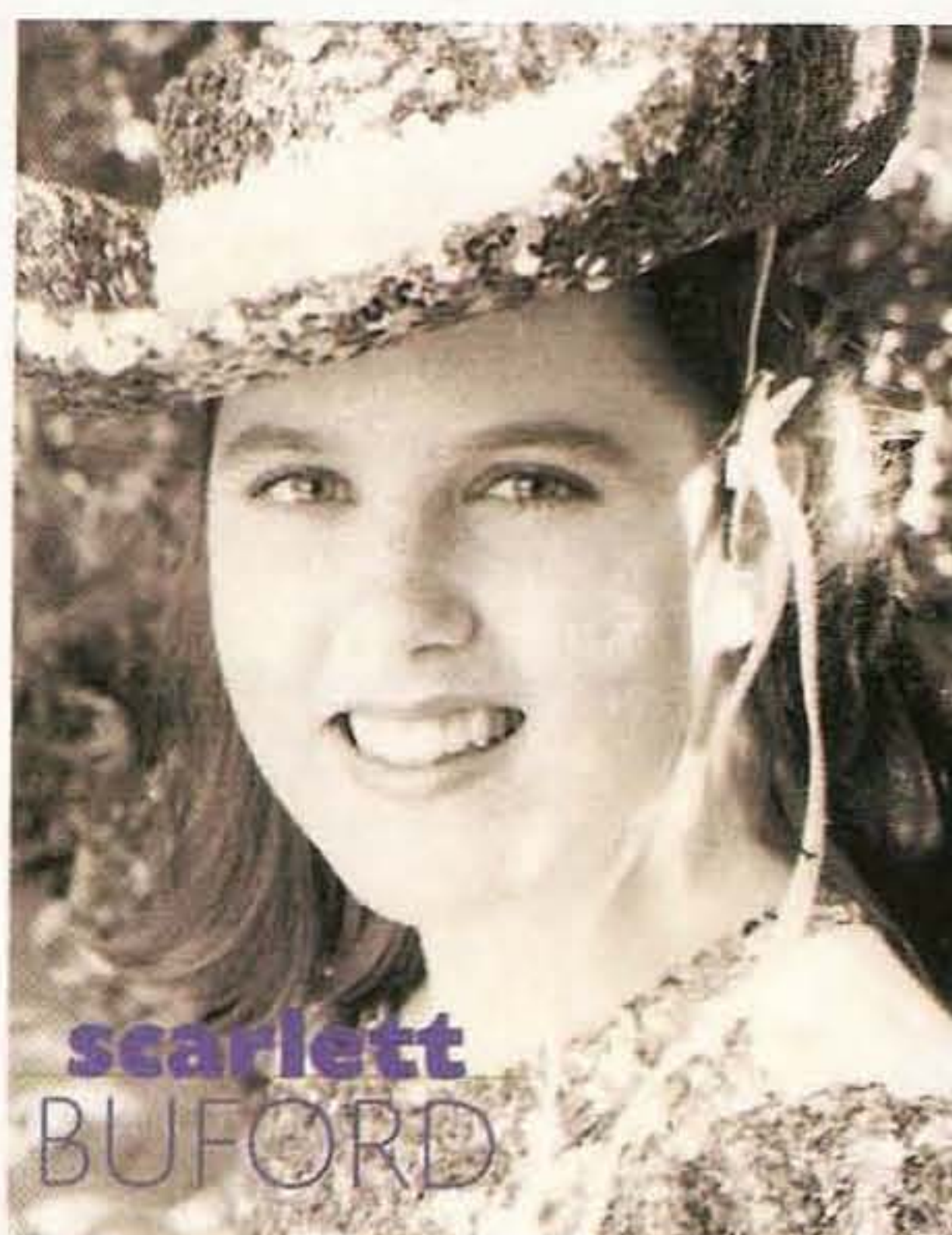


Meet And Greet

THESE THREE YOUNG DANCERS GOT THEIR STARTS THROUGH THE CONNECTIONS THEY MADE.



