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Courtesy of Robinson Theatre

Ryan Honey (right) performed in various University productions as a student, including 'Servant of Two Masters' in 1996. Recently, he's taken on a few acting projects, including some low-budget independent films and the upcoming Hollywood film 'Men of Honor.'

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UO grad makes the big screen

■ A 1998 University graduate tastes sweet success in an upcoming Hollywood film

By Mason West
 Oregon Daily Emerald

Students of theater all hope to go out into the world and make names for themselves. Ryan Honey, a 1998 University graduate, is in the process of doing just that.

Honey plays Yarmouth, a character in the upcoming film "Men of Honor," starring Robert De Niro and Cuba Gooding Jr. The film is an adaptation of the life of Carl Brashear, the first African-American Navy diver. Honey's character is one of four men who finish the naval training along with Gooding.

This is Honey's first role in a major motion picture, but his face has already been seen on the silver screen. He was in an independent film called "Jacks" written and di-

rected by friend and fellow student Jesse Lawler. The digital feature, which played briefly last spring at the Bijou Art Cinema, has already won two "Best Feature" titles at the American Digital Arts Festival and the Arpa Foundation for Film, Music and Art Film Festival. Aside from starring in "Jacks," Honey was the co-producer and helped see the movie through from start to finish.

"The dream used to be: I want to be a big movie star. But it's more amazing to give birth to an idea and see it through to the end," Honey said.

This overall perspective is something that Ryan has always had, his ex-professor and friend Jack Watson said. "Ryan was always wanting to make things happen for himself," Watson said.

Honey attributes much of his success to the experience he gained through the University's Pocket Playhouse.

"I can't say enough good things

about the Pocket," Honey said. "It's where I trained, where I learned the skills that have helped me."

Watson knows how important the Pocket Playhouse is and is proud to have it as an option for students of the University.

"In any artform, a student has to have a space to try stuff without trying to please anybody," Watson said. "That is what the Pocket does."

Honey has had limited time to reflect on his shifting experiences from the University to independent film and into the world of Hollywood. He has kept himself very busy all throughout his career. In college, he was one of the founding members of Absolute Improv, a group that continues to perform on and around campus under new leadership. He has also done modeling, commercials for television and the Internet and stage acting. Currently, he is working on another in-

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For our first foray into finding good yet inexpensive wine, we will journey just outside of Eugene to Veneta, where, if you aren't driving too fast and can spot the sign obscured by the brush, you will find Secret House Vineyard.

Before walking into the tasting room, let's go over a few terms and etiquette that will be useful to you when trying and selecting your wine.

Varietal: This term indicates that the wine was made with one type of grape. For example, Chardonnay is made with Chardonnay grapes. Pinot Noir is made with Pinot grapes.

Sometimes it is hard to tell what is a blend or a varietal. Blends are wines made of two or more different types of grape. Wines like Bordeaux or Chianti tend to be blends. However, these last two wines also refer to regions where they were originally made, in parts of Europe, so it can often be confusing as to what a wine is, what it was made from or where it comes from. Therefore, don't be



Travis Geny for the Emerald

The featured wine varieties from Secret House Vineyard in nearby Veneta have received many awards both nationally and regionally.

afraid to ask questions.

Next, find out what vintage a wine is or when it was made. This can often be very important information. White wines, such as Pinot

Gris or Chardonnay, are often drunk young, or very soon after being made, probably two years or so. This is because white wines don't

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