest charitable food distribution network experienced a 13% decline in food donations in the past year.

Second Harvest, HN0041@handsnet.org a national network of 181 regional food banks, is unable to explain the steep drop in donations but anticipates increased demand for food as welfare reform takes effect.

"We are at a loss to explain the shortfall," said Second Harvest President Christine Vladimiroff. Part of the loss, she says, may be due to the end of the "beverage wars" in the food industry last year. Manufacturers overproduced while competing for increased market share and shelf space, and Second Harvest received more beverage donations last year as a result.

Second Harvest official say that they are expecting an increase due to year-end donations, typical for the holidays. Food donations may also increase as a result of the Good Samaritan Food Donation Act, which became law October 1.

## High Court: Student-Led Prayer Unconstitutional

The Supreme Court Monday refused to revive a Mississippi law that would have allowed student-led group prayers in public schools - at assemblies, sports events and classrooms, reports Associated Press.

The justices, without comment, left intact rulings that declared the 1994 state law a violation of the constitutionally required separation of church and state.

Monday's court action was not a ruling on the merits of the Mississippi law and set no national precedent. Confusion still reigns over just what the Constitution allows.

The invalidated Mississippi law would have allowed "invocations, benedictions or nonsectarian, non-proselytizing student-initiated voluntary prayer" at "school-related student events."

The Mississippi law was enacted shortly after a widely publicized incident in which a Jackson high school principal was disciplined for allowing students to recite prayers over the school public address system while students were required to be in their classrooms.

The Mississippi Senate passed a resolution commending the principal for being a "catalyst for a renewed effort all over this state and nation to return prayer to our public schools."

David Ingebretsen, executive director of the state American Civil Liberties Union, and his daughter were among 14 individuals who sued to block the law from taking effect.

U.S. District Judge Henry Wingate ruled that the law was unconstitutional, except when applied to graduation ceremonies. A three-judge panel of the 5th Circuit court upheld his ruling, and the entire appeals court voted 9-6 not to reconsider that ruling.

The case is Moore vs. Ingebretsen, 96-331.

## More Hope in Newest AIDS Drugs

Doctors already given hope of combating AIDS by new types of drugs and hard-hitting "cocktails" said Wednesday they were getting even more encouragement from yet a new class of drug, reports Reuters.

The drugs, known as non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs), had shown remarkable effects, researchers told the Third International Congress on Drug Therapy in HIV Infection, being held in Birmingham.

The drugs not only add a new weapon to the growing armory against the HIV virus, but work as well as the highly touted protease inhibitors, Dr. Julio Montaner of the Canadian HIV Trials Network said. "I think it is a very major development," Montaner said.

Mark Wainberg and colleagues at Montreal's McGill University AIDS center studied the effects of AZT and Bristol Myers Squibb's ddI combined with Boehringer Ingelheim's NNRTI nevirapine (Viramune).

"The use of triple drug therapy has led to non-detectable levels of virus in plasma (blood) in over 75 percent of patients who were previously drug-naive (had not been given any drugs)," Wainberg told the conference. The effects remained 18 months later, he said. All 151 patients in the trial were still alive.

Joep Lange and colleagues at Amsterdam's Academic Medical Center, working with Boehringer, found similar results. "The triple therapy was clearly superior by 12 months," they reported. "Nevirapine provides new opportunities for combination treatment."

Montaner said the NNRTIs offered new choices to AIDS patients taking one or two drugs who suffered a resurgence of the virus. Once the virus mutates into a resistant form, doctors fear it will resist other drugs in the same class. But having a new class of drugs to give the patients mean they have not used up all their opportunities for treatment.

Montaner said NNRTIs cost about half what most protease inhibitors did, but offered similar effects. Nevirapine was taken in two doses a day of two pills each, making it easy for patients to take.

All AIDS experts agree that what they call compliance - taking the drugs every day at the right time - is vital. The drugs all start to wear off after just a few hours.

AIDS researchers offered new hope to patients this summer when they announced that hitting the virus hard with a combination of drugs could knock it back to undetectable levels in the blood.

## Most Hate Crimes Aimed at Blacks

The FBI says more than three out of every five hate crimes in 1995 were motivated by race, and blacks were the targets in three out of five of the racial attacks, reports Associated Press.

Citing preliminary data, the FBI said 7,947 hate crimes were reported during 1995, but emphasized that its figures were incomplete. The bureau said the 1995 data could not be compared with previous year's totals because the number of police agencies reporting had grown substantially.

Race was the motivation in 4,831 of the crimes, or 60.8 percent. Of the racially motivated crimes, 2,988 incidents were directed at blacks, or 61.9 percent. Whites were targets of 1,226 of the racially motivated hate crimes, 25.4 percent.

Religious bias was the second most frequent motivation, with Jews the most frequent target. Religious bias was behind 1,277 incidents, or 16.1 percent of the hate crime totals. Of the religion-motivated attacks, Jews were targets in 1,058 instances, or 82.9 percent.

