

Techs in Demand

Producers for original cable shows, including Showtime's *Weeds* and Lifetime's *Side Order of Life*, have been adding authenticity to scenes set in salons by hiring real-life nail techs as extras! Both shows employed manicurists in the Los Angeles area during the filming of episodes that aired this fall. We definitely

applaud Hollywood's efforts to accurately depict the nail biz and keep L.A.-based techs busy between appointments. Being a "background performer" (the showbiz term for "extra") doesn't pay a lot for a day's work, but you never know when central casting might need a nail tech for your favorite show—maybe one on a major network! Manicuring Patrick Dempsey or Rob Lowe? Yes, please!



PHOTO: ©SHOWTIME/EVERETT/REX USA

Mary Louise Parker from *Weeds*

Plan B

Song siren Amy Winehouse has garnered mixed reviews in the global music scene over the past few months. Rumors of excessive alcohol and drug consumption have dogged the "Rehab" singer; she has reportedly canceled concerts due to her indulgences and often acts strangely at the performances she does keep. If the stress of touring is getting to her, she may need to take a step back



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from the limelight, and Winehouse already has the perfect gig in mind. The British paper *Daily Mirror* quoted Winehouse as saying she wants to open a salon, following in the footsteps of her late grandmother. "I'd love to have a beauty salon! My Nan, God rest her soul, pretty much trained me and my brother," she says. "He'd give her a pedicure, and I'd do her nails and her hair." While the salon business certainly brings its own share of stress, the soothing environment might do wonders for Winehouse—and give her another venue in which she can show off her distinctive style.

Jump the Pond!

The British pop group Girls Aloud was created as part of a reality show called *Popstars: The Rivals* (much like the group Danity Kane, created on MTV's *Making the Band*). While they've found great success in the UK, they're still not very well-known in the United States—though they should be! The reason? The five women in Girls Aloud—Cheryl Cole, Nadine Coyle, Sarah Harding, Nicola Roberts and Kimberley Walsh—keep showing off funky nail styles. In one recent music video, Cole wore black nails with red tips, while Roberts chose red nails with black tips painted on an angle. Harding also went with black nails, but with shiny silver tips, and Walsh reversed the look with silver nails and black tips. Coyle was the only member who stuck with a straight polish job, but even she kept it cutting-edge with opaque white enamel. This attention to nail trendsetting is one British sensibility that should definitely find a home in the United States!



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