



His Name Is David Cassidy!

by Laudy Powell

"I turned on 'Marcus Welby, M.D.' as I always do," the letter read, "when all of a sudden my heart started thumping wildy 'cause I was looking into the two most beautiful eyes in the world! They belonged to the boy who played Michael on the show... but WHO IS HE?"

The letters kept coming into FaVE, hundreds of them, all asking the same question, so of course we had to find out what all the excitement was about!

"Hi, I'm David Cassidy." His hazel eyes are huge, bottomless, and fringed with the blackest, longest lashes ever. His smile is shy, a little uncertain, as if he's not quite sure what to make of all the sudden attention.

"I'm really a very boring person," David assured me minutes after he walked into my office. Not so. The truth is that he's shy! An actor who is shy? Well, David isn't ordinary in any sense of the word!

Although "Welby" was his biggest TV role so far, he's far from a beginner. Two years ago he was featured in a Broadway show that flopped. But it gave him a taste of musical comedy and his fondest wish is a movie role starring in a comedy.

"I really dig dramatic acting," David confides while he changes into another shirt for photographs. "But I'm more relaxed with comedy. I'm also nervous when I have my picture taken!" Then he posed for an hour and a half as if he'd been doing it all his life.

HE SINGS TOO!

David isn't entirely new to show business—his parents were both singers, and apparently he's got his share of this talent too. In addition to acting lessons with the Los Angeles Theatre Company, he took guitar and will soon be cutting his first record!

When David starts to talk about music, all reserve drops away. "The two things I care about most are my new Gibson guitar and my stereo components! My favorite kind of evening is when a few friends drop over and we jam all night long!

"Then of course there's Sam, my wire-haired terrier. I'm just moving into a house in the Hollywood Hills so he has a yard to play in." David laughs, showing a dimple in his cheek. "He's really a nutty dog! You'll have to see him to believe how crazy he is!

David admits he doesn't care about clothes much. A very slim 5'8", he says he couldn't gain weight if he tried! "You should have seen what I was eating when I first moved away from home! The only thing I can cook is bacon and eggs, so I had them three times a day until I couldn't stand it anymore! Now I've switched to ice cream, olives, and pickles!"

It may be a good thing that David's not very hung up about food, because lately he's been almost too busy to eat anyway. Besides filming a "Bonanza" and "Medical Center" ("Once a patient always a patient," he grins) he's also done a TV pilot.

If we're lucky and the show sells, you'll be seeing David every week this fall! It took some doing to get him to say any more about the show, "I hate to talk about it in case it doesn't go through..." but David did say he'd be a member of a family musical group. "I'm Keith, the oldest boy, who's about 16."

By the time you read this, David will be nearly 20. "I know I don't look it," he says frankly. "People always think I'm younger than that!"

LIKES BRIGHT GIRLS

Ask David about girls, and those fantastic eyes of his really light up. He's got some very definite opinions on what he likes! "Long, straight hair, no matter what color it is. I'm always attracted first to blondes, but that's only the initial thing. It's what's going on in her head that I care about! I'm not much for big parties or going out on the town, so a girl I enjoy spending time with has got to be able to hold up her end of the conversation!"

Before David left, I gave him a stack of the mail he's been getting c/o FaVE. He leafed through them slowly, his face lit with pleasure. "Thanks! May I keep them?" he asked. Of course I gave them to him, and as he went out the door he was carrying them carefully under his arm.

If you were one of the lucky girls who wrote him, I'd watch your mail deliveries. You might be getting a letter from one of the cutest, most exciting guys to come along... his name is David Cassidy!