

'The Partridge Family' Makes TV Debut Friday

By SARAH SHAW

Handsome young David Cassidy looks as if he may be the new young heart throb of the television screen this coming season. Word of the show in which he appears, "The Partridge Family," has gotten around and he's already getting over 300 fan letters a week even before the show hits the air.

David stars with his stepmother, Shirley Jones, who plays the mother of the singing Partridge Family made up of three brothers, two sisters and a raggedy dog. Widowed Mrs. Partridge "stands in" for another singer when the family group records a song and the next thing you know they're on the way to Hollywood with a hit record to pursue a musical career.

The show is not unlike the popular "Monkees" musical show and an initial record, "I Think I Love You," is already in release. The plan is that songs especially created for the program will be released throughout the year.

The first program, slated for Sept. 25, literally gets the show on the road with a wildly painted bus which the Partridge Family uses to travel to Hollywood. Then on to fame and fortune.

David Cassidy is the son of famous Jack Cassidy and for a year after graduation from high school he worked with the Los Angeles Theatre Group and was featured in "And So To Bed." In New York, he worked in summer stock, studied musical comedy and won a starring role in the Broadway show, "The Fig Leaves Are Falling." His first major television role was the lead in an "Ironside" episode and he has been seen on "Marcus Welby, M.D.;" "Adam, 12" and "Bonanza."

Girls, he's 5'8" tall, weighs 130 pounds, has brown hair, hazel eyes and is single!

+ + +

(Distributed by Columbia Features, Inc.)