

CHAVEZ ENDS FAST OVER PESTICIDE USE

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LEAD: Cesar Chavez ended his 36-day fast today by breaking bread with the children of Robert F. Kennedy at a Mass as thousands showed their support for the farm labor leader's boycott of California table grapes.

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"Today I pass on the Fast for Life to hundreds of concerned men and women throughout North America and the world who have offered to share the suffering," Mr. Chavez said in a statement read by his son Fernando.

The Rev. Jesse Jackson attended the Mass, along with Ethel Kennedy, the widow of the New York Senator who had shared a Roman Catholic Communion ending Mr. Chavez's first major fast more than 20 years ago. Also attending were three of Mrs. Kennedy's children, Kerry, Rory and Christopher. Jackson Says He'll Fast

Mr. Jackson said he would fast for three days starting today to lend his support to the boycott, called to protest the use of five pesticides on table grapes. At a rally a week ago, Mr. Jackson urged others to fast for two or three days.

He and Mrs. Kennedy appeared shocked at Mr. Chavez's weakened condition as he was assisted to the Mass by two other sons, Anthony and Paul.

Thousands of supporters of the union, including movie stars and politicians, attended the Mass, held outdoors under a giant tent in heat near 100 degrees.

Mr. Chavez, 61 years old, kept up the fast, in which he took only water, despite doctors' advice that he was endangering his health. It was the longest he had ever fasted; he conducted a 25-day fast in 1968 and a 24-day fast in 1972. Health Has Been Affected

Since he began the fast July 17, the United Farm Workers of America president lost 33 pounds and suffered from escalating bouts of nausea, vomiting, dizziness, and cramps.

After the Mass, Mr. Chavez was taken to an undisclosed location where he will have a liquid diet, including light broth and non-citrus juices, for a week to 10 days, said one of his physicians, Dr. Marion Moses.

Mr. Chavez began the fast to emphasize his demand for a ban on five pesticides used on table grapes: Captan, dinoseb, phosdrin, methyl bromide and parathion. The union contends that the materials cause cancer in field workers and pose other serious health risks.

Grape growers responded that samples of California grapes had been found to be safe in tests for chemical residue and denied that methyl bromide, a fumigant, had been used in fields. The growers also have accused Mr. Chavez of using the fast to get publicity because the boycott had failed.