

ENTERTAINMENT

Zap into the fun at Lazer Dome

CD Review

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Make Another World is IDLEWILD'S sixth album, and the first on Sanctuary. Their debut single off the CD is "No Emotion," a song with an indie-rock feel with great back-up vocals and the ubiquitous melodic chorus.

In the March 2007 issue of SPIN Magazine, Lead Singer, Roddy Wooble, revealed that Bob Dylan, Blonde is Great, and Modern Times rank as some of his all-time favorite artists. As far as American bands, he cited The Walkmen and Bows And Arrows as faves.

IDLEWILDS press release quote the new CD as, "bristling with taught melodies, guitars that say more than a thousand words ever could. It is an album that knows the simplest line or the shortest song can have the greatest impact, which realizes less can be a whole lot more. An album that remains vital and inspired."

Although there are many themes throughout the CD, a few remain constant. This CD is filled with very personal lyrics, complemented perfectly with an intimacy created by the music. The CD has irony, catchy hooks, sing-along melodies and chorus, plenty of climactic moments, great solos, and all the songs are of great personal significance complemented perfectly by the soft execution of the band, which only punctuates the soul-on sleeve lyrics.

"In Competition for the Worst Time", the opening track, has great lyrics and melody, complemented by an equally melodic solo and lyrics so personal you cannot help but identify. "In competition for the worst first line I could use in conversation for the first time. Find salvation and breathe in each breath that I choose. In competition for the worst time, Brooklyn lies bleeding in the afternoon. Always four or five steps from misfortune."

"Everything As It Moves" has a slightly dissonant opening with very tight drums and bass. Like many of their songs, this is a song of reflection. The drums hit hard and are followed by a very melodic guitar solo. The climax is the ending chorus followed by an ending musical exclamation.

"Make Another World", the first single, has a great drum intro, which bleeds into a complementing guitar arpeggio. The song is eclipsed by the vocals in the intro and blends dissonance and melody with great execution.

"Finished As It Remains" has heavy distorted bar chords with the IDLEWILD signature 'heart-on-sleeve' vocals. Great solos in between verses. A New Age Smiths song with distortion.

Highlights of the CD include "In Competition For The Worst Time", "No Emotion", "If It Takes You Home", "You And I Are Both Away", "A Ghost In The Arcade", and "Once In Your Life."

Don't forget to miss the hidden tracks called "Hidden Ways", and "Lookin' For Love."

This release, although original, reminds me of a cross between of Dashboard Confessional and The Smiths if they stopped the whining, took creative, and debuted in 2007.

Great music, great songwriting, on all fronts. The band is tight, but absent of mastering the art of the breakdown, which is something that is probably unnecessary and out of place for this band and genre. These very personal lyrics are backed by the omniscient music of the band, which lends itself to the intimacy of IDLEWILDS CD. Check out IDLEWILD @ SANCTUARYRECORDS.COM.

With the recent tragedy still fresh in everyone's mind, we have begun to realize the preciousness of life. Friends especially are invaluable. Because of that, we need to spend as much time together in that bond of unity. Whether on campus or not, we need to stick together and be by each other's side. In my opinion, one of the best places to create unity and have fun is

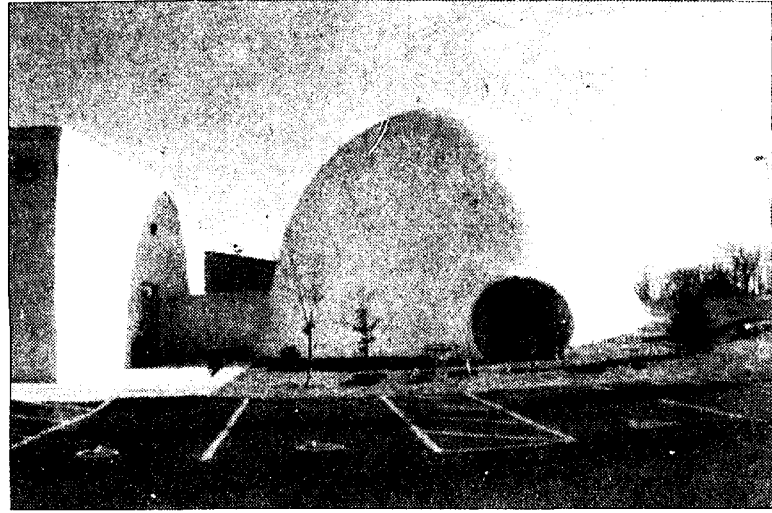


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Laserdome, located just off Route 283 East. It's a little distance from campus, but 20 minutes or so isn't bad, considering just how fun it can be.

