

1972

JULY - SEPTEMBER

September 6, 1972:
singer, *Partridge*
Family star and multi-
instrumentalist David
Cassidy in London



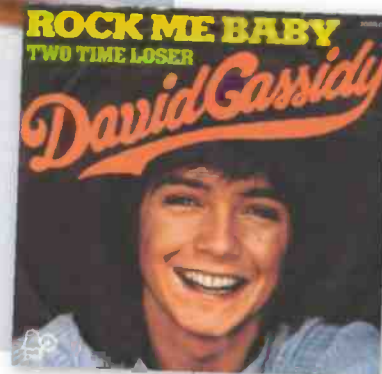
successful. Before that he had an eye muscle that was malfunctioning. Another traumatic experience was the divorce of his parents, Jack Cassidy and Evelyn Ward, who split up when David was seven. His father has since remarried, and Cassidy's stepmother is actress Shirley Jones - who plays the part of his mother in the *Partridge Family* series.

At the age of 18 David Cassidy decided to split and go to Florida to play in a band. He never went, however, as mother Evelyn had been offered a part in a play entitled *And So To Bed* and David auditioned for the show and got a small bit part.

His first "big break" was with a Broadway production *Fig Leaves Are Falling*, which was a mammoth flop but which indirectly led to his landing the part in *The Partridge Family*. As in the best fairy stories, he was then "spotted", went to Hollywood, and subsequently landed some TV acting. You may have seen David

Cassidy on British TV before the *Partridge Family* TV series - he has appeared in *Bonanza*, *Ironside* and *The FBI*.

When he first heard about the part of Keith Partridge, apparently he didn't like the idea. He told his agent he didn't want to do it and only changed his mind when he found out there might be an opportunity in the show for him to play guitar and eventually



make records. Wes Farrell only auditioned him for a singing part in the show out of "kindness" rather than anything else. He never expected Cassidy to be able to sing. For his audition Cassidy sang Chicago and Crosby Stills & Nash material.

Although Cassidy's official age is given as 22, rumour (nasty and wicked, perhaps) has it that he is in fact 24. *NME's* Pamela Holman, who interviewed him earlier this year, asked: "Are you really 22?" Answer from Cassidy: "Yes."

Every actor in a TV series has a stand-in who works on the set for him. Cassidy's is a girl -

23-year-old Jan Freeman. Evidently Cassidy is not the least embarrassed about having a female stand-in.

Musically his tastes vary: "I like jazz, blues and rock," he says. The singer he most admires is Paul McCartney. Spare time is rare, so his love or sex life, which is reportedly so

active, has little time to gain momentum. There was a steady girlfriend but she is no more - "There wasn't the time to develop a good relationship," he says.

And as for hobbies or sports (other than birds, that is) we do know that in his time Cassidy has taken up everything from dancing

and tennis to karate. And a note for astrology fans: Cassidy was born under the sign of Aries.

"The nearest thing to the King of rock'n'roll"

NME SEPT 30 He's this and "a good fuck" besides, according to one young lady. Look out, London. Here comes American heart-throb David Cassidy!

THERE ARE AN astonishing two million, worldwide, fully paid-up members of the David Cassidy fan club. In Britain, although the club has been in existence a mere 10 weeks, there are already 10,200. With more than a thousand requests to join per week, it's a big business.

One British teeny magazine which was the first publication to realise the enormity of Cassidy's appeal a year ago started to run a "David Cassidy Writes For You" column. In the past year the magazine in question has more than doubled its circulation. While all credit cannot be taken for just the column, an obvious part has been played in upping circulation figures.

Even the hip *Rolling Stone* carried a feature on the "boy wonder", finding a reportedly tarnished image of Cassidy and publishing an almost full-frontal nude picture. He since admits to regret at having had it taken. In the

article one young lady by the name of Jill was quoted as reporting Cassidy "a good fuck".

Cassidy's record producer, Wes Farrell, compares him to Elvis - "He's the nearest thing to the King of rock'n'roll." And professionally Farrell has never been regarded as an idiot.

According to available information the first instrument Cassidy took up was violin, later discarding it in favour of guitar and clarinet. His

"favourite" instrument, however, is listed as piano - until he took up drums, that is. It's all very confusing, but evidently he's able to play all these instruments.

One of the most traumatic experiences of his childhood was an eye operation, which was

For his *Partridge Family* audition Cassidy sang Crosby, Stills & Nash and Chicago

— and other high-camp facts and figures on America's idol of the boppers — are in an intriguing investigation by

David Cassidy's Inside Leg Measurement

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