CAN YOU BELIEVE everything you hear—or read? Well, a lot of stories get passed around, especially about big stars like David Cassidy. Some of the time David hears about these stories soon enough to stop them before any harm is done . . . but most of the time he can't even defend himself.

Now a whole new crop of rumors is being spread—some of them you may have already even heard. The others will probably be getting to your town sooner or later. But the time has come to separate fact from fiction! And here goes . . .

RUMOR: David won't be doing any more concerts!

FACT: We're happy to say that this is definitely not so. David really enjoys giving concerts. In fact, once when he always wanted to be in show business.

RUMOR: Nothing is important to him!

FACT: We hope you don't believe this. Especially because one of the most important things in the world to David is his fans. David has also said, "Music is important to me. Finding someone to share life with is important to me. Caring is important to me, too,"

RUMOR: David loves to be told that he looks young!

FACT: Woops! As David confided not too long ago, "I hate being told I look young. I love it when people tell me I look old. Which, I may add, is very rarely."

RUMOR: David really can't play any instruments!

TORTURE DAVID

was interviewed he said that one of the best moments in his life was his first concert held in Seattle, Washington. The moment he found himself face to face with thousands of screaming, eager fans is one he'll never forget.

RUMOR: David is the real son of Shirley Jones!

FACT: Not true. David is the son of singer/actor Jack Cassidy and former actress Evelyn Ward. He was born in New York City at the Flower and Fifth Avenue Hospital. Now that his dad is married to Shirley Jones, that makes her his real-life step-mother.

RUMOR: David is losing his hair!

FACT: Don't you believe it! David's hair is just as healthy—and beautiful—as ever.

RUMOR: David thinks he's perfect!

FACT: We may think that David is perfect, but he's never said that about himself. David tries his hardest always to do his best. He strives for perfection but he's always willing to learn from others. "I just wish to be good in whatever I do—not to be stagnant," he says. That's his goal.

RUMOR: David wishes he were someone else!

FACT: There was a particularly trying time in David's life when he might have thought this, but that day is long past. Sure, there are things David would like to change about himself, but he's content just being David Cassidy.

RUMOR: David never wanted to be in show business!

FACT: Not true. Since the time he was three, David dreamed about being an entertainer. The big decision came when he saw his father on stage and began to imitate his act, singing and dancing all around the house. In fact, David admits he used to sing himself to sleep as a little boy. He's

Maybe not any surgical instruments, but he sure can play the electric guitar and the drums.

RUMOR: David's first TV appearance was in "The Partridge Family!"

FACT: You don't think so if you can count. David not only appeared on "Marcus Welby, M.D.," but he was seen on "Bonanza," "Ironside," "Adam 12" and "Mod Squad."

RUMOR: David dyes his hair!

FACT: David's hair is the naturally beautiful shade of medium brown he was born with.

RUMOR: David loves the glamorous Hollywood night life!

FACT: If you were David's date, you'd probably spend a nice, quiet evening with David and some of his friends. Or else, maybe he'd take you to the movies. No glamour parties and clubs for the two of you!

RUMOR: David dates only pretty girls!

FACT: "It's not just looks that count," David says. "I like a girl with a good personality, one who's not negative about everything," he adds, giving you his own ideas about this one.

RUMOR: David's actually only 5'2"!

FACT: David is 5'8".

RUMOR: David's pretty feeble and never participates in sports!

FACT: He's been perfecting his tennis game for some time now, loves to go horseback riding, has taken scuba diving lessons and played basketball and baseball for the YMCA.

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