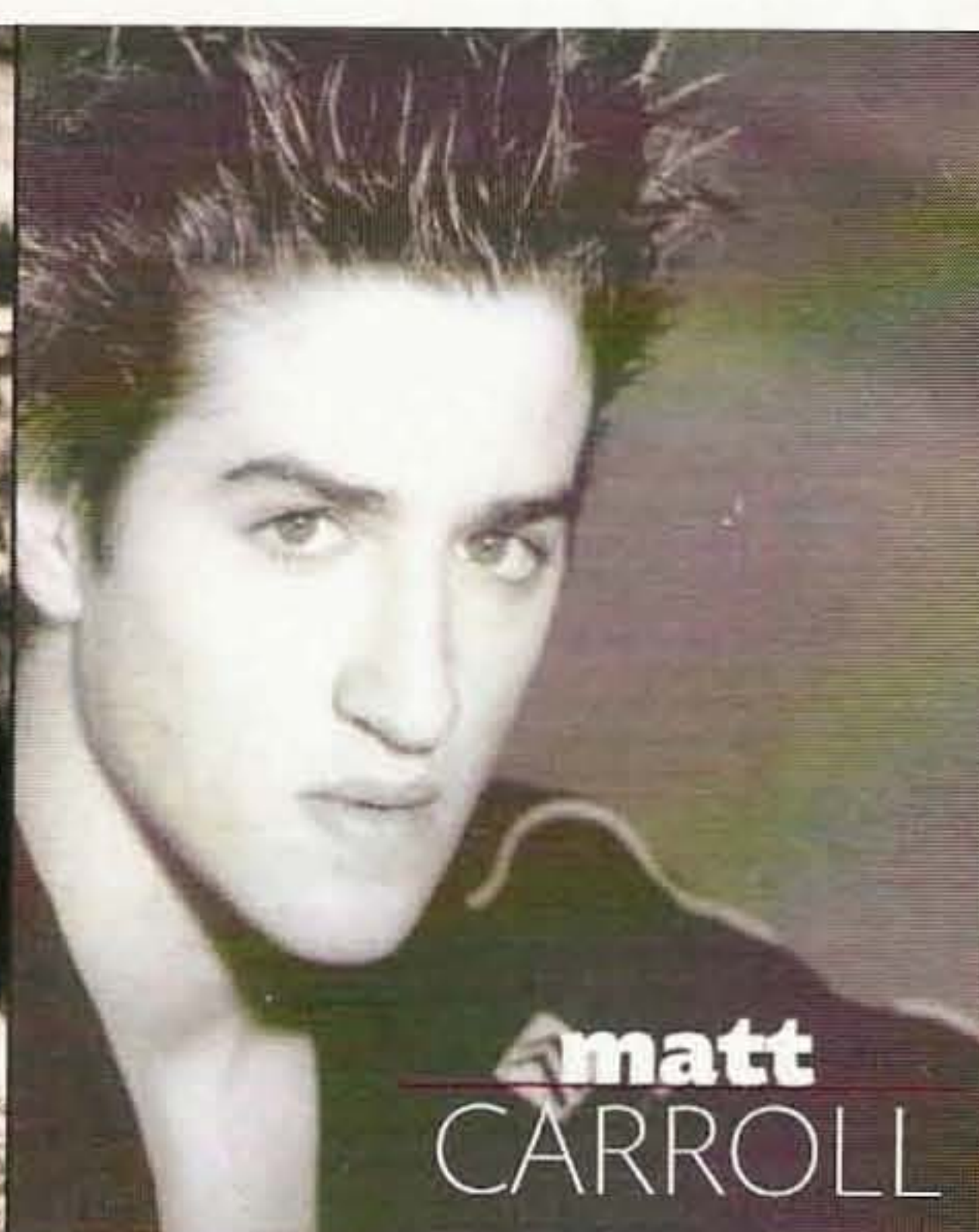
scarlett
BUFORD

AGE 23 HOMETOWN **Galveston, TX**
DANCE STUDIO **Carolyn Ehman**
Dance Academy
DREAM JOB **"I am doing it—I'm a Rockette."**

"I was going to do what it took, even if that meant waiting another year."

