

# TOO!

HAVE YOU EVER sat in front of your TV set watching "The Partridge Family" and wondered what it was like to *be* a Partridge? Well, here is the scoop on how David, Susan, Danny, Suzanne, Brian and Shirley got to be Partridges!

## DAVID CASSIDY

"Ever since I saw my mother, Evelyn Ward, acting, I knew I wanted to be an actor," says David. He kept bugging her about it until finally she let David appear with her in summer stock. Although David was only ten years old at the time, he'll never forget the thrill of being on stage for the first time. After he graduated high school, he worked with The Los Angeles Theater Group and got a role in their production of "And So To Bed." Then he went back to New York to see what was doing there. He took classes at the David Craig School of Musical Comedy and won a co-starring role in his first Broadway show, "The Fig Leaves Are Falling." The play didn't last too long so he returned to Hollywood to see about breaking into TV. He landed a guest shot in an "Ironside" episode and shortly after that appeared on "The Survivors," "Marcus Welby," "Adam-12," "Bonanza," and several other shows.

Then David got wind of the casting that was going on over at ABC for a new show called "The Partridge Family." He didn't know that his step-mother, Shirley Jones, was involved with the show until he showed up for the audition! It was as an actor, not as a singer that he was cast as Shirley's oldest son, Keith, and that's the way David still likes to think of himself. "I want to be a *good* actor," he says. In fact, believe it or not, the studio didn't even know that David could sing when they signed him. —

So that's how David got to be Keith Partridge.



## SUSAN DEY

Lovely Susan Dey admits that the way her career has gone has been a complete surprise to her. For example, Susan asked her step-mother for advice on getting a job for the summer in 1968. In turn, Susan's mom had been doing some thinking of her own about Susan and her sister Lesley, after reading a magazine article on teenage models. So after their conversation, Susan's mother sent pictures of both girls to a New York model agency—who immediately signed both of them. Susan was only fifteen and a-half at the time.

When she returned to high school in September, Susan became interested in drama and joined the school's theater group. While a member of this group, Susan played Elaine in "Arsenic and Old Lace" and Amanda in "Summer and Smoke." Then she was supposed to portray a duck in the school's Christmas extravaganza—but she turned it down to fly to Hollywood to do the pilot of "The Partridge Family," for which she had auditioned in New York. After the producer and the director saw her in the pilot, they signed her for the most coveted role of the year—that of Laurie Partridge. And the rest is history!

