



Back to the Futures

by Charles M. Bear Dalton



If you ask me my ten all-time favorite movies, I may struggle to answer. I like good movies (and a few bad ones) so it's hard to narrow down a top ten. But if you ask me my two all-time favorite movies, there is no hesitation. They are *Blazing Saddles* and *Bull Durham* – in that order. I have seen both many times and can quote whole passages from each. Perhaps to my shame, so can my sons. (Some of the other movies that can make my top ten include *The Thin Man*, *Casablanca*, *Quigley Down Under*, *The Wind and the Lion*, *Open Range*, *Lawrence of Arabia*, *Back to the Future*, *Star Wars*, *White Christmas*, *True Grit* (the new one), *Silverado*, *The Man from Snowy River*, *Fiddler on the Roof* ...). Please note: I didn't write that any of these were the "best" movies; instead, I indicated that they are among my "favorite" movies.

A few weeks back, my wife Carol and I went to the theater to see a movie. They were having a technical problem and so had cancelled the showing we intended to see. So we said we'd see the next showing of the *Green Lantern*. The clerk said "That'll be \$28.00."

I said "What!?"

She repeated "\$28. Duh! It's in 3D."

Never having seen a movie in 3D before (If my sons are reading this, they are cringing. "Dad? How un-cool can you be?"), I was appalled. I asked to speak to the manager. He was polite and comped our tickets.

So we went in and put on our cheesy 3D glasses and ... WOW! It was a good movie but the 3D experience was WOW. So when we went to see the final *Harry Potter* movie last weekend (after watching the previous six at home over the preceding 2 weeks), we willingly ponied up for 3D. I just wish we'd seen *Avatar* that way.

So what does any of this have to do with 2010 Bordeaux Futures or even wine in general? Well, there are lessons in the movies. You can always learn from the past but not all the lessons are obvious. Sometimes you don't know what something is worth until you try it. Sometimes the classics are the best. And sometimes the classics can be improved upon. That new version *True Grit* was awfully good; so was *Harry Potter* in 3D.

Some movie quotes come to mind. Perhaps the opening lines from *The Wind and the Lion*:

"Don't you agree that the most important part of the meal is the wine? Everything must follow the wine. And in this case, I should favor a Red Bordeaux." – Edén Pedicaris

OK, maybe not totally relevant to 2010, but these are:

"I know things ..." – Annie Savoy in *Bull Durham*.

I know things, too. I know a lot about Bordeaux and a good bit about wine in general. I know that prices go up and generally don't come down. I know that you could buy a ten-year-old Chevy Impala in 1974 for \$212.00. (I know because I did.) I know that you can buy a ten-year-old Ford Crown Vic (a rough equivalent) for about \$4,000 today (I drive trucks now but I checked Craig's List.) I know that in 1976, I could buy a bottle of Ch. Mouton Rothschild 1970 for about \$70.00. Today a bottle of 2006 Mouton would cost me about \$800. Simple math tells me that the wine has not increased in price as much as cars and yet I would feel better about spending that kind of money on a car than I would on a bottle of wine. Intellectually, I know that the wine is a better value today than it was then but ... there is a limit. Or there are limits. We each have different limits.

"They tell me you are a man with true grit." – Mattie Ross in *True Grit*.

In the 2010 vintage, some Bordeaux producers shook off their limits and raised their prices. In an odd way, some of those increases (Pontet Canet and Vieux Ch. Certan to name two) made sense. Others (Montrose, Pichon Baron, Palmer, Angelus), who rose no higher, did not make sense. Why did 2010 Pontet Canet and VCC make sense? They made not only the best wines that they have ever made but also some of the very best wines of the vintage. For me, Pontet Canet surpassed its neighbor Mouton and VCC rivaled its neighbor Petrus. Like the new *True Grit*, they dazzled. They are classics made better.

"People are going to get killed here today, Sue, and I'm gonna kill them." – Charley Waite in *Open Range*.

