

Crush is a  
fun time to visit  
the winery...we  
welcome you to  
stop by.

—MARTY CLIBB

*Marty*



Look inside for our  
special features “From  
the Winemaker” and  
“On the Chalkboard”...

... See what people have  
been saying about our  
wines in “Awards and  
Reviews”...



... and here is your  
chance to order our  
NEW Wine Releases –  
out this September.

# SEPTEMBER 2001

## New Wine Releases

This September we are releasing four new wines, including the **2000 Columbia Valley Semillon**, **2000 Seven Hills Vineyard Estate Semillon**, **2000 Columbia Valley Chardonnay** and **1999 Walla Walla Valley Merlot**. Descriptions of these wines are profiled below. Seeing that "2000" vintage on the wine bottle seems odd, yet here they are, time keeps moving on.

### **2000 Columbia Valley "Barrel Fermented" Semillon - \$14**

This wine is a blend of 85% Semillon and 15% Sauvignon Blanc, and includes such great vineyards as Klipsun, Yakima Bend Ranch, and Charbonneau. Bright and crisp, this toasty floral wine shows nutty fig flavors with a honey lemon zest. Our cool nights during final fruit maturity provides a backbone of crisp natural acidity to this wine.

### **2000 Seven Hills Vineyard Estate Semillon - \$21**

This 100% Estate Semillon is the only Bordeaux white wine varietal planted at our Seven Hills vineyard. Rich and robust, this Semillon shows ripe peach, melon and mango fruit, with a viscous vanilla custard, crème brulee and spicy nutmeg finish.

### **2000 Columbia Valley Chardonnay - \$19**

The principal vineyard in this vintage is from Fair Acre, providing delicate sweet tropical fruit aromas, with subtle mineral, dried mango and dates. Very Burgundian in style, its spicy sweet ginger and candy apple flavors balance well with the crisp natural acidity.

### **1999 Walla Walla Valley Merlot - \$35**

95% Merlot and 5% Cabernet Franc, this wine is a blend of three distinguished vineyards, Seven Hills, Pepper Bridge, and Forgotten Hills, all in the Walla Walla Valley. Big dark and chewy, this Merlot shows black cherry, spicy plum and cassis, with flavors of toffee and chocolate on the long finish.

# From the Winemaker

**The Harvest** The 2001 harvest is looking promising. In early August, we started veraison in most vineyards; this is the time when the grape clusters begin to soften and develop red color in the skins. We are slightly ahead of 1997 in terms of heat units, but it has not been as warm as 1994 or 1998. We have been aggressive in terms of crop thinning, dropping our total yields below 4 tons per acre. We shoot thinned in May in order to open the canopy, create better cluster spacing, and broaden sun exposure. In most sites, we did a second pass of "green" thinning, to remove late coloring or poorly set clusters. My best guess is that we will begin harvest at Klipsun and maybe Seven Hills early in September.

**Valley News** Last May, the wineries and vineyards in Walla Walla banded together to form the Walla Walla Valley Wine Alliance. There are now about 40 wineries in the valley, and at least that many vineyards, with over 1,200 acres planted. The goal of the Alliance is to promote quality, excellence, and awareness for the Walla Walla Valley wine region. This group will provide organized and unified marketing that will develop programs and activities to further enhance the Walla Walla Valley's reputation. I am currently on the Board of Directors, along with seven other industry members, and am honored to serve as the Wine Alliance's first President.

**School News** After two and a half great years as part of our winemaking team, Tom Glase is leaving L'Ecole to start a new winery in downtown Walla Walla. We have enjoyed Tom's tenure here and wish him the best of luck in his new venture. While I may set the direction in our winemaking practices and vineyard relationships, Mike Sharon oversees day to day winemaking operations. Mike has been part of the team since 1996 and stepped into the role of production winemaker in 1998. Joining our winemaking team on a full-time basis is Matt Ellis, a hard working, energetic person who we would like to clone. We also are pleased to have the full-time support of Margie Corn to our tasting room and office staff.



L'Ecole No 41 is a proud member of  
the Washington Wine Quality Alliance



## Charitable Wine Auctions

In August, we were pleased to support the **Auction of Washington Wines**. This auction principally benefits Children's Hospital in Seattle, but also raises some early funding for the Enology and Viticulture education programs developing at Washington State University and at several community colleges, including Walla Walla Community College. In July, we participated in the **20th Annual Sun Valley Center for the Arts Wine Auction in Sun Valley, Idaho**. L'Ecole No 41 had the honor of featuring a Dale Chihuly painting, "Grape Drawing" which was etched and hand-painted onto a Salomanazar of 1998 Pepper Bridge Apogee.

# Awards and Reviews

We have received numerous awards and glowing reviews during the past six months from several wine publications, such as Wine Enthusiast Magazine and Wine Spectator, and from several major competitions. A few of these awards are summarized below. We are especially proud of our 1999 Seven Hills Estate Semillon, which scored 93 points in Wine Enthusiast and picked up Gold medals at both the Northwest Wine Summit and the Northwest Enological Society. All eight of the wines we entered at this year's Northwest Wine Summit at Timberline Lodge, received Gold or Silver medals. At the Central Washington State Fair Wine Competition, we won Best of Class and Double Gold for our 1999 Seven Hills Vineyard Merlot, and Best of Class and Gold for our 1999 Columbia Valley Semillon.

