

TV Featurette

By DICK KLEINER

HOLLYWOOD — Mrs. Jack Cassidy is a housewife and mother. Shirley Jones is an actress and star.

Since there are two people who are one and the same, her ability to juggle the two careers is interesting. She seems to be successful at both.

As an actress, she is the glue that's holding ABC's *The Partridge Family* together.

As a wife and mother, she is rearing three sons — 12, 9 and 6 — and she thinks they are good, normal kids. Her

marriage to Jack Cassidy, while it has had its rough spots, is currently intact.

"What I try to do," Shirley says, "is equalize the two. I don't give either one my full attention.

"It's funny — the reason I wanted a TV series was so I would be home more. Doing movies and stage work kept me away a lot. I thought a TV series would be one way to stay home. But now I find I only see my boys on weekends."

Consequently, she is very jealous of those weekends. She says that on either Saturday or Sunday, she and Jack spend the entire day with their sons. They go horseback riding, or go to Disneyland, or go bowling. Then they'll all go out to dinner and take in a movie at night.

The other day, she and Jack will be together, by themselves.

The huge success of *The Partridge Family* pleases her, naturally. But she finds one aspect of it amusing. Over the years, her beautiful voice has been heard by millions, but she was never a recording success, except with original cast albums.

"But now I have a gold record," she says. "What a laugh! An old broad like me, singing all my life, and now I get a gold record — for not singing."

The "not singing" is how she describes the recording techniques — she hardly uses her big voice at all. She and her step-son, David Cassidy, are the only ones of the "family" that record, their voices being augmented by professional singers, instead of the other children.

"And the nice thing," she says, "is that I actually like our records. Fortunately, they're not hard rock, just pleasant songs."