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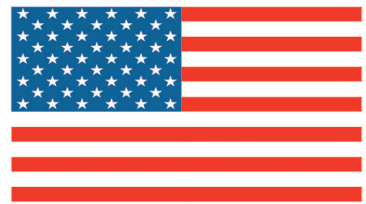
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Upcoming Events

The Big Spring Symphony Orchestra will present "The Music of Queen" featuring Jeans 'n Classics, at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 22 at Big Spring High School Auditorium. Visit www.bigspringsymphony.org for more information.

Senior Citizens Dances are held the third Friday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Dora Roberts Community Center. The next dance is Jan. 21, 2022. Music will be Western style. Entry fee is \$5 and includes a snack. For more information call 517-9097.

+++
 Send announcements to editor@bigspringherald.com.

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Friendly family man's 50-year secret: He was fugitive, too

BY **JOHN SEEWER** and **JENNIFER McDERMOTT**
 Associated Press

Just before Thomas Randle died, his wife of nearly 40 years asked his golfing buddies and his co-workers from the dealerships where he sold cars to come by their home. They gathered to say goodbye to a guy they called one of the nicest people they'd ever known — a devoted family man who gushed about his daughter, a golfer who never bent the rules, a friend to so many that a line stretched outside the funeral home a week later. By the time of their final visit last May at Randle's house in suburban Boston, the cancer in his lungs had taken away his voice. So they all left without knowing that their friend they'd spent countless hours swapping stories with never told them his biggest secret of all.

For the past 50 years, he was a fugitive wanted in one of the largest bank robberies in Cleveland's history, living in Boston under a new name he created six months after the heist in the summer of 1969. Not even his wife or daughter knew until he told them in what authorities described as a deathbed confession. How he was able to leave behind one family and create a new life — while evading a father and son from the U.S. Marshals Service who never gave up their hunt — is just now being pieced together. Ted Conrad quickly figured out that security was fairly loose at the Society National Bank in Cleveland after he started as a teller in January 1969. He told his buddies it would be easy to rob the place, said Russell Metcalf, his best friend from high school. A day after his 20th birthday that July,

Conrad walked out with \$215,000 from the vault, a haul worth \$1.6 million today. By the time the missing money was noticed, Conrad was flying across the country. In a letter sent to his girlfriend, he mistakenly thought he could return when the statute of limitations expired. But once he was indicted, that was no longer true. Conrad apparently cut off contact with his family. Some eventually presumed he was dead, said Matt Boettger, whose mother was Conrad's older sister. His mom, he said, was relieved to find out her brother had lived a happy life. "She thought she would go to her grave and never know," he said. The bank heist in 1969 didn't capture the attention of the nation, or even of

See **FRIENDLY**, page 3

Doing the most good

Big Spring's Salvation Army shines during the holiday season



Courtesy photos Members and volunteers of Big Spring's Salvation Army were busy this holiday season, ringing bells, packing and delivering toys and food, and making Christmas and New Years brighter for everyone in the community.

Senior Supper



Courtesy photo Members of Big Spring's Senior Supper group take a moment to pose for a group photo during their recent meal at Cowboy's Steakhouse. According to Sally Grant, a member of the group, Senior Supper enjoys a meal at a different local restaurant each Tuesday evening. Seniors in the community are welcome to join the group. This Tuesday, the group will be dining at 5:30 p.m. at Texas Cajun.

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Take Note

• Food distribution at Three Angels Food Pantry is held every third Tuesday of the month at the Big Spring Seventh-Day Adventist Church, located at 4319 Parkway Rd. Food is provided by the West Texas Food Bank. People will need to bring ID and plastic bags, and answer a few questions to pick up food. The food pantry also has a Facebook page where they will post any updates. <https://www.facebook.com/healthynuggetsofgold44>.

• Senior Citizens Dances are held the third Friday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Dora Roberts Community Center. The next dance is Jan. 21, 2022. Music will be Western style. Entry fee is \$5 and includes a snack. For more information call 517-9097.