Preparation and persistence led Scarlett Buford to her dream job—kicking as a Radio

■ more on SCARLETT BUFORD on page 109

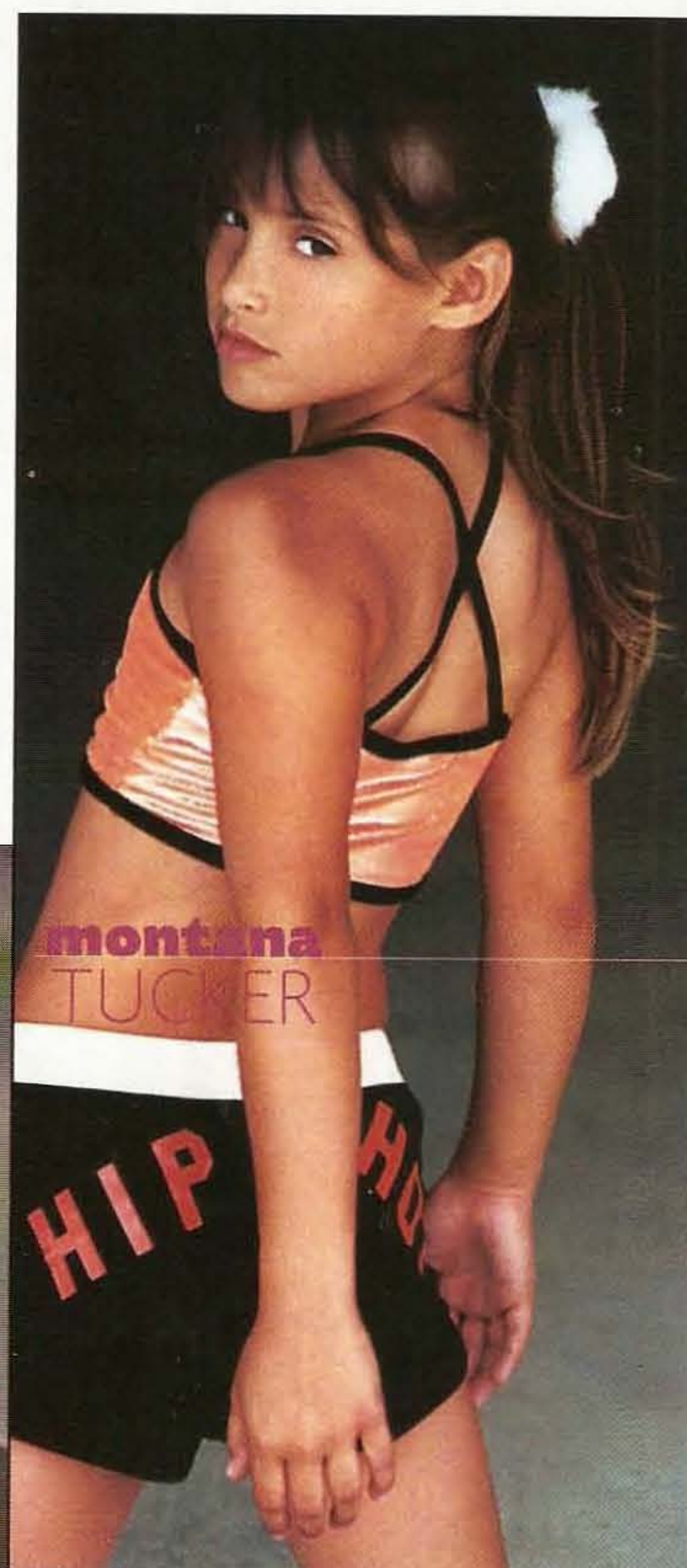


matt
CARROLL

AGE 18 HOMETOWN **Townsend, ON, Canada**
DANCE STUDIO **Tiffany's Dance Elite**
DREAM JOB **to be a dancer and a choreographer**

"It's a rush when the audience starts screaming. Your adrenaline is just going."

■ more on MATT CARROLL on page 109



montana
TUCKER

AGE 10 HOMETOWN **Boca Raton, FL**
DANCE STUDIO **Pop Starz Inc.**
DREAM JOB **to be an entertainer like J. Lo**

When award-winning choreographer Darrin Henson spotted Montana Tucker at his workshop in Orlando, FL two years ago, he immediately told her mom, Michelle, that Montana should model and dance professionally.

