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# Modzelewski knows he has some big shoes to fill

From pg. 1

"The first thing I heard coming in here was that I'd have huge shoes to fill," said Modzelewski.

"Iron Mike was so well known and loved in this area and even where I worked out west, everyone knew who he was. I didn't know him personally, but to come in here and follow in the footsteps of someone as respected as him is an honour."



JESSE MODZELEWSKI

He began with his own show on an Erin community station — "the worst radio you've ever heard" — worked as an intern at Toronto's 102.1 The Edge and applied for dozens of jobs in the radio industry with no response until getting the shot in Lac Labiche. After four months there, he moved to a station in Prince George, B.C. for nine months before landing the morning show spot at CFMK in

Kingston for more than a year until Hits FM came calling. Growing up in Georgetown, Modzelewski played minor hockey with the Raiders and one of his teammates was the son of Paul and Carol Mott of Erin, longtime Toronto talk radio personalities who remain on the air together weekend mornings on Toronto's CFRB.

Modzelewski said he was awestruck with the inner-workings of broadcast radio and always dreamed of having his own show, until it came to fruition when he was hired by a station in Lac Labiche, Alta. two years ago.

"As a kid, I would go into Toronto with the Motts every day they were on the air and I was just fascinated by the whole operation," added Modzelewski, who resides in St. Catharines with girlfriend Chelsea and one-year-old son Nixon.

"That's where the seed was planted for me. To be right there when they were interviewing all of these interesting people was amazing and that's when I knew that was what I wanted to do."

Modzelewski worked in landscaping and at Emerald Isle Home Furnishings in Georgetown. He also enrolled in the communications program at Wilfrid Laurier University before graduating from Humber College's radio broadcasting program.

Kingston for more than a year until Hits FM came calling.

"I like to push the envelope and think of crazy things to do, like having people call in and pretend they're rabbits to win an Easter Crème Egg, or things like that," added the recently converted golf nut.

"When you're new in a job like this, you have to keep challenging yourself to come up with things that are fresh and interesting for the listeners. Why should people listen to me? Because I'm always thinking out of the box."

While there'll never be anyone quite like Iron Mike, Modzelewski said that all he can do is be himself and has been encouraged by the feedback from listeners on things like his trivia contests, prank calls and celebrity interviews.

"When I was a kid I saw The Hip lots of times. I'd go on these trips where I'd see five or six of their shows in a two-week span and I knew everything about them. It's so weird. I've interviewed them now a few times. One night when I was at the Kingston station, I was at a bar when Paul Langlois and Robby Baker came over to our table and brought me a beer. We talked and hung out and I'm thinking, 'How good is this?'"

## GARAGE SALE

At the Georgetown Fairgrounds  
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Saturday June 28<sup>th</sup> & Sunday June 29<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 am to 2:00 pm

for

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For information please contact Mark and Nanci at 905-877-8707