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For blues, funk and even retro, 'Green Bay is the place to go'
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It's a Saturday night and IQ's is crowded and growing more so by the minute. Many bar-goers haven't heard Greenscene, the Milwaukee funk band that's on stage, before but they're willing to give them a try. After all, it's IQ's and generally the east-side bar is reliable for good music.

"We get certain people that are going to come in no matter what," said owner Bill Hickey. Generally, the bar gets its best crowds for the jam-band, retro-rock (Grateful Dead, Allman Brothers Band) type music that attracts the "neo-hippies."

"It's kind of a retro movement, we get that segment of the music audience," he said.

Hickey recommended Greenscene to Ben Steffel of Green Bay.

"I'm looking for something funky that's jammin'," Steffel said. "I'm looking for bluesy stuff."

And he usually finds it at IQ's, 2105 University Ave.

"This is excellent," said Christopher Piepenburg of Green Bay. "We just saw 'em and thought we'd check it out.

"You go where the bands are at."

Nora Ramirez of Kaukauna comes to Green Bay for the mellow atmosphere and the music.

"You want to see someone good on the weekends, you come to Green Bay," Ramirez said. "You want to hear good music, Green Bay is the place to go."

Young and old alike

Not 21? Here are some venues where you might catch an all-ages show:

* Eagles Club, 1035 Vanderbraak St. -- Tom Smith, former owner of Rock & Roll High School, has booked some of the bands who used to play his club here.

* University of Wisconsin-Green Bay -- Mustard Plug, Something to Do and Otis Coates, all ska bands, are playing at 7 p.m. Dec. 7 in the Union. The show is free for all UWGB students and \$5 for others. Smith also helped put together a show scheduled for Jan. 23.

* Riverside Ballroom, 115 Newhall St. -- Smith has booked some of the bands who used to play Rock & Roll High School or Concert Cafe here.

* Wheels 'N Motion, 2496 Glendale Ave., Howard

ID please

For those of you who are of age, here are some bars where you can hear a variety of music -- from funk to punk:

* IQ's, 2105 University Ave.

* Main Stage Bar and Grill, 916 Main St. Smith has booked some of the bands who used to play Rock & Roll High School or Concert Cafe here.

* Rock City Pub, 1279 Main St. Smith has booked some of the bands who used to play Rock & Roll High School or Concert Cafe here.

* Studio East, 730 N. Quincy St. Smith has booked some of the bands who used to play Rock & Roll High School or Concert Cafe here.

* 29 Steps, 119 S. Washington St. This bar doesn't have a lot of shows, but they "bat about 100 percent quality there," Smith said. It's quality not quantity.

Outta town

* Ryan's Ballroom, 448 Prospect St., Combined Locks, for heavier, contemporary, local bands playing original music.

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