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CASTING NOTES: On the last episode of CBS' *De-*

signing Women this season, Meshach Taylor (Anthony) gets engaged to Jackee, best known for her roles on *227* and *The Royal Family*. On tonight's *Entertainment Tonight*, Jackee says she met Taylor some years ago "and I hit on him. He told me, 'Oh no, you're much too young for me. I like older women.'" ... Geraldo Rivera will play a TV talk show host who writes a tell-all book about his affairs on a May episode of *Perry Mason*. His character gets murdered, of course. ... One of the main characters in the *Beverly Hills, 90210* spinoff, *Melrose Place*, will be gay. ... And James Earl Jones will host a two-hour syndicated special April 15 called *The JFK Conspiracy*, which producers claim will include "a startling new theory explaining the plot to assassinate President John F. Kennedy along with an ongoing cover-up." (Check local listings).



By Rob Brown, USA TODAY

JACKEE: 'Designing' to marry Taylor on the show