

## Trust in auto makers cut by standards delay

**United Press International**  
DETROIT—It has been 25 years since automobiles were tagged as the chief cause of smog in the nation's industrial cities. It will be another 15 years before foul gases are finally eliminated from their tailpipes.

Many Americans can't understand why it has taken so long. "We've got tremendous technology, we can send men to the moon and we've made tremendous advances in medicine," said John Tobin of Lisbon, Maine, where air pollution is not the problem it is in New York or Los Angeles.

Tobin, among average Americans queried in a nationwide UPI survey, speculated that "we could have a much better substitute for an engine than we have now" but the car makers "have set their own timetable."

"They're going to do things their own way," he said. "They're just not trying hard enough."

In 1970, years after government regulators determined tailpipe emissions must be lessened, Congress decreed that stringent clean air laws should take effect in 1975. Detroit automakers claimed they needed 10 years instead of five and were able to delay the standards until 1981 in a classic business-government confrontation.

Asked if the auto industry would seek more delays, Ford Chairman Henry Ford II, known for his straightforward answers, said, "No."

"We'd like to stay out of Washington forever," said Chrysler Executive President R. K. Brown.

It will be the early 1990s before the 110 million cars on the road are "clean" because the average car life is just over 10 years and the toughest standards don't take effect until 1981. In fact, there are millions of Americans still driving pre-1970 models with none of the built-in pollution controls Detroit and Congress have fought over.

In the last decade, Detroit lost the confidence of its customers. Its word is of little weight in Washington and the 10-year skirmish over clean air standards has set the stage for similar confrontations over safety and fuel economy standards.

"In looking at it in hindsight, I don't know what we should have done differently," said E. M. "Pete" Estes, the engineer-president of General Motors Corp., the world's largest auto company.

Admitting the industry has a tremendous credibility problem, Estes said it is impossible to legislate technological advances.

"This is a thing that no one understands except some dirty-hands engineers like me who have had their noses knocked off and been burned a little bit a few times and are more careful in making predictions," Estes said in a recent interview.

"There are two ways to approach the problem. One is to be optimistic and fail and the other is to be pessimistic and then beat your forecast."

"There is no way I know to hit the middle ground that everyone is Washington and everyone in the country would like us to do. And

**Middle finger not 'obscene' court decides**

**United Press International**  
HARTFORD, Conn.—Giving someone "the digitus impudicus—otherwise known as 'the finger'—may be offensive but it's not obscene, a Superior Court says.

The case published today in the Connecticut Law Journal involved an "anonymous" high school student, who was arrested after extending his middle finger in the direction of a state policeman.

According to an appellate review of the case, the student was riding a school bus that was stopped at an intersection.

A state trooper pulled up to the rear of the bus and the boy wiped the condensation off the rear window, waved a pal over and proceeded to make the gesture toward the trooper.

"The trooper waited for the bus driver to turn off the flashing red lights, whereupon the officer turned on his siren, pulled the bus over to the side of the road, boarded the bus and arrested the defendant," the court said.

The youth was convicted in the Court of Common Pleas as a youthful offender for having made "an obscene gesture" and appealed to the Superior Court. The higher court overturned the conviction and ruled the boy innocent.

The Superior Court said in its unanimous ruling that to be obscene "the gesture must be, in a significant way, erotic and must appeal to prurient interest in sex or portray sex in a patently offensive way."

The court noted the use of the "digitus impudicus," or the middle finger, as a disrespectful gesture is of ancient origin and that Diogenes, a Greek Cynic philosopher who lived in the fourth century B.C., is said to have insulted the orator Demosthenes with it.

"It can hardly be said that the finger gesture is likely to arouse sexual desire. The more likely response is anger," the court said.

"Because the charge and the proof were limited to making an obscene gesture the defendant's conviction cannot stand," the decision concluded.

that's to be able to say: 'That's it. By 1983, we're going to be able to do this with fuel economy and that with cost and this with emissions.'

"There is no way in God's world to do that. Sometimes we go over the top and sometimes we fall flat on our face."

It all started a quarter of a century ago when the late Dutch-born Dr. Arie Jan Haagen-Smit of the California Institute of Technology labeled automobiles as the chief cause of the smog that blanketed Los Angeles.

## Soft energy urged

**United Press International**  
DENVER—The nation's decision to emphasize coal and nuclear power as replacements for dwindling oil and gas supplies rather than using renewable "soft" technologies could lead to economic and environmental disaster, physicist Amory Lovins said Tuesday.