Laserdome is just that: a dome with lasers inside. However, the main attraction of Laserdome comes from its laser tag attraction. The dome part is essentially a laser light-to-music show. However, they also have arcade games and a large Halo setup so that teams or individuals can engage in battles from either the green or the red perspective. Naturally, they serve food and drinks there, and all in all the atmosphere of this place makes

it one of the most fun things to do on just about any night of the week. I'll start with the actual Laserdome. Its major downside is that there is no standing room; only six rows of seats are available to use.

However, the dome itself is really cool. They have the music and light setup in front of the seats, and while the music blares and booms through bass speakers, an amazing laser light show goes on above in the roof of the dome. Now, this might strain your neck, but it's worth it. What's best about the music is that they play

certain kinds of music in certain shows, so rather than walk into a show with mixed music, each show features a different genre and current hits from that genre (such as walking into the show, and hearing Breaking Benjamin or Thirty Seconds to Mars in a rock performance). This is very appealing, and allows you to pick and choose which show (or shows, for those with varied and open-minded tastes) you would like to sit in on.

Next, the entire inside of the main building is lined with arcade games. From Dance Dance Revolution (they have four pads, two consoles!) to

Moto GP, you can find just about anything. Just about any genre of arcade game is there for your convenience. The Halo games are set up like arcade games, with

built in chairs and an Xbox controller, along with a large, one-person screen for each of the ten consoles (five red, five green). These are actually located on a tier on the side of the inner building, just above the other arcade games. Halo matches (if there is a line) play every 15 minutes or so.

The food stand is located at the back of the arcade games or right in front of you when you first enter. The food is very good: standard priced, and pretty much a necessity after a game or two of tag. Pizza, popcorn, soda, and pretzels are the majority of items offered, but it's not something to complain too much about. Some of the arcade games give you tickets too, which you can exchange for quirky prizes and such.

Above the food and arcades is an eating area, where you can obviously chow down, or even watch a current game of laser tag via windows. This is convenient, especially when you want to sit down and relax in between matches.

One of the coolest aspects of

Laserdome, in my opinion, is the ID cards you can make. Now it just might be being a geek, but I think it is pretty cool to have an ID card that has a codename on it and a

picture of you in any pose. They don't do too much, though when you register for one, they ask for your information so they can send you stuff. Personally, I make up information (it's not as if they would check anyways) just because I don't want the mail clutter. But it is up to you,



you proceed into the arena, where you go to your team's

base to begin. Then the short match begins. You get points based on where on the vest you hit, and lose points when you are hit. Usually there are two matches in each round, and it is easy to work up a sweat (after all, everyone, to an extent, runs). The set up is also really cool, with multiple places to hide and a multi-level ramp (which is very disadvantageous to those who use the floor level). The tag in itself is great for teams of friends to either go against each other or to team up and watch each other's backs.

Aesthetically, this place looks really cool; the inside has lights on the walls and reminds you of a club without the fake smoke. The dome is mostly black, obviously because of the

laser light show. The tag arena is very nice, with blue lights and illuminated green and red pillars, wall designs and fan in the center. Laserdome is a very nice looking place, and the atmosphere is warm and electric at the same time.

Like I said earlier, this is the kind of place you go to with friends. It's one of those places where you go together to have a good time together. It's because of these times that we need to connect with one another and maintain our bonds of friendship. Laserdome is just one of many places to go and do just that, and although it can be slightly costly (go on Wednesdays, it's a bargain night), it is worth it just to have fun with friends. It's one of the coolest places around, and with your friends, there is no better place to go just to have fun.

