

# Husband and wife team expect a lot of ribbing

**By TED BROWN**  
Staff Writer

David MacLeod loves good ribs.  
And after spending the past

four years perfecting his barbecuing techniques, he and his wife Angie Volta decided to take a shot at competing against others who also had been fine-tuning their rib recipes.

They entered the Amateur Rib Competition at the Beach Rib Fest, held in Toronto's Beaches area earlier this summer, and managed to finish first in a class of nine competitors.

"We started (setting up and barbecuing) around 11 a.m. and had to turn in our entry at 3 p.m.," said MacLeod. "The back ribs took about four hours and we had to have six pieces, as there were six judges to taste them."

The judges assessed the ribs on their taste, texture and appearance and presentation, said MacLeod, then the individual results were tallied to pick the winner.

"The difference between our first and the second-place entry was one point," said MacLeod. "But we'll take it. It was pretty good, since it was our first time out."

MacLeod has been seriously barbecuing meats of all sorts for more than four years, and was originally inspired by the TLC show BBQ Pitmasters. He decided this was the year to 'get his feet wet'.

Since winning the Beaches competition, MacLeod says they hope to enter four Ontario competitions, which are held at various locations across the province over the summer.

"It's a lot of fun," says Angie, "We have something we enjoy doing together, we see lots of other people who are interested in the same thing, and we get to experience some great food—every rib



Rookie ribber David MacLeod is competing in barbecue competitions this summer with his wife Angie. Photo by Ted Brown

has a different taste."