• The Big Spring Art Association is looking for community businesses to display pieces of their artwork. In an effort to build awareness for the importance of the arts and highlight local talent, the Big Spring Art Association displays different art pieces across the community. If you would like a piece of art work displayed in your business lobby contact any member of the Big Spring Art Association.

• Drive-through COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics are held from 3-6 p.m. each Thursday afternoon at Whatley Plaza, located on the northwest part of the Scenic Mountain Medical Center campus, 1601 W. Martin Luther King Boulevard, also known as 1601 W. 11th Place. The vaccination is free. For more information, visit www.scenicmountainmedical.org/vaccine.

• The Big Spring Art Association meets the third Saturday of the month, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, in the basement of the Howard County Library. Come join us, we would love to have you. For more information, call 432-263-4155; Michelle Worthan at 325-227-3911; Kay Smith at 432-213-1153; or Ruby Bruns at 432-664-1943. The November featured artist/special speaker will be Denise Malm. The next meeting is Nov. 20.

• The Big Spring Symphony is celebrating 40 years. Shows remaining this season include: Jan. 22: 'The Music of Queen' at Big Spring High School; Feb. 19 "Winter Wonderland"; and Spring Pops Concert on April 23. Venues for the February and April concerts will be announced at a later date. Tickets can be purchased in season passes or per concert. For updates and general information, follow The Big Spring Symphony Facebook page or go to www.bigspringsymphony.org.

• The Great Courses history video lecture series is taking place each Wednesday in the Theater Room in the First Presbyterian Church, located at 701 Runnels Street. No charge for the lectures.

• Howard County Community Health Center is offering the Moderna – a two dose and Janseen – a single dose, Covid-19 vaccine to those over the age of 18. Businesses, churches, groups or organizations of 10 members or more who would like the vaccine can schedule a time to have a mobile vaccine clinic. The staff will to the business, church, or organization to administer the vaccine. For ore information, call 806-894-7842 ext 178 or 124 or e-mail Covid19@sprhs.org

• Scenic Mountain Medical Center Auxiliary is looking for new members. If you have a heart for serving people, have at least four hours a week to spare, SMMC Auxiliary might be the fit for you.

Duties include working in the gift shop, delivering newspapers to inpatients, hospitality services, popcorn and more. To find out more about opportunities available with the SMMC Auxiliary, contact Amy Miramontes at 268-4809 or April Arms at 268-4907.

• St. Vincent de Paul food distribution will take place the second Thursday of each month from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and other assistance will take place the third Thursday of each month from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. Both distributions will take place at 1009 Hearn at SVDP Building.

• Interim HealthCare is looking for volunteers. Those who would like to find out more about becoming a volunteer can call 432-263-5999.

• VFW Post 2013 meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. New members are being sought. The Post is located at 500 Driver Rd. Qualified veterans, those who have served in a foreign war, who are interested in joining the VFW are encouraged to attend a meeting to find out more information.

• DivorceCare is a biblical support group for those facing divorce or separation. Each DVD session features nationally respected experts, such as Christian Counselors and Pastors. Small group discussions and workbook exercises help participants apply the information to their own situations. We cover pertinent issues like: • Will I survive? • How to get out of debt. • How do you know when you are ready for a new relationship? • How to lessen the impact of divorce on your children. • Is reconciliation possible? There is no charge for attendance. 13-week seminars are held two times per year on Tuesday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Visit the DivorceCare Ministry of TBC Facebook page for information. You can also call Donna Burcham at 267-6344 for information on seminar dates and how you can register to attend.

• O'Neal-Kunkle, Chapter #47 of the Disabled American Vets (D.A.V.), meets the third Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at 2204 Runnels Street. For more information, please contact Mike Tarpley at 432-556-2227.

