

DEAR CAROL

JERMAINE JACKSON



Q. Please help! There's a rumor going around here that David Cassidy is going deaf and that he won't be able to record after another year! Is this true? V.C.—Danville, Vir.

A. Don't panic! It's not true. David hasn't had any trouble with his hearing.

Q. Bill Bixby's cute wife looks familiar. Did she ever guest star on "Courtship of Eddie's Father"? K.G.—Jefferson, Wis.

A. What sharp eyes you have—yes. Bill's wife, actress Brenda Benet, did guest on his show a couple of times.

Q. In some pictures and on TV, David Cassidy's hair sometimes looks as though it's been frosted a whitish color. Yet other times it looks normal. Do they really frost his hair, or what? S.M.—Danbury, Conn.

A. I think what you must be seeing is a trick of light called back lighting. That's when a light is placed behind an actor—it gives a kind of glow to his hair sometimes. No, they don't frost his hair. It's always its natural brownish color.



Q. I couldn't believe that Viri Osmond got killed in a car wreck, and I still don't, not until I hear it from you. C.S.—Crystal Beach, Tex.

A. Don't believe it, because it's not true. Viri is alive and well—and about to become a father again. His wife is expecting another baby this summer.

Q. I would like to know if Susan Dey is going steady with David Cassidy because in your January FLIP there's a picture of Susan and it looks like she's wearing David's gold ring with the blue stone on it and the other gold ring that his father gave him, the one that says "Life, Love & Happiness." M.M.—Crosby, Tex.

A. No, for the millionth time, Susan and David are not going steady, engaged or married—THEY ARE JUST GOOD FRIENDS! Got that?! David had to take the rings off for a few minutes and Susan was just holding them for him.

Q. Is it true that Donny Osmond has to wear a retainer at night? If so, what is a retainer? A.M.S.—Toledo, Ohio.

A. A retainer is a plastic and metal device that some people have to wear on their teeth for a while after they've had braces on their teeth. It helps keep the teeth in their proper place. Donny never had to wear braces, but he does wear a retainer, although only at night.

Q. Is it true that David Cassidy is leaving "The Partridge Family"? —Petersburg, Va.

A. No, it's not true.

Q. Is it true that Barry Williams and Maureen McCormick are secretly going steady and are planning to quit show business and run away together? W.M.—Millington, N.J.

A. No, that is not true at all. Barry and Maureen are good friends but they are not going steady or planning to run away together.



DAVID CASSIDY