

Everclear invite the entire number-two-ranked Austin music scene onstage.

Campus Scenes That Rock

Ranked by venue, talent on the rise and total party volume, these are the ten best music meccas for stalling an education

10 Columbus, Ohio

Why Now? The misunderstood li'l brother of Cleveland (NIN) and Akron (D-E-V-O), Columbus is the state's new college player because of hip-hop and girl pop.

Bands on the Rise: Rjd2 – whiz-kid hip-hop; Manda and the Marbles – sassy power pop; Mrs. Children – jangly, smart rock

History Lesson: Scrawl, New Bomb Turks

Where It's At: Little Brother's – brings the biggest; Newport Music Hall – meat market

The Glory: "There's always big acts." —Shelley Davis, senior, Ohio State University

... and the Gripe: "Only a few bands get promoted." —Todd LaPlace, junior, Ohio State University

Penalty if Busted at Show With Two Joins

(First Offense): \$100 fine; driver's license suspended for six months to five years

9 Gainesville, Florida

Why Now? No longer the hometown to your older brother's redneck-dropout rock. The rush of townie talent floods the scene.

Bands on the Rise: Hot Water Music – neohardcore with gravitas; the Pawn Rook Four – Southern Brit rock

History Lesson: Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers, Less Than Jake

Where It's At: The Palace – dual-staged venue, featuring Bacchus upstairs

The Glory: "Without big-city distractions, it's hard not to get creative." —Stephen Feller, senior, University of Florida

... and the Gripe: "It can become a never-ending set of Dave Matthews covers." —Jason Venture, senior, University of Florida

Penalty if Busted at Show With Two Joins

(First Offense): \$189 fine; community service



Gainesville: Replacing Less Than Jake (above) and thick-neck rock with Southern Brit rock



High Violets: Big city meets the commune.

8 Eugene, Oregon

Why Now? A haven for big-city expats, commune-raised kids and the occasional conspiracy theorist, this ever-underground town still prizes art over artifice, though its musical tide has turned. Bending conceptions of gender and sexuality on vinyl has taken a back seat to sonically saluting everyone from Radio Birdman to Cocteau Twins in this emerging college-music burg.

Bands on the Rise: Rock and Roll Soldiers – teenage heads drunk on Detroit; the High Violets – shimmering, starry-eyed ethereality; the Courtesy Clerks – cocksure, girl-stealin' party rock

History Lesson (Metro Area): Cherry Poppin' Daddies, Quasi, Heavens to Betsy

Where It's At: WOW Hall – Eugene's prime talent magnet; Sam Bond's Garage – head trips, hootenannies and microbrews; Annex – like *Dance Party USA*... with cages!

The Glory: "The diversity. You can find anything from punk to classical here." —Jacquelyn Lewis, senior, University of Oregon

... and the Gripe: "I'd like to see better bands come here, and there's not a lot of local bands that break out." —Ryan Bornheimer, senior, University of Oregon

