asparagus, snap pea, and avocado pasta « see photo, page 30

SERVES 6 # PREP TIME: 20 MINUTES # TOTAL TIME: 30 MINUTES

coarse salt and ground pepper

- 1 pound asparagus, ends trimmed and cut into 2-inch lengths
- 1 pound sugar snap peas, strings removed
- 1 pound bow-tie pasta (farfalle)
- 4 tablespoons butter
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 ripe avocado, halved, pitted, peeled, and cut into ½-inch chunks
- ½ cup chopped fresh mint, parsley, or basil
- ½ cup shredded Parmesan or pecorino cheese, plus more for serving, if desired

- 1 In a large pot of boiling salted water, cook asparagus until bright green, about 2 minutes. Add snap peas; cook 30 seconds. With a slotted spoon or a small sieve, scoop out vegetables; transfer to a bowl.
- 2 Return water to a boil; add pasta and cook until al dente, according to package instructions. Drain, reserving 1 cup pasta water; set pasta aside in colander.
- 3 In pasta pot, melt 2 tablespoons butter over medium heat. Add asparagus, snap peas, and garlic; season with salt and pepper. Cook, tossing, until vegetables are crisp-tender, about 2 minutes. Add remaining 2 tablespoons butter, cooked pasta, avocado, herbs, cheese, and reserved pasta water. Toss to combine; season with salt and pepper. Serve topped with additional cheese, if desired.