



Heritage Sunday

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Musicians Do Battle

Local Club Welcomes Dueling Pianos

"Piano Wars" has hit the Downriver scene and the unique musical format will showcase the talents of two singer/pianists who will "duel it out" Friday evenings in Lincoln Park.

The program began earlier in the month at Jimmy K's as a concept presented by co-owners Jimmy Kochans and Bob Baber.

They recruited Dave Caruso of Trenton and Bill Jacques, originally from Livonia, to pound out requests on two acoustic pianos.

When asked to describe the show, Kochans said, "It's basically a high-energy performance with a couple of really talented guys who can handle any request."

Caruso, one of four brothers known as "Caruso," has played all over the country and has a strong pop and classic rock music background.

Jacques has been up front for several top bands for many years but is also at home with the blues and classic rock.

Caruso said that each song features one of them either on piano or vocal or both, and then switches. "Whatever song one of us rips into, the other has to join in, duel at the solo, or encourage the audience to participate and sing along. Almost anything goes and usually does."

Jacques said the format is nothing like anything he has ever been involved in before.

"It's a blast and Dave and I really complement each other's style," he said.

There are no breaks, just solid music from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. The warm-up show is Kochans himself. He performs on acoustic guitar and does vocals. He is also a well-known drummer. "Piano Wars" begins at 10pm.

Jimmy K's is at 1215 Dix-Toledo Road in Lincoln Park. For details, call (313) 294-2876 or visit www.PianoWars.com.



Bill Jacques (left) and Dave Caruso are performing a dueling piano show at Jimmy K's in Lincoln Park.