Penalty if Busted at Show With Two Joins (First Offense): \$100–\$150 fine

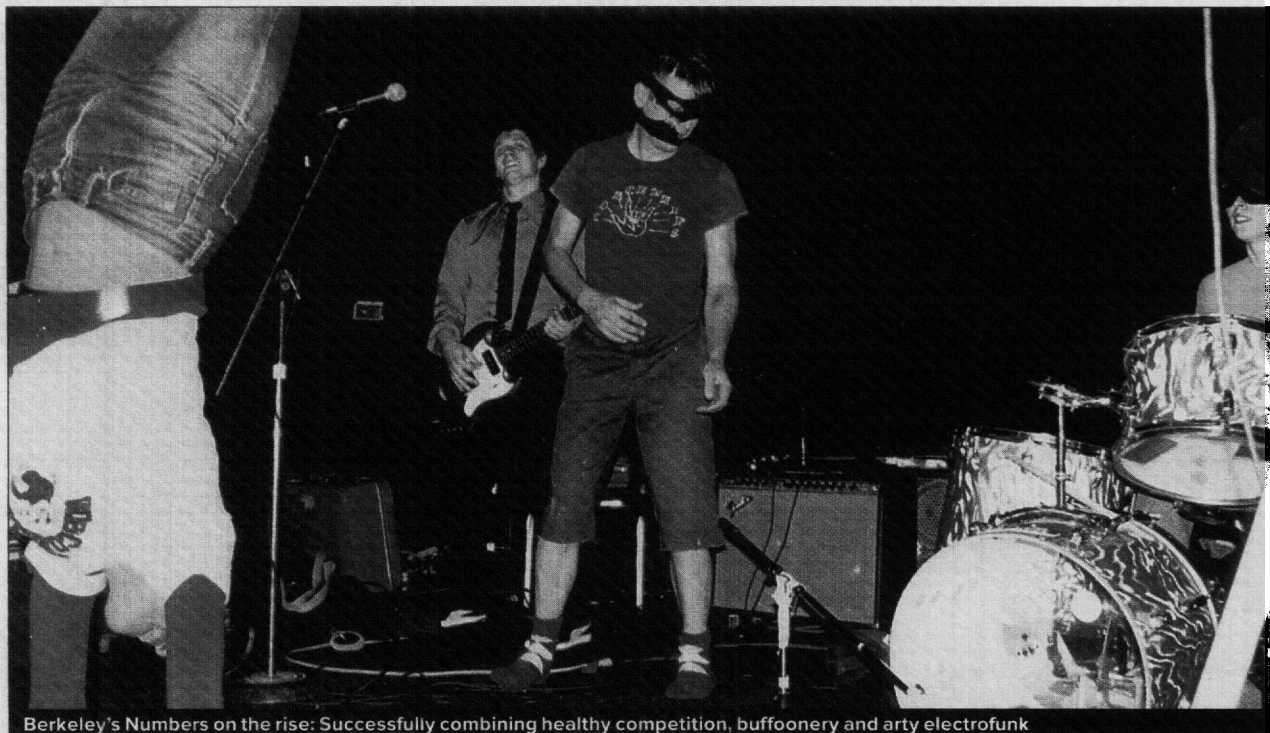


Michigan stooge: Iggy Pop

7 Ann Arbor, Michigan

Why Now? With roots in Motor City punk and the national folk circuit, the Ann Arbor scene rolls with both the electric and eclectic. Iggy Pop has become the godfather of the moment in college rock (thanks to sonic disciples including the Strokes and the White Stripes) who fuels local acts who won't let the punk ethos go – and rightfully so.

Reported and written by DAVID BASHAM and KIM STITZEL



Berkeley's Numbers on the rise: Successfully combining healthy competition, buffoonery and arty electrofunk

Bands on the Rise: Tadd Mullinix (a.k.a. James Cotton, Debraye, SK-1) – schizo-flavored techno; Donkey Punch – party ska; Athletic Mic League – high-flyin', lane-drivin' hip-hop

History Lesson: The Stooges, Brownsville Station, Taproot

Where It's At: Blind Pig – Ann Arbor's best music venue; the Ark – premier acoustic(s) venue; the Necto – urbanite den where DJs spin

The Glory: "[Ann Arbor is] really an extension of the thriving Detroit scene right now, which you can't complain about." —Scott Serilla, junior, University of Michigan

... and the Gripe: "The venues import decent national acts, but the scene still lacks progression and imagination." —Luke Smith, senior, University of Michigan

Penalty if Busted at Show With Two Joins (First Offense): Twenty-five-dollar fine with twenty-five-dollar court fee

6 Berkeley, California

Why Now? You don't need a political agenda or flowers in your hair to make your mark here, but a taste for everything from tablas to turntables helps. Though its name conjures up psychedelic incense smoke (that typically blows in from San Fran), the Berkeley scene has gone retro by channeling a new wave of New Wave fashions.

