

Ingels Playing Stepdad To Those Cassidy Kids And Loving It

NEW YORK—Shirley Jones' husband Marty Ingels sure is strong for those Cassidy kids of hers.

"Shaun's made \$2 million this year and going into his third," says the former comedian who married Shirley last fall. "He's got enough to keep him the rest of his life. It's fantastic, the attention he's getting.

"Then there's Patrick, who's 16, so beautiful, six feet tall, quarterback at Beverly Hills High. The girls are all over him. Ryan, who's 12, hasn't shown any show business drive yet."

David Cassidy, the great rock star, 28 and married happily, was the late Jack Cassidy's son by a previous marriage — and he's probably soon going to have a new TV series.

Marty Ingels talked frankly, saying, "Just don't hurt me with my kids." He's playing stepdad and loving it. He's in the business of putting stars together with sponsors. He's doing well. He gave Shirley an Excalibur car said to have cost \$40,000.

"From a little Brooklyn kid that couldn't afford a pair of pants," said Marty.

"Shirley's so wonderful. I keep looking for her feet of clay, but she doesn't have any. Shaun's happy in that new half-million-dollar house of his on a mountaintop."

Shaun's been dating actress Ann Pennington who has a small daughter. Close friends say he's been acting like a man in love. "Shaun's almost a hermit because of his fans, those teenies," Marty said. "We had to eject a couple of them who tried to camp on our lawn."

Marty says all Shaun's activities, counting the sidelines, will generate \$200 million worth of business this year. And it's little more than a year ago that he was getting a \$25-a-week allowance.

Ingels Inc. set Burt Lancaster in a Russian war picture deal that had to have approval of both the Kremlin and the White House.

"We make deals for some of the stars who are tired of

being left on hold by their agents," Marty said.

"I've got a million-dollar offer for Liza Minnelli, but she hasn't accepted it. There are some people," he added, "who don't need a million dollars!"

Handsome Richard Gere notified the N.Y. Film Festival he won't be here later this month — which is

a blow to all those who wanted to see the boy from Syracuse who's the hottest new talent in films. Gere, who's 28, with a sultry look, went from playing Diane Keaton's boyfriend in "Goodbar" to "Blood-brothers" and "Days of Heaven" —and then to "Yanks," which still will be filming in London when the festival's on here.

Gere's admirers keep referring to him as "The next Brando" and "the next James Dean" and "the next Paul Newman." He's "Mr. Next," in short. He has a girl back home, and that has kept him out of the clutches of those European enchantresses.

Teddy Pendergrass, the

new sex symbol singer who isn't ashamed of the fact that his audiences largely are female, followed up his triumph in Philadelphia with sellouts at Avery Fisher here. His "for women only" gimmick for certain of his shows was a smash idea. Seldom before have I heard such screaming for tickets — from women.

Robert Redford's new picture, "The Electric Horseman," was postponed again because they still couldn't find the right girl for Redford.

Yul Brynner was booked to play the Concord because entertainment director Phil Greenwald, stricken with a backache, visited his doctor, met Brynner there and asked if he'd replace Telly Savalas, who'd canceled. Brynner surprisingly agreed.