

HEADLINERS; Getting Attention

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LEAD: Cesar Chavez is eating again. The 61-year-old president of the United Farm Workers of America broke his 36-day fast last week surrounded by thousands of supporters of his boycott of California table grapes. Twenty years ago, Mr. Chavez ended a 25-day fast by sharing a Roman Catholic Communion with Senator Robert F. Kennedy.

Cesar Chavez is eating again. The 61-year-old president of the United Farm Workers of America broke his 36-day fast last week surrounded by thousands of supporters of his boycott of California table grapes. Twenty years ago, Mr. Chavez ended a 25-day fast by sharing a Roman Catholic Communion with Senator Robert F. Kennedy; last week, he shared Communion with the late Senator's children. Mr. Chavez engaged in the fast, during which he lost 33 pounds, to call attention to his union's demand for a ban on five pesticides used on table grapes.

The farm workers' union contends that the pesticides cause cancer in field workers; the growers contend pesticide use does not exceed safe levels.