

# drinks

Tequila Glassware Wineries News



## Band Waves

Stripes are the news in stemware. Glassmakers jumping on the "band" wagon include Orrefors ("Clown," RIGHT, \$85 each; 800-351-9842), Segaso Viro ("Canes," LEFT, \$98; 212-696-1133) and Salviati ("Bassorilievi," ABOVE, \$50 each; 212-725-4361).



While the country west of *St. Louis* once signaled wide open spaces to early settlers, it now promises wine-filled store shelves to well-heeled *oenophiles*.

The more than 20 new wine shops in the western reaches of St. Louis County include Provisions Gourmet Market, The Wine Merchant and Brown Derby Wine Cellar.

## top 10 list

*Does grape-stomping promote good sibling relations? Maybe so. Here are a few wineries around the world doing a fraternal order of business.*

- 1 Gordon Brothers, Washington State
- 2 Martin Brothers, California
- 3 Cruse et Fils Frères, France
- 4 Delas Frères, France
- 5 Dourthe Frères, France
- 6 Bright Brothers, Portugal
- 7 Fratelli Nistri, Italy
- 8 Fratelli Oddero, Italy
- 9 Fratelli Pighin, Italy
- 10 Brown Brothers, Australia

**dictionary Reserve** is one of the most often used words on a wine label. It usually denotes a wine that has undergone extra aging, though it may also designate one made with higher quality grapes. Then again, it may just be a marketing device.

## Tall Tequila

*Barrique* has been a byword in snooty wine circles for some time. Now it's bandied about by tequila drinkers. The *Barrique de Ponciano Porfidio* is a connoisseur's spirit made of 100 percent blue agave aged in *barriques* (1-liter bottle \$500; at fine wine stores nationwide).



**wine of the month:** the 1996 Veramonte Primus Merlot (\$14). How a Merlot *should* taste: rich, ripe and elegant.

PHOTOGRAPHS: EDWARD AGGEO (GLASSWARE); STEVE/DE EDSON/PINCHUKA (ST. LOUIS); PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

BY LETTIE TEAGUE