The Replacements hold a special place in many music fans’ hearts. But what the more casual listener might not realize is that they are also a keystone of the Minneapolis rock scene, which they helped push onto the national playing field during their heyday. We traced out the band’s associations and show how they connect not just to one another but to major artists like Soul Asylum, the Jayhawks, Bob Dylan, and Guns N’ Roses.

How far out on a limb could we go while still being able to circle back to the starting point in some way? Here, you can see the side projects and offshoots each member of the Replacements (former and present) have participated in, and how those connections all seem to trace back the band’s roots. For this exercise, anyway, the X’s are the center of the universe.

Footnotes
1. David Minehan will be playing guitar with The Replacements at the Riot Fest shows.
2. Josh Freese will be drumming with The Replacements at the Riot Fest shows.
3. Big Star lead singer Alex Chilton was the inspiration for the song of the same title.
4. Thumbs Up inspired Peter Jesperson to found Twin/Tone Records
5. Twin/Tone Records signed The Replacements, and helped them eventually get their major label record deal. Other artists on the Twin/Tone label included the Suburbs, the Jayhawks, Curtis A; Zu's Pets (led by Paul Westerberg's wife, Laurie Lindeen), and Run Westy Run.