Why do 2010 Palmer, Pichon, Angelus, and Montrose (and others) not make sense? For years these and others like them (Ducru Beaucaillou, Cos d'Estournel, Leoville las Cases) have been the blue chips of wine. But even as good they were – and they were very good – in 2010 they did not "dazzle". And for that kind of money, you have to dazzle. These are classics but they are not, at least in my opinion, either worth the increased price of admission or likely to sell through (at least in Texas to customers who live in Texas) at the high prices their owners have set.

"If I were a rich man ..." – Teyve in *Fiddler on the Roof*.

Past these (the over-priced, former blue chips above), the first growths of the left bank and the great rarities of the right bank took even larger 2010 price increases that were further exacerbated by the weak Dollar-Euro exchange rate. Here we are talking about the revered classics – not my favorite wines but rather the acknowledged best of the best. Because they are the rarest and best, there is a level of high interest in these rarest and most exclusive wines and even in their second wines. As happened in 1982 and again in 1990, 1995, 2000, 2003, and 2005 before. The prices on these very top wines have moved to unprecedented and seemingly unsustainable levels. But like those vintages before, the strongest interest in 2010 is in the very top, most expensive wines: Lafite, Latour, Margaux, Haut Brion, Mouton; Cheval Blanc and Ausone, Petrus and Le Pin. And they are the best of the best and the most sought-after. If I were a rich man, I reckon I'd buy 'em. They can't all go to China.

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OK, my points are being made (maybe too) indirectly here. If I seem to be arguing both sides of the question, I am. All movie references aside, the 2010s are available for sale. Buying them was brutal this year and getting them priced and offered was as difficult. I broke the database and had to fix it.

The 2010 Bordeaux futures offer is now posted at www.specsonline.com or send us an email to [Bear@specsonline.com](mailto: Bear@specsonline.com) and we will reply with the most recent offer in .pdf format. What I have compiled as of August 3, 2011 follows this story.

A Final Bordeaux Note

Save the date: On Thursday, January 19th, 2012, Spec's will host over 35 Bordeaux chateau owners and winemakers in Houston for a tasting of over forty 2009 vintage Bordeaux wines. Chateaux currently committed include:

From Pomerol: Gazin and Clinet

From St. Emilion: Angelus, Daugay, Canon La Gaffeliere, Clos L'Oratoire, Clos Marsalette and Aiguilhe)

From St. Estèphe: Lafon Rochet and Ormes de Pez

From Pauillac: Pichon Baron, Pibran, Lynch Bages (also Echo and Lynch Bages blanc), Grand Puy Lacoste (with Lacoste Borie), Haut Batailley, Haut Bages Liberal, d'Armailhac, and Clerc Milon

From Margaux: Brane Cantenac (with Baron de Brane), Cantenac Brown, Ferriere

From St Julien: Branaire-Ducru, Leoville Poyferre, Talbot, Gloria, Gruaud Larose, and Leoville Barton

From Pessac Leognan: Carbonnieux (red & white) Domaine de Chevalier (red & white) Smith Haut Lafitte (red & white)

From Haut Medoc, Moulis: Poujeaux, Cantemerle, Chasse Spleen & Camensac

Sauternes: Suduiraut

AND there will be more!

We are in the process of confirming the venue.

This is a do not miss event for the Bordeaux lovers of Texas.

Stay tuned for more information. ✨



Spec's Liquor Stores

2010 FUTURES OFFERING

Last updated on August 03, 2011

To receive our most updated futures offerings, please call us at 713-526-8787 or visit us on the web at www.specsonline.com. We offer futures pricing on cases, three-packs, and individual bottles. Unless otherwise noted, all prices are for cases of 12x750ml bottles. Some prices rise because a particular wine got hot and we had to buy more of it on a second or third offering at higher prices. These price changes are included in the updated lists. Prices charged at the time of your order will taken from the most recent list. We will fax you an updated list anytime you request one. **Spec's cannot guarantee an arrival date for any particular wine.** As always, all prices indicated in this offer include a 5% discount for "cash." All orders are accepted subject to availability and confirmation. All wines are offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Some wines are available only in extremely limited quantities. Spec's reserves the right to limit quantities.

