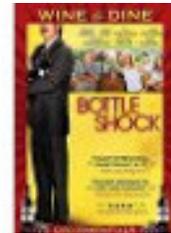


Here's some **great news** from DuCard –and a special offer (below).



Our *2010 Signature Viognier* was selected to represent The Commonwealth in a blind tasting recently held in Richmond that pitted eight varietal categories of Virginia wine against The World – international ‘benchmarks’ selected by some big name wine critics.

One of the four judges was Steve Spurrier, the guy who set up the granddaddy of blind tastings 25 years ago, the “Judgment of Paris” where it was California versus France and which California famously won. The fun movie *Bottle Shock* portrays the event and Spurrier.



In our case, the ‘competition’ was the 2010 Condrieu from E. Guigal Vineyards, the iconic Rhone Valley producer who has been at this since the 1940s.

The results of the ‘Judgment of Virginia’ ? **DuCard ended in a dead heat.** That’s a **huge victory** for us, I think – since this was just our 4th vintage.

Sort of Rocky Balboa against Apollo Creed perhaps.

Both Mr. Spurrier and Virginia’s leading wine critic/writer Bartholomew Broadbent voted for DuCard, with comments including ‘*well balanced with good acidity and rich nose and*



a pure expression of varietal character’ and the 150 wine trade and aficionados in the audience were evenly split between DuCard and the French offering. PS Virginia did well across the board – and is really starting to ‘get on the map’ with a growing reputation.

Personally, it was akin to watching your kid in the national spelling bee or local violin contest or soccer league playoff match – you’re proud just to be there, nervous as you can be, hope mostly that it’s not an embarrassment and wow, what a **rush**.



I know you’ll join me in lifting a glass to this great result !

And to help with that, **I’ll include a copy of the *Bottle Shock* DVD with all case orders of the *2011 Signature Viognier*** – the next vintage, which has now been released (the 2010 was already sold out – to you ! – by the time of the event). It’s \$24 per bottle and you get a 10% case discount. It can be shipped or we will hold it at DuCard for you to pick up at your convenience. For our local friends (Madison, Charlottesville, Ruckersville, etc.) we will personally deliver to your door – I hate shipping charges). Order by emailing us at scott (at) ducardvineyards.com or calling the tasting room at 540-923-4206.

Thanks for letting me share this news, and for your ongoing support. Scott