

Is David Cassidy hopping wrong?

By HY GARDNER

Q: Has young David Cassidy's popularity been affected by his reportedly posing in the nude for an underground magazine? Which one was it? And where can we get a copy? — Melissa, Janet and Pattie, Indianapolis.

A: The mere fact that you'd like a copy is proof that Cassidy's caper helped rather than hurt his popularity. Why he posed au naturel for the rock magazine Rolling Stone remains a mystery.

Which his mentors apparently aren't too anxious to discuss or clear up, even when a fine magazine like Photoplay offered its pages to cop a plea.

What is even more astonishing than the visual shock is that the misguided young man, in an article accompanying the photos, admitted using drugs. Also revealed that, as a 14-year old boy, he stole bicycles, was expelled from school for picking up and scoring with "groupies."

It's this sort of conduct that could, eventually, make the idol idle.