

Wine

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often age well and need to be drunk fairly soon. Reds, such as Zinfandel or Cabernet Sauvignon, will keep for many years. However, there are exceptions, so, again, don't be afraid to ask.

Finally, the tasting itself: There are many different ways to taste and enjoy wine. When tasting wine, you will be given a small amount to try, starting with light whites and moving down to complex reds. Although some people choose to spit out the wine, it is perfectly acceptable to swallow it. Also you don't need to rinse out your glass after every sample. Finally, savor the flavor; swish the wine in your mouth; smell it; notice its texture; be sure you really

like what you may buy.

I found the wine at Secret House Vineyard of exceptional quality and very accessible and easy to drink. The whites are of good value and quality and are all well within or below the \$10 range. They offer excellent value. The reds, on the other hand, while also quite good, were on the more expensive side. If you don't mind dropping \$20 for a bottle, then you will find the available selections quite right for your budget.

However, there is a more modestly priced bottle of Pinot Noir made from Umpqua Valley grapes that is priced between the whites and superior reds. While this Noir doesn't have the full body or richness of the estate Noir that is available, it gives beginning wine drinkers easy access into Pinot Noir, the jewel of Oregon wines.

Also, for those just entering the

wine market, I would suggest the white Pinot Noir. This is actually a blush wine that is made from Pinot grapes but was aged without the peels, which give the red pigment.

The Pinot Gris is also very good and gives a sweeter complexity than the white Noir is missing. There was also a 1996 Chardonnay on hand that was very good. Unlike the other whites, it has been oak-barrel aged and gives more complex flavors that would match up well with a seafood dish.

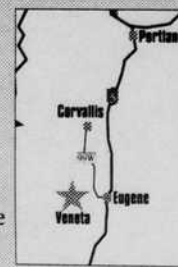
Finally, while I am not a fan of sweet or sparkling wines, those of you who enjoy champagne will certainly find the selection of sparkling wines a delight, full of flavor and modestly priced.

If you want to get a real taste of Secret House, you might opt for the estate Pinot Noir, giving you a look into what Secret House winemaker

Secret House Vineyard

To get to the Veneta vineyard, just head out 11th Avenue to Highway 126 West as if you were going to the beach. After about eight miles on the highway, you will see a large sign hidden among the trees, signaling the vineyard's presence. Immediately following is an unmarked gravel road; turn right here. Be careful, as the road is rough and uneven. Just follow this

short jaunt around the bend, and you will see grape vines followed by the Secret House barrel room/tasting room. For more information, visit www.secret-house-winery.com.



Mark Dortch calls "micro climates" that "are all unique in their own production," giving each vineyard in Oregon a taste all its own.

If you can make it to Secret House in the very near future, the workers will be harvesting and crushing fruit in preparation for the production of another vintage. And you are invited to experience this process. However,

this will be finished soon, so hurry if you want to experience some of the mystique of vinting.

Look for this column again in two weeks, and remember to drink responsibly and always have a designated driver.

Travis Geny is a senior pre-journalism major. He advocates safe, responsible drinking.

Ryan Honey

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dependent project called "The West Ender." In this feature, Honey is working again with some of his fellow actors from "Jacks."

"It's a real treat to work with people you've worked with before," Honey said. "You know how to get things done."

Honey has gained a more mature perspective from his work on "Men of Honor." The only difference between a good independent movie

and a big Hollywood movie, he said, is the huge budget.

"If you've got \$1,500, the computer and the camera, you can make a movie," Honey said.

Sandy Bonds, a theater costume designer at the University and another of Honey's ex-professors, be-

lieves that ambition like that is exactly what teachers are trying to instill in students.

"I think it's terrific when students go outside the program," Bonds said. "That is what we're training them for."

Honey knows, though, that

much of the training an actor needs comes purely from experience.

"One of my faults used to be my unabashed enthusiasm," Honey said. "It's a great thing to have, but you have to try and pick the projects that you put it to."

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