

# A 'Partridge' feathers his nest

By **CHUCK DARROW**  
Courier-Post Staff

If you're going to see erstwhile teenybop idol David Cassidy perform Saturday night at the Keswick Theater in Glenside, Pa., be forewarned: You might end up with a stiff neck.

That's because the former "Partridge Family" star is walking about six feet off the ground these days, thanks to the success he has found so far on his current comeback tour.

"It's been killer; the response has been unbelievable," he bubbled during a recent phone interview. "I expected it to be good, but it's exceeded all my expectations."

Returning to the pop music arena after a hiatus of some 15 years, the 41-year-old Cassidy is especially buoyed by the demographics of tickets buyers.

"It's a very interesting thing that's been happening. There used to be a time when you could describe a David Cassidy fan as a teen-age girl. Now, I get an interesting mixed bag of people between 18 and 40. It's 50 percent female and 50 percent male."

If Cassidy, who recorded more than a dozen albums during the first half of the 1970s, is such a hit on the concert trail these days, why did it take him so long to mount his return?

He said it's because the time off allowed him to grow beyond his bubblegum days; he spent most of it working in theater.

"I didn't want to go out as a nostalgia act," Cassidy explained. "I'm out today because I have a musical presence. That's the difference for me. It's taken me a long time to recreate my recording career."

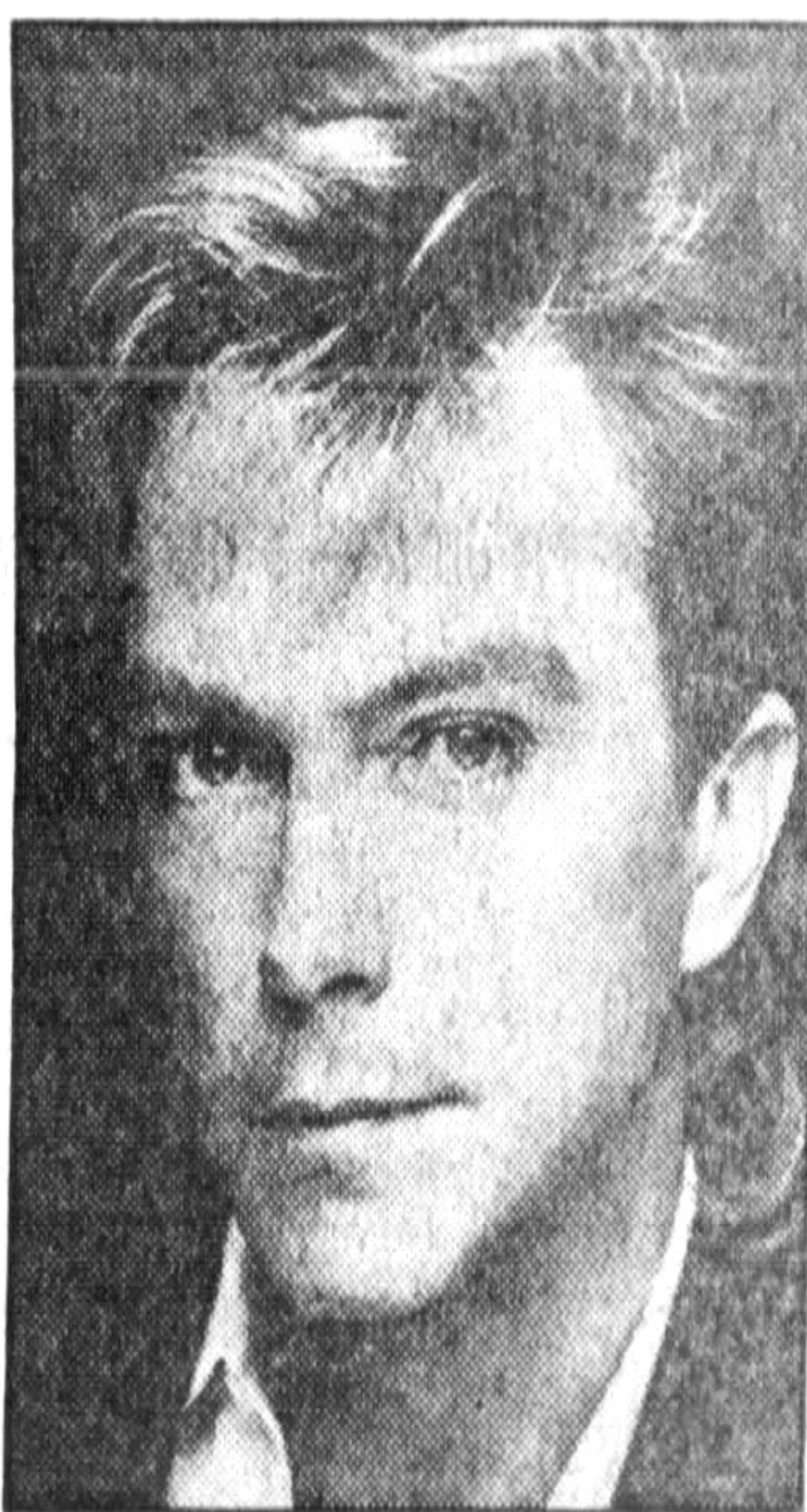
"For me, I did it the right way, the honest way."

The process began toward the end of the '80s, when Cassidy returned to Los Angeles after a three-year stay in England.

He wrote songs for other artists, including the rock band Asia, and Cher, for whom he penned "I'll Never Stop Loving You".

The next step came when Cassidy signed with the Enigma label; they released the "David Cassidy" LP in 1990. The album's lead single, "Lyn' To Myself" enjoyed a stay near the top of the charts, but before Cassidy could capitalize on it, Enigma went out of business.

## Preview



**DAVID CASSIDY**  
...on stage Saturday

But the momentum was there, so he decided to continue his second coming as a pop star.

He booked his current tour first. And now he's waiting to finalize another record deal. He refused to divulge details, but said he'd have a new contract within two to three weeks.

The son of the late actor Jack Cassidy and actress Shirley Jones may not want to be viewed as just another nostalgia act, but long-time fans can expect to hear some of Cassidy's greatest hits, including "I Think I Love You" and "I Woke Up in Love This Morning."

"I really enjoy doing some of the old stuff," he said. "The songs really hold up."

But most of all, he's enjoying what so many artists from decades past never experience — an exhilarating, if somewhat puzzling, second chance at the brass ring.

"I have never in my life had the kind of reviews I've had in the past 10 days," he exclaimed. "I'm loving being up there on stage again. But I actually didn't expect this."

### If you're going

David Cassidy and Danny Bonaduce appear Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Keswick Theater, 291 Keswick Ave., Glenside, Pa. Admission is \$19.50 and \$15. For information, call 215-572-7650.