Bands on the Rise: Numbers – arty electrofunk revivalists; the Coach Whips – primitive freck soundz; Knulla Roofs – boisterous doo-wop-y pop

History Lesson (Metro Area): Dead Kennedys, Green Day, American Music Club, Faith No More, Metallica

Where It's At: Slim's – San Francisco's alternative kingpin; 924 Gilman Street – mother-approved straight-edge oasis; Ashkenaz – global melting pot for dance and DJs

The Glory: "The scene is small enough to get to know everyone you want to and get in-

involved. It's like a family." —Mona Dehghan, senior, University of California, Berkeley

... and the Gripe: "It's a little too tame, too fashion-conscious. Bands aren't so much into rocking out as looking good onstage."

—Matt Levine, senior, University of California, Berkeley

Penalty if Busted at Show With Two Joins (First Offense): \$100 fine

5 Madison, Wisconsin

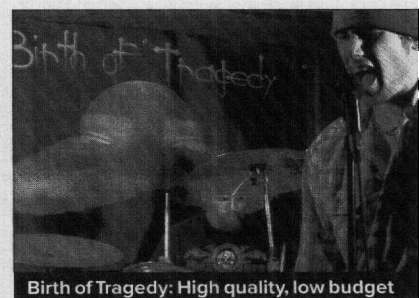
Why Now? More than a hotbed of Midwest liberalism, this infinitely hip isthmus town fosters one of the most lively – and underappreciated – arts scenes around. While it's the electronic-rock meldings of Garbage (and studio whiz Butch Vig) that have made the most noise recently, Madison's hardcore bands are now driving the local college ranks.

Bands on the Rise: Birth of Tragedy – cathartic supra-heavy metal duo; German Art Students – nimble-witted New Wave pop; Phat Phunktion – horn-driven tour-de-funk

History Lesson: Garbage, Spooner, Killdozer

Where It's At: Annex – singed survivor of local scene; Luther's Blues – caters to the soul, R&B and jazz crowd; Anchor Inn – noise and punk rock for deep waters

The Glory: "Great live music within walking distance nightly – from a tiny coffeehouse to a huge arena, it's all here." —Laura Rego, junior, University of Wisconsin, Madison



Birth of Tragedy: High quality, low budget

... and the Gripe: "Poor promotion and organization of shows have often hampered what should be a great time." —Colin Finan, senior, University of Wisconsin, Madison

Penalty if Busted at Show With Two Joins (First Offense): \$100 fine



Chapel Hill's top venue: Local 506

4 Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Why Now? Once primed for becoming a next-Seattle post-grunge mecca – which never happened – the city's indie-rock program hasn't thrown in the towel. But it's the ability to weave in a new breed of singer-songwriters without giving up the goods that actually made it a scene that keeps it thriving.

Bands on the Rise: Roman Candle – explosive new-country darlings; Buzzsawyer – steel-clad Seventies standard-bearers; Disband – surprisingly agile post-punk

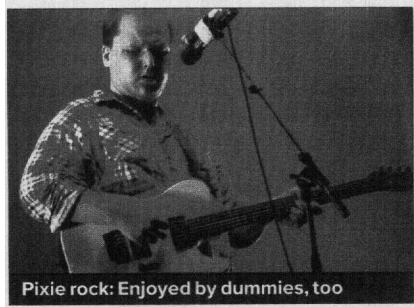
History Lesson (Triangle): Archers of Loaf, Ben Folds Five, Superchunk, Whiskeytown

Where It's At: Cat's Cradle – you'll spend more time here than in study lab; Local 506 – common ground for garage bands, goths and go-go dancers; the Cave – singer-songwriters and open-mike nights abound

The Glory: "Anyone who wants to get together a band can find a place to play." —Caroline Lindsey, junior, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

... and the Gripe: "There's an almost elitist

nature to the fans. They're very stoic at shows." —Brian Millikin, junior, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Penalty if Busted at Show With Two Joints (First Offense): No jail time; charge dismissed upon completion of Project Turn Around, a diversion program for first offenders



