## DAVID CASSIDY'S BEST FRIEND CON SUICIDE I "I tried to talk to him, to David, his brilliant hazel ey anger and frustration. "He'd to

By LARRY KAIN

"I tried to talk to him, to reason with him," said David, his brilliant hazel eyes clouded by tears of anger and frustration. "He'd tried to take his life twice before, and those of us who were close to him were always afraid he'd try it again.

"Maybe I should have been stronger with him. I never tried to tell him what to do. It just wasn't the role for me. Maybe if I'd been stronger with him, he'd have known that some-

one really cared." He issued a long sigh—"Oh, what's the use!"

For now it was too late. David Cassidy's closest friend was dead! Just a few short months ago, he died of an overdose of sleeping pills and alcohol, and now his friends and family can do no more for him than mourn his passing.

"Man, I just cried for him, like a baby cries. He didn't have to die. He really had a lot of

talent and a lot to give as a person. He was a brilliant writer, but he was really unhappy, and there was nothing I could say or do for him."

## Why He say or do for David asker for the sake old friends a he was reall really bright it was all down The Death!

David asked that we refrain from printing the boy's name for the sake of his family, but he did admit that they were old friends and had gone to school together. "A year ago, he was really in control, you know. He was in school and really bright. Then he got involved in the drug scene and it was all downhill from then on."

David feels that drugs were to blame for his friend's suicide. If only he could have gotten him to stop taking drugs, perhaps he could have saved his life. After the first two suicide attempts, the young actor tried to explain to his friend that it was the drugs that were (Continued on page 67)