Sexual orientation motivated 1,019 crimes, or 12.8 percent of the total. Attacks on male homosexuals accounted for 735, or 72.1 percent, of these crimes. Ethnicity and national origin were behind 814 crimes, 10.2 percent of the total. Hispanics were targets of 516, or 63.4 percent, of these crimes.

## NAFTA Impact on US Jobs Unknown

The U.S. government has yet to produce figures on how NAFTA has affected the number of jobs in the United States, Canada and Mexico, reports Associated Press.

Although there exists data on the number of people who can prove they were thrown out of work because of imports from Mexico or Canada - 87,732 - there are no hard numbers on the retirees never replaced, the businesses never started, or the number of jobs created in a nation of 110 million workers.

Even the watchdog agency created to monitor NAFTA can't say how it has affected jobs. "You're dealing with questions that are impossible to give definitive answers to," said Lance Compa, director of labor law and economic research for the North American Commission for Labor Cooperation. "What to blame NAFTA for and what to credit it with depends on where you stand."

U.S., Canadian and Mexican chief executives promised NAFTA would create jobs and raise wages in all three countries. They called it a win-win-win trade accord. A jobs bonanza.

And even though no one knows what free trade is doing in North America, President Clinton has promised to bring the rest of Latin America on board by the year 2005.

In short, if you want to know how the import of a car in Mexico affects a U.S. autoworker, you have to guess.

Economists do try, but they use models that make debatable assumptions. The most common model - often quoted by journalists - says that about 15,000 U.S. jobs have been created for each \$1 billion in exports in recent years.

But there's no guarantee that every new dollar of business is going to produce more jobs - or that higher imports are going to take jobs away.

"If you get an order for a new airplane, you're not necessarily going to hire another worker," says Greg Schoepfle, director of foreign economic research at the Department of Labor. "That's one problem, and the other is that not all imports - like bananas - displace U.S. products."

## Some Legal Immigrants Ineligible for Food Stamps

The November 1 issue of the Community Nutrition Institute's newsletter reports that under the new welfare law, many legal immigrants may have difficulty proving they or their family members have worked in the United States long enough to qualify for food stamps.

To the relief of hunger advocates, immigrants will be allowed to receive benefits temporarily without proving that they have the work history required by the new law - 40 quarters of employment. Immigrants who have been in the country at least 10 years, or have family members who have, will receive food stamps as they wait for the federal government to fully review their claim.

The USDA was "quite reasonable" to approve benefits pending verification of employment, said Cindy Schneider, attorney for the Migrant Legal Action Program HN1645@handsnet.org in Washington DC. Furthermore, if immigrants believe the social security records are inaccurate, they can request a review and receive benefits for up to six months. The catch, says Scheider, is that immigrants may have to repay the benefits if they fail to prove their claim.

The CBO estimates that in 1998, when the law fully takes effect, 400,000 legal immigrants will qualify for food stamps because of their lengthy work history.

## Supreme Court Refuses HMO Case

Bypassing a growing legal dispute over the organization of managed care health plans, the Supreme Court on Monday refused to hear a case on whether states can insist that health care networks open their doors to any doctor who wants to practice with the group, reports The New York Times.

The debate over these laws, now on the books in about half the states, pits doctors, who want access to the networks, against insurance companies and sponsors of employee benefit plans, which save money on health care by negotiating for medical coverage at what is essentially a volume discount.

These plans, often called preferred provider organizations, meet their cost-saving goals only if each doctor can maintain the high patient load needed to make the reduced per-patient fees economically attractive. The ability to limit the number of doctors in the group in turn gives leverage to insurance companies and plan sponsors, because a doctor who does not cooperate in holding costs down can face expulsion from the network.

The case before the court was an appeal by the state of Louisiana, which enacted a law in 1984 to authorize groups of doctors and employers to contract with one another for medical services. The law contained a guarantee that "no licensed provider who agrees to the terms and conditions of the preferred provider contract shall be denied the right to become a preferred provider." Guarantees of this type are known as "any willing provider" laws.

Earlier this year, the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, in New Orleans, overturned the Louisiana provision on the ground that it was pre-empted by the federal law that governs employee benefit plans, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

