# **TOP SHELF**



ere's a look at this month's top-scoring Cellar Selection, Editors' Choice and Best Buy. For full tasting notes on these and hundreds of other wines, turn to our Buying Guide, which begins on **page 53**.

#### **Cellar Selection**

**97** Domaine de Chevalier 2007 Pessac-Léognan; \$NA. Wonderfully aromatic, this sure-to-be legendary wine offers richness, ripeness and pure yellow fruits, peaches and apricots, all alongside a structured strain of chalky minerality. Multiple importers, including Domaine De Chevalier. —R.V.



### **Editors' Choice**

**93** Kendall-Jackson 2007 Highlands Estates Camelot Highlands Chardonnay (Santa Maria Valley); \$30. Here's a big, sumptuous, fat, oily Chardonnay, massive in tropical fruits, spices, minerals and smoky buttered toast. The creamy texture makes it feel especially rich. —S.H.



# **Best Buy**

**90** Four Sisters 2008 Sauvignon Blanc (South Eastern Australia); \$13. New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc is the leading imported wine in Australia, which has led domestic wineries to redouble their efforts at the variety. This bargain-priced example features fig and citrus notes underscored by a slight herbaceousness, even some red currant flavors. Drink now. Imported by Epic Wines. —J.C.



# SNIFF, SIP AND WATCH THE FLICK

Wine and movies are the perfect pairing.

-KELLY A. MAGYARICS

Australian company Village Roadshow, Ltd. recently brought its Gold Class Cinemas concept to the United State. The facilities offer epicurean moviegoers a choice of eight full-size cinemas with comfortable reclining leather armchairs, from which they can enjoy gourmet food and wine along with their flick. The first U.S. location opened in Illinois last October, and the company is planning fifty total by 2013. And while wine

preference is as subjective as taste in film, we compiled some eclectic ideas for matching wine and movies, both classic and contemporary:

The Godfather	You can't refuse a powerful and intimidating,
	bust-your-kneecaps Barolo.
The Graduate	Complex, sultry and seductive, Viognier is the
	wine world's Mrs. Robinson.
Sideways	Isn't it obvious? Only one wine will do—Santa
	Ynez Valley Pinot Noir.
The Sound of	Cheesy schmaltz and the Nazi sub-plot go down
Music	easier with Austrian Grüner Veltliner.
Forrest Gump	You-never-know-what-you-are-gonna-get with a
	New World Chardonnay. Oaked? Unoaked?
	Try and see.
The Curious	Like the backwardly aging Button, first
Case of Benjamin	growth Bordeaux only grows more fascinating
Button	with age.
Close Encounters	Keep an eye out for little green men and taste
of the Third	the stars like Dom Pérignon allegedly said he
Kind	did upon first sipping Champagne.

#### **MONOPOLE:** ALL FOR ONE

In France, a monopole refers to an appellation (Appellation d'Origine Contrôllée or AOC) owned entirely by a single proprietor. Several occur in Burgundy including paragons of Pinot Noir making such as Romanée Conti, which encompasses less than five acres. In the northern Rhone, Château Grillet has its own monopole enclave within the Condrieu AOC, taking in nine acres of Viognier. The word monopole appears on the label of wine made from a single-proprietor AOC.

—RISA WYATT