

**DAVID CASSIDY**

# What Happens When You Outgrow A Role

By MARILYN BECK

David Cassidy has a master plan for his future: the transition from teenybopper idol to mainline entertainment star.

"I've already begun during this past six months to make my music more sophisticated and I'm happy that I'm starting to draw some older people to my shows now."

But what will this do to his role as the eldest teen-age son on "The Partridge Family" TV series? How can the series fit in with the more sophisticated plan for his future?

"I'll be leaving the series," he says simply, "I can't stay forever. I'm growing up, and though everyone involved with the show acts as if they're afraid to discuss the fact, it is happening, you know."

It is indeed. David Cassidy still sports a Prince Valiant hairdo these days, but that is about as far as he wants his "white knight" image to extend. Consequently, "Suddenly, I'm Peck's Bad Boy." The casual shrug and attempt at a smile can't hide the fact that he is upset over some people's inability to realize that he is a 22-year-old adult, not the teen-age TV character he portrays.

Where David Cassidy wants to be is at the top of the show business heap for a long time, and he realizes that to stay there he's got to broaden himself and the extent of his appeal.

"It's going to be rough. I'm prepared for the worst — a lot of people aren't really ready to accept the change. But I'm confident I will overcome," he says confidently.

He is also confident that, by his own definition, he is the hottest entertainer in the business today. "Elvis Presley,"

David

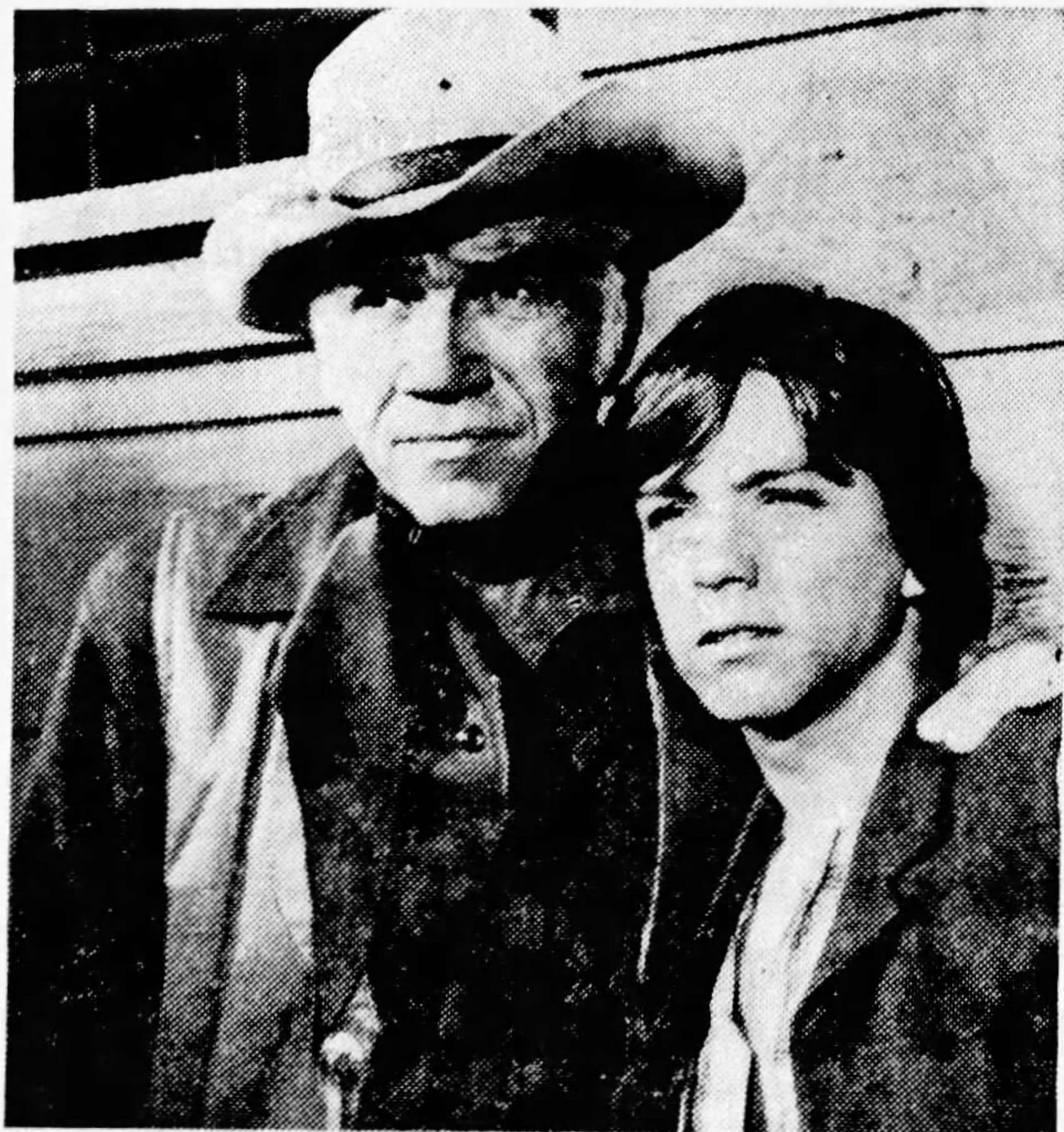
Cassidy



he says as if explaining Over-The-Counter stock listing, "he can sell-out any hall. He can always pull a crowd. But his last 10-12 records have been stiffs. I mean, they've gone nowhere!"

He nodded, "I'm on the road practically every weekend and I plan to keep up that load all through summer, going into Chicago July 29 and 30. Then, in September, I'll probably appear in England where my record, 'Could It Be Forever?', is now number one."

And so goes David Cassidy, Number One Commodity of the Year. But he knows it can't go on forever — not unless he can make the transition from teenybopper idol to mainline entertainer.



**DAVID CASSIDY** stars as a rebellious youth who is charged with murder on "Ponderosa" Tuesday night at 7:30 on Channel 9.