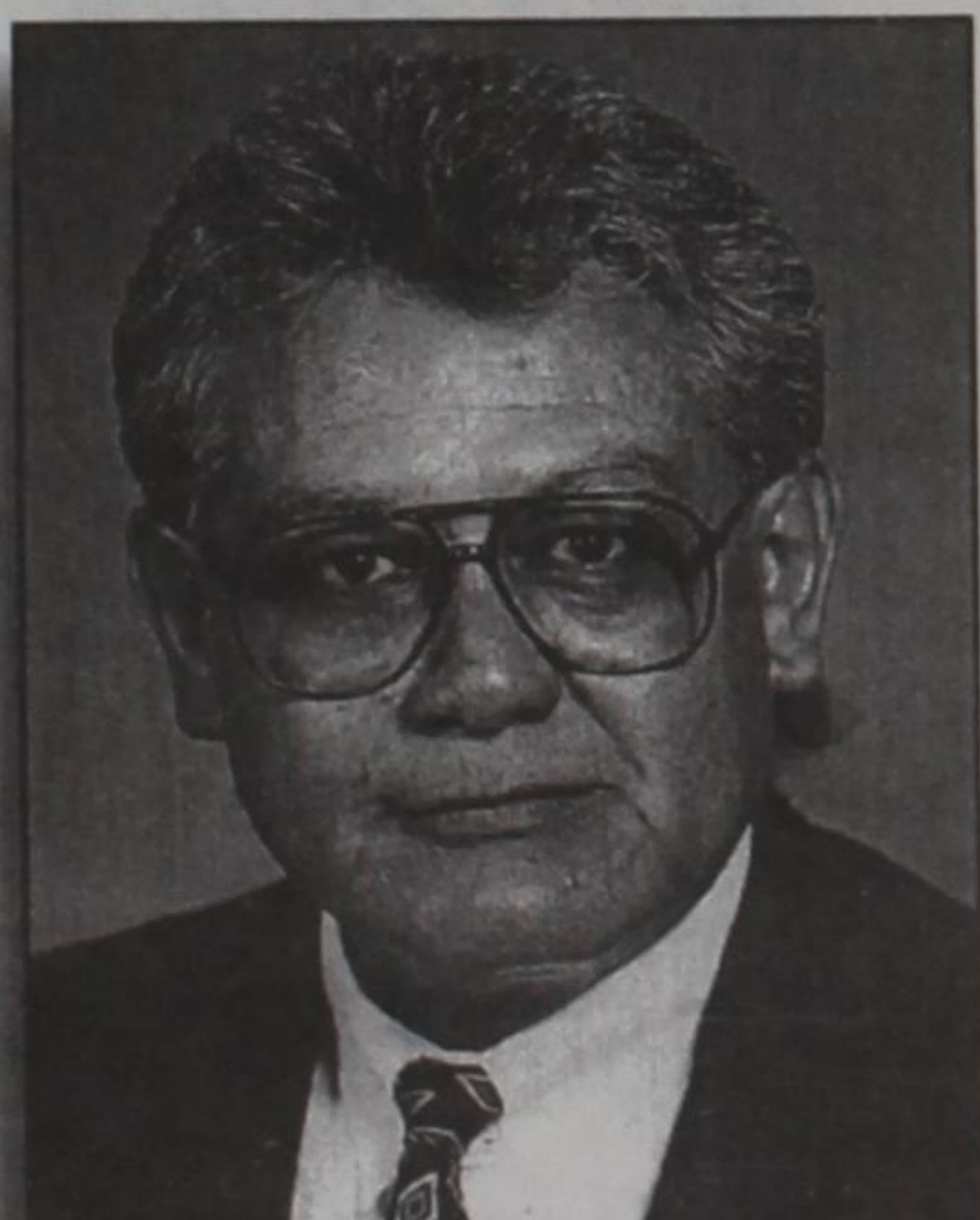
This law, ERISA, essentially displaces state laws or regulations that "relate to any employee benefit plan." The appeals court, ruling in a lawsuit brought by Cigna Health Plan and its subsidiary, the Connecticut General Life Insurance Co., held that

the Louisiana law did "relate to" employee benefit plans because it limited the structure of the provider networks that a plan might choose for its members.

Although Cigna and the insurance company won their lawsuit, they agreed with the state that the Supreme Court should resolve the issue. The National Association of Manufacturers, which also supported the appeals court's decision, also urged the justices to hear the case.

There have been conflicting decisions on the issue from other federal and state courts, and it is likely that the court will step in eventually. Earlier this year, the Connecticut Supreme Court held that Connecticut's somewhat different version of an "any willing provider" law did not relate to employee benefit plans and so was not pre-empted.

Quiero darles mis mas sinceras gracias primeramente a mi esposa, mi familia, mi mama y papa por y a todos los trabajadores sus esfuerzos en mi campania estos ultimos dias. Tambien mis gracias a toda persona quien voto por mi. Me comprometo seguir trabajando para nuestra gente y su bienestad en el futuro.



FRANK Gutierrez

*Francisco J. Gutierrez*

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## Nueva Esperanza Para Los Trabajadores Agricolas De La Nacion

Por Dick Meister

Aún el escéptico más confirmado debe estar convencido ahora de que la Unión de Trabajadores Agrícolas Unidos (UFW en inglés), que estuvo inactiva por un tiempo, está de vuelta -- y en serio.

Encontrarán la evidencia más reciente en los campos de fresas del centro de California, donde la UFW está librando una de las mayores campañas de organización en su historia de 34 años. Es, de hecho, la campaña más importante de ésta índole que se esté efectuando actualmente por cualquier unión estadounidense, en cualquier lugar.

Es también una de las campañas más importantes que ha lanzado el UFW. El ganar un convenio colectivo con los cultivadores de fresas podría ser una victoria histórica, comparable al haber ganado contratos con los cultivadores de uvas de California, que condujo al crecimiento rápido del UFW hace un cuarto de siglo.

De seguro, la campaña significa mucho para los recogedores de fresas. Hay cerca de 15,000 recogedores, primordialmente hombres, mujeres y niños mexicanos y mexicano-americanos pobres, cuyos empleos se hallan entre los más duros y peligrosos de todos los empleos agrícolas.

