



## ► TV Today

# You Can't Tell the Idols Without a...

BY CLARENCE PETERSEN

Last Sept. 25 this column began this way:

"Tonight at 7:30 my 10-year-old daughter will be ready to forgive ABC-TV for canceling her all-time favorite show, *Here Come the Brides*, featuring her all-time favorite star, Bobby Sherman.

"At that time the network will premiere *The Partridge Family*, a situation comedy that has everything a 10-year-old girl could possibly hope for in a television show.

"It even has an idol to replace Bobby Sherman. His name is David Cassidy, he's about 15, he sings and he's . . . uh . . . he's . . .

"I just called my daughter into my study, showed her a color picture of Cassidy and asked her what she thought, and she said, 'Yech!'

" 'Yech?'

" 'He's not so cute,' she said. 'Not half as cute as Bobby Sherman.' "

I felt very good about my daughter's reaction. True, she had destroyed my theory about the potential of the show and its young star, David Cassidy, but I admired her loyalty.

So the other night I came home with the great news.

"Karen," I said, "Guess what!"

"What?" she said, without turning her eyes from the *Get Smart* rerun she was watching.

"Your favorite super-fab teen-age singing star, none other than Bobby Sherman himself, in person, is going to be the guest on *The Partridge Family* this very Friday night!"

"Yech!" she said.

"And not only that," I continued, "but he will be playing a composer, see, and if this show is a hit, Bobby may be back on television next season as the star of his own show!"

She said nothing.

Obviously, I was not communicating with my daughter very well, so to find out where I had gone astray, I went upstairs to her room—a place I try to avoid as much as possible because,



1970 Idol



1971 Idol

blinded by the shock to my nervous system of the music that is always blaring in there, I sometimes trip over the objects scattered about on the floor.

It is in that room that you can find out what is on her mind, because whatever is on her mind is hanging on the wall. And there they were: 36 pictures of David Cassidy! And not one picture of Bobby Sherman!

Stumbling over a *Monopoly* game in which one of the contestants had hotels on Boardwalk, Park Place and the green streets, I left the room to go back downstairs and find out what had changed her mind.

*Get Smart* was just about over, so now she was willing to talk about her change of fab teen-age idols.

"David Cassidy," she said, "is cuter."

"Cuter?" I said. "In what way?"

She shrugged her shoulders.

This is the place for a punch line, but if there is one thing I have learned [tentatively] about 10 year olds, it is that they are not a very good source of punch lines.

Anyway, the show is tonight at 7:30 on ABC-TV.