

Time Record News

As read in North Central Texas and Southern Oklahoma

News from the Cellar

By Doug Harmon

News from the Cellar ~ November 26, 2006
By Doug Harmon

2003 Spellbound Petite Sirah

One of the true pleasures of my job is getting to try not only different brands of wine, but also many different types, some well known and others that you don't see everyday. One type of wine that has really caught my attention lately is the Petite Sirah varietal. This varietal is usually rich, ripe and full bodied yet elegant and graceful all at the same time. This wine seems to be like a romantic comedy, it runs you through all the emotions but in the end you feel extremely satisfied. I'm not sure I have found another type of wine that gives you as much in the glass as Petite Sirah.

The 2003 Spellbound Petite Sirah is deep, dark and inky in the glass. And loaded with flavors and aromas of violets, blueberry, cherry, vanilla, mocha and coffee, followed by a velvety smooth finish that will have you grabbing the bottle for another glass. This wine is easy to drink and very food friendly but would pair well with penne pasta with sausage, tomatoes and olives, or would be wonderful with grilled butterfly pork chops on a bed of wild rice watching a west Texas sunset. I give this wine a rating of 88 points and select it as "Must Buy". This wine retails around \$13.99.

News from the Cellar ~ October 2006
By Doug Harmon

2004 Girard Petite Sirah

Wow! Here is that special wine that all of us wine drinkers dream about finding. Girard, my favorite artisan winery has done it again.

The fruit for this wine is 100 percent Petite Sirah sourced from head pruned Old Vines located in Calistoga, hand sorted, crushed then aged in American, French and Hungarian oak barrels for 18 months. 2004 Girard Petite Sirah is dark and muscular in the glass with an inky, jet blue color that will stain anything it touches. This wine is rich, classy and elegant with flavors and aromas of blueberry, black cherry, lilac and dark chocolate, with a finish of sweet vanilla and cinnamon that is seductively smooth and lingering.

I give this wine a 94 rating and tell you this is one of the best if not the best red wines I have tasted this year. So if you are looking for that special wine for yourself or as a fantastic gift you can't go wrong with 2004 Girard Petite Sirah. This wine retails around \$22.99.