

# Cassidy Delivers 'Message'

By PAULA CATALDI

The lollipop set of Syracuse had no defenses against the overwhelming, breath-taking performance of David Cassidy and company at the War Memorial yesterday afternoon.

Clad in tight yellow satin, the leaping, gyrating Cassidy was enough to take the breath away from the most seasoned "groupie" and, judging from the decibel units, quite fulfilled the expectations of his youthful audience.

Cassidy was preceded by the "Whole Damn Band," featuring Kim Carnes and Dave Ellingson, who were received favorably, warming up the audience of 1,600 for "Hurricane David."

Nothing could have been preparation enough for the suggestive, burlesque-like movements of the young Cassidy which were his basis of communication with the audience. He quite literally wiggled his way into the hearts of young Syracusans.

Cassidy was quoted in the program as saying, "From the first time I stepped on stage to sing, I knew that I wanted to get across some kind of message . . ."

The message, if not in the lyrics, was clear.

There is no question of intent here. Cassidy is a dynamic entertainer with a more than respectable voice but one wonders about the advisability of encouraging the under-18 crowd to "reach out and touch" something they cannot and should not reach.

Cassidy seldom reached out to his audience giving anything of himself, except to communicate in body language and suggestion which was seemingly pleasing to those in attendance.

Cassidy sang several songs from "Rock Me Baby," his latest album, to be released this week.