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2006 Seven Hills Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon

VINTAGE

The 2006 vintage was quite warm with overall heat accumulation rivaling the high numbers posted in 2003. While spring was a little rainier than usual, July and August were hot prompting concern that the grapes might ripen before the flavors had time to fully develop, but a perfect Indian summer slowed ripening just enough to give the grapes extra time of the vine to soften the tannins and produce mature, richly flavored grapes. years.

VINEYARDS

One of the advantages of having made wine in the Columbia Valley since the mid-1980s is the opportunity it's given me to work with some of the most dedicated growers in the industry. Without a doubt, Seven Hills Vineyard is included in any list of elite vineyards within the region. Located in the Walla Walla Valley appellation, this vineyard consistently produces wines with exceptional grace and elegance.

WINEMAKING

After destemming and crushing, grapes were fermented on their skins for eight days. After being pressed off, this lot was aged for 20 months in all new French Oak barrels to improve its already lengthy finish. Racking the wine every three months created pliant tannins and bold, stylish structure.

TASTING NOTES

The Seven Hills Cabernet Sauvignon shows all the classic characteristics of the Walla Walla Valley. Lively structure pairs with complex aromas of tobacco, earth and wild flowers. Smooth and intense, the palate has a concentrated core of espresso, dark plum and ripe berries. Both *Wine Spectator* and Robert Parker's *Wine Advocate* rated the 2005 vintage 91+ pts.



ANALYSIS AT BOTTLING

Total Acidity0.54g/100ml
 pH.....3.74
 Blend...95%Cabernet Sauvignon
 5% Merlot
 Cases.....198
 Bottling Date..... June18, 2008

Mike Januik, owner/winemaker