TOMATO, MONTRACHET & BASIL SALAD

Prepared by: Rhonda O'Dell, May 2017 Source: The Silver Palate Cookbook Makes: 6 to 8 portions

6 large ripe tomatoes
1 medium red onion
¼ cup Basil Puree (recipe below)
¼ cup nicoise or other imported black olives
1 tablespoon chopped Italian (flat-leaf) parsley
¼ cup best-quality olive oil
Dash of red wine vinegar
Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
½ Montrachet cheese, or 6 ounces of other mild creamy chevre

Core the tomatoes, cut into thick slices, then cut the slices into halves. Transfer to a mixing bowl. Peel the onion, slice into thin rings, add to the bowl, and turn gently with a spoon. Add the remaining ingredients except the cheese and again turn gently. Cover and refrigerate for one hour.

Just before serving transfer the salad to a serving dish and crumble the Montrachet cheese over all.

Basil Puree: Process or blend 7 cups washed and dried fresh basil leaves or 7 cups fresh parsley leaves and 1 tablespoon dried basil, with 3 to 4 tablespoons olive oil. Cover and refrigerate.