Como las de la mayoría de los trabajadores agrícolas, sus circunstancias de vida y trabajo son primitivas; su paga está al nivel de la pobreza. En promedio, ganan no más de \$10,000 al año y tienen pocos beneficios marginales, si cuentan con alguno. Son afortunados si disponen de agua potable y servicios sanitarios limpios en el trabajo. No tienen casi ninguna protección contra actos arbitrarios de los patronos. En resumen, los recogedores necesitan de la sindicalización -- urgentemente.

Trabajan doblados, recogiendo a mano fresas que son demasiado frágiles para ser cosechadas, si no es por traba-

jadores encorvados que se mueven rápidamente a lo largo de surcos estrechos, sumergidos en un pie de agua, inclinándose al nivel de la tierra para recoger una fresa, después otra y otra más, haciendo escasamente una pausa para enderezarse.

Imaginen hacer éso durante tanto tiempo como 10 ó 12 horas al día y después ir a vivir en un tugurio o apartamento o casa minúsculo, compartido por dos o tres familias o por media docena o más de hombres solteros. Imaginen el hacer eso por una paga que a menudo es menor que el mínimo legal.

Los trabajadores que se enferman -- y a muchos les ocurre debido al uso extraordinariamente denso de los insecticidas por parte de los cultivadores de fresas -- obtienen poca o ninguna ayuda de sus patronos ni del gobierno.

La lucha del UFW por ganar derechos sindicales para los recogedores ha venido rugiendo durante más de un año en las zonas de Salinas y Watsonville del estado que produce sólo más de la mitad de las fresas que se consumen en los Estados Unidos y el Canadá. Es el corazón de una industria con un valor de \$650 millones anuales.

Aunque los 270 cultivadores de la zona se han negado a si quiera considerar el reclamo de la UFW de un contrato para toda la industria, las presiones del UFW los han obligado a hacer concesiones importantes a los trabajadores, para tratar de disuadirlos de que se unan la unión. Porque si una mayoría de los trabajadores votara para que el UFW los representara, la ley del estado exigiría a los cultivadores que negociaran un contrato.

Las concesiones de los cultivadores han dado a algunos de los trabajadores su primer aumento de jornales en un decenio, tanto como entre 20 y 40 centavos más por hora.

Para otros ha significado también seguro de salud financiado por el patrono y el mejoramiento en las circunstancias de trabajo.

Ello, sin embargo, difícilmente resulta suficiente. Para la mayoría de los trabajadores, la paga continúa siendo miserablemente baja, los beneficios inexistentes y las condiciones lastimosas.

El organizar a los trabajadores es sólo una parte de la estrategia de la UFW. Con la ayuda económica y logística de la AFL-CIO, la unión está librando también una gestión en escala nacional para ganar el respaldo amplio del público, en parte al pedir a los administradores de los supermercados y a sus clientes que firmen peticiones respaldando las demandas del UFW por una paga y circunstancias de trabajo decentes en los campos de cultivo de las fresas.

Es una batalla extremadamente ardua la que ha emprendido la UFW, pero no hay duda de que la unión está a la altura de ella.

Al momento de la muerte del fundador de la UFW, César Chávez, hace tres años, la membresía del sindicato había disminuído desde un máximo de 100,000 a menos de 10,000, y cervaba sólo unos pocos de los cientos de contratos que había ganado. Pero la muerte de Chávez volvió a enfocar la unión en la organización al nivel popular transformándola en una de las uniones de mayor éxito actualmente.

El año pasado, la UFW inscribió a 4,000 miembros nuevos -- muchos más que cualquier otra unión. Lo que es más, la labor de organización del UFW ha continuado a toda máquina. La membresía, que ya asciende a 25,000, está aumentando continuamente, y la unión ha negociado o vuelto a negociar docenas de contratos.

Es evidente que nuevamente existe esperanza genuina para los invaluable trabajadores que cosechan nuestros alimentos.

(Dick Meister, columnista por cuenta propia de San Francisco, es co-autor del libro titulado "Mucho Tiempo para Llegar: La Lucha para Sindicalizar a los Trabajadores Agrícolas de los Estados Unidos" -- Macmillan.)

Propiedad literaria registrada por Hispanic Link News Service en 1996. Distribuido por The Los Angeles Times Syndicate

## Latinos De La Primera

From Page 2

su cultura reflejados, se ofrecerán como voluntarios".

Ella enseña en una de las vecindades más pobres de Tucson. Dice que ha habido una disminución general durante los últimos 15 años en la cantidad de padres y madres que ayudan en las aulas de clases o que acompañan a los estudiantes a las excursiones.

"Su tiempo está siendo usurpado por sus empleos", dice ella.

Los funcionarios del Sector Independiente atribuyen las cifras menores de donativos y voluntarios de los latinos y afroamericanos a tres factores primordiales: Ingresos promedios menores por familia; un porcentaje menor formado por personas casadas, y una proporción mucho menor tiene títulos universitarios.

