



DAVID CASSIDY EXPLODES: "I DON'T WANT TO BE ANOTHER BOBBY SHERMAN"

BY K. SHARP

To the casual fan, David Cassidy and Bobby Sherman would seem to be like blood brothers. Truly, they have a great deal in common. Both are young, good-looking and eligible bachelors. Bobby and David have equal claim to being top rock stars and idols of the teeny-bopper set. Still, David Cassidy insists, "I really don't want to be another Bobby Sherman," which seems a put-down of the highest order.

But, in all actuality, it isn't that David puts down his rival—it is more that he fears he can too easily fall into the same trap which has led Bobby down a path from which he is trying his hardest to escape.

David's mother, Evelyn Ward (Shirley Jones is his real-life stepmom), and his dad, Jack Cassidy, are both in show business, although Miss Ward is more or less semi-retired these days. Today David says, "... The reason I got some kind of insight into show business was because of my mother—because of what I saw through her, and what she opened me up to. She made me aware of a lot of things, and by the time I went into the business myself, I was very glad that she had enlightened me about it."

One of the things David's mom taught him through her experience in show business is that being a flash in the pan doesn't matter—it's long, lasting success that really counts; and that's what David wants.

Speaking of his initial reaction to the many articles on his love and life habits in the teen magazines, David says, "I thought, now wait a minute. I want to be an actor, not a teen-age idol. I even went to see the editor of one of those magazines. I asked him not to put me on the cover. Not to do all those stories about me. And he laughed at me! After a while I realized that it was good, it was going to happen anyway."

But though the initial shock of finding himself the object of thousands upon thousands of teen-aged girls' fantasies subsided, David is still adamant about wanting more out of life than the status of "teen heart-throb"—which is, unfortunately, precisely the role in which Bobby Sherman finds himself typecast these days.

When Bobby is referred to, his name is usually preceded by the title "Teen Idol." He rose to the top rapidly while still in his teens himself, through the release of his "bubblegum" records. His discs still hit the top ten, his concerts are still sell-out

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