



Holding the Line

Strike Update
Issue #6

Judge Upholds Right to Picket

Unemployment Benefits

Albertsons and Ralphs employees should file for unemployment benefits immediately.

Applications are taken by telephone only at:
1-800-300-5616

A Santa Ana judge rejected Albertsons' request for a temporary restraining order to stop picketing at its store locations. Company attorneys tried to assert that picketers should not be allowed to picket in front of their stores, on the sidewalks, or in parking lots and driveways.

The Orange County judge ruled in favor of strikers, upholding the right of free speech and to picket peacefully in all of the locations listed above.

Rallying Support

More than 350 people gathered in Oxnard to support striking Vons workers. Following the rally, the Teamsters' 18-wheel big rig drove through the parking lot, blaring its horn with union supporters following it on foot to a nearby Wal-Mart. County supervisors, local politicians, city council members and representatives from other unions, including SEIU, AFT, Plumbers and Pipefitters and UAW, also came out to show their support.



Community supporters and members of other unions join Local 1036 members on the picket line at a Vons in Oxnard.



Customer Messages

Supporters Speak Out

Hi UFCW,

I'm a customer at the Albertsons in Glendora. I support what you are doing and I've even gone out and walked the picket lines with the Albertsons employees who I consider my friends. Although I am unemployed right now, I realize that this strike has national significance for all workers. I believe that if the workers don't win this strike, then one industry after another will "Wal-Mart-ize" as much as possible.

I believe that this strike is important to all workers in America because the corporations are trying to bring the third world home!

Our loyal customer, Leslie Owens, has donated her precious time everyday, morning, noon, and night to our mission. She has donated not only her time, but also—since the first day of the strike—hundreds of dollars in bottled water, snacks, and other needed items. She has proven to be a loyal customer to our store, but more importantly, a friend to all of us.

*—Steve Kauzor and Wendrif Mickens
Picket Captains, Ralphs #701*



A special thanks to television star Wayne Brady who spoke out on behalf of striking UFCW members at Southern California supermarkets. Brady commented on the strike during his show last week, promising that he would not cross a picket line. A union member himself, Brady spoke of his union upbringing and in support of the supermarket workers' fight for health care. Wayne Brady is the first name listed to the UFCW's Honor Roll in the fight for health care for American workers.