

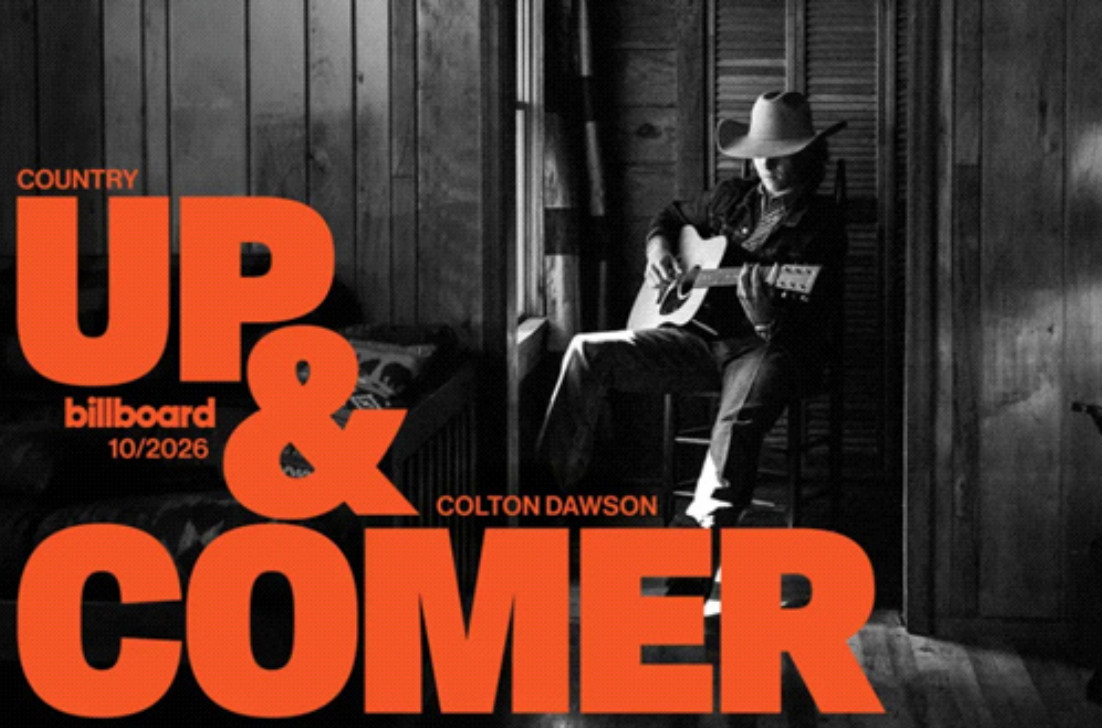
Sports, Entertainment, Arts & Media News

Rising Country artist Colton Dawson is Billboard Country’s Up and Comer of the Month for Oct.

NASHVILLE, Tenn. -October 2, 2026 – Rising "country revivalist" **Colton Dawson** is **Billboard Country’s Up-and-Comer of the Month for October**. Dawson joins a shortlist of artists making an impact that Billboard has spotlighted this year, including Mack Geiger, Kaitlin Butts, Kenny Whitmire, Blake Whiten, and Cameron Whitcomb. The feature spotlights Dawson's growing momentum and distinctive approach to country music, tracing his rapid rise from Arizona to Nashville, his brand-new music, and the standout live performances that have fueled his breakout year.

“The Chandler, Arizona native plays guitar with top-form dexterity, pens songs that feel like gems unearthed directly from the 1980s, and sings those compositions with a skilled country twang.” - **Billboard**

His recent singles “Might Be In It,” “It’s Gonna Rain,” “Piece Of Heaven,” and “Worth It,” have all received praise from Billboard, Cowboys & Indians, iHeart Country, Country Now, Holler, All Country News, Saving Country Music, and more. Dawson has also delivered standout opening performances for artists including Lainey Wilson, Gavin Adcock, Cole Swindell, Clay Walker, Tracy Lawrence, Mark Chesnutt, Hank Jr., Justin Moore, Braxton Keith,



Jake Worthington, and more.

