LAST SUMMER when I visited with Shirley Jones at her home in Beverly Hills she was full of excitement about her step-son David Cassidy. "He's the hottest thing in show business right now, and by the end of the year, he'll be setting records all over America."

Shirley sure knew what she was talking about. David will open in New York shortly at Madison Square Garden. According to friends in New York, David is already sold out.

Later this month he goes into the Astrodome in Houston.

"We have 44,000 seats in Houston and they are all sold out," Jim Focod personal manager of David, told us recently.

His LP records are breaking all records. Young Cassidy, son of Jack Cassidy, is a product of television. Two years ago he was a complete unknown. It took "The Partridge Family" to make him a real star.