



ROCK ROCK ROCK

David Cassidy can be more than a little stubborn. He can be awfully stubborn, when it comes to something he thinks is right.

We can all be grateful for that. If David wasn't just a bit stubborn, he wouldn't have made it to the point he's at now.

If he hadn't demanded just that bit more from himself, from people he's worked with, and from life itself, you might never have heard of David Cassidy.

Well, the latest news is out, and it's going to come as quite a surprise to a lot of people, especially the ones who have written David Cassidy off as someone who can only write, and sing, soft, romantic ballads.

ROMANTIC

Not that there's anything wrong with romantic ballads. As David told me, "I really dig doing really soft, melodic songs. That's why I decided to do 'If I Didn't Care', and of

course most of the tracks on *Dreams Are Nuthin' More Than Wishes* are pretty slow, ballad-y type songs."

But there's a side to David's voice that nobody has fully appreciated... YET!

But it won't be long now! Because David Cassidy is going to show everyone that he can rock and roll with the best of them.

DRUMS

"I don't really know how the word got out that I was only able to do the slower songs," David told me, "but after I'd heard about it for the tenth time, it began to get on my nerves.

"After all, I started out doing rock and roll a long time ago. In fact, when I was about 15 or so, I just about joined a rock group that some friends of mine had.

"I played drums then, and I always felt that it would be great to drum for a really heavy rock band. But I got a chance to act in a summer stock theatre production with my mom, so I did that instead."

But the urge to rock never

really left David. While he liked the early things he did with the Partridge Family, it was the rockers like "Rock Me Baby" that really gave him a chance to express that side of his voice.

ELTON

And as David's ability to play the guitar increased, he quickly learned to play electric models like the Fender Stratocaster that he used at his concerts here last spring.

I knew that David had done a fantastic rock and roll medley with Elton John at his concert in Auckland last March. I wondered if that was the first time he'd been able to really let go and rock on stage.

"Well, I guess maybe it was. But it's funny the way it happened. Elton and I have known each other for quite awhile—we sort of were introduced by Harry Nilsson—and we got on well from the start.

"We had both been interested in rock, and I really did dig Elton's 'Crocodile Rock'. A couple of times when we were in L.A., Elton and I managed to get together and just fool around a bit with piano and guitar.

SURPRISED

"But I really never expected to have him turn up in Auckland. He just sort of walked on stage and everyone began to scream.

"He sat down at the piano and I got this tremendous rush and I was so high, I just really let loose.

"We did about ninety minutes of rock and roll, really raunchy, heavy songs that we both knew, like 'Delta Lady' and 'C.C. Rider'. And it felt so great that, even though Elton