

Wyoming's Secretary of State Obligated to Defend Trademark Against Renegade California Winery

THE HERALD urges Max Maxfield to squash them like an over-ripe grape

A few months ago, youngsters at Breckenridge High School in Minnesota received a slap in the face courtesy of our Secretary of State. The high schoolers were told in no uncertain terms that their use of a bucking horse logo on their football helmets and gymnasium floor violated Wyoming's trademark for the bucking horse image.

The broken-hearted teenagers reportedly sold their own blood and their family pets to fund the redesign and repainting.

Now our Secretary of State's office will be put to the test against someone other than a bunch of poor Midwestern farm kids. This time it's a wealthy for-profit California winery which is testing the State's collective manhood.

The winemakers apparently believe we elected timid "girlie men" to our highest offices. We pray they're wrong. Only time will tell.

THE HERALD learned about this newest trademark infraction while preparing for an upcoming nine-part series about the evils of fermented drink. Our research on the topic has been exhaustive but such is the nature of our unique hands-on approach to investigative journalism.

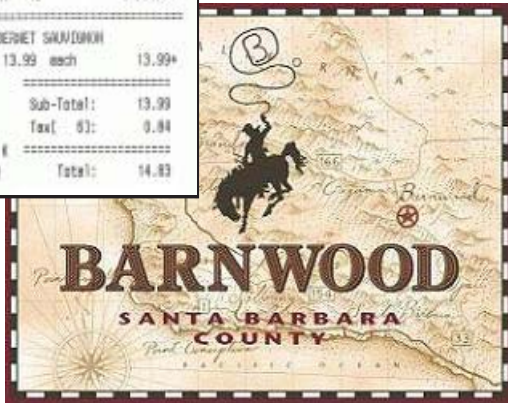
In order to assist the State in prosecuting this blatant trademark thievery by the crafty Californians, we're prepared to turn over all of our liquor store receipts and the many bottles of Barnwood wine we've accumulated during our many months of research.

(Since we assume it's illegal to take alcohol into the State Capitol, we've thoughtfully emptied each of the Barnwood bottles but have left the damning labels intact for evidentiary purposes. Copies of our liquor store

receipts will be attached to facilitate an expeditious reimbursement by the State Treasurer's office.)

Under State law, all alcohol products except beer are distributed from the Wyoming Liquor Commission's warehouse located on Campstool Road here in Cheyenne. Logic says there are probably dozens or hundreds of cases of Barnwood bottles in the facility.

We at THE HERALD ... always anxious to assist the State we love ... have also arranged to rent a U-Haul to carry away all of the Commission's offensive Barnwood products (full bottles only, please). We'll pour them down a drain or some other appropriately convenient orifice. No thanks or reimbursement necessary. We live to serve.



Barnwood wines available locally at
TOWN & COUNTRY SUPERMARKET LIQUORS
 2005 Cabernet Sauvignon \$13.99
 2004 Sauvignon Blanc \$10.49 2004 Trio Reserve \$27.49



Noted B-Ball Predictor To Offer Wine Reviews For HERALD Readers

Each March, Harold the Magnificent honors THE HERALD and its readers with his astute predictions for the NCAA Basketball Tournament.

Because of his uncanny predictive abilities, Harold now has his own daily show on ESPN and writes a weekly sports betting column for the Christian Science Monitor.

Now Harold will be writing occasional wine reviews for THE CHEYENNE HERALD beginning with this initial analysis of three offerings from Barnwood Winery of Santa Barbara, California.

Barnwood 2005 Cabernet Sauvignon ... Retail Price \$20.00

This wine has a rich, deep garnet color with elegant blackberry, raspberry, licorice and spice nuances on the nose. Ripe, firm tannins frame the fresh black plum and cassis flavors giving it excellent balance and a soft midpalate impression. Hints of cocoa and French oak aging come through on the long, rich finish. This wine has an early approachability and wonderful aging potential.

Barnwood 2004 Sauvignon Blanc ... Retail Price \$14.00

Lively and crisp, this light gold wine has aromas of citrus and fresh herbs. Grapefruit and mango flavors with a hint of herbaceous undertones fill the mid-palate leading to a clean and refreshing finish. It's an excellent pairing with appetizers or matched with grilled fish and various seafood dishes.

Barnwood 2004 Trio Reserve ... Retail Price \$35.00

The 2004 Trio shows a concentrated tapestry of blackberry, raspberry, cranberry and black currant fruit flavors. Focused tannins frame the lush fruit core of this rich, multi-layered composition. Layers of subtle spice, dark chocolate and cedar nuances add complexity to the powerful fruit, while toasty oak rounds out the lengthy finish, promising great returns with additional cellar aging.

