

Sonic Youth Rules? • Morrissey Broods • INXS Kicks Lollapalooza II • U2 Tours • In the Studio News

in

From the publishers of U: The National College Magazine

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U. COLLEGE RADIO CHART

1. **Sonic Youth**, *Dirty*
2. **Helmet**, *Meantime*
3. **Beastie Boys**, *Check Your Head*
4. **Pavement**, *Slanted and Enchanted*
5. **Ministry**, *Psalm 69*
6. **Deee-Lite**, *Infinity Within*



7. **Pearl Jam, Soundgarden, Paul Westerberg, Alice In Chains...** *Singles Soundtrack*
8. **The B-52's**, *Good Stuff*
9. **The Jesus & Mary Chain**, *Honey's Dead*
10. **David Bowie, Brian Eno...** *Cool World Soundtrack*

Chart solely based on college-radio airplay. Contributing radio stations: KASR, Arizona State U.; KALX, U. of California, Berkeley; KLA, U. of California, Los Angeles; KUCB, U. of Colorado; WNDR, U. of Delaware; WXDU, Drexel U.; WUOG, U. of Georgia; WIUS, Indiana U.; WXJM, James Madison U.; WRFL, U. of Kentucky; WVUM, U. of Miami; WCBM, U. of Michigan; KCOU, U. of Missouri; WNYU, New York U.; WXYC, U. of North Carolina; KTRU, Rice U.; WIDB, Southern Illinois U.; KTSB, U. of Texas; WTUL, Tulane U.; WAKE, Wake Forest U.; KCMU, U. of Washington.

Sonic Youth *Dirty*

★★
The David Geffen Co. and producer Butch Vig have retooled (ruined) another alternative darling for the mainstream music world. Thanks, Butch, but next time why don't you keep your hands off the pretty little dials.



The second Sonic Youth release, *Dirty*, — the follow-up to *Goo* — escalates the transformation of their unlistenable punk from indie Dada to commercial doo-doo.

But Vig's hand is far too heavy. Thurston Moore, Kim Gordon and the gang can't concentrate on songs that mimic either their horrid, avant-garde, 1980's noise or the razor-edged pop of Vig's other pet project, Nirvana. Often, both styles crop up in one track. Not even a solo by Fugazi's Ian MacKaye can make up for the group's tortured vocals or the album's PC overdose.

The one difference between Sonic Youth and groups with similar problems — the B-52's and Yes — is that Sonic's amps go all the way up to 20.

Skip it. ■ Adam Blyweiss, *The Triangle*, Drexel U.

INXS *Welcome to Wherever You Are*

★★★★
The outfit's first studio release since the techno-driven ear candy of *X* graced Top 40 airwaves two years ago, *Welcome to Wherever You Are* sees INXS rediscovering the power-chord roots that dominated the early years of the group's 12-year history.

The first half of the album, displaying a hard edge with songs like the driving "Heaven Sent," suggests the Aussies have abandoned the sweeping power ballads and pulsating dance tracks characteristic of their last couple outings.

But the second half stays true to the ghost of INXS present, only this time with a welcome ambitious attitude. Pauses between songs are eliminated, instrumentation and vocals often distorted and a variety of styles — from Indian to classical — are explored. The band seemingly has tracked the latest direction of another megagroup returning to the past with an ear to the future. Yet like Bono on U2's latest, Hutchence's ascan romance lyrics seem misplaced on an album rich in musical texture. "Men and women/Giving each other the sham," he croons straight-faced while the Australian Concert Orchestra builds to a climactic crescendo on the disc's closer.

Still, *Welcome* works as a whole. Part fun-

bling garage rock, part crafted pop 'n' roll, it has something old, something new, something borrowed and many things blue — courtesy of the brooding cuts on relationships. INXS hasn't come completely full circle, but it has put out a promising, personal project. Buyers of *Welcome to Wherever You Are* should listen like thieves. ■ Mike Meyer, *The Badger-Herald*, U. of Wisconsin, Madison

Morrissey *Your Arsenal*

★★★★
With his fourth album since the Smiths' demise, Morrissey again proves that even on his own, he is still the Sultan of Sulk.