Item Number		Size	Pk.	Bottle	Case
Barsac					
002328	Ch. CLIMENS, Barsac, 2010	750ml	12	\$128.85	\$1391.64
002421	l'EXTRAVAGANT de Ch. DOISY DAENE, Barsac, 2010- Half Bottles	375ml	1	\$285.12	\$256.61
Bordeaux					
002334	Ch. CROIX MOUTON, Bordeaux, 2010	750ml	12	\$12.46	\$134.52
002379	Ch. le CONSEILLER, Bordeaux, 2010	750ml	12	\$15.80	\$170.64
Bordeaux Superieur					
002316	Ch. BRONDEAU, Bordeaux Superieur, 2010	750ml	12	\$11.23	\$121.32
002332	Domaine de COURTEILLAC, Bordeaux Superieur, 2010	750ml	12	\$12.66	\$136.68
Cotes de Castillon					
002308	Ch. AMPELIA, Cotes de Castillon, 2010	750ml	12	\$14.81	\$159.96
002315	Ch. BRISSON, Cotes de Castillon, 2010	750ml	12	\$12.23	\$132.12
002330	Ch. CLOS PUY ARNAUD, Cotes de Castillon, 2010	750ml	12	\$28.93	\$312.48
002331	Ch. COTE MONTPEZAT Cuvee Compostelle, Cotes de Castillon, 2010	750ml	12	\$15.72	\$169.80
002335	Ch. d'AIGUILHE, Cotes de Castillon, 2010	750ml	12	\$27.90	\$301.32
Cotes de Francs					
002402	Ch. PUYGUERAUD CUVEE GEORGES, Cotes de Francs, 2010	750ml	12	\$20.62	\$222.60
002403	Ch. PUYGUERAUD, Cotes de Francs, 2010	750ml	12	\$15.69	\$169.44
Haut Medoc					
002318	Ch. CAMBON la PELOUSE, Haut Medoc, 2010	750ml	12	\$20.39	\$220.20
002319	Ch. CAMENSAC, Haut Medoc, 2010	750ml	12	\$28.25	\$305.04
002324	Ch. CARONNE STE. GHEMME, Haut Medoc, 2010	750ml	12	\$14.80	\$159.84
002325	Ch. CHASSE SPLEEN, Haut Medoc, 2010	750ml	12	\$33.74	\$364.44
002360	Ch. la BERNADOTTE, Haut Medoc, 2010	750ml	12	\$23.02	\$248.52
002398	Ch. PONTOISE CABARRUS, Haut Medoc, 2010	750ml	12	\$14.14	\$152.64
002399	Ch. POUJEAUX, Haut Medoc, 2010	750ml	12	\$32.54	\$351.48
002405	Ch. SENEJAC, Haut Medoc, 2010	750ml	12	\$17.10	\$184.68
002407	Ch. SOCIANDO MALLET, Haut Medoc, 2010	750ml	12	\$39.74	\$429.24
002412	Ch. TOUR SAINT BONNET, Haut Medoc, 2010	750ml	12	\$11.95	\$129.12
Margaux					
002306	BLASON d'ISSAN (2nd vin de Ch. d'Issan), Margaux, 2010	750ml	12	\$27.40	\$295.92
002321	Ch. CANTENAC BROWN, Margaux, 2010	750ml	12	\$65.50	\$707.40
002338	Ch. du TERTRE, Margaux, 2010	750ml	12	\$42.41	\$458.04
002342	Ch. GISCOURS, Margaux, 2010	750ml	12	\$78.29	\$845.64
002389	Ch. MARGAUX, Margaux, 2010 Case = 6 Bottles	750ml	6	\$1044.49	\$5640.24
002390	Ch. MARGAUX, Margaux, 2010 Case = 6 Bottles	2nd Offer 750ml	6	\$1246.51	\$6731.16
002395	Ch. PONTAC LYNCH, Margaux, 2010	750ml	12	\$29.30	\$316.44
002400	Ch. PRIEURE LICHINE, Margaux, 2010	750ml	12	\$70.30	\$759.24
002411	Ch. TOUR de MONS, Margaux, 2010	750ml	12	\$21.82	\$235.56
002427	PAVILLON ROUGE du Ch. MARGAUX (2nd vin de Ch. Margaux), Margaux, 2010	750ml	12	\$195.38	\$2110.20
002428	PAVILLON ROUGE du Ch. MARGAUX (2nd vin de Ch. Margaux), Margaux, 2010	750ml	12	\$243.28	\$2627.40
002431	SIRENS de GISCOURS (2nd vin de Ch. Giscours), Margaux, 2010	750ml	12	\$24.82	\$267.96
Medoc					
002393	Ch. PATACHE d'AUX, Medoc, 2010	750ml	12	\$14.52	\$156.84
Montagne St. Emilion					
002434	VIEUX Ch. St. ANDRE, Montagne St. Emilion, 2010	750ml	12	\$19.24	\$207.72