• Home Hospice is looking for volunteers (18+) and junior volunteers (9-16 years old). Applications can be picked up at the Home Hospice office, located at 111 E. Seventh Street, Suite A between 8 a.m and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Adult volunteers will need to complete a training and must be able to pass a background check. Volunteer duties will include home visits; junior volunteers will be helping with office work, community events and holiday activities. More information can be obtained by calling 264-7599 or 432-967-0901.

• Keep Big Spring Beautiful meets at noon the first Monday of every month at Howard College in the Cactus Room. Our vision is that every Big Spring citizen will take individual responsibility for making Big Spring the most beautiful city in Texas. Visitors are always welcome. For more information call Tammy at 432-935-0057.

Obituaries

Helen Martinez

Helen Martinez, 91, of Big Spring died Tuesday, December 28, 2021. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Jackie Ray Rinard

Jackie Ray Rinard, 87, of Big Spring, died Wednesday, December 29, 2021. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

•**MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1500 block of Avion St. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

•**MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1000 block of N Main St. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

•**MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2000 block of Rickabaugh. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

•**MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 3700 block of Wasson Rd. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

•**MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1800 block of N Hwy 87. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

•**MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1900 block of N Hwy 87. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

•**MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 700 block of W I-20. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

•**MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 200 block of Sandlin Rd. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

•**MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 200 block of Washington Blvd. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

•**MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1500 block of E Pacific Ave. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

•**DETRIA RAY-DON MCINTOSH**, 44, of 1905 Wasson Rd was arrested on a charge of credit card or debit card abuse.

•**STRATON MARCELL SMITH**, 33, of 302 S Willow, Mansfield Tx was arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid, fail to appear.

•**JOSEPH ANTHONY ACOSTA**, 28, of 401 Hillside Dr was arrested on a charge of warrant form another agency.

•**NATHAN BRENNEN CREWS**, 42, of 5100 N A St Midland, Tx was arrested on a charge of warrant from another agency.

•**CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 800 block of Edwards Blvd.

•**THEFT** was reported in the 2300 block of Wasson Rd.

•**ACCIDENT MINOR** was reported in the 4100 block of E FM 700.

•**BURGLARY OF HABITATION** was reported in the 7700 block of E Midway Rd.

•**CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 2100 block of Wasson Rd.

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Completion of Emergency Department Expansion/Renovation Phase I

Effective 12:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 28, 2021. Patients will now enter the Emergency Department at the back of Martin County Hospital, as was done prior to this construction project. The driveway is accessed via turning east off Beaugard. Parking is available immediately adjacent to the new area.

Signage will be placed to clearly guide the patient to the Emergency Department Entrance.

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A look at de Blasio's NYC mayoral tenure and what's next

By MICHELLE L. PRICE

Associated Press
NEW YORK — Bill de Blasio swept into the New York City mayor's office eight years ago promising a liberal remodeling of the nation's largest city that would level deep inequities and reform police practices.

He had some successes, delivering on a promise to offer universal pre-kindergarten and curbing the police stop-and-frisk tactic. But the legacy of de Blasio's two terms has also been shaped by strained relationships with both police and the police-reform activists who propelled him to office, public discord with the former governor and gaffes memorialized in skewering headlines.

As he closes out the final days of his term, de Blasio is contemplating a run for higher office, a bet that his early achievements and his steering the city of 8.8 million through the pandemic will stick with New Yorkers more than the flubs and conflicts, separating the substance from style.

"I want people to remember that we needed to fight inequality and we did. And it can be done," de Blasio said in an interview Tuesday with The Associated Press. "We were able to do that in very tangible, real ways. I think that opens the door for a lot more going forward, but it can be done."

The mayor also acknowledged he had a strained relationship with the media, and made errors along the way, something he said he's been reflecting on a lot lately as he wound down his time in the mayor's office.

"I think I could have communicated better. I think I could have understood better what the media needed to do to their jobs," de Blasio said. "I tried to make adjustments over time. And it's something I'm going to keep working on as a public service."

