Subject: The Vault - Pics

Posted by Wayne Parham on Fri, 25 Feb 2005 00:09:18 GMT

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week, so there still is work in progress. But inside lighting is very dim, and I didn't setup special lighting so these pictures are dim too.

The club is about 1/4 mile west of Highway 169 on 76th Street North in Owasso, so stop in if you have a chance.

Mike O'Neal wanted house sound of good quality, but he didn't need 120dB or ground pounding bass. His club has two main colors, deep red and gray. The bar itself is a wide expanse of cherry wood, so the natural choice of speaker finish was cherry too. It's really a classy looking place, and the speakers match the decor very well. Their appearance is quite nice.

I recommended four speakers, two on the south wall and two on the west. The bar is about 4000ft2, so the speakers are placed about 20 feet from each corner and about 20 feet apart from one another. I thought about mounting the speakers upside down, to place the tweeters closer to ear level. But I chose these angled mounts instead, and it works very well. The sound is balanced, and treble is crisp and bright all the way up until you stand right underneath the speakers. The coverage zone begins about four feet away from the wall, which is very good.

View of the south wall, towards SE corner with projection TV

View of the south wall

Coverage is excellent, and there are no dead zones. The sound is clear and balanced everywhere beyond about 4 feet from the walls where the speakers are mounted. Basically, if you aren't right underneath them, the sound is clear, even at the furthest corner away. In fact, the amplifier has to be turned almost all he way down or it's too loud.

View of the SW corner with pool tables and shuffleboard

The two speakers on the west wall nearest the pool tables and shuffleboard are on one channel, and the two speakers in the south wall are on another channel. That way, they can be controlled individually, and the pool table area can be played less loudly so that conversation is easier.

I had originally recommended a Crown amp, but Mike already had a Crest power amp so we decided to give it a try. If it didn't sound good, a Crown could always be purchased later. But the Crest actually sounded very good and had plenty of power. It has to be throttled back nearly all the way or people can't hear each other talking.

I walked all around the room and found tonal balance and coverage to be very uniform with no dead spots, either in bass or treble. Volume levels are also pretty uniform throughout, though when it gets full of people, there will be more attenuation at the opposite walls. This is desireable because the serving bar should be less loud, and it is at the opposite end of the room.

I expected that a room his size would sound better with subs, and I'm thinking about installing a

very good, and is more than enough for what it is supposed to do. Mike may not have needed 120dB for The Vault, but he has that capability anyway. I am pleased, and I think Mike is too. Go buy a beer from Mike and check it out if you're around. Tell Mike you saw it here, and he might even buy you the first one.