

RUBETTES slam voice behind hit — P. 5

RECORD & Radio MIRROR

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7p



CASSIDY
says
why!

**RECORD & RADIO
MIRROR**



**THE
GREAT ONES**

**THIS
WEEK**



QUO
on the
road

THE OSMONDS



CHART PARADE

COMPILED BY TONY JASPER



Cassidy top, Essex bottom

Dauids into battle

WHICH DAVID is going to play Goliath in the current 50? David Cassidy and David Essex are there fighting it out. Much more is at stake than the positions of their two discs. Both are competing for the current teen idol crown.

DAVID CASSIDY appears to be having great success with a much more sophisticated style of singing. Yet, with things going well for him, he seems undecided about his future. Will he remain a recording artist if he decides to finish with live appearances or will both continue? Is his threat to leave the pop scene a temporary move? It seems hard to believe David Cassidy will leave the recording side now that his fans are accepting the kind of material he said last year he wanted to sing. Nevertheless many must wait with bated breath for personal news when he hits these shores in a few weeks time.

DAVID ESSEX is slightly behind the other David in the current 30 stakes. He has had a marvellous year. His fame has spread to America. Whilst the UK is in the process of giving him hit three, the States are beginning to say a big yes to Lamplight. US fans are turning out in droves for 'That'll Be The Day' and over there Rock On has replaced the Bobby Vee song in the soundtrack. Yet too much attention toward America might have some bad vibes here. This Autumn sees David touring the UK plus a new album. Obviously the future looks rosy.

Who though will claim the crown of top teen idol, here in Britain? Is it the wrong question? Should we include Donny? Let Chart Parade know and why. SOON. For the moment which David will play Goliath in the 50?

Charting U.S.A.

Sutherland Brothers & Quiver strike the album trail with 195 spot for Dream Kid. The Hollies make 194 with The Hollies and Suzi has gone up a little, as she takes 180 placing with week seven for her in the Billboard 200. Maggie Bell is shifting the right way as Queen Of The Night goes from 175 to 166. Cleo Laine, that totally under-rated British lady, takes 157 with Cleo Laine Live At Carnegie Hall but twelve down for Peter Frampton's, Something's Happening. Pete is at 148. Queen 11 strikes and makes 134 first week with David Essex losing some ground as week 19 makes him 132, then he's known the heights with this disc. Manfred Mann's, Solar Fire is going hot, 118 to 96 and Quadrophonia is still around, into week 28 with current 92 slot. Procul Harum, another ignored British contingent, are still moving up-along, it's ten the right way and now 89 with Exotic Birds & Fruit. On the singles 190 not too much happening from the 50 downwards for UK artists. Daybreaker from ELO has moved from 95 to 93, not exactly shattering pace. Cozy's Dance With The Devil has had a good run but now the disc is slipping as Mr Porell claims position 59. Take heart with Elton, Mike Oldfield and Cat reigning up there in the heights!

Your view

REMEMBER our fabulously successful Smash Them column? Think back and recall all the joy some people had in saying why they hated such and such a disc! We think you've had plenty of time to work up more agro, so write in and name the three discs you would like to put a steam-roller over or the same by another interesting method! Looking forward to hearing from ya!

REMEMBER our invitation for you to write out your own DJ programme. Do not be amazed, it has not been totally forgotten and has almost got to our pages! There should be news soon, never despair, that's all!

ARE YOU a Crossword genius? If so, then why not send your crosswords to us and they may appear with your name there for the nation to see! If you do, remember don't be too obscure. Send them and your SMASH THEM outings to Chart Parade's compiler.

World hits

Mexico:

- 1 Let Me Get To Know You - Paul Anka.
- 1 Seasons In The Sun - Terry Jacks.

New Zealand:

- 1 The Air That I Breathe - Hollies.
- 2 Jet - Paul McCartney & Wings.
- 3 Seasons In The Sun - Terry Jacks.
- 4 The Lord's Prayer - Sister Janet Mead.
- 7 You're Sixteen - Ringo Starr.

