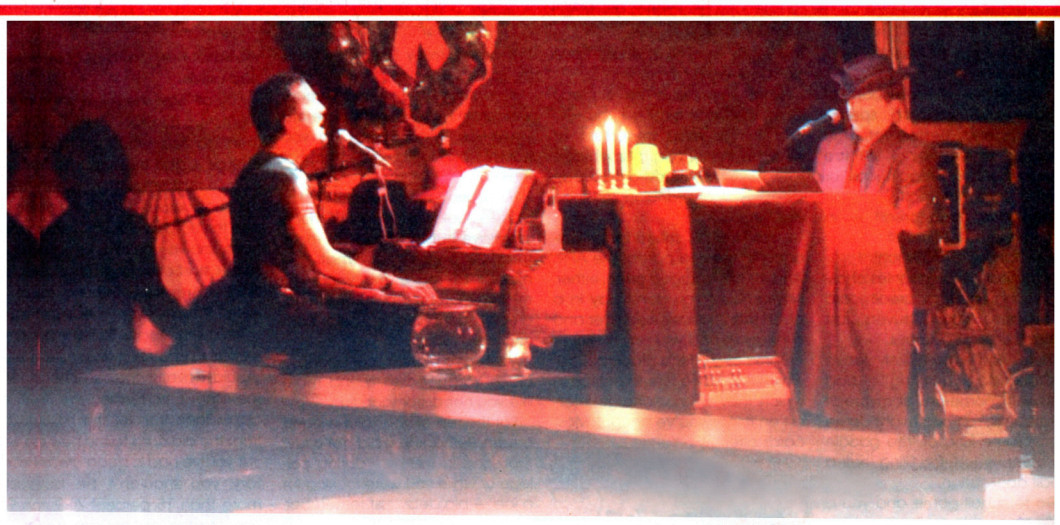
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Current



Sing us a song, you're the

Piano Men

Dueling pianists serve up friendly fire

story by marla McMACKIN

photo by dave CHAPMAN

Dave Caruso and Bill Jacques have your number.

From "Tiny Bubbles" to "Like a Virgin" and "Great Balls of Fire" to "My Sacrifice," the two can be seen belting out your requests every Friday night at Jimmy K's Bar and Grill.

The shot-and-a-beer joint at 1216 Dix-Toledo Road isn't you're grandma's piano bar either.

"The old-style piano bars play your grandma's songs," Caruso said. "This is almost anything goes."

"It's spontaneous," Jacques added. "You never know what's going to happen because it's all playing to the crowd."

And this is something that makes each night the two get together to live a bit of their childhood dream fun.

One customer even asked them to disrobe.

"But we didn't know that one," Caruso said with the boyish smile he also wears on stage.

The bar's owner, Jimmy Kochans, got the idea for the show after seeing a similar act while on vacation in Florida.

"It was amazing," he said. "They just rocked the place."

Kochans, who often plays an acoustic set at the bar, worked with Jacques in a band and knew Caruso through mutual friends.

And five months ago, the two agreed to go along for the ride.

"I talked them into playing together and it worked out pretty well," Kochans said. "They really sound very good."

After spending many years playing around in local bands, Caruso and