Drawing inspiration from country legends like Merle Haggard, Keith Whitley, Randy Travis, and Vince Gill, Dawson pairs silky vocals and honest songwriting with a timeless sound that feels both nostalgic and refreshingly current. He has also collaborated with GRAMMY Award-winning producer Chuck Ainlay and acclaimed songwriter Roger Springer on his forthcoming debut project.

About Colton Dawson
One of the hottest artists to watch on the country music scene, Colton Dawson is blazing a trail

Drawing inspiration from country legends like Merle Haggard, Keith Whitley, Randy Travis, and Vince Gill, Dawson pairs silky vocals and honest songwriting with a timeless sound that feels both nostalgic and refreshingly current.

from his home in Arizona to Music City and beyond. His smooth vocals, sharp guitar work, and honest storytelling are quickly setting him apart in Nashville’s new wave of traditional country. With a breakout

performance at a sold-out Ryman Auditorium opening for country hitmaker Clay Walker, just him and his guitar, he received not one, but two standing ovations. Audiences react heavily to his poignant lyrics, slick melodies, and nostalgic style, be it onstage or online. Colton has collaborated with GRAMMY Award-winning producer Chuck Ainlay and hit songwriter Roger Springer to create his debut project.

Don’t miss out on Colton Dawson. To stay up to date on Colton Dawson, visit coltondawson.com.

Wrap-up

Memphis Grizzlies conclude Grizz Goes Back to School Campaign in Mid-South from sports page 3

sorted through thousands of school supplies to distribute to teachers ahead of the school year on Friday, July 31, at the Stuff the Bus event. The team joined both the Memphis-Shelby County Schools’ Back-to-School Fair and the Orange Mound Back-to-School Fair on Saturday, Aug. 1, to provide swag items and giveaways to more than 5,000 community members.

The Grizzlies supported the annual Teach901 back-to-school teacher bash at Old Dominick Distillery on Thursday, Aug. 20, to celebrate over 200 school-teachers. Educators were provided with gifts and entertainment from the Grizzlies Live Entertainment Teams.

Grizzlies guard Jahmai Mashack donated back-to-school items to Grizzlies Prep students and teachers on Wednesday, Aug. 26.

The campaign concluded with Grizzlies players visiting Grizzlies Prep on Monday, Sept. 14, to wish students good luck in the year ahead. The players toured the school, interacted with students and learned about the

The Grizzlies supported the annual Teach901 back-to-school teacher bash at Old Dominick Distillery on Thursday, Aug. 20, to celebrate over 200 school-teachers. Educators were provided with gifts and entertainment from the Grizzlies Live Entertainment Teams.

new girl’s STEAM school that opened this year.

For more information on Grizz Goes Back to School, visit grizzlies.com/community.

Fans who want to support the Memphis Grizzlies and purchase 2026-27 season tickets, single game tickets or partial plans, including tickets to Opening Night on Wednesday, Oct. 21, can do so now by going online to grizzlies.com/tickets.

For single game tickets and more information on the Grizzlies, visit grizzlies.com, ‘like’ Memphis Grizzlies on Facebook or follow @memgrizz on Twitter/X and Instagram.

“We leaned into the hooks, turned up the guitars and gave it a fresh coat of sparkle”; Haley and the Crushers release more videos and tunes as they continue to “Crash” and “Crush”

“...The Crushers have always known how to weaponize a hook. But in this current era, front-woman Hayley Cain cuts even deeper, slicing through modern burnout, digital overload, and the identity crises that come with trying to exist and create in a hyper-online world.” - **The Luna Collective**

"Although Hayley came up in the punk rock world of Southern California backyard shows, the self-proclaimed 'poolside glitter trash' band tends to gravitate towards sunshine and sparkle, even while investigating darkness and woe." – **The Punk Site**

"Call them pop; call them punk. Just don't ever call them 'cool.'" - **New Noise**

