

SUPER BOWL STAKEOUT



Written by

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9:01 PM, Feb. 3, 2011

From towel-waving diehards to casual commercial watchers, Super Bowl Sunday has everyone working out their strategy.

For viewing, that is.

If you aren't headed to a house party, you might be thinking about checking out one of the sports-centric watering holes around town. While some of them have more TVs than a Best Buy, others just offer a comfortable hang for keeping one eye on the game and the other on your beverage.

Regardless of your game, here are the stats — from drink specials to tube-front seating — at 10 popular spots.

Because if bars had a league of their own, these guys would be pros.

THE MELROSE

2535 Franklin Pike, 712-8160, www.themelrose.net

Hours: 10 a.m.-2 a.m.

TVs: 11

Specials: Regular Sunday special of \$2 drafts all day.

Food-loving sports fans might choose this bar for its fat burgers made with local beef and a list of fixings that runs from special spicy sauces to the basics — cheese, tomato, lettuce, pickles. (Tip: Order a ramekin of the creamy-thick ranch dressing to dunk your waffle fries.)

JONATHAN'S GRILLE

7135 South Springs Drive, Franklin, 771-0355, www.jonathansgrille.com

Hours: 11 a.m.-1 a.m.

TVs: 37

Specials: 2-for-1 on bottled and draft beers.

Snag a seat around the large square bar at

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YES, at least she's dressed!

NO, I have some rules!

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this restaurant and you'll be golden for game watching. And if the Bowl gets boring, you can always throw darts.

BIG RIVER GRILLE AND BREWING WORKS

111 Broadway, 251-4677, www.bigrivergrille.com

Hours: 11 a.m.- 11 p.m.

TVs: 8

Specials: No

Party with the tourists in cowboy hats at this downtown restaurant, which offers an array of its own brews. The menu goes beyond hot wings and burgers, too, with crab tower appetizers, hummus salads, pizzas, pastas and steaks.

SAM'S SPORTS BAR AND GRILL

1803 21st Ave. S., 383-3601, www.samssportsgrill.com

Hours: 11 a.m.-3 a.m.

TVs: More than 50

Specials: 2-for-1 drinks

There's not a bad seat in the house at this Hillsboro Village hotspot. The volume will stay cranked and the bartenders, who are easy to spot and flag down in their black-and-white striped uniforms, serve the kind of interference we'd welcome.

BAILEY'S PUB AND GRILLE

408 Broadway, 254-5452

Hours: 11 a.m.-3 a.m.

TVs: 32

Specials: 50 cents off Miller Lite and Coors Light drafts, and \$14.99 for a bucket of Miller Lite or Coors Light bottles (5 bottles a bucket).

For locals, a trip downtown sometimes requires a special occasion. The Super Bowl fits at this dark bar with two levels and big-screen TVs.

BEYOND THE EDGE

112 S. 11th St., 226-3343, www.beyondtheedge.net

Hours: 11 a.m.-3 a.m.

TVs: 16

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Specials: 2-for-1 on all beer

You can belly up to the bar at this East Nashville watering hole or find a more active spot by the pool tables and darts.

BUFFALO WILD WINGS

6816 Charlotte Pike #110, 352-9963, www.buffalowildwings.com

Hours: 11 a.m.-midnight

TVs: 39

Specials: Beer of the month special

Wings and football go together like, well, you know. But add more than 40 TVs and you're Super Bowl set.

BATTER'D AND FRIED BOSTON SEAFOOD HOUSE

1008 Woodland St., 226-9283, www.batteredandfried.com

Hours: 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

TVs: 2

Specials: None

It might only have two TVs, but the long bar at this restaurant makes for a good game hang. After all, the bar here has been broken in over many a Red Sox rout. Plus the fried fish and bags of fries are great game grub.

3 CROW BAR

1024 Woodland St., 262-3345

Hours: 11 a.m.-3 a.m.

TVs: 8

Specials: Regular Sunday 2-for-1 specials

It's 2-for-1 every Sunday at this East Nashville neighborhood bar, and the token that gets you that second drink can be redeemed any day of the week.

THE CROW'S NEST

2221 Bandywood Drive, 783-0720, www.crowstnashville.com

Hours: 11 a.m.-2:30 a.m.

TVs: 28

Specials: \$14 beer buckets

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This two-level restaurant and bar has lots of nooks and crannies for parking in front of the tube — from the long downstairs bar or enclosed front patio to the more boisterous upstairs area.

Justin Luna contributed to this story.

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