

Shilo Bellis

Radio Broadcasting, 2003

Shilo Bellis graduated from Loyalist College in 2003 from the Radio Broadcasting program. A one month placement at NewCap Radio in Moncton, New Brunswick impressed his bosses so much that they wouldn't let him go home. It is with an upbeat, easy tone and a great sense of humour, that he delivers The Goin' Home Show each weekday afternoon on XL96 radio. He impresses his colleagues with calm organization amidst the daily chaos of on-air broadcasting. Blind from birth, Shilo has the ability to memorize the information that he communicates to his listeners. He says, "That way it just sounds more natural." He has a few technical aids, a program that reads his computer screen and a note-taking device that allows him to read his notes in Braille. You can blog with Shilo on the XL96 website where he breaks the bad news, "Sorry ladies, I'm married."

Shilo hopes that his experience will help spread the message that people without sight are highly employable. "One of the main challenges of working in the radio industry is proving to people who are sighted that you can do the job. By making your abilities good enough, you definitely have something to offer."

Reflecting on his experience at Loyalist College, he responds. "It was amazing. Being out of school and looking back, the skills that I learned there are the skills that I need here at the radio station. All the teachers were great at preparing me for the real world."

Shilo often spends his weekends involved with local charity events. Most recently he assisted with a fundraiser for the local minor hockey league. His advice to students who wish to follow him into radio broadcasting is this, "Know who you are and know why you are getting into the business. Be prepared to put in the work. Be determined. It is not as easy as you think."