

RM European Tour Souvenir Special

THE CASSIDY FILE

DAVID BRUCE CASSIDY: Born New York, April 12, 1950. Height: 5ft. 8in. Weight: 8 stone 7lb., but variable up to 8st. 12lb. Eyes: brown. Hair: brown.

Occupation / profession: pop singer and actor. Star of The Partridge Family Series, now screened right round the world. First hit single with the Family: I Woke Up In Love This Morning (released September 10, 1971). First solo hit single: Could It Be Forever (released March, 1972).

Merit marks out of 100 for consistency in his career: 100.

Merit marks out of 100 for effort and ambition: 90 — he often feels the strain of being such a huge success; and sometimes wonders where he would most like his career to take him.

★ ★ ★

DAVID SAYS: "Pop music is a competitive world, and there are always the trouble-makers. People have been stirring up feuds and fights between the Osmonds and me, or the Jackson 5 and me, and it can be very hurtful. Must be obvious to even these knuckleheads that there's room for all of us. . . ."

★ ★ ★

David's first job was a part-time situation sorting mail for a textile company. But he went to many auditions to try and break in as an actor. One day he got a part in a play called The Fig Leaves Are Falling . . .

but his success story does not start here. After months of rehearsal, the show went to Philadelphia, on to New York and it closed after only a few days.

However, one producer thought David had talent and he was invited to Hollywood. His first TV role was in an Ironside show, and he followed up with Marcus Welby, Adam 12, Mod Squad, FBI, Bonanza and Medical Center. And a little series called The Partridge Family — a series which did not lay an egg!

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DAVID SAYS: "To be honest, I didn't much like the scripts for the Partridge Family shows. But I also appreciated that playing the part of the eldest son could get me noticed, so I took the offer. And things happened so fast from that moment on — the fan magazines and the picture sessions. And there was this image. It's a kind of White Knight image, isn't it? Sort of Prince Charming. A bit like Paul McCartney used to be when the Beatles were together. You'd think sometimes I've never had any hang-up in my life. . . ."

★ ★ ★

There's a scar over David's left eye which is a permanent reminder of his "sporting days" as a kid in school — he was very much into baseball, football, swimming and run-



ning. In fact, he was accidentally hit by a schoolchum with . . . a golf club. The wound became badly infected, and it took months to heal properly.

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DAVID SAYS: "Sure I'd like to get married one day. But I'd hesitate about doing it right now. You have to remember my own experiences when I was just a kid and my parents got a divorce, but apart from that I'm never too sure whether a girl is with me because she likes me or because I'm David Cassidy and I have a name people know. So many girls are attracted just by the glamour of being in pop music. . . ."

★ ★ ★

No sign of David going on a spending spree, despite all the money that comes in from records, sponsorship, television and all his other activities. He despises the Rolls Royce syndrome — the flash car and vast homestead. He drives a BMW, and the studio provided him with a Corvette, and he describes his new

home as upper middle-class. And he has a deep-down fear that his friends might consider him "flash" if he starts spending a lot.

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DAVID SAYS: "Whenever I can find a break, I'd love to do a full-scale movie. When you're in a television series, you're acting goes kinda dormant, sleeping. But deep down I know I want to act. Mind you, I've been offered about a thousand of those old beach-party, high-school stories, with songs just scattered around the plot, but I haven't the faintest desire to do them. I'd look for something more acceptable artistically."

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David was born under the sign of Aries, but in the now fashionable Chinese form of horoscope he emerges as under the sign of the Tiger. In this one, the belief is that it is the moon which has the influence to change your life — not the Zodiac, which uses the sun. In this form of horo-

scope, it is the year in which you were born, not the month, that matters.

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DAVID SAYS: "Seeing myself on film for the very first time was just awful. I think I looked okay, like no spots or anything showing through, but I looked so young. And when I heard my voice . . . oh boy, that was terrible. I sounded like I was some kid 10 years of age. Like some kid who didn't know what was going on. But I found later that most people get alarmed when they first hear their voice on tape. . . like it's coming from miles away."

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Very loyal to all his friends, David nevertheless, has a special "best" mate. . . Sam Hyman. They first met when playing football at school; used to spend whole days just fooling around on the beach, sunbathing. Sam tours with David, shares all his ups and downs; has seen David break down and cry from the sheer

fatigue of travelling and working non-stop for weeks on end. And Sam says: "He's always been keen to entertain people — even as a kid. A bit of a show off? Well, I guess . . . sometimes!"

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Wes Farrell is the man who, above all others, gave David a chance to break through in pop music. Producer and songwriter, Wes is a follower of show-biz hunches. And he says of David: "Give him the time, and he'll last as long as Elvis Presley, AND sell as many records. But in the States, he's into different scenes — older folk like him and put him into an easy listening field. But me . . . I'm convinced that he's the nearest thing to being a rock and roll king since Elvis Presley."

★ ★ ★

DAVID SAYS: "One big hang-up in my life is the reporter who tries to trap me into saying something they can blow up into a real nasty headline. These guys come to see me and they have preconceived ideas . .

★ ★ ★

In his more serious moments, David admits to having a belief in spiritualism, in that he thinks there ARE people on earth who can communicate with the spirits of dead souls. He has read several books by mediums who explain how they can bring relief to people who have suffered bereavement.

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The David Cassidy Fan-Club is run by secretary Susie Miller, from 58 Parker Street, London, WC2B 5QB, and it is one of the fastest-growing clubs in the world.

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In the early stages of The Partridge Family series, the producers did not expect David to sing! They wanted him just to act the part, and they had studio session singers and musicians to cover all the actual music of the group. In fact, David had to complain bitterly to Wes Farrell before he was even given a chance to audition as a singer. . . though once he DID sing, it was obvious he was an outstanding pop talent.

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DAVID SAYS: "There are so many things that I'm supposed to be sponsoring, and I don't even know about some of them. Like my housekeeper went out to buy me some cornflakes, and there was this big pin-up picture of me all over the back of the pack. It's getting crazy when you can't even have breakfast without having to stare at your own face."

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One wall of David's Hollywood home is covered with pictures of artists he's worked with, and specially admired, and most of them are autographed to him. And he collects the records of his own favourites . . . Paul McCartney is high on the list, along with Chicago, Crosby Stills and Nash and the old Beatles' hits.

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DAVID SAYS: "I sing a lot and sometimes when I go on stage I sing too hard. Often my voice gets really hoarse. But right now I think I'm singing pretty good and I find my voice can take a lot. Mind you, I've had no formal training, not professional training, but I've worked a lot on my voice. I only wish I could work so hard on my songwriting, but I tend to start off a song, then forget all about it."