Pixie rock: Enjoyed by dummies, too

3 Cambridge, Massachusetts

Why Now? With Harvard and MIT crowding the same ivy-laced turf, it's no wonder this hamlet birthed some of our artiest, smartiest bands — but it ain't all about elitist math rock or thesis-ready lyrics. The Boston area's strengths lie with a wealth of bands that are sweating out irony-free, dance-your-ass-off rock & roll, all for amusement — and approval.
Bands on the Rise: The Gentlemen — blazing, brawling, booze-fueled rockers; Jedediah Parish — bighearted American trou-

badour; the Sheila Divine — local emo legends who transcend the trend
History Lesson (Metro Area): The Pixies, the Mighty Mighty Bosstones, the Blake Babies
Where It's At: The Middle East — classy, multi-tiered urban joint; T.T. the Bear's Place — cheap, cheerful, tiny and loud; Lizard Lounge — intimate, eclectic hot spot
The Glory: "The wide diversity of artists that play out — everyone from DJ Rupture to Yo La Tengo." —Ryan Kuo, junior, Harvard
... and the Gripe: "The 'T' [subway] stops running pretty early. If you want to see gigs downtown, that's a huge problem." —Andrew Iliff, junior, Harvard
Penalty if Busted at Show With Two Joints (First Offense): \$200 fine

2 Austin, Texas

Why Now? Nashville may be Music City, but Austin is closer to a true musical utopia — a little of everything for everyone, all with a Texas twang. Already blessed with a world-class country, blues and live-music scene, it held the first South by Southwest music festival in 1987. The endless number of venues, every single night of the week with every act imaginable, fuels this Southern powerhouse.
Bands on the Rise: Okkervil River — beautifully foreboding folk; Hard Feelings — can-shakin' blues 'n' rawk; DJ Sue — dance



Known for drawing big crowds and major acts, that Stubb's can also sauce up a sweet rib.

music for "Mod" lovers
History Lesson: Stevie Ray Vaughan, Spoon, ... And You Will Know Us by the Trail of Dead
Where It's At: Stubb's Bar-B-Q — ribs, rock and roots with the sauce; Emo's — plants the Lone Star's punk flag; Antone's — where Vaughan honed his chops
The Glory: "Living in Austin provides you with a musical education above and beyond

anywhere else." —Matt Dentler, senior, University of Texas
... and the Gripe: "Some of Austin's best clubs have closed down this year, including the Hole in the Wall near campus and now maybe the Mercury." —Erin Steele, senior, University of Texas
Penalty if Busted at Show With Two Joints (First Offense): \$301 fine, mandatory court appearance

1 Athens, Georgia

Why Now? Despite R.E.M.'s receding hairline, the density and diversity of bands still teeming in downtown Athens keep it the alpha and omega of the college music scene. An unceasing wave of acts serve up modern music nonstop — so if three local bands break up on Monday, there are four more stepping in by Tuesday.

Bands on the Rise: Maserati — smooth-ridin' sex rock; Of Montreal — spirited fun band of what's left of Elephant 6; Jucifer — slop-bucket metal in Frankenstein boots
History Lesson: R.E.M., Widespread Panic, the B-52's

Where It's At: 40 Watt Club — sixth and best incarnation of world-renowned club; Georgia Theatre — smoky home for jazz and jams; Caledonia Lounge — hidden-away dive for local hipsters

The Glory: "People migrate here for two reasons, either to go to school or start a band." —Sasha Sarene Morgan, freshman, University of Georgia

... and the Gripe: "Shows start really late. If you've got a morning class the next day, you're fighting to stay awake." —Heather Muse, grad student, University of Georgia

Penalty if Busted at Show With Two Joints (First Offense): Three years' probation or \$1,000 fine and/or one year in jail



Hometown heroes the B-52's play the hometown favorite 40 Watt Club. Again.