

David Cassidy returned to the spotlight this year walking straight and still smiling. He's come a long way, he says, "from the days when groupies, fan magazines and limousines were driving him to the point where my life was nothing but work. I'd lost touch with myself."

His three years of privacy on his Malibu ranch and marriage to actress Kay Lenz put him back in touch, and feeling many years wiser. The critics reacted well to his "Police Story" dramatic assignment last June, and Cassidy says he's again ready "to face the groupies, fan magazines, the heartaches, thrills and spills — whatever."