## WINE SPECTATOR – August 2001

93 points – 1999 Seven Hills Vineyard Estate Syrah  
(Web Site)

92 points – 1998 Pepper Bridge Vineyard Apogee

91 points – 1998 Columbia Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

## WINE ENTHUSIAST MAGAZINE – June 2001

93 points – 1999 Seven Hills Vineyard Semillon

92 points – 1999 Fries Vineyard Semillon

90 points – 1998 Pepper Bridge Vineyard Apogee

90 points – 1998 Columbia Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

89 points – 1998 Walla Walla Valley Merlot

88 points – 1999 Columbia Valley Chardonnay

89 points – 1999 Columbia Valley "Barrel Fermented" Semillon

## NORTHWEST ENOLOGICAL SOCIETY WINE COMPETITION – July 2001

Gold – 1999 Seven Hills Vineyard Merlot

Gold – 1999 Seven Hills Vineyard Estate Semillon

Silver – 1998 Walla Walla Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

## CENTRAL WASHINGTON STATE FAIR WINE COMPETITION – August 2001

Best of Class and Double Gold – 1999 Seven Hills Vineyard Merlot

Best of Class and Gold Medal – 1999 Columbia Valley "Barrel Fermented" Semillon

Gold Medal – 1998 Columbia Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

Gold Medal – 1999 Columbia Valley Merlot

## DECANTER & decanter.com – Fall 2001

★★★★ – 1998 Columbia Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

★★★★ – 1998 Columbia Valley Merlot

★★★★ – 1999 Columbia Valley "Barrel Fermented" Semillon

★★★★ – 1998 Pepper Bridge Vineyard Apogee

★★★★ – 1999 Seven Hills Vineyard Estate Semillon

★★★★ – 1998 Walla Walla Valley Merlot

## NORTHWEST WINE SUMMIT – May 2001

Gold Medal – 1999 Seven Hills Vineyard Estate Semillon

Silver Medal – 1998 Columbia Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

Silver Medal – 1998 Walla Walla Cabernet Sauvignon

Silver Medal – 1999 Walla Walla Valley Merlot

Silver Medal – 1999 Seven Hills Vineyard Merlot

Silver Medal – 1999 Seven Hills Estate Syrah

Silver Medal – 1998 Pepper Bridge Vineyard Apogee

Silver Medal – 1999 Columbia Valley "Barrel Fermented" Semillon

## On the Chalkboard

On **September 10th**, L'Ecole N° 41 will host a **WineMaker Dinner** at **Tulio Ristorante** in downtown Seattle. This had been one of my favorite Seattle restaurants for years and Chef Walter Pisano deserves the accolades he has won. For reservations, please call Gillian Baumann at 206-623-1066.

On Friday, **October 12th**, L'Ecole N° 41 will feature Chef Cristiana Fagioli at our annual **"Crush" dinner** at the winery. Reservations may be made beginning September 1st by calling the winery at 509-525-0940.

L'Ecole N° 41 will host Holiday Wine Dinners – **November 30th & December 1st**. We will begin taking reservations for these dinners September 1st. Join L'Ecole N° 41 and other Walla Walla wineries **December 1st & 2nd** for the **5th Annual Holiday Barrel Tasting and Open House**.

# Wine Order Form

We are pleased to offer the following wine selections. Your order may be placed via phone at 509-525-0940; mailed to P.O. Box 111, Lowden WA 99360 or faxed to 509-525-2775. We invite you to place your order through our website at [www.lccole.com](http://www.lccole.com).

	UNIT PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
2000 Barrel Fermented Semillon	<b>\$14.00</b>		
1999 Fries Vineyard Semillon	<b>\$21.00</b>		
2000 Seven Hills Vineyard Estate Semillon	<b>\$21.00</b>		
2000 Columbia Valley Chardonnay	<b>\$19.00</b>		
2000 "Walla Voila" Chenin Blanc	<b>\$10.00</b>		
2000 Schoolhouse Red	<b>\$15.00</b>		
1999 Columbia Valley Merlot	<b>\$29.00</b>		
1998 Columbia Valley Cabernet Sauvignon	<b>\$29.00</b>		
<del>1999 Seven Hills Vineyard Estate Syrah</del>	<del><b>\$34.00</b></del>	(SORRY SOLD OUT)	
1999 Walla Walla Valley Merlot	<b>\$35.00</b>		
1998 Walla Walla Valley Cabernet Sauvignon	<b>\$35.00</b>		
1999 Seven Hills Vineyard Merlot	<b>\$39.00</b>		
1998 Pepper Bridge Vineyard Apogee	<b>\$41.00</b>		
10% Discount for any 12-bottle case, mixed cases O.K.			

**WINE SHIPPING**

WASHINGTON STATE: \$2.00 PER BOTTLE WITH A \$10.00 MINIMUM PER BOXED ORDER

OUT OF STATE: \$3.00 PER BOTTLE WITH A \$15.00 MINIMUM PER BOXED ORDER. OR CALL FOR DIRECT QUOTE TO YOUR ZIP CODE

Wine Shipping Charge

**WINE SUB TOTAL**

**ORDERED BY:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Payment:  Check  Visa  MasterCard  American Express

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE SHIP TO:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

If this is a gift, what would you like the greeting to say? \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT**

Please provide a daytime phone #: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

If we have questions about your order, we must be able to reach you. Please make checks payable to:

**L'Ecole NO 41 • P.O. Box 111 • Lowden WA 99360**

Please cut along this line