



DAVID CASSIDY

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roles in dramatic series such as TV's *Ironside*, *The Survivors*, *Marcus Welby*, *Adam-12*, *Medical Centre*, *Mod Squad*, *Bonanza*, and his long-running role of Keith in *The Partridge Family*.

His home is his only refuge. The electrically operated gate helps to keep the peace. When David has a few hours at home he can relax and be himself without interruption and can enjoy his two dogs. He's had a few relationships with girls. After one very good one broke up, David was distressed and wrote the song *Two-Time Loser*.

It's difficult to find someone he can really trust, and it's hard to keep them when he works seven days a week. Girls want more than a phone call saying hallo, and announcing he's going away for a month somewhere to work; they're insulted because they're not rung up and given attention.

There's no time to do what ordinary people do, and some girls want to go out to be seen

for publicity. They get bored when they learn that's not David's scene. He's not looking for marriage yet. He has other goals.

"Most of his real friends were made before he became successful," Sam said. "There are a lot who have jumped on the bandwagon and are making a living from him in some way."

He has sacrificed a lot of personal freedoms for his fame.

"I can't go to a movie," David said in London. "I went shopping in the Kings Road, Chelsea, and almost got away with it. I got a lot of shopping done — it's the first time I've gone shopping and bought clothes for myself for three years — and then some girls recognized me and that was that. We ran."

The whole of his promotion tour here was like that. The screaming fans on the embankment allowed him only three hours sleep the first night. The next day, David was up early for a photo call, a Press lunch

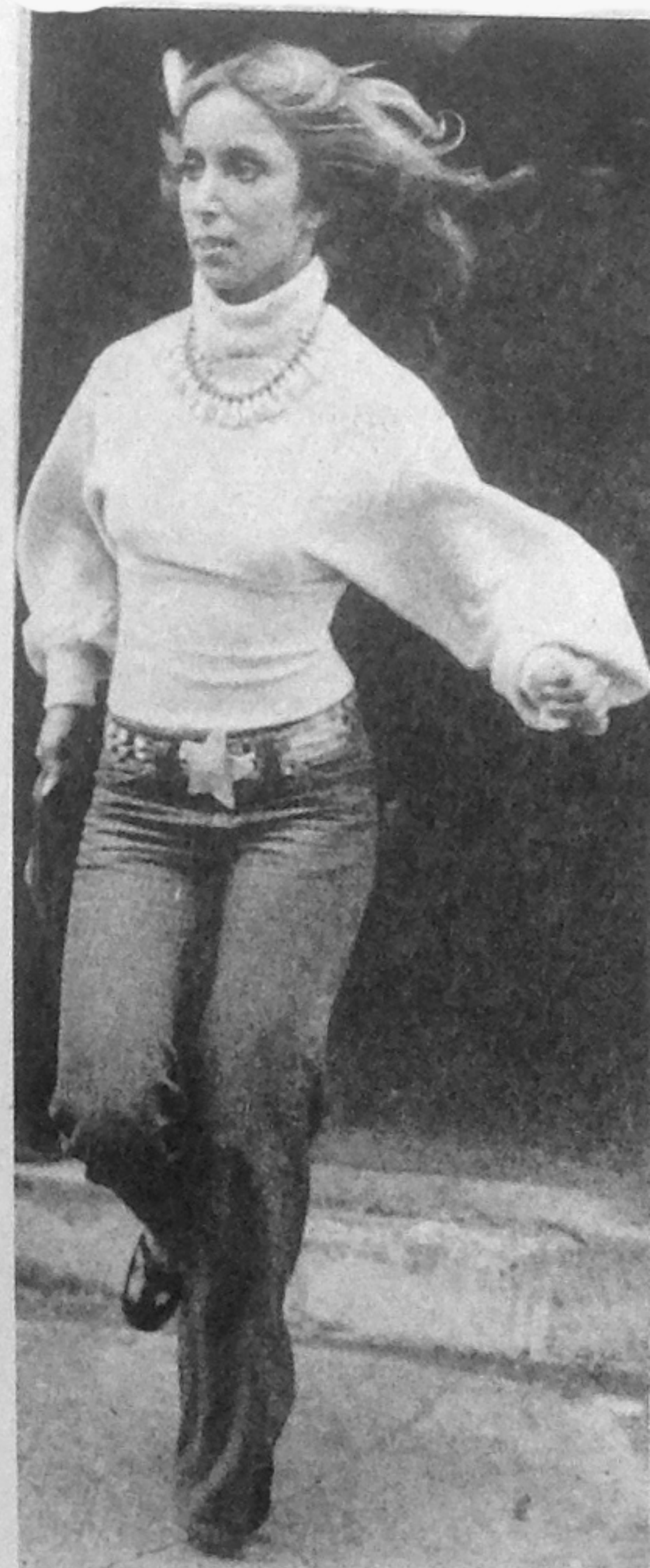
In October, word leaked that David was returning to London. The BBC strongly denied this but on October 3, he flew in to Heathrow. The only fans to know were these two Pan Am air stewardesses who had recognized him among their passengers. A few others waited in hope in case the story was true, but missed him when he was smuggled out of a side door after special clearance. He arrived to top the bill at the 500th birthday edition of the BBC's TV record programme, "Top of the Pops." Within two days he was reported "keeping company" with singer Gloria Grinel, right, and three other American girls during his visit. Gloria, it was suggested, could break all fans' hearts.

and interviews. He showed the strain a little and appeared later at the BBC studios for *Top of the Pops* where he was mobbed for autographs on camera — unheard of from this usually cool audience. Early the next day he was flown out to Robert Stigwood's house by helicopter to film background shots for further BBC appearances on the programme. By lunch (at the local), I felt as if we'd been there all day. I left before the filming was over and raced home to change for the cocktail party and buffet supper on board the yacht, thrown by Bell records for radio, TV and recording aristocracy.

The crowd enjoyed itself. David sat quietly in a corner of the lounge by Sam, a plate of food on his knee, and watched *Top of the Pops*. He hardly seemed part of the festivities around him.

First thing next morning we were on board a chartered aircraft (his fans didn't know about this one) on the first leg of a day-long publicity jaunt for Polydor records. First stop was Amsterdam where he was filmed for Dutch TV's pop show and interviewed by Press photographers in the airport grounds. There were no fans here, only a few spectators; but David acted as though he was scared he might be overrun at any minute.

Next stop was Frankfurt where the Munich scare was very obvious. Armed guards were hidden all round the airfield which was apparently deserted. David still couldn't believe he wasn't going to be



mobbed and was reticent about leaving the bus at the terminal until everyone else had gone inside. By Frankfurt we were all feeling the strain of the day and the flight. The closest his fans got to David during the whole tour was when he chatted to two bus loads of American children.

Back to London, and Press interviews the next day, shopping in the Kings Rd, dinner at a restaurant that night and a tumultuous farewell the following day at Heathrow. Sam stayed behind to tidy up some business. I can only imagine how David must have felt. I was exhausted.

"The disadvantages of this business are lack of privacy and the feeling of being cramped," David told me, "but you get great satisfaction out of walking on stage and getting that response. Satisfying your ego is only part of it. Everyone likes to turn someone else on, whether it's in a sexual or mental way."

He's never been threatened with a paternity suit. "I'm