NOTE: Any stark similarity between Harold's words and the winery's own marketing blurbs about their wines may be purely coincidental.

How 'Bout Them Cowgirls?

Country music superstar George Strait's latest single will be popular at UW Cowgirls' games this winter. It's as though he wrote it for the 2007 WNIT champions. Lyrics:

I felt a rush of the Rio Grande into
 Yellowstone
 I've seen first-hand Niagra Falls
 And the lights of Vegas
 I've Criss-crossed down to Key Biscayne
 And Chi-town via Bangor, Maine
 Think I've seen it all
 And all I can say is

Chorus:
 How 'bout them cowgirls
 Boys ain't they somethin'
 Sure are some proud girls
 And you can't tell them nothin'
 And I tell you right now girls
 May just be seven wonders of this big, old
 round world
 But how 'bout them cowgirls

She's ridin' colts in Steamboat Springs
 Bailing hay outside Abilene
 She's trying hard
 To fit in in some city
 But her home is 'neath that big, blue sky
 And the Northern Plains and those other
 wide open spaces
 Now a-days there ain't as many but

Repeat Chorus:
 Yeah, how 'bout them cowgirls
 Boys ain't they somethin'
 Sure are some proud girls
 But you can't beat there lovin'
 And I'll tell you right now girls
 May just be seven wonders of this big, old
 round world
 But how 'bout them cowgirls

Cowboys offense

Whatever became of Kofi Shuck?

UW football fans must be beginning to miss his sprints sideways behind the line of scrimmage in the "Triple Option" offense of one of Vic Koenig's offensive coordinators. Every play, poor Kofi would run a 4.4 50 from one sideline to the other - usually empty-handed - before he headed upfield as a receiver. On rare occasion, the quarterback could hand him the ball - wherein he still ran most of the width of the field before going upfield.

It was the dumbest offensive set in UW history. But the current one is catching up. This one, dubbed "Double Cadence"

by the Ohio U. broadcasters, the QB, without a huddle, goes under center, then stands up, steps back and peers to the sideline for direction. All skill players do the same thing - it must not matter if the guards and tackles know whether it will be a running play on their hip or a pass.

It looks like something out of South Park and, on the road, it gives the crowd a chance to get to full throat when they know the QB finally has to run a play. Boise State fans drowned out everything for the second cadence. It slows momentum, gives the defense additional rest, us clock, and makes Wyoming look unprepared. This set isn't why UW is 3-1.

One less reader

A week back, I received a lengthy and intelligent e-mail that criticized me on several fronts. This message came after the latest issue in which I wrote about a few matters sensitive to supporters of the status quo in city hall. His admiration for the mayor and the majority voting bloc of the city council was obvious.

The writer was an attorney and expressed his views very well. On almost every point he made, I can respect his opinion.

The basis of his communique was that he would not read the Cheyenne Herald any longer because of the "personal nature of the attacks you level on people."

He wrote about "denigrating individuals and their character." He seemed particularly at odds with my labeling city council members as "a new group of sycophants."

He is familiar with the mayor and some, if not most, of the members of the city council but was especially critical of my denigration of the mail order master's degree purchased by Bob Fecht and even offered a defense of what Fecht "may" have received. He put "degree mill" in quotes as though Lacrosse University may not fit that description often used by me.

He wondered if I am familiar with the curriculum, the textbooks, lectures, syllabi, qualifications of faculty, etc. - and he challenged that the lack of accreditation can determine the "value [of] the education Chief Fecht received." It can and it does.

Most of what he wrote could be considered just an honest difference of opinion but when it comes to bogus degree selling businesses, I'm the expert and he's the novice. He needs to do the research - I've done mine and I stand by everything I've written about those lousy "institutions" and Bob Fecht's use of public funds to buy a worthless piece of paper.

He is one who shouts, "I despise what you say but will fight to the death your right to say it" while truly wishing that those of us with a means of expressing our personal views publicly could be silenced. He wrote that my "targets have no recourse," even though he's familiar with libel.

In response: I am not a journalist or a reporter per se. I am an editorialist, an opinion writer, an essayist, etc. I do not seek to present two sides of all issues. And I refrain from personal attacks. I seldom name anyone other than an elected official or one paid with public funds.

City attorney departing

This brief story was called. I decided that it would not be proper to take parting shots at this city employee as he leaves. There'll be a full critique of his tenure at another time.

E-MAIL ... CHEYENNEHERALD@BRESNAN.NET