In an address to the Society for Petroleum Engineers, Lovins said the disadvantages of "soft" sources such as solar, wind and thermal power have been overplayed and problems with "hard" sources ignored.

Creating the technology and industry necessary to utilize coal and nuclear power, he said, will require a \$1 trillion investment by 1985, a figure which will devastate the economy.

"We already know enough to begin the transition to soft energy sources."

Other advantages of solar, thermal and other similar sources include less lead time needed for development, a low risk of failure and less tax money required for development, he said.

## Briscoe wants inquiry

**United Press International**  
AUSTIN—Gov. Dolph Briscoe Tuesday asked Attorney General Griffin Bell to order a federal investigation into the death of Joe Campos Torres, who drowned while in the custody of Houston police officers.

Briscoe urged the U.S. Justice Department chief to order an inquiry to determine if Torres' civil rights were violated before he drowned in a Houston bayou on May 6.

Two former Houston policemen were found guilty Thursday of beating the 23-year-old Vietnam veteran after he was arrested for drunkenness and of pushing him into the bayou.

An all-white jury in Huntsville, however, convicted Stephen Orlando, 22, and Terry Denson, 27, of the lesser charge of negligent homicide and gave them suspended one-year sentences.

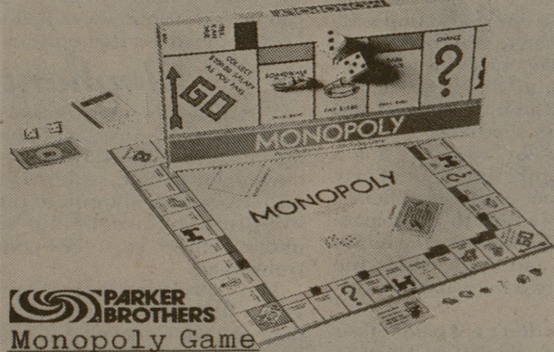
"The alleged action of these police officers, and possible others, in the treatment of Torres following his arrest presents a question of whether federal law was violated," Briscoe said in his letter to Bell.

Briscoe noted the maximum sentence permitted under Texas law for the misdemeanor offense of negligent homicide is one year in jail and a \$2,000 fine but both officers received

suspended sentences from Huntsville jury.

"Peace officers are charged the duty of protecting all persons in their custody and assuring that they receive the protection guaranteed them by the Constitution and laws of the United States," Briscoe said.

Briscoe requested a similar investigation earlier in the case of Castroville town marshal who handed a 10-year aggravated sentence by a San Angelo jury for the shotgun slaying of a Mexican-American prisoner.



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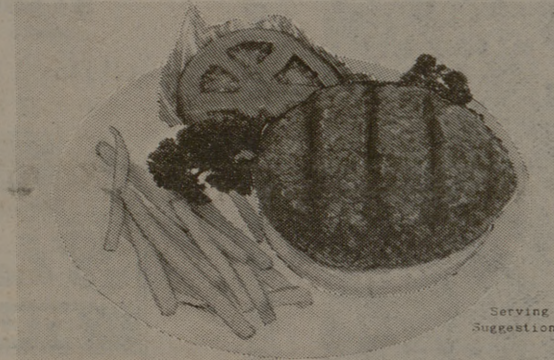
**50¢ Off Label**  
**Listerine Mouthwash**  
48 oz. **1.99**  
**Agree Creme Rinse & Conditioner**  
Reg., Oily or Extra Body, 12 oz. **.99 ea**

**Vivitar**  
**600 Point 'N Shoot Camera Outfit**  
3 element glass lens, 150 flashes per set of batteries. Built in electronic flash. Film, flash batteries included.  
**29.99**

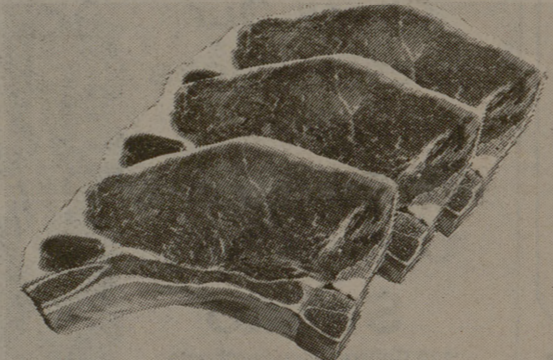


# FedMart\* \*the spot for smart shoppers

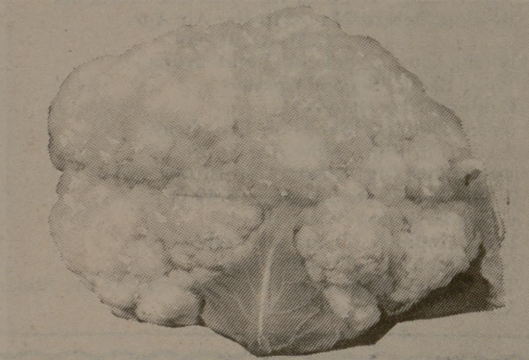
College Station: 701 University Drive East (at Tarrow St.)



