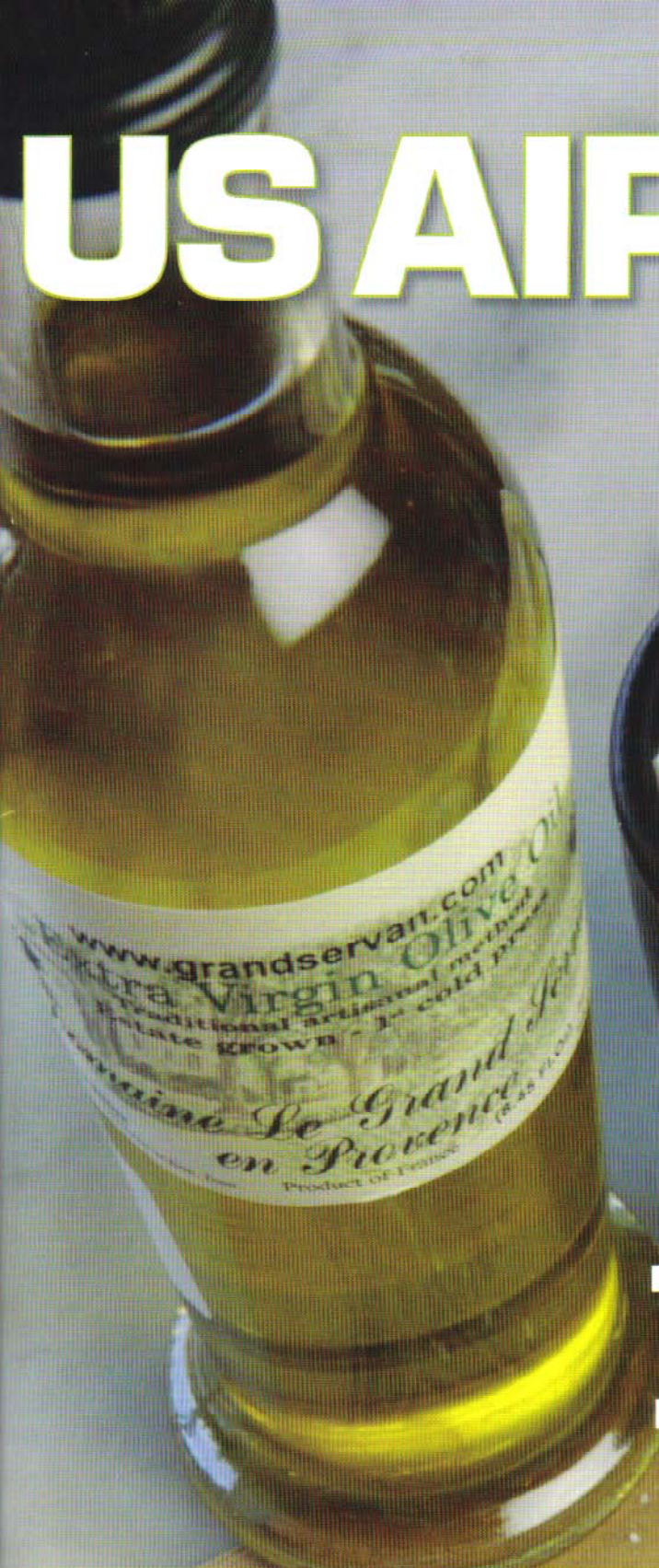


US AIRWAYS

magazine



TOP 10 TASTES FOR 2008

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The Best of Savory and Sweet

