

Week of 12-18-07

Red Bag Clues:

Grape –

The name of this wine translates to “Kiss the Girl” or “Lady Killer”.

Beautiful light red wine with flavors of strawberry, pepper and earth (think pinot).

This vintage was marked by lower temperatures and scarce rainfall in January that led to snow and rain in February. Spring had little rain to begin, but picked up in May.

Summer started out hot, but ended up mild just in time for harvest.

3 Months in large oak barrels and 6 in stainless. With an additional 3 months minimum rest in the bottle.

Bottlings of this grape began to take off in the ‘70s.

Also known as Carola, Fra Germano and Taddone.

Region –

The locals believe this grape to have aphrodisiacal qualities.

Granted DOC status in 1995; requires 85% of this grape to be in the bottle.

One of the smallest appellations in this country.

Located in the northwestern region.

Country is shaped like a boot (you better get this).

Producer –

Fairly young vines, earliest being ’72; very young for this country. The vineyard from ’72 is 100% this grape (rarely found planted alone).

They describe the wines complexity and harmonic characteristics as only being matched by the beauty of the wild poppy which grow in the region.

Answer - Castello di Verduno Pelaverga Piccolo 2006 Verduno, "Basadone"