He officially turns over the reins to Mayor-elect Eric Adams, a Democrat and former police captain, on Jan. 1.

De Blasio's supporters and even some critics suggest his achievements will not be appreciated until he gives New Yorkers some space to miss him.

"I think he's done some things that will last for generations and are so important and won't be appreciated until he's out of the limelight, out of the office, for a few years," said Sid

Davidoff, a de Blasio supporter and advisor to several former mayors.

Even de Blasio himself thinks his legacy will take a while to solidify. "A lot of what we were doing was not just for today. It was for tomorrow," he said.

— WINS, REGRETS AND FAUX PAUS
After winning a landslide election in 2013, de Blasio became the first Democrat in two decades to serve as mayor of New York, a heavily Democratic metropolis that could serve as a laboratory for liberal policies, such as the \$15 an hour minimum wage that he pushed to achieve.

His arrival marked a departure from the years of Michael Bloomberg — the billionaire former mayor who started as a Republican and ended as an independent — who boasted of the city as a luxury product and defended stop-and-frisk.

De Blasio's progressive agenda and populist message were at times overshadowed by tabloid-delighting blunders, such as a culinary faux pas days into his first term, when he ate a slice of pizza with a knife and fork.

Other notable fumbles included showing up late to a memorial for plane crash victims and dropping a groundhog during a Groundhog Day celebration. The groundhog died a week later.

The mayor said he was not surprised New York City media was tough and that the tabloid headlines were "colorful," such as a recent New York Post cover in which he was photoshopped to appear as a Santa Claus wearing a Fidel Castro hat under the headline, "Santanista Claus."

"I was surprised at sort of the intense coverage around some things I thought were small in the scheme of things but took up a lot of time and energy," he said.

De Blasio notched a victory in his first year by expanding public pre-kindergarten to every 4-year-old in the city. He built on that, expanding the program to more 3-year-olds with a plan to make it universal by fall of 2023.

— TENSIONS WITH POLICE
He's had a difficult relationship with the city's police force. De Blasio started his mayoralty pledging to overhaul

the department's interactions with the public and curtailed the department's tactic of stopping, questioning and frisking mostly Black and Hispanic people on the street en masse.

His handling of the summer 2014 police killing of Eric Garner angered officers and many of the police reform advocates who worked to elect de Blasio.

He spoke critically of the officers but largely held off any department punishments until a lengthy federal civil rights investigation concluded. Later that year, when a disturbed gunman angry about police killings of unnamed Black men fatally shot two NYPD officers, the head of the city's largest police union said the mayor had "blood on his hands" and officers turned their backs on the mayor as he spoke at police funerals.

L. Joy Williams, a political strategist and president of the Brooklyn NAACP, said de Blasio seemed to approach the confrontation with the NYPD "as a political crisis, rather than as a humanity crisis."

Williams said that was disappointing and the coalition of groups pushing for police reform who helped elected de Blasio expected him to be tougher against the officers and the union.

"We expected that from him, because that's what he said he was going to do. And he didn't do it," she said.

De Blasio acknowledged the tension with some police union leaders and some police reform activists, saying he doesn't agree with all of them but thinks mainstream New Yorkers wanted something in the middle.

— WHAT'S NEXT (AND WHAT'S NOT)

It wasn't just those corners of the city that had their qualms with the mayor. Some New Yorkers questioned de Blasio's focus on the job when he launched a muddling bid for president in 2019. He told The AP that while the experience was "difficult" and "unlikely," it made him realize he needed to communicate with people better.

He said his presidential ambitions are in the past. "Not on my dance card," he quipped.

De Blasio admits he struggled to address intractable issues such as homelessness, which rose during his

two terms despite his administration meeting a goal of building or preserving 200,000 affordable housing units. His last year has been dogged with the slow closing the city's Rikers Island jail, which has been plagued by severe staffing shortages, prisoner deaths and violence amid the pandemic. There have been 16 deaths this year in the city's jail system, the most since 2013.