Spain:

- 2 Someday, Somewhere - Dorelle Rousson.
- 4 Sex Machine - James Brown.
- 5 Devil Gate Drive - Suzi Quatro.
- 7 Ballroom Blitz - Sweet.

Quo Albums Comp.

Another mind-blasting, incredible offer! Events have slightly beaten us for if you look at the album chart you'll find Quo has hit number two first week but there must be many not able to fork out £2.75 and if you're one then you'll want to try winning this great new album in our super competition! 13 copies of Quo we've got for you and all you have to do is answer our status, very hard questions and send off your entry to Various Quo, Comp, Record & Radio Mirror, 7 Carnaby St, London W1V 1PG on a POSTCARD by Tuesday May 21. Note that date! That is next Tuesday. First 15 people with correct answers out of our comp. draw box win.

- Name:
- Address:
- 1 Name Quo's last album.
 - 2 Their last single was called.
 - 3 Quo's current single hit is titled.
 - 4 Their record label is.
- I am a new reader of RRM in the last 4 weeks. Yes/No. (please answer and help our reader research. Thanks).

Design in flight



Design 'In Flight'
Their new album on EMI
EMC 3032

Cassidy quits?

IT WAS enough to make many a dear heart choke over their cornflakes — CASSIDY QUILTS. The message read loud and clear — or did it? Why exactly Cassidy was quilting was left for confused minds to deduce for themselves.

For those of you who are still under the impression that David has quit the pop business altogether, or decided he will be an entertainer no more, allow me to assure you this is not the case.

It was a worn and weary Cassidy speaking from his hotel in Hamburg hours before the 'shock news' was delivered. In fact he sounded so tired I thought any moment he's going to pass out with fatigue on me!

'Yeah, I guess I am a little tired. It's all the travelling and everything. It was even worse in Paris 'cos I'd flown straight over from the States and that was really shattering. Today I've been doing mostly telephone interviews, and right after talking to you, I've got a radio interview lined up with one of the stations over here.'

Europe tour

I asked how long his Continental tour was to last for.

'Three weeks altogether,' he replied. 'Originally it was scheduled for four weeks, but it's been cut down so I have to fit everything into three weeks. I would never make a tour on more than four weeks anyway, because the fifth week always becomes boring after doing the same thing every night. It really takes a big heart to do the same show every night, and I couldn't do that on and on for five weeks. I'd feel I had to bring in something new into the show, but you can't do that 'cos there's no time for rehearsing as you're travelling the whole time.'

At the end of his Continental tour, David flies to Scotland and performs his first Scottish date on May 24 at Shawfield Stadium. His one and only

London concert is the White City May 26, then his last ever live performance as we know him will be at the Manchester City football ground on May 28. All in all his visit to Britain will last for a week.

New act

How was his show going to differ from last year's performances at Wembley?

'Well I really don't want to give too much away because that will take some of the excitement out of it. But it will be a completely new stage act which I've created myself.'

Spoilsport! Aren't you even going to say something about the clothes you're going to wear?

There was a hint of laughter. 'There again I'd like it to be some sort of a surprise. Whatever I decide upon I hope people are going to like it, but then beauty is in the eye of the beholder.'

Did he have the same backing musicians this time as last time?

'Oh no, the eight musicians on this tour are the best I've ever worked with. I'm very pleased with them. Although I'm a bit worried because we only had one rehearsal together before we started on this tour, and I know I'm going to go out there and die a death! I suppose you could regard the continental concerts as rehearsals — the British fans should have a perfect show!'

How did his tour of Australia, New Zealand and the Far East go?

'Crazy.' Are you trying to say they sort of liked you? 'You know, they kind of took a passing interest!'