Henson's instincts were on target. With a résumé longer than many performers twice her age, Montana now has her size-4 foot firmly in the showbiz door. Since she nailed

■ more on MONTANA TUCKER on page 109

**Scarlett Buford as
a Radio City
Rockette**



—SCARLETT BUFORD continued from page 27—

City Rockette. After dancing on her high school drill team and in college with the Kilgore College Rangerettes, Scarlett knew she wanted to dance professionally. She moved to New York City, got into the dance scene and found out that Radio City gave workshops across the country to help prepare dancers for auditions. At the Rockette Summer Intensive in Tuscaloosa, AL, Scarlett immersed herself in the Rockette style, learning choreography, getting personal feedback and making professional connections. Finally, after auditioning in NYC and Los Angeles, Scarlett booked a position in the line of the Nashville company. "The biggest challenge has been the rehearsals," says Scarlett. "As they teach the choreography, they expect you to perform it right then and there." **DS**

—MATT CARROLL continued from page 27—

After being scouted by Toronto-based talent director Diana Uribe of *Be Discovered*, Matt landed a spot dancing backup in singer Aaron Carter's *Leave It Up To Me* video. After the video, Matt was asked to dance with Aaron for Michael Jackson's tribute show in NYC and is now on Aaron's tour.

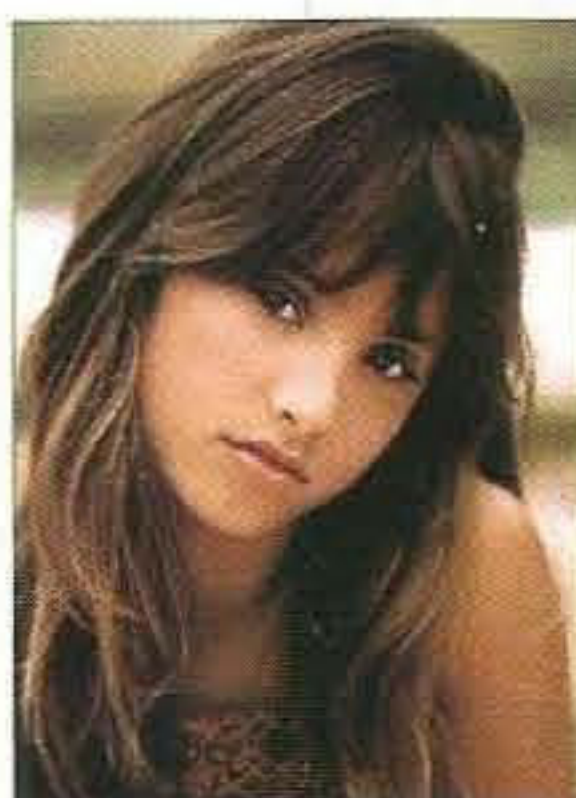
While stadiums full of fans scream for Aaron, Matt's got a growing fan base of his own. There are already websites that fans have made (check out www.mattecarroll.cjb.net/). His "rock star" life includes being on the road for up to four months at a time. The tour travels in a huge bus that sleeps 11, with a kitchen and bathroom as well as front and back lounges with satellite TVs. Aaron's group has played venues as large as the 80,000 seat Giants Stadium in New Jersey. "It's a rush when the audience starts screaming," says Matt. "Your adrenaline is just going." **DS**