When New York City became the epicenter of the pandemic, de Blasio's attempts to manage the response were frequently defined by the ongoing public feuding with then Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who fueled their long-simmering tense relationship by swatting down de Blasio's plans for a shelter-in-place order and school closures.

When Cuomo resigned in August amid allegations he sexually harassed at least 11 women, de Blasio had wider latitude in his city's response. He rolled out a series of aggressive mandates, requiring every public employee to get vaccinated. The orders largely survived legal challenges and drove up vaccination rates of reluctant police officers, firefighters and other city workers, prompting de Blasio to extend the mandates to private-sector workers, the most sweeping vaccine mandate of any state or big city in the U.S.

Like Cuomo, de Blasio had his own near-daily televised briefings during the pandemic, but they took a variety-show flavor in recent months, with de Blasio decrying pineapple toppings on pizza as he explained ranked-choice voting and singing with funk music legend George Clinton.

So far, de Blasio has remained coy on his future plans when asked if he's going to run for governor. Equally vague is the Democrat's path to the governor's mansion. Gov. Kathy Hochul has been amassing campaign funds and Democratic endorsements, from upstate officials to leaders in the heart of de Blasio's Brooklyn, leaving him to stitch together an unclear constituency.

"I think I've put plenty of breadcrumbs out there on the trail," he said. "I'm going to stay in public service. As to electoral politics, I'll give an update very, very soon."

FRIENDLY

Continued from page 1

Cleveland. Everyone else was focused on Apollo 11's historic flight to the moon.

But for John Elliott, a deputy U.S. marshal, it was personal because he and Conrad came from the same side of town.

The problem was Conrad had a head start and was disciplined enough not to make missteps.

Elliott traveled across the U.S. looking for Conrad and even after retiring would check on the case, said his son, Pete Elliott, now the top U.S. marshal in Cleveland, who inherited the hunt for Conrad nearly 20 years ago.

His father died in March 2020 before investigators pieced together details from Randeale's obituary and signatures from his past. Then in November, Randeale's family confirmed that just before he died, he told them what he had done, Elliott said.

Why Conrad committed the robbery has been analyzed endlessly.

"It wasn't about the money. He always wanted to impress people," said Metcalf, his high school pal.

Investigators believe he was inspired by the 1968 movie "The Thomas Crown Affair," about a bank executive who got away with \$2.6 million and turned the heist into a game.

After the real-life robbery in Cleveland, Conrad wound up in the Boston area, where much of the movie was filmed.

Thomas Randeale came into existence in January 1970 when Conrad applied for a Social Security number in Boston, Elliott said.

During the 1970s, Randeale worked at a

country club outside Boston and became its manager. He also met his future wife not long after arriving in Boston. They were married in 1982.

Around then, he began working in the car business, selling Land Rovers and Volvos until he retired after nearly 40 years.

What's not clear yet is what happened to the money. The Marshals Service is looking into whether he lost it early through bad investments.

While Randeale and his wife, Kathy, lived most of their years in a pleasant Boston suburb, they filed for bankruptcy protection in 2014. She told Cleveland.com in November that her husband was a great man. She has declined interview requests.

No one would have guessed that Randeale, who was 71 when he died, was someone trying to hide from authorities.

Among the many people he became friends with over the years was an FBI agent in Boston, Elliott said.

"He was just a gentle soul, you know, very polite, very well spoken," said Jerry Healy, who first met Randeale at a Woburn, Massachusetts, dealership where they talked daily for years.

Matt Kaplan, who managed two dealerships where Randeale worked and golfed with him for many years, called him a gentleman.

"The only way it makes sense is that at that age he was just a kid, and it was a challenge kind of thing," Kaplan said.

"If he would have told us way back when, I don't think we would

have believed him because he wasn't that kind of guy," he said. "The man was different than the kid."