Old songs

He was joking, of course, the audience went wild. As it happened the fans in Auckland, New Zealand, were treated to a twin-star performance. For while David was performing at the Eden Park he was quite unexpectedly joined by Elton John towards the end of the gig. The two of them launched into a lengthy unheated rock and roll medley which left David virtually without a

voice. Who knows maybe they'll get together over here.

David's last album, *Dreams Are Nothin' More Than Wishes*, is composed of a selection of old songs. I asked why he chose to use old songs.

'Because I think that the old songs are great songs,' he answered, 'some of the evergreens are much better than many of the new songs coming up, and that's the reason why I pick up old material.'

But he did go on to say how unhappy he was with the frequent release of old Partridge Family records.

'We recorded some of those records years ago and they weren't good enough to be released then, so I don't think that they're any good today either.'

What about his own song writing?

'It's getting better all the time. I'm by no means a prolific writer. I'm not Paul McCartney who can sit down and write a song when asked to as Paul did for the James Bond film. The trouble is I need a lot of time to write, and that's something at the moment I don't have. I'm always on the road going somewhere for one thing or another.'

Does he have any plans for a new album?

'Now that's something

which I'm not really sure of. I'm still under contract with my record company and they want me to make one more album. They want it to be a live one, but I don't know whether it's a good idea or not. Personally, I don't like live albums, not only is it difficult to get a good sound reproduction, but there will be a lot of interruptions with the screaming and general noise, and I think all that kinda spoils an album. It'll be recorded either at White City or in Manchester — I'm not sure. I've never made a live album in my life, so we'll just have to see how it's going to turn out.'

Resigning?

Who produces his records now?

'I do. I prefer to do it myself. I don't think it's necessary to use a producer. But then I'm not a producer. I don't know whether I'm really any good at it or not.'

It's been two months ago since David left the Partridge Family. Was he glad to have finished with the series?

'Yes, of course. It left me that much freer. I think four years with the Partridge Family must be enough. It was fun but we made more than a hundred films and that

is really too much.'

So who took your place in the end?

'No one did, they haven't found anybody yet. There's been talk of finishing the series altogether.'

Besides leaving the Partridge Family, weren't you going to retire altogether as far back as last June?

'Who me?'

But of course.

'I know there's been a lot of speculation about me having quit, but it's not true. I'll admit there've been times when I felt I could have given it all up completely — but I'll always be entertaining in one form or another, after all it's my life, it's the only thing I've known.'

'I won't be doing any more live performances though 'cos it takes so much out of me. This tour will be the last for a long, long time — if not for ever.'

'Maybe I'll come back to Britain as a tourist or something, then I'll bump into my fans over there in the street.'

Life may begin for some people at forty, but at 24 David Cassidy wants to start really living.

GENEVIEVE HALL



Helen Shapiro Returns

SHE WAS an international star at 14. That's the story of Helen Shapiro and for the pop historians it means big hits like *Don't Treat Me Like A Child*, a number one in *You Don't Know* and an almost million seller with *Walking Back To Happiness*.

Helen's never stopped singing and has travelled the world and made endless hit-parades. In 1969 she had a fantastically successful Australian tour and a year later in Zagreb, Yugoslavia Helen was the only British recording star to appear in the International Gala of the Zagreb '70 Festival.

You ask though about our hit-parade and my how about today? The answer lies with Helen. 'I had taken myself out of the immediate pop scene but



now I'm comin' back.'

Years have passed and now she's around 27 but as you can see the girl is good looking. She says, 'I've never left singing. I got married and did less work but singing is part of me and I can never lose the urge to get up and sing.' And she adds, 'I want people to see me as I am now. In a way I'm trying to forget the past image but I know people still want to hear those hits and I include them in my act. Nowadays I sing a greater variety of song with emphasis on a blues style.'

And people in the business believe she can be zonking us pretty hard and pretty soon. Helen belongs in the charts, though I suspect she might well make greater impression in albumville this next time. For the moment, 'I'm getting the recording side straightened out and making sure I have the right company for what you could call my re-launch!'