—MONTANA TUCKER continued from page 27—

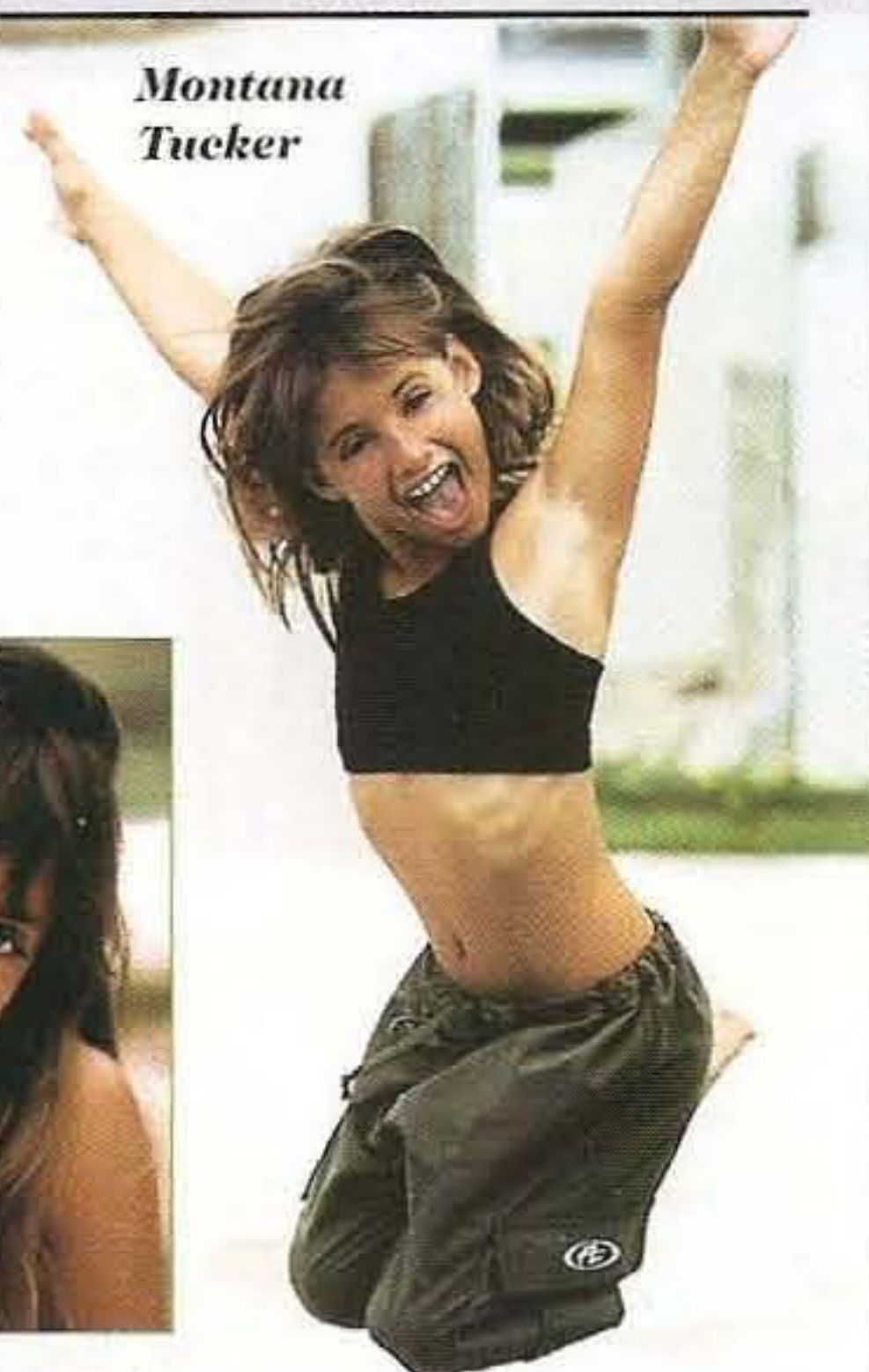
her very first audition for an Ovaltine commercial, she has appeared in nine commercials, a TV pilot and a music video.

Dancing as a mamacita in Lil' Romeo's *The Girlies* gave Montana a taste of the perks of stardom. "When I got into the trailer and they did my nails and my toes and my hair, it was so cool. I felt like a star," she says.

Though she takes jazz, ballet and theater movement, hip hop is her main focus and her favorite style. "You can wear baggy clothes and funky shirts," she explains. "You can express yourself and you don't have to wear tight shoes." **DS**



**Montana
Tucker**



If you know a talented young dancer full of potential whom you would like to see featured in this column, send his or her picture and a short bio to: "Pure Potential," *Dance Spirit* magazine, 250 W 57th St, Suite 420, New York, NY 10107.