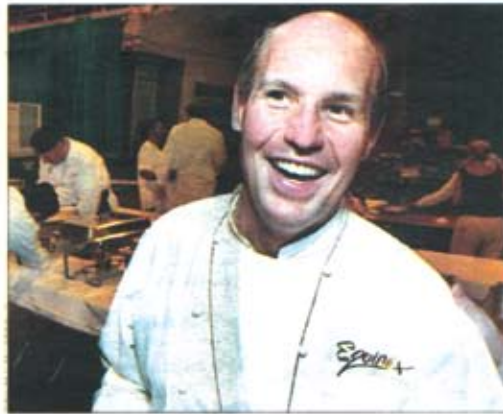


express

March 30, 2006

WeekendPass



VICTORY IN VINAIGRETTE: Todd Gray was among the Chef of the Year nominees.

Eating Around

PROM SEASON

RAMMY Finalists Announced; Winners in June

Last week, nominees were announced for the annual Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington's RAMMY Restaurant Awards. Winners will be announced on June 25 at the Marriott Wardman Park. The following finalists were selected by an anonymous panel of journalists and other hospitality industry experts.

→ **NEIGHBORHOOD GATHERING PLACE OF THE YEAR:** Billy Martin's Tavern; Bus Boys & Poets; Cashion's Eat Place; Chef Geoff's (New Mexico Ave.); Evening Star Café

→ **HOTTEST BAR SCENE OF THE YEAR:** Clyde's of Gallery Place; Degrees Bar & Lounge; Sonoma Restaurant & Wine Bar; Tabaq Bistro; Zaytinya

→ **POWER SPOT OF THE YEAR:** Bistro Bis; Capital Grille; Charlie Palmer Steak; The Caucus Room; The Prime Rib

→ **NEW RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR:** Acadiana; Black Salt; Hank's Oyster Bar; Indefleu; Willow Restaurant

→ **FINE DINING RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR:** 2941 Restaurant; Colvin Run Tavern; Equinox; Maestro; Restaurant Eve

→ **INFORMAL DINING RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR:** Bangkok 54; Circle

Bistro; Indique; Kaz Sushi Bistro; Zaytinya

→ **CHEF OF THE YEAR:** Cathal Armstrong, Restaurant Eve; Jonathan Krinn, 2941 Restaurant; José Andrés, Jaleo/Café Atlantico/Zaytinya/Oyamel; Robert Wiedmaier, Marcel's; Todd Gray, Equinox

→ **RESTAURANT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR:** Abdessam Ammani, Café Milano; Anthony Hesselius, The Melting Pot DC; Chris Kelley, Mie N Yu; Michael Finnerty, Old Ebbitt Grill; Santos Fuentes, Chef Geoff's

→ **PASTRY CHEF OF THE YEAR:** Heather Chittum, Michel Richard Citronelle; Huw Griffiths, Tabard Inn; Rita Garruba, Butterfield 9; Steve Kle, Jaleo/Café Atlantico/Zaytinya/Oyamel; Zoe Behrens, 1789 Restaurant

→ **WINE AND BEVERAGE PROGRAM OF THE YEAR:** Charlie Palmer Steak; Michel Richard Citronelle; Restaurant Eve; Taberna del Alabardero; Vidalia

→ **RESTAURANT MANAGER OF THE YEAR:** Christine de Clerfay, The Oceanaire Seafood Room; Danny Boylen, Notti Bianche; Emily Jarmuth, Mie N Yu; Stefanie Cove, Red Sage; Troy Bock, Sonoma Restaurant & Wine Bar

→ **RIISING CULINARY STAR OF THE YEAR:** Anthony Chittum, Notti Bianche/Dish; Brendan Cox, Circle Bistro; Johnny Monis, Komi; Nathan Beauchamp, 1789 Restaurant; Santi Zabaleta, Taberna del Alabardero.

MICHAEL GRASS (EXPRESS)

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