Sin embargo, el estudio halló que en 1995, los contribuyentes que ganaron menos de \$10,000 hicieron donativos de un promedio del 4.3 por ciento de sus ingresos familiares, mientras aquellos que tuvieron ingresos de \$40,000 a \$50,000 aportaron un promedio de 1.3 por ciento de sus ingresos familiares.

Los latinos que han tenido éxito reclutando voluntarios hispanos dicen que las organizaciones deben superar ciertos obstáculos. "El idioma es una barrera, pero hay otras más graves", dice Frank Cotarobles Newton, director de grupo para la región suroeste de la Corporación de Servicio Nacional. El programa federal usa voluntarios y ofrece estímulos a los participantes en sus programas VISTA, Americorps y Senior Service Corps.

"Una de las barreras más graves es el desconocimiento de nuestros programas", dice él. "Los posibles voluntarios sencillamente no conocen acerca de ellos y, en gran medida, es nuestra propia culpa. No nos proyectamos al exterior".

Newton recomienda hacer un mayor uso de los medios informativos en español e ir de puerta en puerta en las comunidades para explicar los programas.

Loretta Gutiérrez Néstor, directora ejecutiva de la Asociación Nacional de Abogados Hispanos, con sede en Washington, DC., está de

acuerdo.

"Hay mensajes sutiles que las organizaciones envían que muestran que podrían no ser sensibles", dice ella. "Si sus publicaciones no contienen fotografías de personas de trasfondos diversos, si los oradores en sus actividades o los cuadros que cuelgan de sus paredes lucen todos iguales, estos mensajes podrían contar una historia distinta que la que están diciendo los miembros de las organizaciones".

Cuando Gutiérrez Néstor coordinó las gestiones de la Cruz Roja estadounidense durante la década de 1980 para reclutar a voluntarios hispanos en Los Angeles, su estrategia involucró la creación de un cuerpo directivo formado por miembros de habla hispana de la comunidad, capacitarlos en la dinámica de grupos y las habilidades de la dirigencia, y animarles a reclutar a otros voluntarios ellos mismos.

"Ellos nos ayudaron a comunicarnos con zonas en las cuales nunca habríamos entrado porque ellos sabían a cuáles escuelas, centros comunitarios, iglesias y organizaciones basadas en la comunidad había que acercarse", dice ella. "Las personas tienen que ser habilitadas para ayudarse a sí mismas".

Los miembros de la comunidad tienen mayores probabilidades de ofrecerse como voluntarios o de hacer aportes económicos cuando están dedicados a un asunto o una causa individuales.

"Cuando me postulé para un cargo electivo, tuve voluntarios hispanos que salían de las paredes porque creían en mi causa y en mi candidatura", recuerda la consultora Laura Campos, que prestó servicios en la Cámara de Representantes de Colorado desde 1976 hasta 1982.

Campos, que ahora es consultora de la Asociación Nacional de Abogados Hispanos, concluye diciendo: "En muchas oportunidades, queremos que se nos pida. Si se nos pide, estaremos allí".

(Rhonda Smith, columnista contribuyente de Hispanic Link News Service, vive en Greenbelt, Maryland.)

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the union. For if a majority of workers voted for the UFW to represent them, state law would require growers to negotiate a contract.

The grower concessions have given some of the workers their first pay raise in a decade, as much as 20 cents to 40 cents more an hour. For others it's also meant employer-financed health insurance and improved working conditions.

That, however, has hardly been enough. For most workers, pay remains miserably low, benefits non-existent, conditions abysmal.

Organizing the workers is only part of the UFW strategy. With the financial and logistical help of the AFL-CIO, the union is also waging a nationwide effort to win broad public backing, in part by asking supermarket managers and their customers to sign pledges endorsing the UFW's demands for decent pay and working conditions in the strawberry fields.

It's an extremely tough battle the UFW has undertaken, but there's no doubt the union is up to it.

At the time of UFW founder Cesar Chavez's death three years ago, the union's membership had fallen from a peak of 100,000 to less than 10,000 and it retained only a handful of the hundreds of contracts it had won. But Chavez's death refocused the union on grassroots organizing that has transformed it into one of today's most successful unions.

Last year the UFW signed up 4,000 new members -- far more than any other union. What's more, the UFW's organizing had continued at full force. Membership, already up to about 25,000, is climbing steadily, and the union has negotiated or renegotiated dozens of contracts.

It's obvious that once again there's genuine hope for the invaluable workers who harvest our food.

(Dick Meister, a freelance columnist in San Francisco, is co-author of "A Long Time Coming: The Struggle to Unionize America's Farm Workers" -- Macmillan)  
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Our efforts to get good representation in the Texas Senate are just beginning. We must continue to work hard. Thank you for your support and vote and if we can be of service or if you want to help please call us at 806-785-5900

¡Mil Gracias!

