



Wes listens while— —David sings a playback.

“David would play different tunes and tell me different lyric ideas he had—and I just kept hounding and hounding him. I told him the most important part of writing music is self-discipline, plus being able to tell if you’ve really got a great lyric line going. You’ve got to keep looking at the lyric—read it over and over, find out what’s wrong with it, develop it and make it better. Right now, David is more into the music side of composing, but his lyrics are coming along fine. He’s really *working* at it.”

Another facet of David’s personality that impresses Wes is his openness. Wes puts it this way—“Unlike many performers, David is not ‘set in his ways’. He is very, very open. His mind is *available*. He has a willingness to listen and a longing to understand the *reasons* things are done in certain ways. I really dig watching him develop as a songwriter.”

David isn’t the only songwriter Wes Farrell has groomed for “composing” stardom. Other well-known names in the music business who got their introduction to their craft by Wes Farrell include Boyce & Hart (who wrote, among other hits, *Come A Little Bit Closer*), the incredible Neil Diamond, Tony Romeo (he wrote the Cow-sills’ *Indian Lake* and David’s *I Think I Love You*), Toni Wine and Irwin Levine (both of whom are responsible for Dawn’s three hits in a row—*Candida*, *Knock Three Times* and *I Pray And Sing*).

### MEANWHILE . . . BACK IN THE STUDIO

“In the recording studio, David has a natural instinct for everything that is going on and a real desire for perfection,” Wes says. “He’s got to the point where he is a total professional when it comes to cutting records. He is never at a loss. He takes immediately and automatically to any situation that comes up. If a ‘take’ isn’t going right and we want to change the emotional approach to it, David doesn’t ask to try it ‘one more time’. He *drops* it—and starts to work on the new way! He really understands that records aren’t *manufactured*—they are *created* by the people who are involved in making them. And he has learned that *creating* is meaningful and important—and that it takes time.”

The way things stand now, Wes and David have spent

their time in the studio together very well—for not only have they got enough stuff together for the next *album*, they also have a couple of choices for the next *single*. At the moment, Wes favors *I’ll Meet You Halfway*—which is band one, side one on the *Up To Date* LP. But whatever the final choice is, you can bet it’ll be *another* number one gold record for Wes, David, *The Partridge Family* and Bell Records!

### NEW “MONTAGES”

On *Up To Date*, the most difficult tune to record was *Morning Rider On The Road*. Wes explains it was because, “. . . this was the first time David had done a *heavy* ballad—one that he had to really get into. I wanted a very special, a very *different* sound to it. It took us three hours just to get the vocals the way we wanted. But he got it! He had the perception and the sensitivity to understand what I was trying to describe—and he got it for me!”

Aside from the LP material, some of the studio time is spent working on special material for the actual *Partridge Family* TV series. For instance, this summer when you see *The Partridge Family* reruns, you won’t be hearing exactly the same songs you heard on the original segments. Wes has worked out a lot of brand new montages (the kind of spliced pieces of various *Partridge Family* hits that are played during fast shifting photo cycles), so you will not only be getting a taste of the *PF* hits from the first LP—you’ll be hearing much of the brand *new* stuff too.

What does the future hold for David—musically, that is? Wes answers this way: “David—as well as any artist—has to remember to keep growing. An artist has to be able to constantly approach new forms on new levels. He has to be courageous and take a chance that his fans might not ‘understand’ his new sound at first. Though people love to hear their favorite tunes again and again, they also love to hear something new, and if you don’t give them something new—well, pretty soon they find someone who *will*, and they just forget you. But David can do it. He has the talent, creative power, drive and desire that is needed to allow him to continue to expand in such a way that every David Cassidy-*Partridge Family* LP will be a hit—and even *better* than the ones before.”