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Entertainment

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John Kieseewetter

Norwood native has recurring role on 'General Hospital'

As soon as Amanda Tepe learned she would appear in a red bikini on "General Hospital" this week, she hopped on the treadmill and did a gazillion sit-ups.

"At least they gave me a week's warning," says Tepe, 28, of Norwood. The 1996 St. Ursula Academy graduate has appeared a dozen times since June as Colleen McHenry. She's an evil nanny and possible love interest for Nikolas Cassidine (Tyler Christopher). Her episodes air Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (3 p.m., Channels 9, 22).



"She loves the guy and is extremely protective of his baby. Anytime another girl comes near, the claws come out," she says.

Tepe has been in Los Angeles for 10 years, moving there after high school to earn a bachelor's degree from the California Institute of the Arts. Her credits (at www.amandatepe.com) include HBO's "Entourage" and several films, "Crazy," "Bottom's Up" and "Iowa."

She says she has a "juicy" scene opposite Kristin Bell ("Veronica Mars") in "Pulse," a thriller from writer Wes Craven opening Aug. 11.

"I don't have long hair, and I'm not a size 2 like most actresses in L.A., so I get some very interesting parts. I don't play the girl - I play the girl's best friend. Those roles have a lot more going on."