If you have been online lately, you are probably familiar with Oliver Anthony, the red-haired Americana singer who scored a massive viral hit this month with the song “Rich Men North Of Richmond.” And if you know the song, you probably know about the infamous anti-welfare lyric about fudge rounds. The first time I heard this song, the fudge rounds line made me laugh out loud, just because it’s so out of the blue and also extremely clumsy. How many different snacks did he plug in that lyric before settling on fudge rounds? This song might be stupid, but it’s a big hit in the right-wing pop-culture ecosystem. It reminds me of the Christian rock scene, where it’s easier to break because it’s less competitive. So, if you’re an average rock band, a good strategy is just to put “God” in the chorus because the audience is driven more by ideology (and anti-secular reactionary politics) than art. The same is true for Americana singers who use dog whistles in their songs to get people like Ben Shapiro excited. We broke down this phenomenon in the latest episode of Indiecast.

-- Steven Hyden, Uproxx Cultural Critic and author of five books, most recently *Long Road: Pearl Jam And The Soundtrack Of A Generation*
**Dolly Parton** rallies the remaining Beatles together for a ‘Let It Be’ cover with **Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr**, and more.

Supposed Bud Light hater **Kid Rock** was spotted drinking the beer after making a big deal about dissing the brand.

**Phoebe Bridgers** and **Lucy Dacus** flashed the audience in an NSFW move during a **Boygenius** performance at Pukkelpop.

Our latest **Indie Mixtape 20 Q&A** is with **Claud**, who leans into their 'mushy' romantic side with **Supermodels**.

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**OPENING TRACKS**

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**THE ARMED**

These hyperactive, gym-obsessed Detroit muscle rockers specialize in merging combustible noise and frenetic rhythms with surprising bursts of bubblegum melody. Their forthcoming album, *Perfect Saviors* (due out Friday), is gaining some buzz
When it comes to life-changing disasters, Jeff Rosenstock is like a musical first responder, always ready with inspirational jams whenever the world faces adversity. On September 1, the rousing punk rocker will drop an apocalyptic new album, *Hellmode*, that will hopefully supply his usual “whoa-oh-oh!”-style live show energy.

There are bands that might garner more streams or greater press coverage, but no indie act seems more worthy of our rooting interest than this Chicago band. Since the late 2010s, they have consistently put out ingratiating guitar-pop records, and their latest out this week, *The Window*, is another high point.
**Hiss Golden Messenger**

We were big fans here at Indie Mixtape HQ of Hiss Golden Messenger’s 2019 effort *Terms Of Surrender*, the veteran indie-folk act’s best effort in a long and consistent career. But they have hardly stood still since then, keeping up their prolific pace with the forthcoming *Jump For Joy*.

**Listen**

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**Buck Meek**

The guitarist for Big Thief is plenty prolific in his main gig. But he still has time to make records under his own name. His forthcoming album due Friday, *Haunted Mountain*, builds on the spectral folk rock of Big Thief and takes it in a spacier and more mystical direction.

**Listen**

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**Vinyl Of The Week**

'*His Band And The Street Choir'* by *Van Morrison* — LP
Pick up a copy of Van Morrison's *His Band And The Street Choir* remastered from the original analog master tapes. This repressing also comes with a lyric sheet and interview with the album's audio engineer Elliot Scheiner.

**PICK IT UP**

**THROWBACK**

'22, A MILLION' by BON IVER

You know who has a great catalog? This Wisconsin band, which has consistently surprised us over the past 15 OR SO years. The most shocking LP in the Bon Iver canon has to be 22, A Million,
the noisy and head-shredding masterpiece that sounds as fresh as ever.

LISTEN

LINER NOTES

Revisit the blog rock era

Remember the blog rock era? Take a walk down the mid-aughts memory lane with this list of the greatest blog rock albums.

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