

HAIR!

Updated 'dos transformed these wannabes into stars, thanks to Dean Banowetz, *American Idol* stylist and Infusium 23 spokesman



Her inspiration?

"When I did this style for Mandisa on March 21, I was thinking of a young Oprah," says Banowetz.



Kellie's fuller style, flaunted on March 28, works well for her, Banowetz says, "because she has great features and personality."

BEFORE

MANDISA CHANNELS OPRAH

"I always liked the way Mandisa Hundley looked," says Banowetz of the Oprah Winfrey look-alike. "My goal was to really glam her up." The first thing Banowetz did was replace the 29-year-old's extensions with soft chin-length curls and honey highlights. "I call it the Sassy O," says Banowetz of the style inspired by the talk-show queen. "It showcases Mandisa's gorgeous face."

BEFORE

KELLIE GOES FOR THE CURL

Most of America probably didn't think 19-year-old Kellie Pickler could get any cuter. But Banowetz knew he could improve her stringy blond locks. "She said she had never curled her hair before!" he says. With a few soft face-framing waves, Banowetz changed Kellie's look from simple country girl to "soft Southern sweetness."



PHOTOS: LARRY FERGUSON/RETNA; MANDISA HUNDLEY: JEFFREY M. HARRIS/RETNA; KELLIE PICKLER: JEFFREY M. HARRIS/RETNA