

# Power given to states

**ABORTION** from Page 4

Missouri's right to disallow the use of public funds for counseling that includes abortion as an option.

The public employees are on the state's payroll. By providing any abortion counseling, these employees are using state funds and violating state law. Perhaps the court is suggesting that physicians and social workers use their lunch hour to present the abortion option to women?

Monday, the Supreme Court gave the go ahead to states wanting to limit women's right to abortion. The justices didn't take it upon themselves to eliminate the right to abort, but left that decision to legislative bodies and future litigation.

Perhaps the justices didn't want innocent blood, not just of the unborn, but of pregnant women who choose to pursue illegal abortions, on their hands. Justices supporting the state's right to limit abortions, wrote a directive that is an obvious attempt to rid themselves of responsibility for the legislation that will follow their ruling on Webster v. Reproductive Health Services.

"Furthermore, the suggestion that

legislative bodies, in a Nation where more than half of the population is female, will treat this decision as an invitation to enact abortion laws reminiscent of the dark ages misreads the decision and does scant justice to those who serve in such bodies and the people who elect them."

This statement is idealistic, at best, and a cheap way of passing the buck, at worst.

Any state that severely limits or removes the right to abort, through economic manipulation or other means, is responsible for the consequences. Any voter, who deems it their right to impose their will on others, is also responsible.

Pregnant women will continue to make the abortion choice their own, regardless of what the states and courts decide over the years. If the right to abortion is severely limited or eliminated, this country will once again see how seriously women weigh the decision to abort or give birth -- as women will once again place their own lives in jeopardy to obtain illegal, unsafe abortions.

Chris Carroll

-- for the Summer Daily Nebraskan

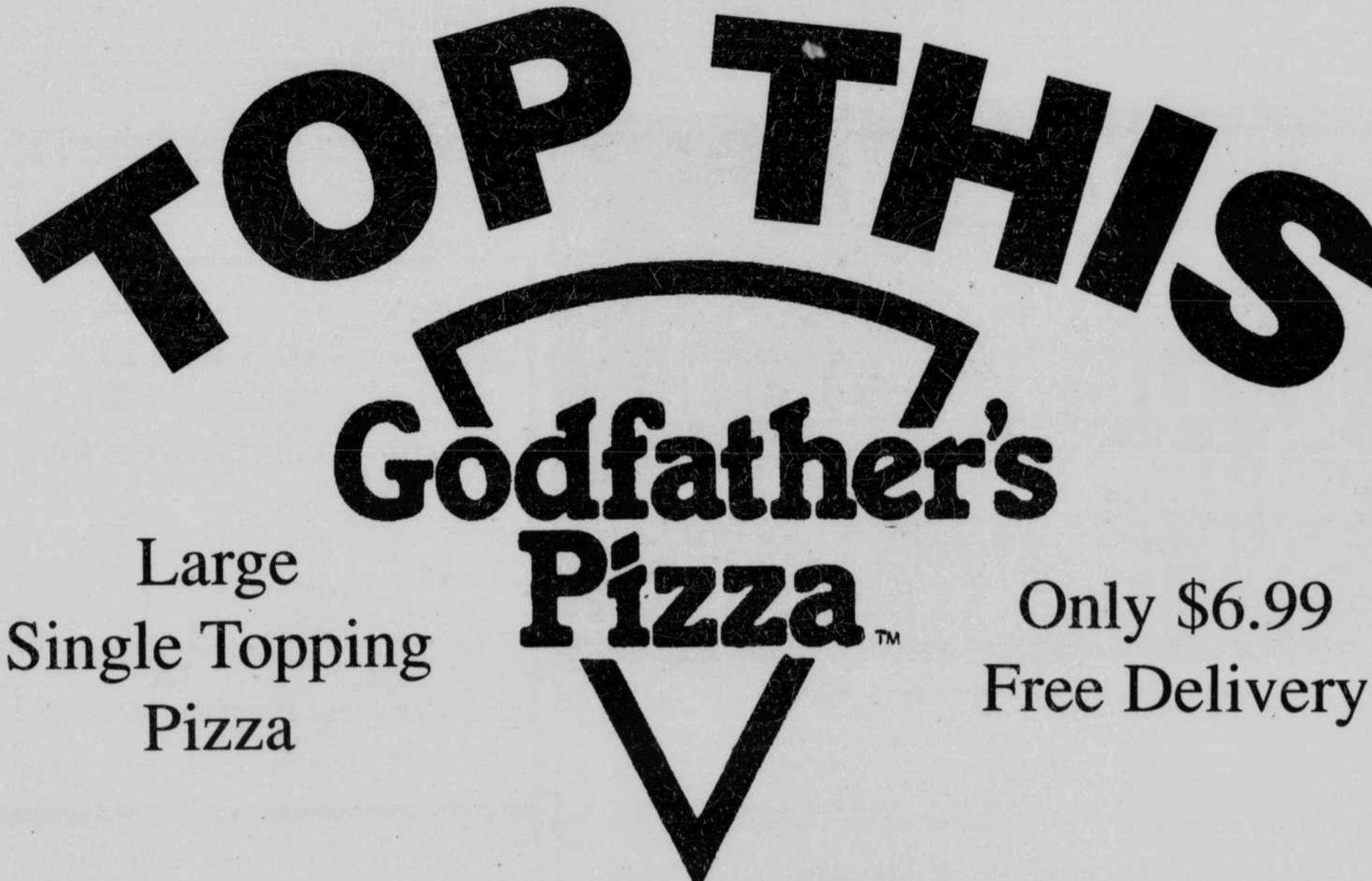
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