SEPTEMBER 29, 2026 -Detroit, MI — “We’ve always loved songs that feel like candy with a switchblade tucked inside,” says frontwoman **Hayley Cain** of glitter-punk instigators *Hayley and the Crushers* who put their own high-octane spin on The Primitives’ iconic 1988 hit “Crash” now available. Hayley and the Crushers’ version retains the irresistible jangle-pop sweetness of the original’s ‘60s girl-group melodies + Buzzcocks-style buzzsaw guitars while turning up the volume, attitude, and general potential for vehicular mayhem. In turn, they transform the beloved alt-pop classic into a candy-coated, guitar-charged Crushers romp. “Crash” has that perfect mix of innocence, adrenaline and danger,” she says. “We leaned into the hooks, turned up the guitars and gave it a fresh coat of sparkle. There's no way to improve upon the original, but that didn't stop us from throwing it into the Crushermobile for a spin around the block.” The accompanying video takes that sentiment literally (or at least as literally as anything in the



Known as “glitter punk instigators” Hayley and the Crushers (L to R: Stacy Binelli, Dr. Cain ESQ aka Reid Cain, Hayley Crusher Cain, and Ryan Deliso) prove why it’s no crime to instigate great punk! (Photo credit: Cory Marie Podielski)

Link to Haley and the Crushers “Crash” video on YouTube

<https://youtu.be/3PTbs4pUy0Q?si=uOVYVbx7NFTeUWxQ>

Crushers’ universe can be). Set against the gritty backdrop of a Detroit junkyard, the video mixes lip-sync performance footage with a gloriously zany van ride packed with slapstick humor, camp, and a healthy dose of Weekend at Bernie's-style hijinks. The result feels like the soundtrack to a summer joyride that has already taken a few questionable turns.

““Crash”” also continues a long-running Crushers tradition: taking songs they love and throwing them into their own glitter-covered blender. Over the years, the band has put its distinctive stamp

on songs associated with X, The Ramones, The Shivvers, The Go-Go’s, and Kim Wilde, gravitating toward music that feels quirky, colorful, hook-heavy, and unmistakably rooted in the ‘80s. Musically, their take on “Crash” fits right into that lineage — infectious enough to sing along to, scrappy enough to feel dangerous, and loud enough to require the windows-down approach. It’s another example of the band’s knack for finding the sweet spot between punk aggression and pop abandon. The release follows “Cringeworthy,” the band’s sharp-edged, pro-cringe anthem about finally

putting down the emotional baggage that isn’t yours to carry. Inspired by frontwoman Hayley Cain’s own experiences unpacking generational trauma through therapy, the song turns personal excavation into a defiant celebration of embracing imperfection. Before that came “Jewel Case,” a long-beloved Crushers live staple that finally received its first proper studio recording nearly a decade after Cain originally wrote it. The band’s signature closing anthem arrived alongside a sweat-soaked performance video designed to capture the chaotic, anything-can-happen energy of a Crushers show.



Hayley and the Crushers "Crash" single artwork

Link to Hayley and the Crushers "Cringeworthy" Video:
<https://youtu.be/jOhysDIWP00?si=UhCcOPgkItmSTG3B>

and to Link to Hayley and the Crushers "Jewel Case" Video:
<https://youtu.be/srde2wtXF0M?si=OF1ZFh4bstzKRP3p>

Together, “Jewel Case,” “Cringeworthy,” and now “Crash” offers three very different windows into the Crushers’ evolving world: reckless abandon, emotional honesty, and pure pop-culture-fueled fun. All three, however, share the band’s trademark collision of punk attitude, power-pop hooks, garage-rock grit, and surf-rock shimmer. The new material continues the trajectory established by the band’s acclaimed EP Unsubscribe From The Underground, which fused Detroit grit with West Coast sparkle while taking aim at burnout, identity, digital disconnection, and the absurdities of modern life. Their forthcoming album, due in 2027 via

Kitten Robot Records, will push that restless spirit even further — proving that the Crushers can get introspective without getting precious, nostalgic without getting stuck in the past, and silly without ever losing their edge. And if “Crash” is any indication, they’re having a hell of a good time getting there.

Hayley and The Crushers are **Hayley Crusher Cain** (guitar and vocals), **Dr. Cain ESQ aka Reid Cain** (bass), **Ryan Deliso** (lead guitar), and **Stacy Binelli** (drums). “Crash” is out now on all streaming platforms via **Kitten Robot Records**.