Patti Carnel. David has had no instructions stopping him from starting a romance—except his own thoughts on the subject.

"I don't think there's anything wrong with dating a lot of girls," he says. "There's no pressure on people-girls or guys—to get seriously involved because they have to. And if you're starting a career as an actor, something that will take you on the road a lot and keep you busy all the time, it really isn't the right time to think about it.

"I know that I'll have to travel a lot for the show-I look forward to it. I'll be working hard, and putting everything I can into it. Going out-dates-are the

way I like to relax.

David's philosophy makes sense. Right now he's devoting all his time and talents to his career, and it would be unfair of him to ask or expect any girl to "wait" while his work took him thousands of miles away. Since the Partridge Family makes records as well as doing the series, Dave's schedule is doubly busy.

He sees dating as the way to unwind from the long hours of rehearsals and the pressures of his work—and that's just the way he wants to keep it. It hasn't been that easy, though. Much of Dave's free time is taken up with publicity for the show, and his photo sessions with Susan Dey have been termed a romance by uninformed observers. He's slowly learning to live with publicity, and is aware that it is a part of his career that he must accept.

As a result, David is now beginning to turn from Hollywood for dating. During a brief vacation from the show, he went to Hawaii, where he spent time with several girls (not at once!)-swimming, surfing, and generally living the relaxed life that he

cannot live in Hollywood.

The upcoming tour he plans will take him to cities all across the country, and he plans to spend time in New York, where he admits he has some "friends" whom

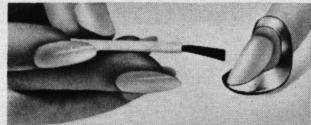
he'll be looking up.
"I don't think," Dave says, "that girls are different in New York than they are in California—but the two places aren't that much alike. You can't do the same things, like going swimming most of the year, in New York as you can in L.A., but I like them both. It's really the people you are with who make a place."

David, as a rising star, is having no trouble finding the people, female gender, to make wherever he is at the moment interesting and memorable. He's enjoying his success and savoring the experience of meeting the right girl—and the fun of looking for her one girl at a time.

See David on ABC's The Partridge Family.



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