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Burrell School Winery 2003 Estate Cabernet Franc Wins Best of State In 2006 California State Fair Wine Competition

Santa Cruz Mountains Estate wine wins "Best of State" for the first time

Los Gatos, CA, July 31, 2006 – Burrell School Vineyards and Winery, 24060 Summit Road, Los Gatos, is pleased to announce its 2003 Estate Cabernet Franc from the Pichon Vineyard above the Lexington Reservoir, won a Gold Medal and took Best of State at the prestigious California State Fair Wine Competition earlier this month. This is the first time in a decade that a Santa Cruz Mountains winery has taken Best of State at the California State Fair for an estate grown and produced wine. The 2006 Fair drew 2900 entries from 650 California wineries. Sixteen panels of four judges awarded 1,402 medals this year, including 41 Double Gold, 223 Gold, 745 Silver and 393 Bronze awards.

The 11-acre Pichon Vineyard is a joint venture with Burrell School Vineyards owners Anne and Dave Moulton, and their partner, John McGinnis. Planting began in the late 1990s. They named the vineyard for previous owners of that parcel who planted it to vineyards in the 1880s with cuttings brought from France. The vineyard presently grows Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah, and Merlot, in addition to Cabernet Franc.

“This is the very first 100%-estate Cabernet Franc we’ve produced,” said winemaker Dave Moulton. “We’ve always been known for our Cab Franc, but frankly, this is the best one we’ve ever made. We couldn’t be more pleased with this result. We have to thank our tireless vineyard crew and vineyard manager, Mark Siefert, for their tireless efforts in maintaining the Pichon vines that give us such excellent fruit.”

The Burrell School 2004 “Spring Break” Estate Pichon Syrah captured Gold at the San Francisco Chronicle Competition earlier this year.

Two other Santa Cruz Mountains wineries took high honors at the State Fair this year and were tied for Best of Greater Bay Area Red: Storrs Winery for their 2003 Santa Cruz Mountains Bordeaux Blend, and Kathryn Kennedy Winery, Saratoga, for their 2002 Santa Cruz Mountains Syrah Reserve.

This is the second year in a row that a Santa Cruz Mountain Winery took Best of State at the Fair. Last year, Hunter Hill of Soquel took Best of State for their 2002 Syrah Arroyo Seco Mesa Del Sol Vineyard Syrah.

The 2003 Burrell School Cabernet Franc is extremely limited in production with only 375 cases made. The retail price is \$40. Limit two bottles per purchase, with priority going to Sippers wine club members.

About Burrell School Vineyards & Winery

Burrell School Vineyards and Winery produces “Wines at the Head of Their Class,” each of which exhibits distinctive Santa Cruz Mountains character. The winery and barrel room are located beneath the tasting room, home of the historic teacher’s carriage house. The one-room

school was active from 1890 until 1954. The current owners, Anne and Dave Moulton, purchased the property in 1973 and restored the schoolhouse structure as their residence. They began planting grapes on the 9-acre estate parcel in 1991, and became a bonded winery in 1994. The winery produces about 6k cases annually of premium estate wines, specializing in estate Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Cabernet Franc, Syrah, Merlot and Bordeaux blends. The winery, located at 24060 Summit Road in Los Gatos, has ample seating in the garden gazebo and its expansive decks for tour group picnics, family celebrations, luncheons, and offsite meetings. The tasting room is open Thursday through Sunday from 11am 'til 6pm, or by appointment, and can be reached by phone at 408-353-6290, or on the web at www.burrellschool.com

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