Paid for by the David Langston Campaign

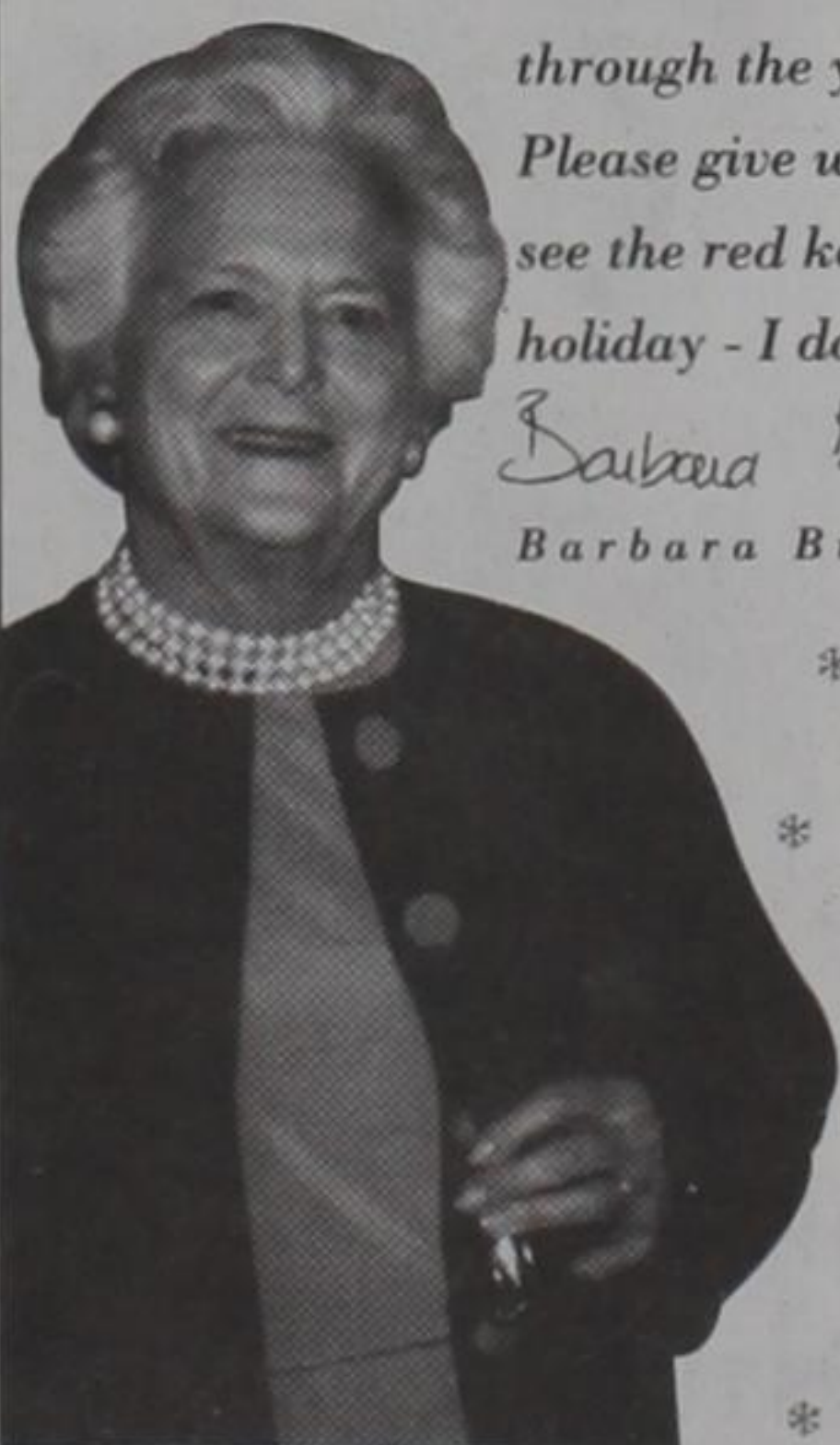
Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without The Salvation Army.



The Salvation Army is in the business of changing lives for the better -- not just at Christmas, but all through the year.

Please give when you see the red kettle this holiday -- I do.

Barbara Bush



# TODAVIA TIENES TIEMPO PARA FESTEJAR RASPANDO.



Así que aprovecha y disfruta los divertidos juegos instantáneos de la Lotería de Texas *Monster Cash*, *Holiday Surprize* y *Happy Valentines* antes de que cierren oficialmente el 1ro. de noviembre de 1996. Recuerda que tienes hasta el 29 de abril de 1997 para comprar los boletos restantes y cobrar tus premios.

En *Monster Cash* podrías ganar hasta \$2,000. El premio gordo en *Holiday Surprize* es de \$4,000. Y en *Happy Valentines* tienes la oportunidad de ganar hasta \$1,000 al instante.

Los premios menores de \$600 pueden ser reclamados en dondequiera que veas el anuncio oficial de la Lotería de Texas. Los premios de \$600 o más deberán ser reclamados en uno de los 24 centros de reclamo de la Lotería de Texas, o por correo, usando una de las formas de reclamo que tienen los comerciantes de la Lotería.

¿Tienes preguntas? Llama gratis al Teléfono de Servicio a Clientes de la Lotería de Texas al 1-800-37-LOTTO (1-800-375-6886).

Probabilidad de ganar en *Monster Cash*, 1 en 4.69. Probabilidad de ganar en *Holiday Surprize*, 1 en 4.60. Probabilidad de ganar en *Happy Valentines*, 1 en 4.69. Debes tener 18 años para poder jugar. ©1996 Texas Lottery

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**WOLF BRAND CHILI**  
Plain or With Beans  
19 oz.

