

Second generation hero

By DICK KLEINER

(Editor's note: David Cassidy will appear in concert April 7 in Milwaukee.)

HOLLYWOOD — When "The Partridge Family" began, it proved to be just another situation comedy. But what it did have was TV's first teeny-bopper idol—David Cassidy. And that proved to be enough.

Cassidy has become a major star out of the lightweight show. He is the darling of most young girls between 13 and 18. And it's getting to be something of a drag.

"The adulation is a drag," Cassidy says.

But it's something that perhaps comes naturally. His father, Jack Cassidy, went through some of the same, although not at such a fever pitch, during several points in his career.

"I can't do much dating," says David, sadly, and he's a young man who likes his dating. "The girls I meet are either one of two kinds — they're either too aggressive or, to compensate, they're too much the other way."

"The only dates I have are with a couple of old friends, but I don't even have much time for that."

He says because of being such a hero to the sweatshirt set, his whole private life is cramped.

"I haven't been able to see a movie in a year," he says, "and I have a terrible craving to see

one."

For a while, he tried using a disguise so he could go out in public without being mobbed. He had a fake beard and dark glasses and it seemed to work.

"But," he says, "after being in make-up all day, it's just too much trouble to put it on."

Cassidy grew up in New Jersey, with his mother (actress Evelyn Ward) and his grandparents. His parents were divorced when he was six, and he says it was tough on him.

"I didn't see my father too much," he says. "He was in California, I was in New Jersey. I missed him."



David Cassidy

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