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with **Jamieson Bridal**

QUESTIONS

By Jonathan Vickers

Jamieson Bridal (31) is the morning show host for 103.7 BOB FM since 2011. Jamieson is married to his wife Natalie and they live in Kemptville where they are building their dream home. They have a cat named Georgia otherwise called “Les Snooch!” Jamieson does own a guitar that “I don’t play” but is an expert we understand in “Air Guitar!”



LH: Is Brockville your hometown?

J: It is now! I grew up west of Ottawa, in Kanata. Brockville, the 1000 Islands & Kingston were frequented during the summer for things like day/weekend trips, soccer tournaments, etc!

LH: What can you tell us about growing up in Kanata?

J: Well it’s a lot different now from when I grew up! It’s scary how quickly it grew... but when I was young it was a lot like Leeds & Grenville! I lived in a part of town called Beaverbrook and you couldn’t get far without bumping in to someone you knew & it was one of those places where all the kids could play OUTSIDE and none of the parents worried!! It really was a great little community!

LH: Were you a good student or a class clown?

J: HA! I was able to calm down when the teacher yelled loud enough...but definitely a class clown!

LH: Before you pursued a radio career what did you want to do for a living?

J: I’m a massive plane nerd so being a pilot was always a dream, but my eyes & my lack of math abilities kind of crushed that one! I did graduate Police Foundations in 2003 and came incredibly close to becoming a cop. I let go of that dream however when I realized there was absolutely no way that I was mature enough for that amount of responsibility. Aside from that I sort of grew up in the restaurant industry, and have worked in it (in one way or another) for about 17 years...so there was always that!

LH: How were you hired at BOB FM here in Brockville?

J: I originally met our former Program Director (Dan Wylie) as a student when he came to Algonquin for a presentation & when I graduated I had a job doing traffic updates on BOB FM Brockville, among others! One day, when a potential opening became available Dan called me and...well, here’s how the conversation went:

Dan: “What do you know about

Selector?” (That’s the system we use to schedule the music).

Me: “Nothing!”

Dan: “Well that sucks! Had you said yes, I might’ve had an offer for you!”
He hangs up...I cry...and the day rolls on, but he called back that afternoon

Dan: “Jamieson, do you know Dan Mellon?”

Me: “No, but I know him by reputation”

Dan: “Well he’s the Program Director in Kingston and he’s willing to teach you Selector if you can get yourself there tomorrow, Deal?”

Me: “Done!”

From there I met with Dan Mellon in Kingston, learned Selector & popped by Brockville en route home and was set up with an interview the following week. In that interview I met with the Dan’s (Wylie & Mellon) as well as Greg Hinton (the GM) and was offered the job of Music Director for JR FM and Midday announcer on BOB FM!

LH: Has there ever been an on-the-air gag that went "deep south" (backfired) and if so, what happened? Were there any consequences?

J: Honestly? No, and I'm extremely fortunate to be able to say that! I like to walk the line and talk about things that are perhaps a bit "touchy & that's why I'm fortunate to say be able to answer that way. Frankly I'm flabbergasted that I haven't!

LH: Hosting events and charitable fundraisers, is there a favourite outing that you enjoy and look forward to in our communities?

J: Not really because each event brings with it a different and unique set of challenges. Even events that are the same in nature! For instance, you may have 2 different golf tournaments in a week, but in the end I'm never there for the golf, the food or the "party"! Sure I'll kick back and have fun with everyone and act like I'm just a face in the crowd but in the end I'm there to support a cause...and usually to coerce you to give up more money!

LH: Are you treated like a celebrity when you are going around town and on your off time?

J: I don't think so. Mind you I do call it a "measure of success" that I get noticed around town and people do stop me to talk about something I've said or done! You have to have a healthy ego to be "on" for a living but whether people are coming to talk to you because they loved what you said (or they hated it)... you always have to remember that it means they're listening & an engaged listenership is the highest compliment a radio personality can get!

LH: Do you consider yourself a role model?

J: Well as I said before, there's a healthy ego that goes with being in a job like mine... so yes, yes I do!!! Seriously though, I don't like labelling myself 'cause I believe that while a healthy ego is a good thing, being full of yourself is not! If there's someone out there who is looking for advice or whatever about a career in radio I'm always happy to impart whatever knowledge I may have!

LH: Best part & Worst part about working in Radio?

J: The best part about being on air...is being on air! How many careers let you basically do whatever you want, and only ask that you push buttons and talk?! Now having said that the bosses know

darn well how much goofing off we do AND how great it is to do this for a living, so the worst part is the pay!

LH: Most famous celebrity you have met or talked to?

J: Because of the job? Alan Doyle of Great Big Sea or INXS, "Definitely a tie" Outside the job? I had a chance meeting with comedian Steve Harvey at LaGuardia Airport and I have met Harry Connick Jr. and Jean Chretien

LH: Now for the more personal stuff: We understand you just got married over the past Year, so congratulations! How did you meet your wife?

J: Well it's simple! We met and I realized that she was WAY out of my league so I just did EVERYTHING she asked for and prayed! I guess it worked, eh?! Oh you want the real story? Fine... We met through her sister! She was dating a friend of mine at the time and it was one of those "Oh you & Nat would be perfect for each other" lines, which at first I just brushed it off but after going out together a couple of times with mutual friends we really started to like hanging out alone...and then it was like any other love story!

LH: Where did you go on your first date?

J: That's a very good question! In fact we debate about the actual date we even became a couple considering we were so lost in each other that we were simply not paying any attention to date or time! I can say that my first memory of us doing something couple-ish was watching the closing ceremonies of the 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver cause that was the night I fell in love with her!

LH: What do notice first about a woman?

A: How old are your readers?

LH: If stranded on a desert island name 3 things you would want with you?

J: 1) Nat
2) The complete library of Tom Clancy books! * All of them
3) Liquorice (both red and black)
* At the time of the interview Tom Clancy had just passed away.

LH: Favourite Guilty Pleasure?

J: Again...how old are your readers? Cheap Scotch, Oh and watching planes at airports! Just not at the same time!!

LH: Favourite TV Shows?

J: The Newsroom, Simpsons, Brooklyn Nine-Nine, Breaking Bad & Discovery Channel

LH: Favourite Sports Team or Sport?

J: GO SENS GO & The Packers! I chose Green Bay when I was about 12 'cause my Dad came home from the Super Bowl and handed me a Cheese Head hat! I thought it was probably the greatest fan tradition ever...and so I pledged my allegiance then & there!

LH: What is a characteristic in people you dislike?

J: Chewing with your mouth open! That was HAMMERED into me as a kid and now there isn't anything that annoys me more!

Bullying too! I was bullied and it really hurts. What scares me the most about it is that not every kid is as lucky as I was to be able to open up about it. You shouldn't ever have to feel bad about who you are. Also no matter how involved you are, you should ALWAYS point a bully out to parents, teachers, etc. You could save a life.

LH: If I could change one thing about myself, it would be?

J: My bad back! I'm 31 and I may as well be 150!

LH: Bonus question: If I were Prime Minister, I would.....

J: Do it right

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