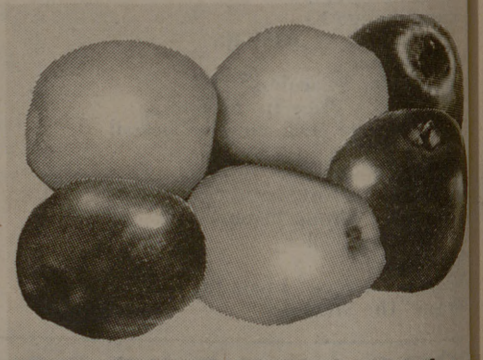
**Extra Lean Ground Beef**  
1.09 lb.\* \*Any size package



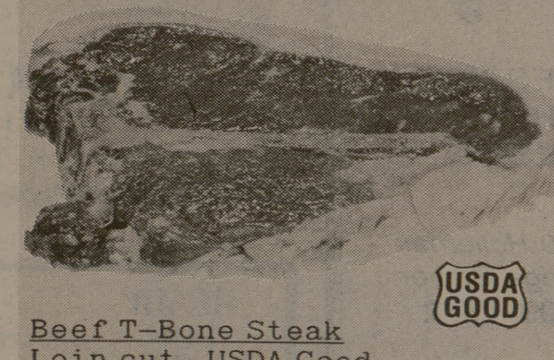
**Pork Loin Rib Chops, Center Cut.**  
1.57 lb.



**Cauliflower, Extra large jumbo size.**  
.99 each



**Red & Gold Delicious Apples**  
New crop, 47.99  
47.99 3# bag



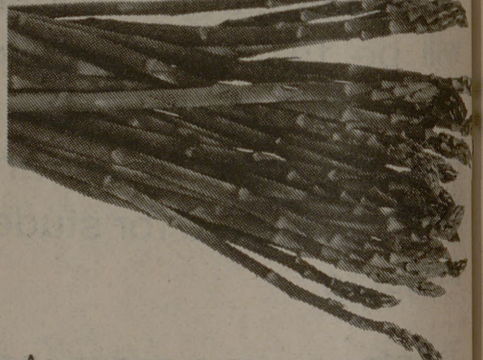
**Beef T-Bone Steak**  
Loin cut, USDA Good  
1.89 lb.



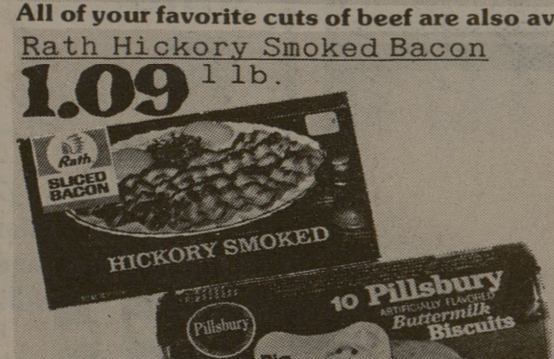
**Beef Rib Roast**  
Small end, USDA Good  
1.59 lb.



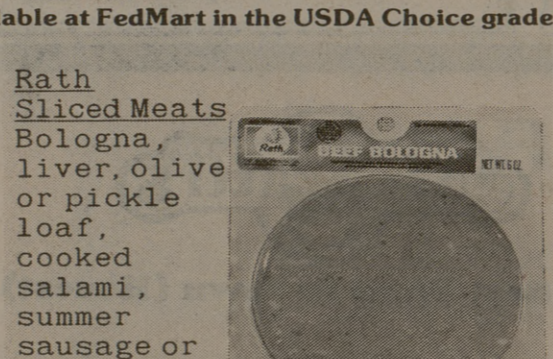
**Tomatoes**  
Salad size, 47.99  
.39 lb.



