

# THE PLAIN DEALER

September 20, 2006



On the label:

Slip Stream 2005 Shiraz Grenache.

Price: \$17.

Varietal: 72 percent shiraz, 28 percent grenache.

Where it's from: McLaren Vale region of Australia.

**Style:** This dark purple, almost black wine has a big vanilla and blackberry nose followed by a brambly, thick blackberry flavor and a hot finish, which must be nearly 16 percent alcohol. Not for the squeamish.

**Pairings:** Pair this with lamb shanks, short ribs, grilled steaks, venison and hearty stews.

**Why it's a buy:** This monster of a wine packs quite a punch. With its huge, concentrated, albeit somewhat one-dimensional flavor, it should attract lovers of big, chewy, concentrated wines. This is a tasty liquid-quaalude kind of wine.

Each week, John S. Long highlights a moderately priced wine well worth trying. Listed retail prices are based on state of Ohio minimums; you might pay more.