

re-elected Chairman of the Special Olympics Youth Society, which has involved him in quite a lot of work recently.

The society organises a special 'Olympic' Games for handicapped children and over 3,000 of them entered this year, so there was certainly a lot to be done on the organisation side! The games were held at U.C.L.A. and Santa Monica College, and brought back lots of happy memories for David . . . Because it all happened on that magnificent beach where he did the filming for the 'Rock Me Baby' film track. Remember? All those miles of golden sand with the big pier overlooking the ocean . . .

### SUPER-PRIZE

Well, how could you forget? David certainly hadn't forgotten any of it. That's one place he's always happy to go back to! But his involvement with the Games neither began nor ended there . . . He'd spent long hours taping dozens of TV and Radio appeals beforehand. And he's also agreed to arrange for a very special super-prize. Now, I warn you: this is going to make you feel very, very jealous! Because this prize I'm talking about is nothing less than a day's visit to the Partridge Family set and lunch with David!! And that's for the lucky winner who thinks up the best Olympic slogan! (I'm afraid transatlantic entries can't be accepted — shame!)

"All I hope is that I don't get myself involved with judging the entries!" David told me beforehand. "That's a job I find well nigh impos-

ible, 'cos they all seem to deserve a prize when I look through them! I just wouldn't know where to start!"

As long as someone else solves that part of the problem for him, David will be delighted to give the winner a day to remember all his — or her — life!

The Partridge Family were scheduled for a mid-week start earlier this month, with filming due to begin on Wednesday, 8th August. But David and Shirley had already started back into the old routine well before that.

Monday, 23rd July saw them both back at Western Recorders with the regular Partridge Family back-up group, ready to pre-record some of this season's music for the show. Of course, Wes Farrell is still the Partridge music man, although he is no longer working with David on his solo tracks. So it turned out to be quite a reunion — with some great songs to celebrate the occasion!

"I guess it's worked out to be something of a running-in period for me," David laughed. "It's kinda brought me back into a working groove little by little, instead of dropping me into a twenty-hour working day all at once!" But he said that before filming was underway at Columbia Ranch!

Since then he's had to shake the layers of dust off his alarm clock and get back into the habit of hauling himself out of bed at 6.30 a.m. every morning! And, with more recording sessions most evenings, he's often lucky if he sees the inside of that bed again before 2 a.m.!

That's what I call getting

back to work with a vengeance! So, when David assured me that he meant to make sure he wouldn't go 'snap' this season . . . Well, I was just a teeny bit dubious about it. It still seemed like a pretty tough schedule to me!

But, as he pointed out: "It was those weekend concert trips that really did it . . . I went through near enough a year with hardly a single day off and an average of four hours' sleep a night — if that! And, through all that time, the pressure was never off me personally . . ."

Looking back now on those times, it makes you realise how selfish David's fans could be without knowing it. Their love for him demanded that he did more and more live gigs, and he tried to keep them happy. The excitement of the shows kept him going while he was on stage, and he tried never to let them see the weariness that was creeping up on him.

### KEEP SANE

Since then, he's come to realise that he must keep a little time back for himself — just to keep sane! It'll probably be one day (or maybe only a few hours) each week, when he can shut himself up in his music room and try out a few new things . . . Or when he can simply relax and get ready for another week of filming, recording, interviews and photo sessions. One thing's for sure: David isn't a guy to go in for half measures . . .

When he talks about getting back to work, he certainly means just that — and more!



Here's that pic of David & Roger Meyers, an old school mate. ►