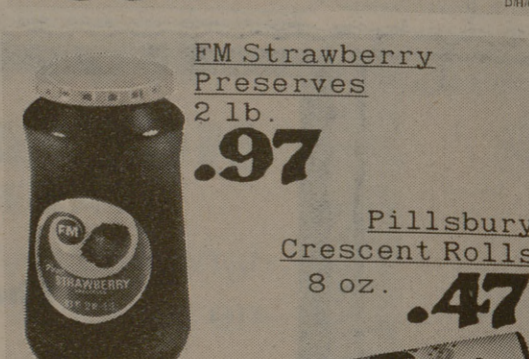
**Asparagus, Fresh**  
1.39 lb.



**Rath Hickory Smoked Bacon**  
1.09 1 lb.



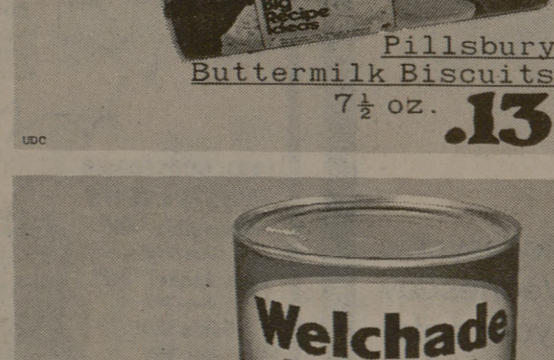
**Rath Sliced Meats Bologna**  
liver, olive or pickle loaf, cooked salami, summer sausage or luncheon meat. 6 oz.  
.45 each



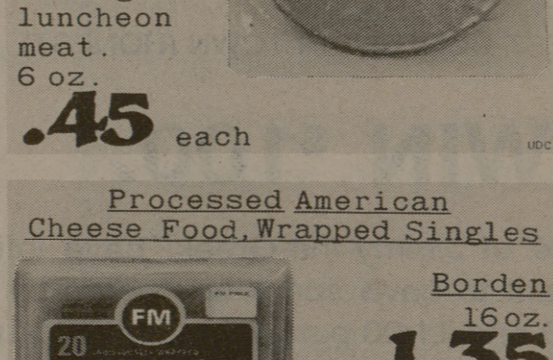
**FM Strawberry Preserves**  
2 lb. .97



**Borden Grated Parmesan Cheese**  
8 oz. 1.39



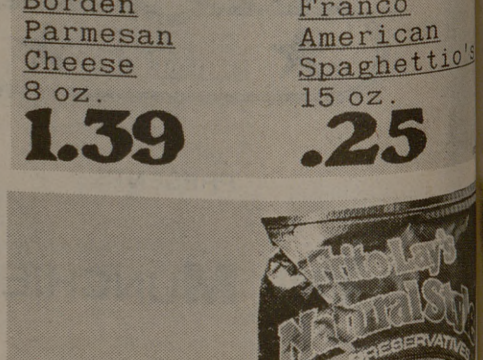
**Pillsbury Buttermilk Biscuits**  
7 1/2 oz. .13



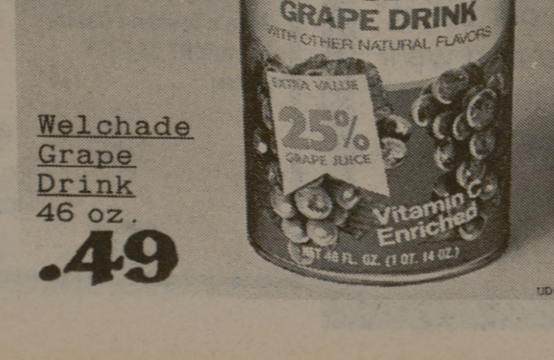
**Borden Processed American Cheese Food**  
16 oz. 1.35



**Frey Bologna**  
All meat or all beef 8 oz. .53



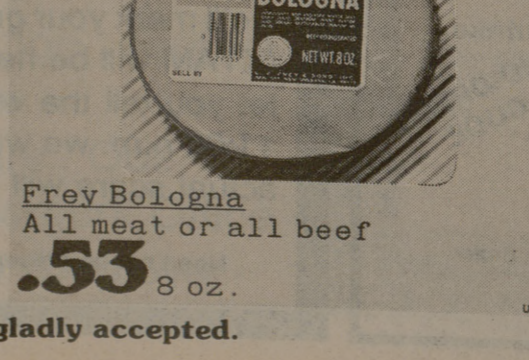
**Franco-American Spaghetti**  
15 oz. .25



**Welchade Grape Drink**  
46 oz. .49



**FM Brand 20 single slices American pasteurized process cheese food**  
16 oz. 1.15



**Frito Lay Natural Style Potato Chips**  
6 oz. .65



**Frito Lay Natural Style Potato Chips**  
6 oz. .65

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