



An Oprah Oddity

You don't often hear about the celebrities who have to deal with deformities on their hands and feet. For example, Daryl Hannah is missing part of her left index finger and has been known to wear a prosthesis in films to cover it up, and Matthew Perry shut his right hand in a car door when he was a youngster, leaving him with a shortened middle finger. Then, when Oprah Winfrey recently arrived at Howard University in Washington, D.C., to receive an honorary doctorate in humanities, she showed off nicely pedicured feet in white sandals—and what looks like a sixth toe on her left foot! This condition is known as *sexdactyly*, a genetic disorder that indicates the presence of six fingers or toes. Obviously, the extra digit isn't slowing Oprah down at all, but it's a marvel that she has managed to keep her littlest piggy under wraps for this long!



Legal Matters



On May 21, celebrity gossip site TMZ.com posted a story about a letter that Creative Age Publications, *Nailpro's* parent company, sent to Mario Lavandeira, who is better known as blogger Perez Hilton. Lavandeira runs a celeb gossip site under his

adopted name, and his trademark logo bears a strong resemblance to a photo that *Nailpro* published in its "Eye on Color" story in the September 2004 issue. (The photo was taken by freelance photographer Brooks Ayola.) The letter alleged "willful copyright infringement" and requested that Lavandeira cease and desist from using the copyrighted photo on his popular site. TMZ.com quoted *Nailpro* publisher Deborah Carver as saying, "I'm a Perez fan, but he can't use our award-winning photos. This isn't the first time he's done this. These are proprietary works that take an entire team of people to put together." The letter warned Lavandeira that Creative Age is entitled to seek up to \$150,000 for the copyright violation and requested a response by May 31, but, by press time, the logo had already been replaced.



Best Foot Forward

The nighttime series *Ugly Betty* returns to ABC to start its second season in September, and promises more divalike behavior from spurned *Mode* creative director Wilhelmina Slater, played by Vanessa Williams. Fittingly, at an *Ugly Betty* panel discussion held at the Los Angeles-based Academy of Television Arts & Sciences in May, Williams admitted to a diva move of her own: When one episode of the award-winning series required her character to get a pedicure that involved fish nibbling at the dead skin on her feet (a procedure we addressed in "A Little Fishy," *Nailing the News*, April 2007), Williams told the audience, "I pulled a Wilhelmina for that. I flew in my manicurist-pedicurist from New York because I knew my feet would be featured." Now that's dedication to her craft! ♣