

■ *With her ever-evolving tresses, Kelli McCarty (Beth, PASSIONS) never has to worry about a dated 'do. Here, she recalls some of her tress transformations.*

Coif-y Talk



By **RUSSELL Patrick Latham**

Digest: You've been through a lot of hair changes. What's your hair like naturally?

Kelli McCarty: I was born blonde. When I was Miss Kansas, I had long, blonde hair. When I was Miss USA, I had long, blonde hair. That was way back! I went brunette in '95.

Digest: What made you go short?

McCarty: I had always looked at women and noticed their really short haircuts — and I was jeal-

ous! I've always loved Halle Berry's short, short haircut. I decided that was what I was going to go for.

"I walked out of there looking like a poodle."

I thought I could never pull that off. But once I cut it off — I was soooo happy that I did.

Digest: How did the opposite sex respond as your hair got shorter and shorter?

McCarty: Well, I was wondering about that before I cut it. Everybody always says long hair is sexy, but I think it's the way you carry yourself, and I felt better with short hair. It better captured my personality.

Digest: Do you feel your hair on *PASSIONS* is more a reflection of you or Beth?

McCarty: I style my hair on the show, so it's me.

Digest: Why do you do your own hair?

McCarty: It's really easy, so why not? I can do it in under five minutes, so I don't need to bother anyone.

Digest: What's been your

worst-ever bad hair day? **McCarty:** When I got my first perm — I walked out of there looking like a poodle. And you know how you're not supposed to get in a pool after a perm? I went home and I immediately dove into the pool. I was crying and crying. The whole weekend I stayed in — I didn't want to go to school on Monday.

Digest: If you're having a bad hair day now, your quick-fix solution is...

McCarty: A really big hat. ☐



PHOTO COURTESY OF KELLI MCCARTY

The Real Blonde: As a pageant queen back in 1991, McCarty went for basic blonde.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KELLI MCCARTY

Undercover: On a bad hair day, there's always a disguise.



CHARLES WILLIAM BUSH

After Dark: McCarty was on a totally different wavelength in 2000.



JOHN PASCHALUCCI

Chop Shot: In 2003, the actress's hair was "Berry" short.



PAUL SKIPPER/UP

Aah, Sleek Out! In a word, McCarty's current style is chic.



Too Much INFOmation

It's sorta comforting to know that even a pageant girl-turned-starlet can get sucked in by the promises of an infomercial or beauty magazine. McCarty confesses that she is a sucker for whatever latest miracle product is being hawked.

The actress confesses, "I don't care how much a product costs if I think it's going to do something [for me]." Uh oh, does this mean that she's addicted to those 3 a.m. infomercials? "Luckily, I have to get up really early for work, so I'm not watching that late-night," she laughs. "But, if I'm flipping through magazines and I see this cream does this, and that cream does that, I'll totally run out and buy it. And if I don't have time to run out and get it, I'll order it online! It's ridiculous!"