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WINE NEWS

Pinot Noir digs in



Emeritus, 2007 Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley
— \$N/A: Restaurant Only: Beautiful, medium ruby hue. Expressive bouquet of red and black cherry with undertones of raspberry and pleasing herbal and smoky notes. Great finesse in the mouth with crisp acidity balancing red and black fruit flavors, all wrapped in an appealing silky texture with a fine core of minerality along with hints of cola and dark chocolate. **Score: 93**

Emeritus, 2006 Pinot Noir, William Wesley, Sonoma Coast — \$50: Medium ruby hue. Very expressive, forward bouquet of black cherry and berry fruit with coffee and smoky herb nuances. Deeper and more intense than its Russian River Valley sibling, this Pinot shows great elegance and stunning balance. **Score: 95**

Brice Jones (center) mastered Chardonnay during his epic tenure at Sonoma-Cutrer; now he and his Emeritus team, winemaker Don Blackburn (left) and vineyard manager Kirk Lokka, are fine-tuning Pinot Noir in the Russian River Valley.

SONOMA COUNTY, CA