In the early days after Randeale's identity was revealed, his friends couldn't believe it. But now looking back, some things make sense. How he always had a beard. His reluctance to talk about where he grew up or his extended family.

"You know all the years I knew Tommy, I never heard him mention a sister or a mother or a brother or a father," Healy said.

"You could never pry anything from him," said Brad Anthony, another close friend.

Still, he said it's almost impossible to believe. "It just seems so out of character for the Tom I knew," he said.

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CINCH JEANS & SHIRTS

John Madden, Hall of Fame coach and broadcaster, dies at 85

By JOSH DUBOW

AP Pro Football Writer

John Madden, the Hall of Fame coach turned broadcaster whose exuberant calls combined with simple explanations provided a weekly soundtrack to NFL games for three decades, died Tuesday morning, the league said. He was 85.

The NFL said he died unexpectedly and did not detail a cause.

Madden gained fame in a decade-long stint as the coach of the renegade Oakland Raiders, making it to seven AFC title games and winning the Super Bowl following the 1976 season. He compiled a 103-32-7 regular-season record, and his .759 winning percentage is the best among NFL coaches with more than 100 games.

But it was his work after prematurely retiring as coach at age 42 that made Madden truly a household name. The educator on footballs with his use of the telestrator on broadcasts; entertained millions with his interjections of "Boom!" and "Doink!" throughout games; was an omnipresent pitchman selling restaurants, hardware stores and beer; became the face of "Madden NFL Football," one of the most successful sports video games of all-time; and was a best-selling author.

Most of all, he was the preeminent television sports analyst for most of his three decades calling games, winning an unprecedented 16 Emmy Awards for outstanding sports analyst/personality, and covering 11 Super Bowls for four networks from 1979-2009.

"People always ask, are you a coach or a broadcaster or a video game guy?" he said when was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame. "I'm a coach, always been a coach."

He started his broadcasting career at CBS after leaving coaching in great part because of his fear of flying. He and Pat Summerall became the network's top announcing duo. Madden then helped give Fox credibility as a major network when he moved there in 1994, and went on to call prime-time games at ABC and NBC before retiring following Pittsburgh's thrilling 27-23 win over Arizona in the 2009 Super Bowl.

"I am not aware of anyone who has made a more meaningful impact on the National Football League than John Madden, and I know of no one who loved the game more," Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said in a statement.

Burly and a little unkempt, Madden earned a place in America's heart with a likable, unpretentious style that was refreshing in a sports world of spiraling salaries and prima donna stars. He rode from game to game in his own bus because he suffered from claustrophobia and had stopped flying. For a time, Madden gave out a "turducken" — a chicken stuffed inside a duck stuffed inside a turkey — to the outstanding player in the Thanksgiving game that he called.

"Nobody loved football more than Coach. He was

football," NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said in a statement. "He was an incredible sounding board to me and so many others. There will never be another John Madden, and we will forever be indebted to him for all he did to make football and the NFL what it is today."

When he finally retired from the broadcast booth, leaving NBC's "Sunday Night Football," colleagues universally praised Madden's passion for the sport, his preparation, and his ability to explain an often-complicated game in down-to-earth terms.

Al Michaels, Madden's broadcast partner for seven years on ABC and NBC, said working with him "was like hitting the lottery."

"He was so much more than just football — a keen observer of everything around him and a man who could carry on a smart conversation about hundreds and hundreds of topics. The term 'Renaissance Man' is tossed around a little too loosely these days, but John was as close as you can come," Michaels said.

For anyone who heard Madden exclaim "Boom!" while breaking down a play, his love of the game was obvious.

"For me, TV is really an extension of coaching," Madden wrote in "Hey, Wait a Minute! (I Wrote a Book!)"

"My knowledge of football has come from coaching. And on TV, all I'm trying to do is pass on some of that knowledge to viewers."

Madden was raised in Daly City, California. He played on both the offensive and defensive lines for Cal Poly in 1957-58 and earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from the school.

