

# Grilling champ moves towards media-related competitions

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Adams will have his new multi-purpose cooking pit in the arsenal for the Father's Day weekend—the 16-foot-long, 3,000-pound 'Jambo' from Texas.

A custom-built, wood-fired creation complete with a Verity grill, rotisserie spit and a Steam Whistle pilsner tap, Jambo took a year to create at a cost of \$20,000.

"Jambo is so easy to use and the food coming off it is the best I've ever done," he said.

"I'm very confident with Jambo. Yes it's a smoker,

but most people don't like smoky food and this produces the best barbecued chicken you've ever tasted. And when you throw in some ethnic influences like Caribbean and Asian flavours, it becomes like the melting pot of Toronto. I'm a little off the wall with some of my cooking and that's what makes it fun."

Adams has scaled down his competitive barbecuing schedule and is shifting focus to more media-related events, including an appearance on CTV's *Canada AM* last Friday.

And while he hasn't participated in

a throwdown-style competition before like he'll encounter at Deerhurst, which will feature James Cunningham from Food Network Canada's show *Eat St.* as the emcee, Adams realizes he'll have to be a showman for the Cogeco TV broadcast on hand as well as produce superb food for the hundreds of guests expected to attend.

"I've got all my standard lines to keep people entertained, but the main focus is always the food," he said.

"It's totally different being up on stage. It's scripted, yet they also toss those surprise ingredients in there and you'll have

guys with TV cameras following you around. It will be all fast-grilling since the show will run from 6 to 10 p.m., so it's all about timing."

As part of the weekend festivities, Adams will also take part in a Gourmet Griller Marche on the Friday evening as well as workshops during the day Saturday.

A celebrity panel will judge the four-course Throwdown Dinner & Duel between Adams and Golden along with the guests who sign up for the weekend package.

*'I've got all my standard lines to keep people entertained, but the main focus is always the food.'*

— Steve Adams

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