**.98**



**SUNSHINE KRISPY CRACKERS**

Original, Fat Free, Unsalted Tops, Wheat or Mild Cheddar  
15-16 oz.

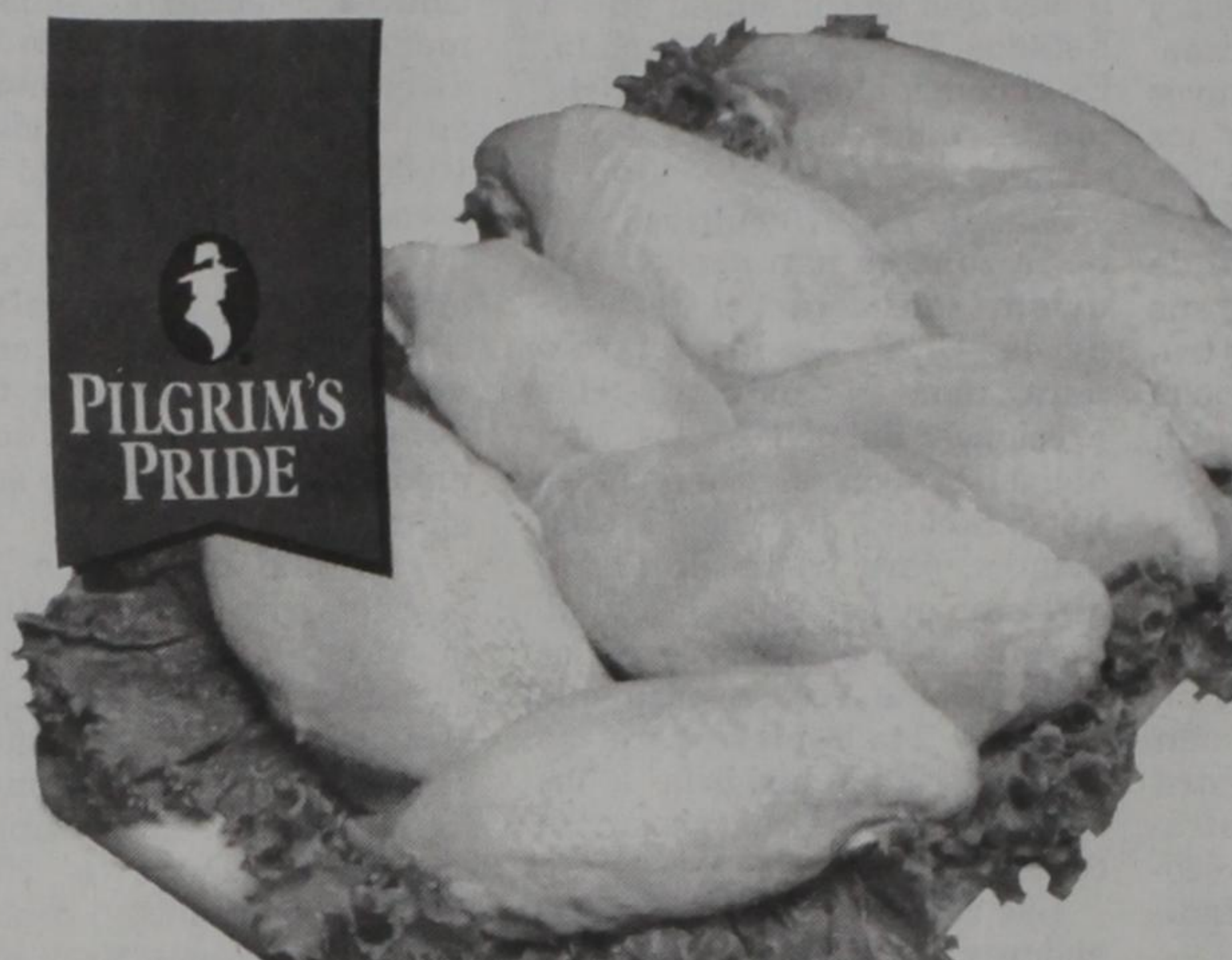
**\$1.18**



Regular Pak  
**\$1.94 lb.**

**BONELESS ROUND STEAK**  
Center Cut

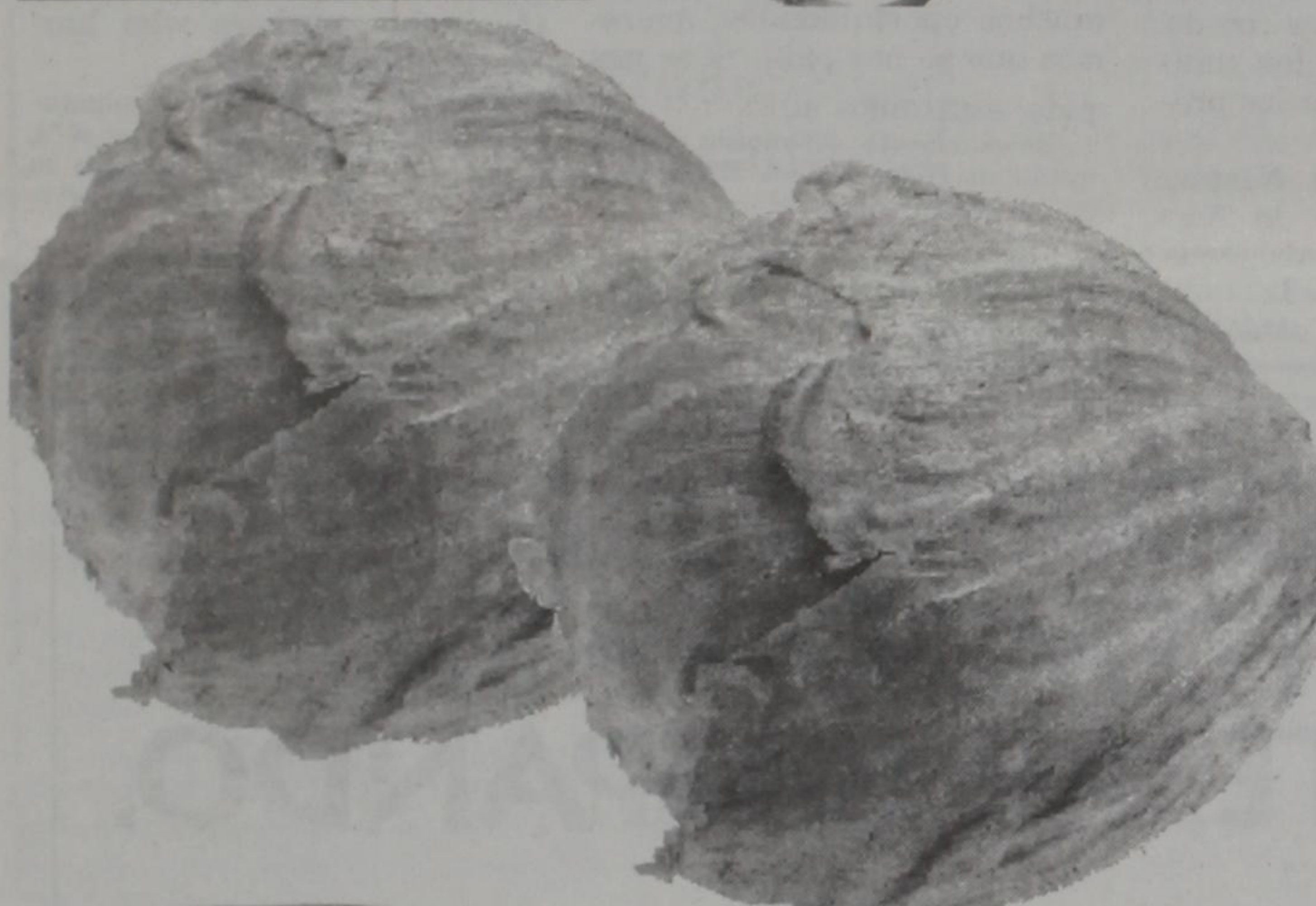
**\$1.69** LB.



**PILGRIM'S PRIDE FRYER BREAST**

Grade A Family Pak

**.99** LB.



**CALIFORNIA ICEBERG LETTUCE**  
Large Head

**.59**



United SUPER VALU PAK **25¢**  
**Pork Chops Wafer Thin**  
\$2.19 lb.  
Regular Pak \$2.44 lb.

United SUPER VALU PAK **25¢**

Regular Pak  
**\$2.24 lb.**

**PORK CHOPS**  
Center Cut