Madden was chosen to the all-conference team and was drafted by the Philadelphia Eagles, but a knee injury ended his hopes of a pro playing career. Instead, Madden got into coaching, first at Hancock Junior College and then as defensive coordinator at San Diego State.

Al Davis brought him to the Raiders as a linebackers coach in 1967, and Oakland went to the Super Bowl in his first year in the pros. He replaced John Rauch as head coach after the 1968 season at age 32, beginning a remarkable 10-year run.

With his demonstrative demeanor on the sideline and disheveled look, Madden was the ideal coach for the collection of castoffs and misfits that made up those Raiders teams.

"Sometimes guys were disciplinarians in things that didn't make any difference. I was a disciplinarian in jumping offsides; I hated that," Madden once said. "Being in bad position and missing tackles, those things. I wasn't, 'Your hair has to be combed.'" The Raiders responded.

"I always thought his strong suit was his style of coaching," quarterback Ken Stabler once said. "John just had a great knack for letting us be what we wanted to be, on the field and off the field. ... How do you repay him for being that way? You win for him."

And boy, did they ever. Many years, the only problem was the playoffs.

Madden went 12-1-1 in his first season, losing the AFL title game 17-7 to Kansas City. That pattern repeated itself during his tenure; the Raiders won the division title in seven of his first eight seasons, but went 1-6 in conference title games during that span.

Still, Madden's Raiders games of the 1970s, games that helped change rules in the NFL. There was the "Holy Roller" in 1978, when Stabler purposely fumbled forward before being sacked on the final play. The ball rolled and was batted to the end zone before Dave Casper recovered it for the winning touchdown against San Diego.

The most famous of those games went against the Raiders in the 1972 playoffs at Pittsburgh. With the Raiders leading 7-6 and 22 seconds left, the Steelers had a fourth-and-10 from their 40. Terry Bradshaw's desperation pass deflected off either Oakland's Jack Tatum or Pittsburgh's Frenchy Fuqua to Franco Harris, who caught it at his shoe tops and ran in for a TD.

In those days, a pass that bounced off an offensive player directly to a teammate was illegal, and the debate continues to this day over which player it hit. The catch, of course, was dubbed the "Immaculate Reception."

Oakland finally broke through with a loaded team in 1976 that had Stabler at quarterback; Fred Biletnikoff and Cliff Branch at receiver; tight end Dave Casper; Hall of Fame offensive linemen Gene Upshaw and Art Shell; and a defense that included Willie Brown, Ted Hendricks, Tatum, John Matuzak, Otis Sistrunk and George Atkinson.

The Raiders went 13-1, losing only a blowout at New England in Week 4. They paid the Patriots back with a 24-21 win in their first playoff game and got over the AFC title game hump with a 24-7 win over the hated Steelers, who were crippled by injuries.

Oakland won it all with a 32-14 Super Bowl romp against Minnesota.

"Players loved playing for him," Shell said. "He made it fun for us in camp and fun for us in the regular season. All he asked is that we be on time and play like hell when it was time to play."

Madden battled an ulcer the following season, when the Raiders once again lost in the AFC title game. He retired from coaching at age 42 after a 9-7 season in 1978.

Madden was a longtime resident of Pleasanton, California, a Bay Area suburb. A 90-minute documentary on his coaching and broadcasting career, "All Madden," debuted on Fox on Christmas Day. The film featured extensive interviews that Madden sat for this year. His wife, Virginia, and sons Joseph and Michael were also interviewed for the documentary.

John and Virginia Madden's 62nd wedding anniversary was two days before his death.

Curry makes 3,000th 3-pointer, Nuggets edge Warriors 89-86

By BEN ROSS

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Stephen Curry became the first player in NBA history to make 3,000 career 3-pointers on Tuesday night in a game where the Denver Nuggets barely held off the NBA-leading Golden State Warriors 89-86.

