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Worcester salon has the 'Beat'

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When a movie director shouts "Cut!" it means something a little different to Jeff Kilcoyne.

For him, it signals that it's time to get out his stylist's shears and go to work making Hollywood types look the part. Kilcoyne, owner of the trendy Jeffrey Robert Salon and Spa at 1 Kelley Square, was charged with doing all the hair for "We Got the Beat," an independent movie filmed recently in Worcester and now in the postproduction phase.

Kilcoyne had two of his stylists on set full-time for five weeks to keep the cast looking pretty. The movie, produced by local filmmaker Andrea Ajemian, is about a high school quarterback who quits the team his senior year to start the first ever boy band in 1982. That meant that Kilcoyne, as artistic director, had to make sure the styles suited the times. "We had to do a lot of research from 1982 to make sure the hairdos were as close as we could get," he said. "Fortunately, I remember 1982, so it was not a complete stretch."

The cast ranged from local unknowns to established actors. Two Hollywood heads he styled were Ming-Na, whose credits include rave reviews as the character June in the feature film "The Joy Luck Club," a stint on "ER" and being on People magazine's 50 most beautiful people list; and Kurt Fuller, who has appeared on such popular TV shows as "Ugly Betty," "Grey's Anatomy" and "Desperate Housewives."

Ming-Na and Fuller play the divorced parents of one of the movie's young lead characters. For Ming-Na, Kilcoyne drew on an iconic look that was already past the cutting edge by 1982 but still wildly popular with the public. "We figured, because she was someone's mother, she wouldn't be too completely trendy-trendy so we pulled out some old Farrah action," he said.

For Fuller, the challenge was to shave a few years off his look. "He's older than Ming-Na and they're supposed to be ex-husband and wife and about the same age, so they asked us to take a few years off," he said.

Please, tell us all how to do that.

"Oh, just a little hair color and a little bit of shaping," he said.



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From left, actress Ming-Na, salon owner Jeffrey Kilcoyne and actor Kurt Fuller at the Jeffrey Robert Salon in Worcester, which provided hair styling for the independent film, "We Got the Beat."

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