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## Wine list: What looks good this week



By PEG MELNIK  
THE PRESS DEMOCRAT

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Press Democrat wine writer Peg Melnik scopes out restaurant wine lists around the North Bay, looking for good value and the occasional splurge. This week's picks (prices are retail; restaurant markup varies):

JCB Jean Charles Boisset, #69 Rosé Burgundy Brut, 12 percent alcohol, \$20. A crisp, spirited brut with notes of currant, raspberry and mineral. Manages to have rich fruit but yet it's still light on its feet. A smart pick.

Talbott, 2009 Kali Hart, Monterey Pinot Noir, 14.8 percent, \$18. A bright pinot with layered flavors. Notes of cherry, plum and toasty oak. Rich, yet balanced. Tasty.

Franciscan Estate 2007 Napa Valley Merlot, 13.5 percent, \$21. A tasty merlot with a seamless structure. Aromas and flavors of black cherry, plum, tobacco and toasty oak. Nice length.

Enkidu, 2009 Tin Cross Alexander Valley Chardonnay, 14.3 percent, \$30. A complex chardonnay with tropical fruit flavors, nice minerality, and a hint of oak. Layered.

Alder Springs Vineyard, 2009 Mendocino Chardonnay, 13.2 percent \$39. A Burgundian-styled chardonnay with great structure. Aromas

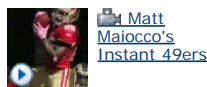
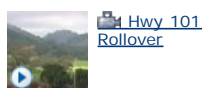
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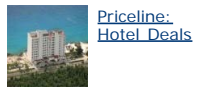
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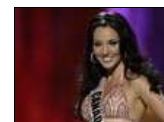
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and flavors of melon, lemon and mineral. Elegant.

Iron Horse 2006 Classic Vintage Brut Green Valley of Russian River Valley Sparkling Wine, 13.5 percent, \$34. A striking sparkler with notes of apple, brioche and lime. Nice mousse. Great length.

DeLorimier Winery Mosaic Meritage, 2005 Alexander Valley Red table Wine, 14.4 percent, \$40. A layered blend with a lush texture. Aromas and flavors of blackberry, blueberry, mocha and spice. Lingering finish.

Macphail, 2009 Toulouse Vineyard, Anderson Valley Pinot Noir, 14.3 percent, \$45. A complex pinot with a silky texture. Layers of cherry, herbs and spice. Has great depth. Lush. A knockout.

Joseph Phelps Vineyards, 2008 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon, 14.5 percent, \$56. A cab with a great core of fruit and ripe tannins. Deep flavors. Notes of blackberry, plum, herbs and spice. A hint of chocolate. Nice length.

Insignia, 2008 Napa Valley Red Wine, 14.5 percent, \$185. Spendy but worth it. Floral with flavors of blueberry, cassis and spice. Great acid. Firm tannins. The Ferrari of wine.

Want to share a current wine on your favorite restaurant's list? E-mail [peg.melnik@pressdemocrat.com](mailto:peg.melnik@pressdemocrat.com) or check out her [Tasting Room blog](#) at [pressdemocrat.com](http://pressdemocrat.com).



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