Item Number		Size	Pk.	Bottle	Case
Paulliac					
002307	CARRUADES de LAFITE (2nd vin de Ch. Lafite), Pauillac, 2010	750ml	6	\$259.06	\$1398.90
002311	Ch. BATAILLEY, Pauillac, 2010	750ml	12	\$49.98	\$539.76
002327	Ch. CLERC MILON, Pauillac, 2010	750ml	12	\$85.56	\$924.00
002336	Ch. d'ARMAILHAC, Pauillac, 2010	750ml	12	\$59.62	\$643.92
002339	Ch. DUHART MILON, Pauillac, 2010	750ml	12	\$135.08	\$1458.96
002347	Ch. GRAND PUY LACOSTE, Pauillac, 2010	750ml	12	\$102.92	\$1111.56
002349	Ch. HAUT BAGES LIBERAL, Pauillac, 2010	750ml	12	\$43.69	\$471.84
002350	Ch. HAUT BAGES LIBERAL, Pauillac, 2010	2nd Offer 750ml	12	\$52.42	\$566.04
002351	Ch. HAUT BAGES MONPELOU, Pauillac, 2010	750ml	12	\$25.25	\$272.64
002352	Ch. HAUT BATAILLEY, Pauillac, 2010	750ml	12	\$48.84	\$527.52
002353	Ch. HAUT BATAILLEY, Pauillac, 2010	2nd Offer 750ml	12	\$55.30	\$597.24
002367	Ch. LACOSTE BORIE (2nd of Grand Puy Lacoste), Pauillac, 2010	750ml	12	\$27.22	\$293.88
002368	Ch. LAFITE ROTHSCHILD, Pauillac, 2010	750ml	6	\$1092.90	\$5901.66
002369	Ch. LAFITE ROTHSCHILD, Pauillac, 2010	2nd Offer 750ml	6	\$1556.28	\$8403.90
002371	Ch. LAFITE ROTHSCHILD, Pauillac, 2010	3rd Offer 750ml	6	\$1747.80	\$9438.12
002378	Ch. LATOUR, Pauillac, 2010	750ml	6	\$1461.78	\$7893.60
002392	Ch. MOUTON ROTHSCHILD, Pauillac, 2010	750ml	6	\$1147.86	\$6198.42
002396	Ch. PONTET CANET, Pauillac, 2010	750ml	12	\$173.26	\$1871.16
002397	Ch. PONTET CANET, Pauillac, 2010	2nd Offer 750ml	12	\$186.36	\$2012.64
002418	ECHO de LYNCH BAGES (2nd of Lynch Bages), Pauillac, 2010	750ml	12	\$44.56	\$481.20
002424	Les FORTS de LATOUR (2nd Vin de Ch. Latour), Pauillac, 2010	750ml	12	\$276.22	\$2983.08
002425	Les FORTS de LATOUR (2nd Vin de Ch. Latour), Pauillac, 2010	2nd Offer 750ml	12	\$291.79	\$3151.32
002430	PETIT MOUTON (2nd vin de Ch. Mouton Rothschild), Pauillac, 2010	750ml	6	\$188.63	\$1018.62
Pessac Leognan Blanc					
002322	Ch. CARBONNIEUX BLANC, Pessac Leognan Blanc, 2010	750ml	12	\$35.82	\$386.88
Pessac Leognan Rouge					
002323	Ch. CARBONNIEUX, Pessac Leognan Rouge, 2010	750ml	12	\$35.63	\$384.84
002329	Ch. CLOS MARSALETTE, Pessac Leognan Rouge, 2010	750ml	12	\$27.05	\$292.08
002354	Ch. HAUT BERGEY, Pessac Leognan Rouge, 2010	750ml	12	\$33.91	\$366.24
002355	Ch. HAUT BRION, Pessac Leognan Rouge, 2010	750ml	6	\$1171.86	\$6328.02
002356	Ch. HAUT BRION, Pessac Leognan Rouge, 2010	2nd Offer 750ml	6	\$1257.66	\$6791.34
002364	Ch. la MISSION HAUT BRION, Pessac Leognan Rouge, 2010	750ml	6	\$1044.43	\$5639.94
002365	Ch. la MISSION HAUT BRION, Pessac Leognan Rouge, 2010	2nd Offer 750ml	6	\$1151.84	\$6219.96
002406	Ch. SMITH HAUT LAFITTE, Pessac Leognan Rouge, 2010	750ml	12	\$133.79	\$1444.92
002416	DOMAINE de CHEVALIER, Pessac Leognan Rouge, 2010	750ml	12	\$84.02	\$907.44
002422	Le CLARENCE de HAUT BRION (2nd vin de Ch. Haut Brion), Pessac Leognan Rouge, 2010	750ml	12	\$186.98	\$2019.48
002423	Le CLARENCE de HAUT BRION (2nd vin de Ch. Haut Brion), Pessac Leognan Rouge, 2010	2nd Offer 750ml	12	\$201.85	\$2180.04
Pomerol					
002341	Ch. GAZIN, Pomerol, 2010	750ml	12	\$84.02	\$907.44
002358	Ch. HOSANNA, Pomerol, 2010	750ml	6	\$227.05	\$1226.10
002359	Ch. l'EVANGILE, Pomerol, 2010	750ml	6	\$427.60	\$2309.04
002362	Ch. la CROIX St. GEORGES, Pomerol, 2010	750ml	12	\$57.42	\$620.16
002380	Ch. le GAY, Pomerol, 2010	750ml	12	\$145.80	\$1574.64
002382	Ch. le PIN, Pomerol, 2010	750ml	3	\$2658.10	\$7176.87
002394	Ch. PETRUS, Pomerol, 2010	750ml	6	\$2469.80	\$13336.92
002417	DOMAINE de l'EGLISE, Pomerol, 2010	750ml	12	\$44.98	\$485.76
002432	VIEUX Ch. CERTAN, Pomerol, 2010	750ml	6	\$312.18	\$1685.76
002433	VIEUX Ch. CERTAN, Pomerol, 2010	2nd Offer 750ml	6	\$343.52	\$1855.02
Sauternes					
002337	Ch. d'YQUEM, Sauternes, 2010	750ml	6	\$722.38	\$3900.84
002404	Ch. RIEUSSEC, Sauternes, 2010	750ml	6	\$99.27	\$536.10
002408	Ch. SUDUIRAUT, Sauternes, 2010	750ml	12	\$84.88	\$916.68
St. Emilion					
002309	Ch. AUSONE, St. Emilion, 2010	750ml	3	\$2714.40	\$7328.88
002310	Ch. BARDE HAUT, St. Emilion, 2010	750ml	12	\$31.68	\$342.12
002313	Ch. BERGAT, St. Emilion, 2010	750ml	12	\$43.84	\$473.40
002320	Ch. CANON la GAFFELIERE, St. Emilion, 2010	750ml	12	\$105.60	\$1140.48
002326	Ch. CHEVAL BLANC, St. Emilion, 2010	750ml	6	\$1461.43	\$7891.74

