

TOOL singer, winemaker team up in Chandler

by *Kelsey Perry* - Apr. 8, 2008 03:54 PM
The Arizona Republic

Maynard Keenan, lead singer of the rock groups TOOL and A Perfect Circle, will be at the Chandler Whole Foods Wednesday, but he won't be performing. Keenan will be signing bottles of locally-produced wines from 4 to 9 p.m.

The singer and his business partner Eric Glomski, a winemaker for Page Spring Cellars, will be promoting their Arizona wines: Caduceus, Merkin, and Arizona Stronghold.

The pair also will make a stop at the Whole Foods in Scottsdale on Thursday.

Glomski said the event will be a first for both the winemakers and Whole Foods.

"The big challenge is are we going to be drawing people who are generally interested in wine or are they there because the lead singer of TOOL is there?" he said. "Nobody really knows what to expect."

Glomski has been making wine professionally for 13 years. He said Keenan's artistic abilities come in handy with blending techniques.

"He's becoming more and more involved each year," he said. "He does visit the cellar quite a bit."

Maynard, who lives in Verde Valley a portion of the year and Los Angeles the rest, is a well-known wine connoisseur. Glomski said the two met five years ago at Echo Canyon Vineyard and Winery in Page Springs where

they hit it off right away.

Glomski knows Keenan's name will attract a crowd, but he is hoping there are general wine enthusiasts there, too.

"I'm not a celebrity and I've built my career on making fine wine," he said. "Are people really coming to get my signature? Probably not. But, if they have wine questions then I can take care of that."

Customers who are at least 21 years of age can purchase an unlimited number of bottles of wine and have two bottles signed.

Whole Foods is at 2955 W. Ray Road, just east of Loop 101. Cameras, large bags and loitering will not be permitted. Information: 480-821-9447.

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