Denver's Nikola Jokic blocked a potential game-tying shot by Jonathan Kuminga in the final seconds to preserve the win after his team nearly blew a 24-point halftime lead. The Warriors got one more chance to tie the game, but Andre Iguodala missed a 3-pointer at the buzzer.

"I couldn't be more proud of our guys," Nuggets coach Michael Malone said. "I thought Will Barton, down the stretch, made a couple of big, big plays."

Barton had 21 points, while Jokic led Denver with 22 points, 18 rebounds, five assists and four steals.

"Nikola having 18 rebounds, 22 points and making a key, key play down the stretch is why he's a great player," Malone said. "You need those types of plays to pull out wins like this."

Andrew Wiggins had 21 points and eight rebounds for Golden State in his first game back from the league's COVID-19 health and safety protocols. Curry, who scored 21 of his 23 points in the second half, made a corner 3-pointer late in the third quarter to give him 157 consecutive games with a 3-point field goal. It ties his own NBA record, which he set from 2014-16.

The Warriors trailed 60-36 at the half, but kept Denver down offensively while opening the third quarter on a 17-5 run to cut Denver's lead to 65-53. They pulled within five on a Curry step-back 3-pointer with 7:20 remaining in the fourth quarter before he made back-to-back 3-pointers to cut the Nuggets' lead to 84-82 with 2:08 left.

Golden State tied the game at 84 on a dunk by Gary Payton II with 1:04 re-

maining. Barton put the Nuggets back in front 86-84 with a tip-in on the ensuing possession and Denver held on to win despite scoring just 29 points in the second half.

"They were the aggressor from the start," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said. "I loved the way we fought back in the second half and gave ourselves a chance. ... Really proud of the guys for the effort, but obviously we've got to play better."



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experience impairment. Drivers with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 are considered to be legally impaired.

But the NHTSA reports that a BAC of .05 can reduce coordination, lead to a reduced ability to track moving objects, make it difficult to steer, and produce a slower-than-normal response to emergency driving situations.

• Go out for dinner first. Experts at the University of Notre Dame's McDonald Center for Student Well-Being note that having food, especially foods that are high in protein, in your stomach prior to consuming alcohol will help slow the processing of that alcohol.

Someone who has not eaten will typically hit a peak BAC between 30 minutes and two hours of drinking.

But someone who has eaten will typically peak between one and six hours of drinking depending on the quantity of alcohol consumed.

• Make a plan. Over-consumption of alcohol is not the only potential danger lurking on New Year's Eve.

Large crowds can make it easier for friends to become separated, especially if they plan to visit more than one establishment before or after the clock strikes 12. When going out with a group on

New Year's Eve, create an itinerary, complete with meet-up spots, for the entire night.

This ensures anyone who gets lost can easily find his or her way back to the group. Individuals who are wandering alone on New Year's Eve may be vulnerable to criminals who are looking to prey on people whose

inhibitions have been lowered by alcohol and or the festive atmosphere of the night.

A rowdy New Year's Eve may be on tap as the world ushers in 2022. That likelihood only underscores the importance of emphasizing safety when going out this December 31.

How to plan a safe New Year's Eve night out

New Year's Eve is a popular night to paint the town red. That popularity could skyrocket even further as the world says goodbye to 2021 and ushers in 2022.

Many cities and millions of individuals toned down their New Year's Eve shenanigans a year ago, as the COVID-19 pandemic made it hard to celebrate safely. But the rollout of three effective vaccines has beckoned revelers out of their homes, and that could make for an especially rowdy New Year's Eve.

Fun might be the top priority on New Year's Eve, but safety must be in the mix as well. As individuals make plans for a night out this New Year's Eve, it can help to keep these safety tips in mind.

• Utilize a car service. Whether it's a ridesharing service like Uber, a taxi cab or even a private limousine for large parties, leave the New Year's Eve driving to the professionals.

This ensures that no one will drive after having too much to drink. Even revelers who can control their alcohol consumption should avoid driving if they plan to drink. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, a person need not be legally impaired to

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