

on interviews. In his spare time, David studied at the David Craig School of Musical Comedy.

Finally David won an important role in the Broadway musical *The Fig Leaves Are Falling*. Even though the show eventually closed, David was seen by a Hollywood talent scout who arranged for him to fly to the West Coast for a screen test.

David didn't win the film role, but some talent scouts from Universal saw him and signed him to appear in a segment of *Ironsides*. This was followed by guest spots on other shows, including *Marcus*

Welby, M.D.; *Bonanza* and *The F.B.I.* And finally, of course, he won the role of his stepmother's son on *The Partridge Family*, one of the most successful shows on television.

David is now a star. He has fan clubs and receives thousands of letters each week from lovestruck teen-age girls. But basically, David is still the quiet, dedicated actor that he dreamed of being as a little boy back in West Orange, New Jersey. For David Cassidy, a dream came true—but he worked hard to turn that dream into a reality. ■

SHIRLEY/

LITTLE GIRL-MOM

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concerts, and she was nearly always selected as soloist with the best school chorals. In 1952, Shirley graduated from high school, with plans to attend St. Mary's College for Girls. But then she was voted "Miss Pittsburgh." This meant she got to take a lot of trips and eventually ended up with a two-year voice scholarship to the Pittsburgh University School of Drama. She worked hard at her studies in the daytime, and at night she appeared in local plays and in the Civic Light Opera.

Shirley planned to enroll at Centenary Junior College for Women in New Jersey, but instead, she took all the money she had saved up (\$245) and went to New York. She sang for a friend, who asked her to sing for an agent, then she went back home. But back home all folks said was, "You're so foolish not to go to New York," so back she went.

Shirley had been in New York for only two weeks when she went to an open audition for Rodgers and Hammerstein. She sang two songs for John Fearnley, the casting director, who immediately went running for Mr. Rodgers. Rodgers heard and asked Shirley to wait while he got Oscar Hammerstein. Hammerstein listened and said, "She's a perfect Laurey."

Shirley was signed to appear in the chorus of *South Pacific*. But what Rodgers and Hammerstein were actually looking for was someone to play the leading role of Laurey in the film version of *Oklahoma*.

Shirley stayed with *South Pacific* until it closed, then joined the chorus of *Me And Juliet*. Not long after that, she was sent to Hollywood to test for *Oklahoma*. As we all know, she got the role and was well on her way to stardom.

After *Oklahoma*, Shirley went on to star in *Carousel* and in such saccharin-sweet films as *April Love* with Pat Boone. Because she felt she was being type-cast as the good girl type, Shirley tried her hand at being a bad girl opposite Burt Lancaster in *Elmer Gantry*, and won an

Academy Award for her efforts.

After *Gantry*, Shirley's success in films was guaranteed, and she appeared in many that fared well at the box office. But what she really had her heart set on was a television show, so she's happiest of all with *The Partridge Family*.

In 1956, while she was working on *Oklahoma*, Shirley met a talented and handsome blond actor named Jack Cassidy. Jack was married, though separated from his wife, so Shirley tried her best to steer clear. But the two fell in love, and as soon as Jack's divorce became final, they were wed.

Shirley and Jack have three sons, Shaun, Patrick and Ryan, besides Jack's superstar son from his first marriage, David Cassidy. Shirley has never pushed herself to be a star—as with her first plum role, the good offers just come to her naturally—so she's never felt any qualms about taking breaks in her career to be with her family.

In the meantime, it looks as if Shirley will be with *The Partridge Family* gang for a long time to come. She finds her role rewarding and challenging, and much prefers working in television to doing films—which often required her to be away from the family for long periods of time. Nor is there any family competition. Both Shirley and David are pleased as can be to be appearing together on the show, and all the world knows what a fine dramatic—and comedy—actor Jack Cassidy is.

If the enjoyment Shirley gets out of *The Partridge Family* weren't enough, there are two other things which will no doubt keep her on the show for a long time to come. First of all, there is the money—of course. And second and more important, there are her many fans.

Shirley was always a popular and well-liked actress, but with *The Partridge Family*, her name has become a household word. Both adults and children love her bright beauty and sunny personality. And Shirley appreciates all her fans and will always try to line up to their expectations. Right now that means staying in the limelight so that her fans can enjoy her talents. But, though Shirley deeply loves her fans, her family will always come first.

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