

BRAVO accompanied him to Italy:

DAVID

On tour in September

David on the beach: In Bari (Italy), BRAVO talks extensively with him about his past.

The American star strolling through Bari and along the beach promenade

The new David Cassidy appears more confident and energetic than ever. The years he spent away from the limelight have done him good. He devoted the years of his career break to nature and horses. He got his first foal when he was just a teenager. "Dannyboy" was a gift, and he became a self-proclaimed horse lover. This passion has continued to this day, as he owns 50 thoroughbred racehorses that he races at well-known American racetracks. His wife Meryl—David met her in 1975, when she was still married to a friend who owned a racing stable—shares his interests. Both feel most at home on their ranch in Santa Barbara, surrounded by two dogs, five cats, and the horses.

His return to the recording studio a year ago did not change that: David's life today is much calmer and more orderly than it used to be, both privately and professionally.

No one manipulates him anymore, no one tells him what to do, and his fans leave him alone. He composes his own songs. And on the album "Romance," everything revolves around love, passion, and separation again. These are his favorite themes.

Today, he lives happily and contentedly in the countryside with Meryl, her daughter Caroline, and his horses.

At the moment, however, he has rented a house in London's upscale Belgravia district. In June, he plans to return to California with his family for two months, but he will be back in England at the end of August to prepare for his European tour planned for September.

David currently manages all his business affairs from London,

both those involving horses and those involving music. He constantly strives to ensure that his best racehorses, Iceland, Lord of the Wind, and Steel, win. He books the jockeys, knows the odds, reads the relevant race reports, and is always well informed.

He recorded his album in Kent. Cliff Richard's favorite producer, Alan Tarney, was at the mixing desk. David and Meryl also enjoy shopping in the posh stores on Kings Road, where they buy both their private and stage wardrobes.

He even had his new hairstyle "tailored" in London. David says, "I could also live in England, even though America is my home."

He has now left his worst times far behind him. He reluctantly recalls: "After a concert at Madison Square Garden in front of 25,000 fans, I was pushed into the trunk of a Toyota to get me safely through the fans crowding in front of the hall.

They had already damaged nine waiting limousines because they thought I was in one of them."

David was driven to the apartment of a New York roadie. The door was locked because fans had shown up again. David: "It was horrible! There I was, stark naked because the jumpsuit I was still wearing from the stage was soaked with sweat. Everything smelled of dirt and urine. The bath water was cold, so I couldn't shower. I didn't have a penny to my name, didn't know where I was, or when I would be picked up again.