◀ GEEK'S CORNER ▶

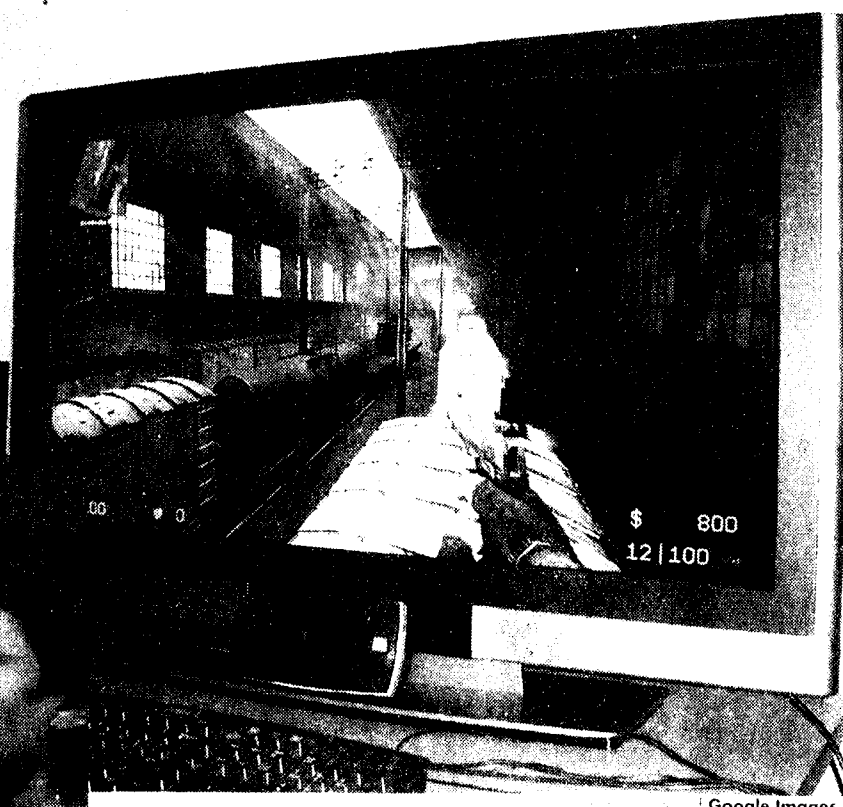
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For this last issue I really and truly agonized over what to write. I even appealed to my friends as to what I could sign off with. After receiving advice that ranged from the ludicrous to the almost viable ideas, I finally had inspiration strike. I decided to sign off as your oh so strange author of geek corner with a history of some of the conversations I have had with my Penn State geek brethren through the course of my stay here.

When I finally appealed to the geeks around me for advice they responded

scaring you poor readers with descriptions of fan fiction, to causing a war between the trekkies and the warsies, thus leaving Penn State Harrisburg a flaming war zone upon my graduation. It was then I realized just why I enjoy being a geek so much.

The hobbies and interests of geeks are only part of the geek life. Mind you



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Geeks come in all shapes and sizes, with a variety of interests. But they all have the same common traits of laziness, sarcasm and napping.

people, with their own way of looking at things. That, more than anything is why I enjoy the company of geeks.

At the very least, the conversations we have are entertaining. You can walk into arguments about anything when it comes to geeks, I have literally been dragged into arguments over what the best way to take over the world would be. That is to say nothing over such classic arguments as Captain Kirk vs. Captain Picard or Star Wars vs. Star Trek. When one stops to think about it geeks can and will argue over just about anything in a good natured sort of way. It can, however, make it

interesting when non-geeks walk into the middle of a discussion of the pros and cons of using napalm.

We don't always argue of course, just most of the time. Other times we will do everything from watch anime, shoot each other (virtually of course), play MUDORPGS, and any other number of geeky hobbies. Geeks are nothing if not busy people when it comes to hobbies. I don't think I could scratch the surface of all the different types of geeky hobbies if I tried.

Mind you, part of this is probably due to another geeky trait. That would be laziness. If a geek can get a computer to do it for them or if they don't REALLY need it done, well, let's just say some of us may have a habit of ignoring it. It isn't that we aren't ambitious we

are just a little laidback. Having a minifridge downstairs in the computer room is just so we don't wake the folks when we need a drink. Just trying to be considerate is all. No really, not lazy at all.

So lets see, we have covered the geeky traits of sarcasm and slight laziness. Ahh there is also a slight tendency towards sleep and sun deprivation in a sizable portion of our population. This may or may not be due to the slight tendency we have developed towards all night anime or gaming marathons. Personally I stand firmly by my belief that with a little Vitamin D supplement the accursed daystar is unnecessary to everyday life.

Mind you, I will put in the disclaimer that not all geeks are like this. Some are much worse; others not like this at all. I go by your hobbies defining the geek, both for geeky level and type. I just go by the traits my friends seem to universally display. Bless their twisted little hearts. No group of human

beings are ever going to have universal traits, so just view these as my take on the geeky population.

And so, with this brief look into the people I have been writing this article for all these semesters I bid you all a very fond farewell. I hope to graduate this semester and perhaps go on to make that marvelous thing called money. Oh yes, somewhat greedy, knew I forgot a trait somewhere. Ahh well. In any case, a fond goodbye to you, all my readers. Whether Geek Corner continues or not is something I leave in the hands of my editorial Mistresses After God. Sayonara good people.



with what every geek reaches for when presented with such an opportunity.

They went with sarcasm of course. The ideas they came up with included everything from

they are a vital part, as I would hope is evidence by the attention I have given them in previous Geek Corners throughout the semesters. But they are really only part of it. Geeks are a unique kind of