

Tragedy Mars Cassidy Tour

LONDON (AP) — American pop music star David Cassidy wound up a British tour on a low note when less than half the expected 20,000 fans turned up for his farewell concert.

A spokesman for the organizers said parents had prevented their daughters from going to the concert following the hysterical crush that injured hundreds of teenagers at Cassidy's performance in White City stadium earlier.

One fan, 14-year-old Ber-

nadette Whelan, suffered brain damage when her heart stopped beating in Sunday's hysteria. She died Thursday without regaining consciousness.

Bernadette's mother said: "If only I had never allowed her to go to that concert. The only consolation I can get from this tragedy is that other mothers may learn from it." She said she finally gave in to her daughter's persistent pleadings.

Cassidy, 24, sent Bernadette a "get-well" bouquet of flowers.

He was quoted as saying: "I haven't been sleeping too well because I've been so worried about her."

Cassidy's last concert at Manchester City football stadium in northern England was comparatively peaceful. About 70 girls were given first aid treatment on the spot by squads of stewards.

Organizers had taken the precaution of smuggling Cassidy into the stadium disguised as an ambulance man.