

TELEVISION

Smith and Jones may be a pair of saddlesore drifters on ABC Channel 7, but fans of Old West action love the bums!

It's a tossup which of the two pards is the most popular with female addicts of the little flickering box. Both are young, handsome, splendid physical types with arresting personalities. Even more important, both are unmarried. Let's make a quick word-sketch of each to help you decide which one to concentrate your love powers on.

Pete Duel, alias **Joshua Smith**, alias **Hannibal Heyes**, is a lean, brown-eyed six-footer, born in Rochester, upreared in Penfield, N.Y., son of a doctor who wanted Pete to be a doctor, too. Two years pre-med at St. Lawrence U was a disaster, Pete boasts, as he cut most medic classes to act in schoolplays.



THIS IS ONE SHOW YOU'LL NEVER SEE. It's the pilot for "The Bobby Sherman Show." It was shown only to Screen Gems executives! But they loved it and the series sold! You'll see Bobby and Wes every week in the fall!

suburb, where his folks still live, Ben dropped in and out of eight colleges and universities in Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana and Mexico City before taking B.A. degrees at Illinois (political science) and Pasadena Playhouse (drama). This is Ben's first permareole in a tele-series although he's played bit or better parts in several shows and three movies.

Either Pete and Ben is a most desirable dreamboat for any real red-corpuscled all-American maiden. There's one hangup. They have no time for love. At least that's what we were told by zitty **Clementine Twiffenfinks** who

axed, leaving only six: **Dean Martin**, **Glen Campbell**, **Laugh-In**, **Carol Burnett**, **Flip Wilson** and a newie, tentatively titled "Marriage Can Be Fun." The Partridge series and Bobby's forthcoming weekly workout lay plots on viewers.

Big Break for Bobby was assignment of **Paul Witt**, the Partridge producer, to produce his show, thereby giving it a sure-nuff chance for rating grabbing.

Know why **David Cassidy's** concert safari to umpteen U.S. cities got off to a slow start? Because he's smart, that's why!

IT'S HAPPENING

He was happier orating and gesticulating Shakespeare than passing out headache pills, hassling germs and sawing bones.

Pete's official biography, released by Universal Studio where the series is filmed, admits frankly that "Pete, with his younger brother, **Geoffrey**, and younger sister, **Pamela**, grew up in an ambience,"—whatever that means. Today he lives with a dog in a rustic habitat in the Hollywood Hills, and pursues his hobbies, fencing and dancing when he isn't working or driving to the woods in a four-wheel camper. Pete is busy as a squirrel in a nuthouse.

Ben Murphy, alias **Jed "Kid" Curry**, alias **Thaddeus Jones**, lives in a small apartment near Universal City with no dog, no wife, no friend, not even a scrawny old alley cat to keep him company. It doesn't matter, so he thinks, because he doesn't hang around home much, being a 5'-11", 170-pound, blond, blue-eyed school, ski and tennis freak.

Ben's success story begins in Jonesboro, Ark., the county seat down a dusty road a piece from Lake City Junction on the St. L. S. Railway, 1500 miles from Hollywood as the crow flies.

After graduating from Precopius Greek High in Hindale, a chi-chi Chi

devoted months in a vain effort to worm herself into their hearts.

Come fall you'll have to face the question: Is **Bobby Sherman** worth staying home for on Saturday nights?

The network nitwits set Bobby's new show to air on Saturdays, 8 to 8:30 p.m. That's just fine, they say, for after all the **Partridges** reached the Boss 20 on the TV rating charts in the Friday 8:30 to 9 p.m. time slot. Friday and Saturday are the only nights during the school year when most kids can go out and stay up past bedtime.

More TVariety shows croaked than any other type this year. Eleven were

Eager beaver promoters everywhere were begging to book the Cassidy cat on the double-quick. **David** and his managers turned down \$250,000 quick money deals and wouldn't start touring until they'd put together and adequately rehearsed a complete show designed to freak out fans of all sizes, shapes and stripes.

"**Room 222**" will play for more laughs next semester. To get their way, ABC bosses had to bounce the two execs who'd steered the show to its present peak and wanted 222 to be a drama spiced with some funsies, while the network heads insisted it major in comedy, minor in drama.

IT WAS REUNION TIME when petite **Judy Carne** guest starred with **Pete Duel** on "Alias Smith and Jones" in April. Three years ago the two starred together in their own series "Love On A Rooftop" in which they played as a newly married couple. Both said they really loved working together again!

