

body had to get off again. I'm not too keen on flying anyway, and this really made me a little green, and I don't think David loved it a lot either. In fact, only Sharon Lee, the editor of the *TIGER BEAT's* Official Partridge Family Magazine, who came along for the whole trip, looked like she could take it in stride, and she did a lot to calm our nerves while we waited for a new plane to be made ready. You can read Sharon's impressions of the trip coming up in the new Partridge Mag!

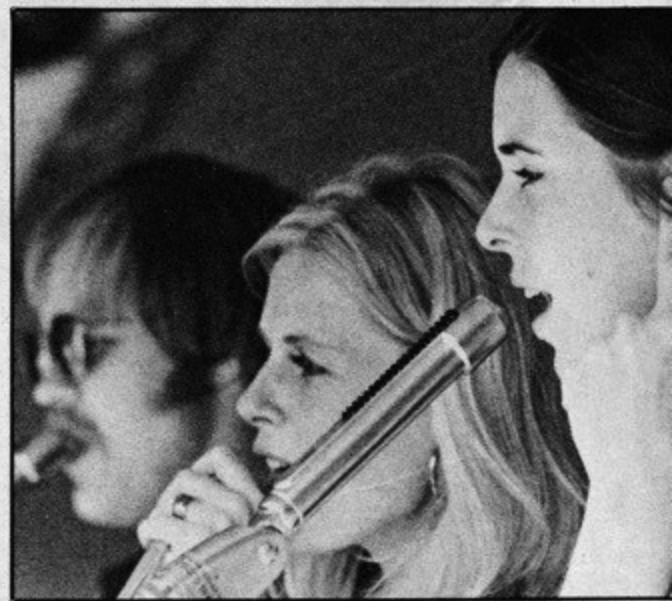
CLOSE SCHEDULE

On the new flight, we had breakfast (our second). David ate his usual modest meal—broiled steak, hash-browns, a fruit bowl, a roll, tea, and Seven-up. Always adventurous in his eating habits, he spread jelly on his steak as an experiment, but he gave up halfway through! Then he slept for about half an hour and when he woke up he went over his musical arrangements with

ON HIS WAY to the stage, David gives photog Sharon Lee a smile. Sharon took all the photos on these pages and we think she did a great job! On stage, below, David gives his all to the audience! He loves singing!



THOUGH MANY PEOPLE travel with Dave, there are times that can be pretty lonely. Backstage, just before show-time is one of them. Above, Dave thinks about how the audience will react to the show he's prepared!



WARMING UP THE CROWD are Kim and Dave Ellingson and Brooks Hunnicutt. They precede David on stage, then stay during his act and do background singing on all his songs. Kim, Dave and Brooks travel with us always.



DAVID ALWAYS TAKES TIME for signing autographs when he has time to spare! Many times he's gotten cramped fingers, but that doesn't stop him! He feels he owes everything to all of his devoted followers!

Richard Delvey, his arranger. As the ground slipped by beneath us, we got more and more excited about that evening's concert, and by the time we landed, the bad start was completely forgotten!

Because of the delay and the time difference, we arrived in Dayton only about two hours before the concert was scheduled to start, so there wasn't even time to check in at the hotel! We jumped into the limousine and sped to the auditorium just in time to check out the sound equipment and get ready for the show.

The concert was a dream! There were about 6,000 kids outside, and the sound of all those voices coming through the curtain made David nervous! He paced around in his new costume—sort of a jump suit in white, with a gold belt that hangs way down low and gold bangles all over the place, and he listened while the kids gave great hands to the back-up group, and to Brook Hunnicutt, who really wowed them. Then the lights dimmed, and David turned to me with a nervous laugh and said "What am I doing here?" and ran out on stage.

They went completely wild, scream-

ing and yelling his name, and he was halfway into his first song before he could be heard. All the nervousness seemed to have evaporated, and he looked better and more sure of himself than I've ever seen him! He sang all the songs they knew and a few that they shouted requests for, and then—almost as quickly as it had begun, it seemed—it was over. David ran offstage and straight out the door to a waiting limousine, and he was gone. I was amazed to look up at the clock and find that he'd been on almost a full hour!

But we soon had other things to think about. The kids didn't believe David had gone, and they burst into the backstage area—about two thousand of them—shouting "We want David! We want David!" It looked like it was going to get scary, but the security men gently made everyone understand that he was really gone, and the kids dispersed.

Back at the hotel, David did a radio interview and then about six of us went to dinner. David ate lobster and cracked crab on ice. It was another late night—I guess we all got to sleep around 2:00 or 2:30.

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