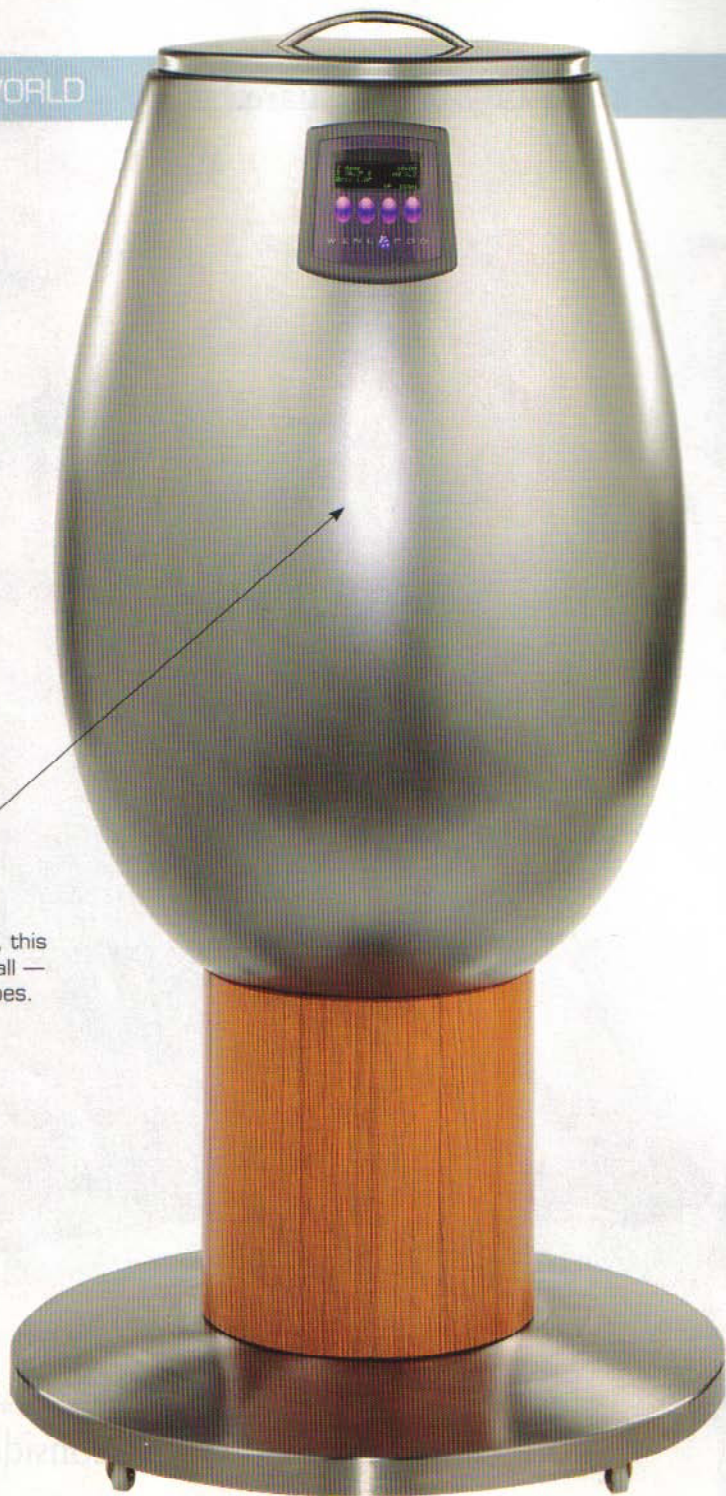
Ringo Starr Talks About
Then — and Now (page 86)



→ DIY WINE

You can't own a vineyard, but you can do the next best thing.

● At 4 feet tall, this tank does it all — just add grapes.



When ProVina founder Greg Snell worked in the semiconductor industry, he dreamed of someday owning a winery. Rather than pursue pricey Napa Valley real estate, the Silicon Valley techie devised a machine that would help oenophiles make great wine at home.

Snell enlisted the help of several wine industry insiders. Greg La Follette of Tandem Winery and DeLoach Vineyards tested the first prototype during the 2004 crush and offered feedback. T.J. Rodgers, co-owner of Clos de la Tech winery and the CEO of Cypress Semiconductor, helped devise wireless controllers, sensors, and software to monitor fermentations. Dr. John Kelly, owner of Westwood Winery and former manager of wine lab Vinquiry, continues to lend his expertise.

Owning a winery is but a fantasy for most wine lovers. But creating your own premium wine can be a reality, thanks to a hi-tech device that lets home vintners craft their own.

Standing at four feet high, the WinePod machine from ProVina handles everything from pressing to fermentation. Simply plug in the self-contained unit and add grapes.

(Fresh-frozen Napa Valley grapes are available through ProVina's Web site, or you can buy your own grapes locally.)

The pod's WineCoach interactive software guides you step by step through the process. WineCoach wirelessly transmits data from the pod to your PC, allowing you to monitor temperature, fermentation, and sugar levels from start to finish.

The WinePod yields up to four cases of quality wine, which can be aged in the unit or transferred to a small oak barrel (also available on the Web site).

The WinePod made its debut in late 2006 and quickly sold out. ProVina is taking orders for its newest model, which will start shipping next month. \$3500 → personalwinemaking.com

— Tina Caputo