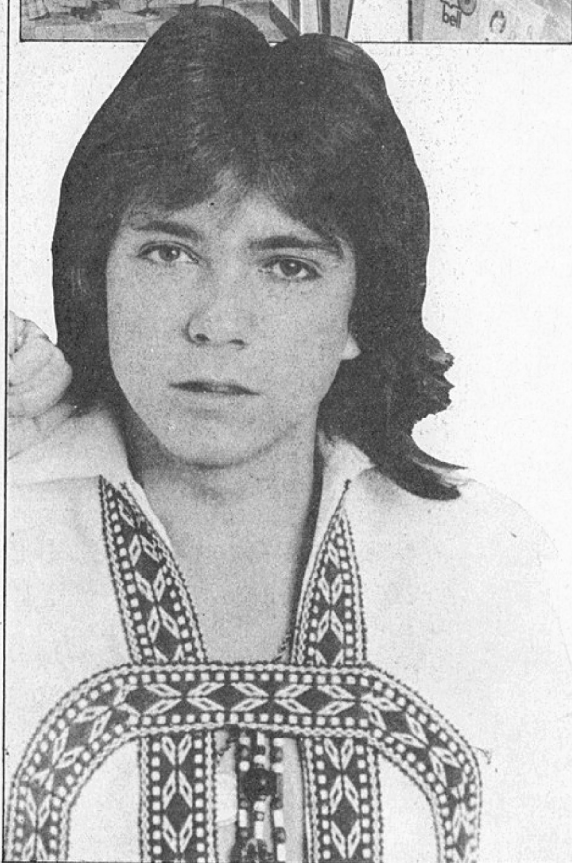


'I HAVE MOODS'

*"Sometimes my scenes are good
Sometimes they're bad
Not funny ha ha; funny sad."*



THE words from "I Am a Clown," David's favourite song, tell a lot about the real David. For the life of a star is not as glamorous as some people think. There are heartaches and disappointments on the way up, and even when on top, as David is now, there's more hard work and loneliness than fun.

"It does get tiring," he admits — "and I get lonely just like anybody else. It's difficult to explain. I have moods just like anyone else. Sometimes if you're touring it can really get you down and you say to yourself, 'Oh, I want to get out and do this and do that.'"

"Then I realise I can't do things the way everyone else can. I'm restricted — a kind of prisoner. But, on the other hand, if all the fame and love from fans weren't there I'd be wishing they were!"

"There's nothing particularly glamorous about my life," he admits freely. "Just a lot of hard work. It's like being a dentist or a doctor. It's like being a bricklayer. It's what I happen to do for a living."

When he's touring, David's routine is a never-ending series of travelling, concerts, press receptions and autograph signing.

As he explains, "In America, for instance, the distances I have to cover on a tour are enormous. At the end, I'm exhausted."

Being a star creates another problem for David. He has little time for romance.

"There are a couple of girls I'm fond of . . . but nothing really serious," he says. "I just don't have the hours in the day to put into a relationship."

As a matter of fact, David spends his time actually dodging girls. When a group of fans rush at me in a mob, screaming, it scares me stiff," he says, laughing nervously. "I've been hurt a couple of times — scratched on my arms, chest and face. Once in Cleveland, the security wasn't strong enough and the crowd got out of hand. They crowded around and came down on top of me. I got down on my knees and began crawling — it's a trick someone who worked for The Monkees taught me.

"The theory is that they don't know how to deal with someone crawling on his hands and knees.

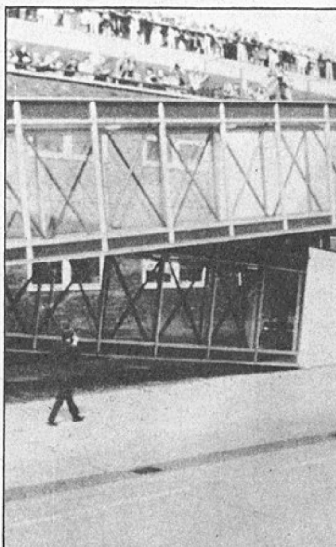
"They want your hair, and my scalp is so sensitive I go crazy if anybody graps my hair!"



"People are always saying about me, 'Well, he's like Elvis,'" says David. "Then they change their minds — 'No, he's not like Elvis, he's like Sinatra.' Comparing me to Frank Sinatra is the latest thing, maybe because I'm singing ballads now — I don't know.

"I don't really like being compared to anyone. I always like to think I'm ploughing some new snow. Maybe I'm not . . . maybe I'm just fooling myself. I'm not trying to be anybody else. I never have."

He says very seriously that he doesn't "sit and think about the fact that



If you've ever wondered who the real David Cassidy is, the last person to ask is David himself. For all the words written about him — his pet peeves, his fears and ambitions — no one has ever pierced David's public image. How could they, when, as David freely admits, he doesn't really know himself. Not yet, anyway . . .

'I NEVER WANTED TO BE A STAR'



I'm a teen idol. I don't wake up in the morning and say to myself, 'Hey, David, you're a teen idol!' That's a label people put on me."

Funny enough, David set out to be an actor, not a singing star.

"I wanted to be a working actor," he says frankly. "One who works all the time, who other actors look at and say, 'Wow, he's pretty good.' Honestly, my goal never was to be a star!"

"I'm going to do a film, but I don't know when and I can't really say what . . . but it won't be for a while yet. My acting's been sort of nowhere for the past few years."

David studied acting for a while and was in a Broadway play — *The Fig Leaves Are Falling* — and then *The Partridge Family* series came along.

"It's the same format each week," he says, "and I don't have to draw a lot on my talent. I'll be put to the test when I do some acting that's got a little depth to it. Oh, don't get me wrong — I love doing *Partridge*, and we're all so close — it's great fun — only I like to feel that I'm continually striving towards something that's difficult."

Actor, singing star — idol — David is all three — yet the person underneath remains a mystery.

Even to David.



'I USED TO FEEL SORRY FOR MYSELF'



only his friend, Sam Hyman.

Sam is proud of the fact that he's always paid his own way. "I've never relied on David," says Sam. "That's what makes it such a good friendship. He respects the fact that I work for everything I get and that I don't ask him for money.

"Neither one of us has a steady girlfriend. We just don't have the time!"

For his part, David is aware of the hardships in his life. But not feeling sorry for himself is a lesson David learned early.

"Remember, my folks divorced when I was young," he says with a trace of sadness.

"I used to feel sorry for myself — coming from a broken home. But then on my last trip to London, I met a guy of 28 who was dumped in a home when he was five and hasn't seen his parents since.

"In his teens, he got into petty crime and was put into a reform school; at 18 he was in Borstal and he's been in jail three times.

"Thank God both my folks make me feel really wanted. And nobody could have a better stepmother than Shirley Jones. Of course, I'm very close to my real mother, too!

"So, you see, I'm a pretty lucky guy!"

The life of a teen idol may be tiring and lonely, but David Cassidy still has a lot to smile about.

After all, he's sold around seven million singles and albums. His annual earnings last year amounted to around a quarter of a million dollars, and he's invested wisely in oil shares and property.

Apart from his luxurious Spanish style house, he has a big car and the financial power to buy practically anything he wants.

Yet, he spends his private hours more or less alone, with

