

Robert M. Parker Jr.'s



Issue 159

**Consilience 2002 Syrah, Great Oaks Ranch**

The opaque purple-colored, pedal-to-the-metal-styled 2002 Syrah Great Oaks Vineyard boasts a big, rich perfume of melted licorice, charcoal and blackberry liqueur, a viscous chewy texture, huge body, and admirable ripeness. This lavishly opulent, low acid, in-your-face Syrah is a highly extracted yet surprisingly well-balanced All-American red to drink over the next 7-8 years.

**Margerum 2003 Syrah, Great Oaks Ranch Vineyard**

The blockbuster 2003 Syrah Great Oaks Ranch Vineyard offers scents of roasted meats, blackberries, currants, sweet licorice and earth. This opulent, full-bodied effort boasts great purity, texture and length. Drink it over the next 7-8 years.

**Domaine Santa Barbara 2003 Syrah Great Oaks Ranch**

A highly-extracted, opaque purple-colored offering, Domaine Santa Barbara's 2003 Syrah Great Oaks Ranch exhibits impressive purity and abundant fruit, but is firmly structured, slightly closed and ferociously tannic. It displays impressive raw materials as well as fine potential, but it will benefit from 1-3 more years of bottle age, and should keep for 10-12.