

DAVID Cassidy went from being America's most popular teen idol to broke and homeless.

The handsome *Partridge Family* star sold millions of records in the '70s, he had a hit TV show, his fan club was bigger than The Beatles', and teenage girls all over the world swooned over him.

Then he lost it all, winding up a million dollars in debt, heavily into drugs and alcohol, and forced to sleep on a friend's couch.

Cassidy's bizarre riches to-rags story — and his long battle to get his life back together — will be told in *The David Cassidy Story*, an NBC-TV movie scheduled to air Jan. 9 and starring *As the World Turns* hunk Andrew Kavovit as David.

The incredible real-life drama the pop star lived over the past 30 years included:

- His love-hate relationship with his alcoholic and absent father, actor Jack Cassidy.

- A long list of sexual conquests, which included Susan Dey, who played his TV sister.

- Bad business decisions which squandered all the money he'd made when he was famous.

- Wild partying, drinking and experimenting with everything from cocaine and LSD to heroin.

"I just went nuts and partied all night because I felt like a prisoner for so long," he says of how stardom drove him down the path to self-destruction.

"I went into a dark period of sex and drugs and rock 'n' roll. Fortunately, it was completely out of the public eye, which meant I didn't do anything publicly to embarrass myself. But maybe, if I had, it would have been over quicker.

"Because I was young, wealthy and free of any responsibility, all I had to do with my free time was anything I wanted. You can get into a lot of trouble with that. It's a vicious toy."

At 21, David became the world's highest-paid solo artist after his debut single, *I Think I Love You* sold five million copies.

He had gained overnight stardom by playing teen heartthrob Keith Partridge on the hit sitcom about a pop-singing family, which starred his real-life stepmom Shirley Jones.

David's sexy good looks