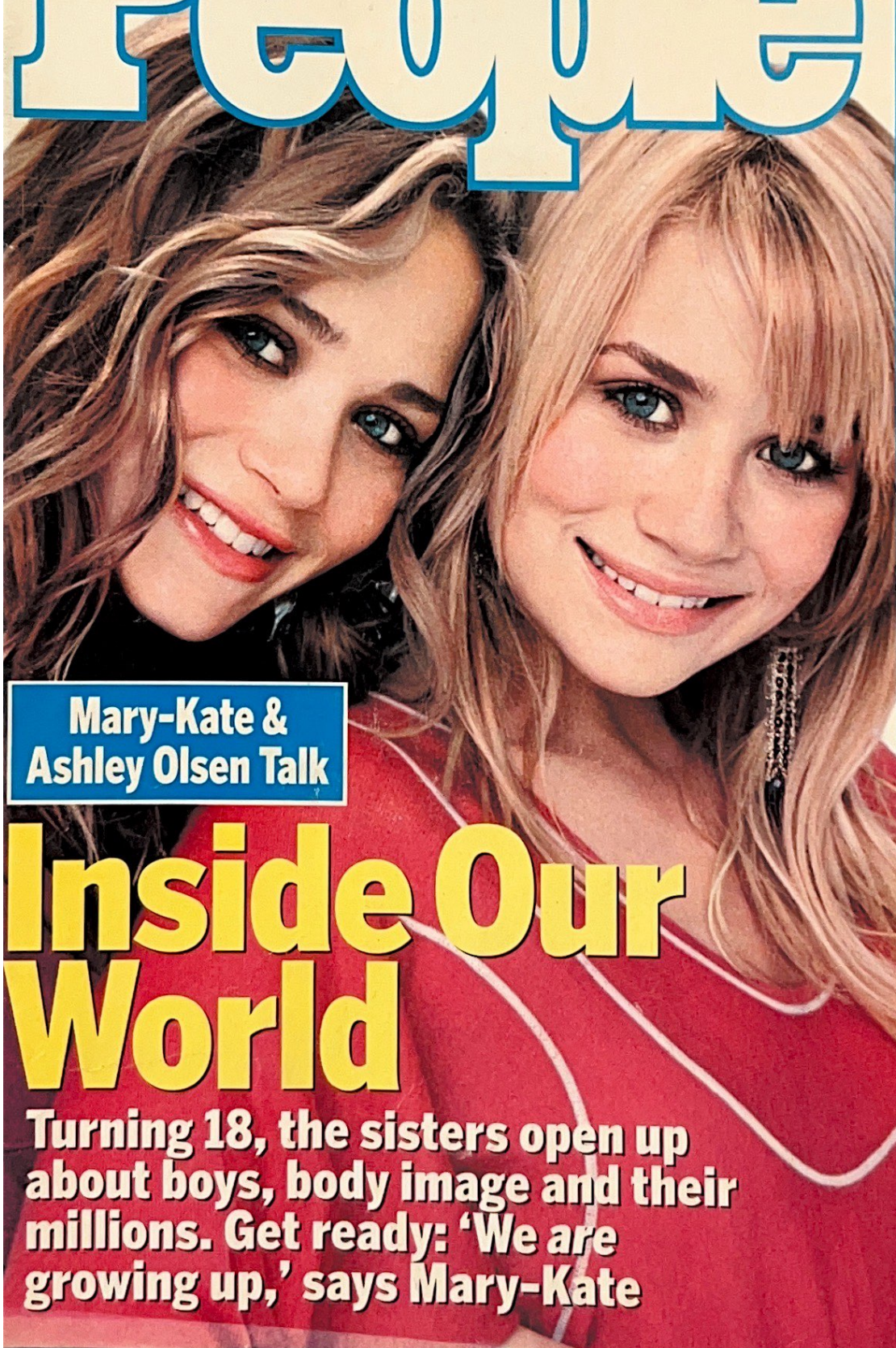


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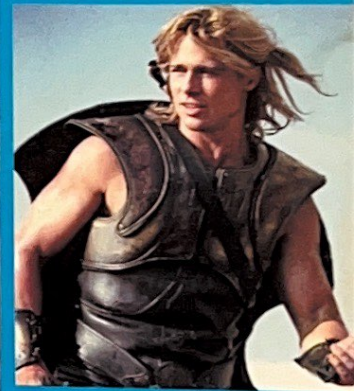
Mary-Kate & Ashley Olsen Talk

Inside Our World

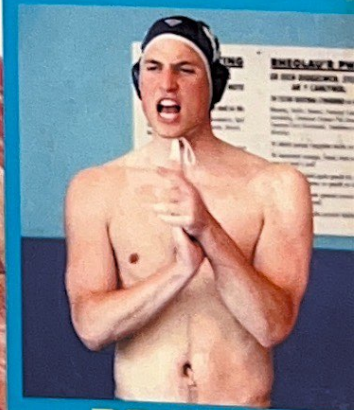
Turning 18, the sisters open up about boys, body image and their millions. Get ready: 'We are growing up,' says Mary-Kate



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"A lot of times parents call us crying," says Botham (right, with Wolloff and model Ethan, in their salon). Hair Fairies typically banishes the bugs in three visits.



Off the scalp, lice die quickly.

Bugging Out

How's business? Lousy! But that's the whole idea at Hair Fairies, an L.A. kids' salon devoted to nit-picking

Head lice. This year millions of kids will suffer the little bloodsuckers, and they—and their parents—will feel as though they're in a horror flick. Shampooing with noxious potions, raking fine combs through little scalps for hour after hour: "We were ready to tent the house and use a blowtorch," says one L.A.-area mom who—

like most at the end of their wits over nits—refuses to go public.

Thanks to Maria Botham and Michelle Wolloff, however, L.A. parents need not suffer in silence. At Hair Fairies, a one-of-a-kind salon in West L.A., kids are debugged in a cheery environment featuring videos, Game Boys and a chairside manner designed

to quell the stigma of (eeeww!) . . . you know. At \$65 an hour (\$250 for house calls, favored by celebs) it ain't cheap, but one mom calls the year-old salon "a godsend."

As a swim instructor, Botham (33 and a mom herself) heard complaints about lice for years before she decided to develop her technique (shampoos plus "good old-fashioned nit-picking"). Up next: She and Wolloff, a former toy marketer, who's 39, will launch another L.A. salon and a line of organic lice fighters—and they have plans to open boutiques in five other cities.

Not a pretty job, but, says Wolloff, "we actually have repeat customers who say, 'Cool, I get to go back to Hair Fairies!'" ●

HAIR: BRENT KOPPEL; MAKEUP: RAYMOND MONALES, JR.; HAIR: BRUXTON/PAPALDI/COMBIS

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