Item Number		Size	Pk.	Bottle	Case
002333	Ch. CROIX de LABRIE, St. Emilion, 2010	750ml	12	\$84.02	\$907.44
002340	Ch. FONPLEGADE, St. Emilion, 2010	750ml	12	\$39.74	\$429.24
002345	Ch. GRACIA, St. Emilion, 2010 Case = 6 Bottles	750ml	6	\$174.90	\$944.46
002346	Ch. GRAND CORBIN DESPAGNE, St. Emilion, 2010	750ml	12	\$30.73	\$331.92
002361	Ch. la CONFESSION, St. Emilion, 2010	750ml	12	\$42.84	\$462.72
002376	Ch. LAPLAGNOTTE BELLEVUE, St. Emilion, 2010	750ml	12	\$18.10	\$195.48
002377	Ch. LARCIS DUCASSE, St. Emilion, 2010	750ml	12	\$94.91	\$1025.04
002391	Ch. MOULIN SAINT GEORGES, St. Emilion, 2010	750ml	12	\$46.27	\$499.68
002413	Ch. TROTTEVIELLE, St. Emilion, 2010	750ml	12	\$115.76	\$1250.28
002414	Ch. VIEUX CLOS St. EMILION, St. Emilion, 2010	750ml	12	\$19.07	\$205.92
002415	CLOS de l'ORATOIRE, St. Emilion, 2010	750ml	12	\$50.21	\$542.28

