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- Take *this*, Miles. Apparently, we at Unfiltered were not alone in thinking that the schlubby protagonist of *Sideways*, played by **Paul Giamatti**, was a little hard on Merlot: Napa filmmaker **Rudy McClain** is currently raising funds to produce a full-length documentary called *Merlove*. He's got an investor prospectus and already has a website (www.merlove.com) with video interviews of several of the beleaguered variety's champions and producers, including **Jean-Claude Berrouet** of [Château Pétrus](#), **Tom Rinaldi** of [Provenance](#) and **Andy Beckstoffer** of Beckstoffer Vineyards. There's certainly no disputing that the grape has gotten a bad rap. After all, it is the backbone of the great wines of Pomerol, the single most widely planted variety in Bordeaux, as well as a source of outstanding wines from Napa, Washington state and beyond. But what are the chances that McClain can film a surly Bordeaux vintner barking, "I'm not drinkin' any f***** Pinot Noir!"? Slim, but either way, it would probably sound better in French.