

A John and Marilyn Bate Story

by Vince Kreiser (only one of many that could be told about this unique "ice rink" couple)



In the early 1990's John and Marilyn Bate hosted a B.B.Q. for the staff of Victoria's Memorial Arena at their home in Victoria. The unique part about this event was that most of the food, liquid refreshments and even a brand new gas barbeque to cook everything was supplied and then left behind by C.K.D.A. Radio. It seems John, Rob Kelbough and myself dropped by the radio station (located in the basement of the Douglas Hotel on a very busy Douglas Street) early one morning driving a Zamboni 520. As the Zamboni made its way through the morning rush hour traffic the Director of Parks and Recreation at the time was walking to work. It would have been interesting to read his mind as he looked up in disbelief and watched "his machine" go by with a couple of costumed drivers at the helm!



Dressed as icemakers (Rob was a penguin) the trio visited on air with the morning show personalities during their "Barbacrew" contest and won a free back yard party for bringing the most unique item to the radio station that week.



The radio crew pulled up to John and Marilyn's house and the party was on!



Marilyn was in charge of supervising the action as the radio station staff did the cooking.

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John hosted a mini golf tournament for the guests on his "championship" nine hole course.



A good time was had by all during this unique social event for the arena staff members. ■