St. Estephe

002312	Ch. BEAU-SITE, St. Estephe, 2010	750ml	12	\$25.25	\$272.64
002317	Ch. CALON SEGUR, St. Estephe, 2010	750ml	12	\$104.14	\$1124.76
002372	Ch. LAFON ROCHET, St. Estephe, 2010	750ml	12	\$52.62	\$568.32
002387	Ch. les ORMES de PEZ, St. Estephe, 2010	750ml	12	\$35.98	\$388.56
002426	Les PAGODES de COS (2nd vin de Ch. Cos d'Estournel), St. Estephe, 2010	750ml	12	\$66.86	\$722.16

St. Julien

002314	Ch. BEYCHEVELLE, St. Julien, 2010	750ml	12	\$101.04	\$1091.28
002343	Ch. GLORIA, St. Julien, 2010	750ml	12	\$49.49	\$534.60
002344	Ch. GLORIA, St. Julien, 2010	2nd Offer 750ml	12	\$54.40	\$587.52
002348	Ch. GRUAUD LAROSE, St. Julien, 2010	750ml	12	\$79.59	\$859.56
002357	Ch. HORTEVIE, St. Julien, 2010	750ml	12	\$29.11	\$314.40
002373	Ch. LAGRANGE, St. Julien, 2010	750ml	12	\$69.43	\$749.88
002374	Ch. LAGRANGE, St. Julien, 2010	2nd Offer 750ml	12	\$75.06	\$810.60
002375	Ch. LANGOA BARTON, St. Julien, 2010	750ml	12	\$86.45	\$933.60
002383	Ch. LEOVILLE BARTON, St. Julien, 2010	750ml	12	\$125.21	\$1352.28
002384	Ch. LEOVILLE BARTON, St. Julien, 2010	2nd Offer 750ml	12	\$138.70	\$1497.96
002385	Ch. LEOVILLE POYFERRE, St. Julien, 2010	750ml	12	\$148.72	\$1606.08
002386	Ch. LEOVILLE POYFERRE, St. Julien, 2010	2nd Offer 750ml	12	\$167.70	\$1811.16
002409	Ch. TALBOT, St. Julien, 2010	750ml	12	\$61.72	\$666.48
002410	Ch. TALBOT, St. Julien, 2010	2nd Offer 750ml	12	\$71.73	\$774.72
002419	Les FIEFS de la GRANGE (2nd vin de Ch. Lagrange), St. Julien, 2010	750ml	12	\$27.40	\$295.92

