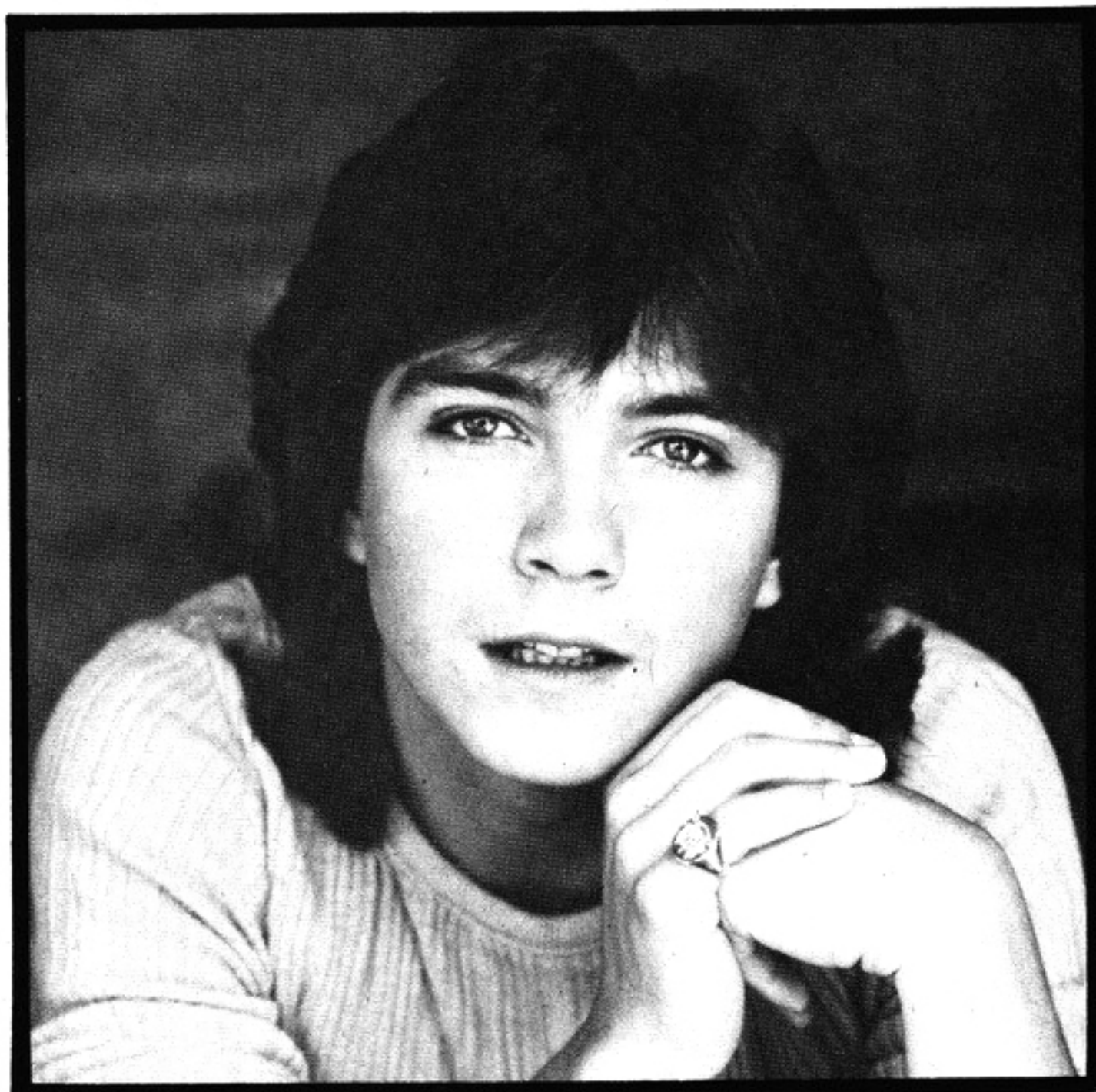


I BELIEVE



By **DAVID CASSIDY**

Hi there!

This is sort of a special little "thought-gram" from me to you. It's not really a letter, because it's really just some thoughts I've been having lately and really want to share with you!

I think the whole thing really started while I was in Europe, on my fantastic vacation. As you know, I traveled around pretty much unnoticed, driving kind of a beat-up bus and dressing in any old thing, stopping anywhere I wanted and just getting out and walking around like I had never been asked for an autograph in my life!

I have to admit, there were things about it that I really liked! It was great not to be working eighteen hours a day, never having to get dressed up, and not ever having to pretend I was happy and grinning when actually I didn't feel like it!

But the big flash came in Switzerland, the first day I skied alone. I had already taken two runs down the mountain, and I was riding the ski lift back up to the top when I realized that I really didn't even remember getting into the lift! For ten or fifteen minutes my mind had been thousands of miles away—in the U.S., to be exact!

BIG FLASH

I got out at the top, but instead of trudging on over to start another run, I took my skis off and hiked in the opposite direction for ten or fifteen minutes, until I was completely alone.

I sat down and looked at the panorama in front of me. I was at the

edge of an enormous cliff, and the afternoon sun was beginning to set, turning the snow-covered mountains into colors of burnt-orange and pink, and the shadows were turning deep blue. I felt like I could see a hundred miles, and way, way below, where it was already starting to get dark, I could just see the tiny warm glimmer of light from the window of a little house. It was no bigger than a firefly!

As I sat, thoughts crowded themselves in to my mind. In America, I had been hurried and rushed around so much for the past two years that I really hadn't had time to think! I had loved it, and it was the most exciting time of my life, but it had