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ANDI JAXSON

94.9 KLTY Radio's
Nighttime DJ
Tees it Up

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The nighttime DJ for contemporary Christian radio's number one station tees it up

By Rebecca MacDonald

Golf has been a powerful influence in Andi Jaxson's life. The nighttime DJ for 94.9 KLTY took up the game when she moved to Dallas from her home in Knoxville, Tennessee. Single at the time, she says she started going to the driving range because she thought it would be a good way to meet people. "Well," she laughs, "my husband doesn't want me to tell you this, but I really did it to meet guys." It worked. Their first date, arranged by friends who knew of Andi's new-found passion for the game, took place on a golf course.



Jaxson plays often, and loves golf apparel from Swing Chick.

From Dollywood to Dallas

Jaxson got her start in radio during her freshman year in college, when she took a class. The class led to a job at Dolly Parton's radio station at the country music star's theme park, Dollywood. The first time she went on the air, Jaxson says she was "very scared."

She overcame her nervousness using a trick that friends in the business taught her. "They said, tape a picture of a friend to your computer, and while you're talking, look at the picture and act like you're talking to your friend," says Jaxson. "It really does help!"

After graduating from college, a friend of Jaxson's in Texas referred her to 94.9 KLTU, the number one contemporary Christian radio station in the country. Jaxson had five years of on-air experience under her belt, and after hearing a demo tape, the station managers offered her the job. "I thought, this is a once in a lifetime opportunity, to move from a small market like Knoxville to a multi-million dollar station in a big-city market," says Jaxson.

Their first golf date

Jaxson was attracted to golf because she loves the outdoors and being active. "The first time I picked up a club, it was so challenging. I was hooked immediately." She met her husband, a record producer, at a CD release party. Friends who knew them both later arranged a golf date.

"I will never forget the first time we played together!" laughs Jaxson. "When he showed up at the golf course, he was wearing a Mickey Mouse shirt and a really goofy hat. I thought, this guy is interesting!" Jaxson adds that, as the round progressed, "The girls were whipping the guys, so they tried to get in our heads, and

they wound up winning. But what stuck with me was that this guy was really funny. We had a great time."

Today, Jaxson is a 12-13 handicap, and credits her prowess to lessons and the right equipment. "Taking lessons and getting fitted for the right flex on my irons has really helped," she explains. "I was hitting ladies clubs, and that was hurting my game. Because I lift weights, I'm fairly strong, and changing over to an A flex gave me much more control, more distance and more consistency off the tee."

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Golf is good for a marriage

Today, golf is a passion Jaxson shares with her husband, Mike, who she says never fails to make her laugh on the course. "Mike's philosophy is that you can shoot really well if you don't count every stroke—people with high handicaps are just counting too many strokes!"

Golf also serves as a way for the couple to work out the challenges that come with marriage. Jaxson says both she and her husband are competitive, and use golf as an outlet. "If Mike says we're counting every stroke today, then I hold him accountable!" she laughs.

"You learn a lot about the character of a person on a golf course," she teases. "For example, Mike often hits his tee shots into the woods, but he never seems to lose his ball. That's why he always carries an extra ball in his pocket."

While they focus on having fun, the couple are passionate about the

game, and take their clubs everywhere. "We dragged our clubs to Tahiti on our honeymoon, and Tahiti only has one golf course in the entire country!" says Jaxson. "We had to load our clubs onto this little speedboat to get to the course. The locals were looking at us like we were crazy."

Jaxson also uses her platform as an on-air personality to raise money for non-profits by playing in charity tournaments. Her golf philosophy: "As in life, bogeys and double bogeys are going to happen. You have to learn to deal with them and move on, because something great could be right around the corner. You never know, so you can never give up." 

Photos by Christopher Mann Photography, www.mannphoto.com. Jaxson's apparel by Swing Chick, www.swingchick.com.



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