He once pondered such profound questions as "What Difference Does it Make?" and "How Soon Is Now?," but with *Arsenal*,



Morrissey closely inspects life's inescapable truths. Stephen sings a delightfully self-deprecating romp through the halls of fame on the first single, "We Hate It

When Our Friends Become Successful."

Musically, *Arsenal* is more advanced than anything Morrissey and Co. have released to date. "You're Gonna Need Some-one On Your Side" has a harder rockabilly swing than "Sing Your Life" from *Bona Drag*, while "Certain People I Know" is decidedly honky-tonk — Mozza with a country twang. But early fans rejoice, he still carries the acoustic six-string that accompanied him through Smiths songs like "Please, Please, Please Let Me Get What I Want," producing like-sounding melancholy in "Seasick, Yet Still Docked" and "I Know It's Gonna Happen Someday."

Yes, once again, he's cranked up the angst, conjuring up that old Smiths charm best in "You're The One for Me, Fatty" and in lines like "my love is as sharp as a needle in your eye." For God's sake Morrissey, cheer up. ■ Geoffrey Kula, *Daily Free Press*, Boston U.

in the studio

Jane's Addiction quickly is becoming more popular broken up than it ever was together. And Warner Bros. is all over 'em with *Live and Rare*, a sort-of-kind-of new Jane's album hitting stores Sept. 15 and featuring — you guessed it — several live tracks and a few rare songs.

You can stop holding your breath: four very long years after the release of *Blind Man's Zoo*, alternative deities 10,000 Maniacs are returning in late September with *African Violet Society*.



Back on the Farm.

Hot on the heels of the eclectic 1990 release *Circa*, Mary's Danish (the Next Big Thing?) are releasing *American Standard* Sept. 8. The new album reportedly sheds some of the Los Angeles band's previous eccentricity and trades it for loud, metallic rock'n'roll. The Farm also is set to release its next album sometime in late September — hopefully. The album already has been pushed back twice because of the group's stressful year-long tour.

Is the world ready for industrial folk? Strucmin' and hummin' queen Suzanne Vega hopes so. Vega's new album *90.9 F* reportedly is filled with tough, industrialish tunes, perhaps in a desperate attempt to rescue her career from her forgettable last album. And for the sake of name-dropping, upcoming sometime in the near future with albums but incommunicado are: B.E.N., Billy Idol, The Buffalo Spiders and Deepside Mads. ■ Jeff Jackson, *The Chronicle*, Duke U.

on the road

A brief look at August-September concert listings

Guns 'n' Roses, Metallica & Faith No More: Vancouver, B.C., 8/17; Seattle, WA, 8/19; Oakland, CA, 8/21; Pasadena, CA, 8/22; Phoenix, AZ, 8/25; Las Cruces, NM, 8/27.
 Lollapalooza: Raleigh, NC, 8/18; Atlanta, GA, 8/20; Miami, FL, 8/22; Orlando, FL, 8/23; Charlotte, NC, 8/25; Minneapolis, MN, 8/28; Troy, WI, 8/29; Atlanta, GA, 9/1; New Orleans, LA, 9/4; Houston, TX, 9/5; Dallas, TX, 9/3; Phoenix, AZ, 9/8; Los Angeles, CA, 9/11, 12.
 Lyle Lovell: Kalamazoo, MI, 8/18; Cleveland, OH, 8/19; Portland, ME, 8/22; Stowe, VT, 8/23; Amherst, MA, 8/24; Wantagh, NY, 8/26, 27; Hershey, PA, 8/29; Mansfield, MA, 8/30, 31; Upper Darby, PA, 9/1; Richmond, VA, 9/2; Atlanta, GA, 9/4; Palham, AL, 9/5; Memphis, TN, 9/6.
 U2: East Rutherford, NJ, 8/11, 13; Washington, DC, 8/15, 16; Saratoga, NY, 8/18; Foxboro, MA, 8/20, 22, 23; Pittsburgh, PA, 8/25; Philadelphia, PA, 9/2, 3; Detroit, MI, 9/9; Ames, IA, 9/11.

quotable

"I'm 'bout to bust some shots off. I'm 'bout to dust some cops off... Die, die, die, pig, die."

—Ice-T and Body Count, lyrics from "Cop Killer"