**\$1.99** LB.



**LIBBY'S VEGETABLES**

Green Beans: Cut or French Style; Sweet Corn: Whole Kernel, Cream Style or Vacuum Packed Whole Kernel; or Sweet Peas  
12-15.25 oz.

**5 For \$2**



**BETTY CROCKER HELPERS**

Hamburger, Chicken or Tuna ...Over 35 Varieties!  
3-11.75 oz.

**2 For \$3**



**HY-TOP PREMIUM QUALITY FROZEN ORANGE JUICE**  
12 oz.

**.78**

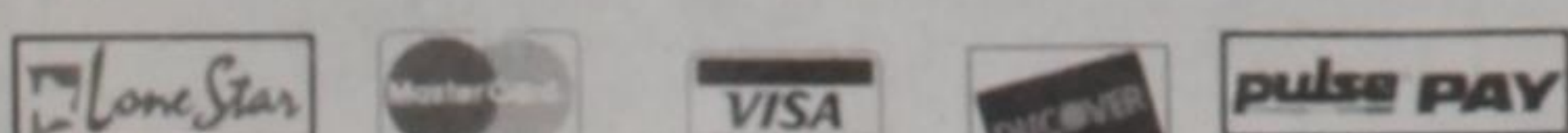


**COCA-COLA**  
All Varieties  
3 liter  
**2 For \$3**

**COCA-COLA**  
All Varieties  
6 pk./12oz.

**\$1.88**

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