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Sunday, November 20, 2005

Catch John Tesh on the Fish

By **GARY LYCAN**

Special to the Register

John Tesh joins the nightly lineup on contemporary Christian KFSH/95.9 FM on Monday, doing a program he calls "music and intelligence for your life."

Tesh has been active in Christian music and radio since leaving "Entertainment Tonight" in 1996 after 10 years as co-host. He has been a frequent guest of **Dr. Robert Schuller** on "Hour of Power."

Tesh's program, which will air 7 p.m.-midnight Mondays-Fridays on "the Fish," is syndicated on more than 200 stations, according to KFSH Vice President and General Manager **Terry Fahy**, who also oversees Salem-owned stations KKLA/99.5 FM, KRLA/870 AM, and KXXM/1190 AM.

Tesh has said he sees the blend of upbeat contemporary Christian music and inspirational discussions as a perfect way to help listeners achieve their highest potential in life. No preaching or teaching here, apparently, just encouraging words and joyful music. Just in time for the holiday season.

HOSPITAL RADIO

Are **Ryan Seacrest** and **Rick Dees** competing with each other? Or maybe they just share the same goals by accident? Still, the timing is interesting. KIIS/102.7 FM morning personality Seacrest (Dees' successor) was first with his Radio Lollipop Program at Children's Hospital of Orange County in Orange. Basically, it broadcasts internally through portions of the hospital and, among other things, allows ailing children to be DJs. Seacrest broadcast live from CHOC on Friday.

The afternoon before, Dees was at University Children's Hospital at UCI Medical Center - a few miles away - to unveil Bright Star Productions, a studio in the



JOHN TESH: His new show on contemporary Christian station KFSH/95.9 FM will feature music and talk from 7 p.m. to midnight weeknights.

FILE PHOTO: KELLY A. SWIFT, FOR THE REGISTER

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ADVERTISING

pediatric unit that allows kids to choose their own bedside entertainment. Same premise: an interactive wellness program for kids.

Both personalities are to be applauded for their roles in supporting these projects, but the timing is curious.

CAROLLA EXITS

No replacement named yet for **Adam Carolla**, who departed KROQ/106.7 FM's "Loveline" a week ago so he could devote more time to prepare for replacing **Howard Stern** in January on KLSX/97.1 FM. **Dr. Drew Pinsky**, who has worked with everyone from **Riki Rachtman** to **Jim "Poorman" Trenton** on the relationships-driven call-in show, continues as primary host. It airs 10 p.m.-midnight Mondays-Thursdays.

FALL RATINGS

The first fall Arbitron ratings are out, and contemporary hits KIIS/102.7 FM remains No. 1 among overall listeners in Los Angeles and Orange counties. Spanish stations make up half of the top 10 - romantica KLVE/107.9 FM, Latin urban KXOL/96.3 FM, regional Mexican KLAX/97.9 FM, and regional Mexican KBUE/105.5 FM. KFI/640 AM, KPWR/105.9 FM and KROQ/106.7 FM are the other top-rated English language stations.

STATION BREAKS

Jeanie Bussand Kurt Rambis are back with the basketball "Roundtable" on the **Dave Smith** show, 4-7 p.m. weekdays on KMPC/1540 "Big Ticket" radio. Their first session was Friday; the next date is Dec. 20 in the 4-5 p.m. hour. ... Sirius satellite radio is opening two channels to Christmas music starting Thursday. Channel 2 will play traditional and contemporary holiday music; Channel 62 will play country. Inland Empire's KTIE/590 AM has added **Sean Hannity** noon-3 p.m. weekdays. **Jimmy Steele**, a veteran pop programmer, is the new program director at KHTS (Channel 933) in San Diego. Spanish KMXE/830 AM is for sale. Kudos to KPCC/89.3 FM and **Rob Schmitz** for solid reporting this past week on Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's trade mission to China. KCRW/89.9 FM airs a four-hour documentary, "**Johnny Cash: The Legend**," 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday, and "Mean Streets USA," a collection of crime fiction, 1-4 p.m. Thursday and noon-5 p.m. Friday. **Stacy Keach, Sharon Lawrence, Meschach Taylor** are among the readers.

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