

Jenkins

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TJ: Since I moved to L.A. I've been going to the morning meetings just to learn their system. What I've learned is that they have an incredible group of people who are dedicated to entertainment news and to delivering it to people in incredible ways that you can trust. I really look forward to working with the team and bringing the stories to people.

In our country we look at our entertainers like royalty. We don't have a king or queen. So in certain ways our Brad Pitts and Angelina Jolies get looked up to across the country. So to be in a position

to bring the stories about their lives, their trials and tribulations, and also the fun stuff, when they are releasing music, movies and so on, I just look forward to being a part of that.

TSN: How do you handle the haters?

TJ: I try not to be around it. I like to keep myself in a positive place. When you start reading those critics then you start fishing for those things and it kind of drags you down. So I try not to be around any kind of negative energy. A couple of years ago people were really bashing on LeBron James, on sports radio and sports news shows. It takes getting that championship ring and being successful to really silence the critics. The only person I compete with when I wake up in the morning is myself. I look at myself in the mirror and say, "How can I be the best me?" I don't compare myself to any other hosts that come before me or any other actor that I'm going up against in an audition. All I do is try to be the best me.

TSN: Was this new job at E! something you set as a goal for yourself? Or did circumstances take you to where you are at?

TJ: I've been very blessed in fulfilling

the dreams that I've had for myself. When I was in college, and just about to graduate in 2004, I actually wrote down a list of things I wanted to do and accomplish. And I've been going after what I had on my wish list. I've never got what I wanted at the time, but everything has

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always come full circle for me.

I've wanted to be a hybrid of what Ryan Seacrest has been able to accomplish and what Will Smith has accomplished. That was my goal, to be successful on the broadcasting side and on the acting side as well. So every day I have taken steps forward toward that goal. And I feel very blessed and fortunate to have had some great experiences. Being at E! right now is the pinnacle of my dreams.

TSN: I wish you all the best going forward. Having watched you on 106 & Park for all those years, you feel like family.

TJ: Thank you. So many people tell me that and they have helped me. My first day on television was broadcast live to the world and since then people have watched me. When I first graduated from college, I was homeless. I didn't have a place of my own. I was 23 years old. And since that day I have been on TV every day. So when people tell me I'm like family that means so much to me. I try to stay home and not do anything to get myself in trouble. I feel so much responsibility not to let you guys down.

TSN: Tell us about a book you are read-

ing?

TJ: Every year at this time I read the same book. It's *The Alchemist*, by Paulo Coelho. It's a refresher for me. It's a very gratifying book for me. I've read it every year between November and December for about the last seven years. I love that book.

TSN: You're a Barack Obama supporter. Why?

TJ: For me the issue that matters most is jobs. There are so many people unemployed. I just want to see more job creation happen. Also healthcare is a big thing. My stepdad is going through health issues so making sure that we have affordable healthcare for all Americans is very important to me. Also education: I'm a huge proponent of education. We can't be the best in the world unless we have the best education. So we have to make sure we have the best teachers and the best opportunities for young people to go to college and continue their education. So we

continue to be the best country in the world. President Obama has been on the right path and I think it's important that we continue the path that we're on.

TSN: Who are you looking forward to meeting as E! News host?

TJ: I've never met George Clooney. I can't wait to meet him. I love George Clooney.

TSN: Does Mr. Terrence Jenkins have a Mrs. Terrence Jenkins?

TJ: I am not married, No, but I am in a very happy relationship. (Jenkins' agent adds, "She's gorgeous.")

TSN: Have you ever felt like giving up?

TJ: As an actor you are going to go in a room and be told "No" 100 times before you are told "Yes." So that means there will be 100 meetings, 100 castings, 100 auditions. You'll go through that before you get that "Yes". And to do that is painful. But for me, my faith in God and having good people in my life that have been able to support me is what brought me through.

Antioxidants

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For added protein, shred 1/2 of a cooked store-bought roasted chicken, then toss with pasta and serve.

Roasted Broccoli

Serves: 4

- 1 1/2 cups of broccoli florets
- 3 garlic cloves, peeled and sliced
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon lemon zest
- 3 tablespoons grated Parmesan
- 3 tablespoons toasted pine nuts
- 1 teaspoon chopped basil

Preheat oven to 425°F.

In large bowl, toss broccoli with garlic, olive oil, salt and pepper.

Place broccoli in a single layer on baking sheet. Roast for 15 to 20 minutes, turning once during cooking, until crisp-tender.

Remove broccoli immediately to serving bowl and toss with lemon juice and zest, Parmesan, pine nuts and basil. Adjust seasoning to taste and serve hot.

Broccoli and Tomato Pizza

Yield: 1 pizza (serves 6 to 8)

- 1 whole wheat 12-inch ready-to-bake pizza crust

- 4 tablespoons olive oil
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 2/3 cup shredded mozzarella-provolone cheese blend, or 1/3 cup shredded mozzarella and
- 1/3 cup shredded provolone
- 1/4 cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese
- 1 cup of broccoli florets (raw and quartered)
- 2 Roma tomatoes, chopped coarse

Preheat oven to 450°F. Place pizza crust on cookie sheet.

Pour olive oil into small pan; heat and add garlic. Stir for 3 minutes. Remove from heat and transfer to small cup to cool. Pour garlic olive oil mixture over crust, distributing evenly.

Sprinkle mozzarella-provolone blend evenly over crust. Sprinkle cheddar cheese evenly over top of mozzarella-provolone blend.

Place broccoli on top of cheese; distribute evenly. Place tomatoes on top of pizza; distribute evenly.

Bake for 10 minutes. Remove from oven; let sit for 2 minutes before slicing and serving.

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