

IOWA STATE FAIR



DOUG WELLS/THE REGISTER

Bill Maxwell, left, of Indianola has his picture taken with singer David Cassidy at the Iowa State Fair Monday. Cassidy was signing photographs and record albums, plugging his new album.

Fans in heaven after visit to fair by David Cassidy

'I was 13. He was 20. We were going to get married,' says one fan. 'He just didn't know that.'

By MARY ANN LICKTEIG

REGISTER STAFF WRITER

As a sign of her affection for David Cassidy, Barb Fenton took time off from work Monday, went to the Iowa State Fair and made an on-air confession into a disc jockey's microphone.

"I was 13. He was 20. We were going to get married," she said. "He just didn't know that."

Cassidy, hosted by radio station Q-102, was in Des Moines Monday to promote his new album, "Didn't You Used To Be . . . David Cassidy."

He used to be Keith Partridge, the heartthrob lead singer in a TV family that practiced in a garage and rode around in a patchwork-painted bus.

He sold out Madison Square Garden in 10 minutes one time, said DJ Jonathan Drake, who had consulted Cassidy's promotional material. In the 1970s, Drake said, the David Cassidy fan club had more members than fan clubs for Elvis Presley or the Beatles.

"He was America's No. 1 teen idol," Drake said. "Now he's here."

So was Bill Maxwell.

He arrived at the Q-102 Giant Boom Box at 2 p.m., 75 minutes before Cassidy's scheduled appearance. Cassidy is his idol. "Donny Osmond, he's my second idol," said Maxwell, 39, of Indianola.

He says he has spoken on the telephone with four of the Osmond brothers. And, he has talked to Marie, he said, twice.

He struck gold with a telephone number for Alan Osmond's mother-in-law supplied by an Osmond pen pal, he explained.

Brett Nelson had his picture taken with Cassidy on the step of Cassidy's trailer when Nelson was 8.

His father knew a stuntwoman for "The Flying Nun" who knew the producer of "The Partridge Family." A little networking landed the young Nelson a day on the "Partridge Family" set.

When Nelson heard about Cassidy's trip to the Iowa State Fair, the Des Moines man was "hyping out," his girlfriend reported.

Nelson brought magazine photos that included one with this caption: "In Canton, Ohio, David signed autographs and then had a very narrow escape! Fans started pressing around him and all his friends had to form a protective circle about him and walk him to the limousine."

About 100 people waited at the Boom Box Monday.

Jack McKowen wandered by with his 12-year-old daughter, Michelle, to see why a crowd was forming.

David Cassidy, they were told.

"Who's David Cassidy?" Michelle asked.

"My mom is a fan," said Lisa Hare, 13.

"My dad," said Sara Hollander, 12. The Des Moines girls squealed when the disc jockey signaled.

Lisa's mother, 40-year-old Karol Hare, gushed properly. "He hasn't changed a bit," she said. "He looks the same."

And anyone who has seen "The Partridge Family" — in originals or reruns — would have to agree.

Cassidy wore black jeans that hugged his slip of a body. His shirt

STATE FAIR

Here are some of the highlights at the Iowa State Fair today:

■ **7:30 a.m.:** Angus steer judging, Livestock Pavilion.

■ **7:30 a.m.:** 4-H market lamb judging, Sheep Barn.

■ **8 a.m. to noon:** Cookout championships, Grand Concourse.

■ **10 a.m.:** Auctioneers contest, TV-13 Stage.

■ **1 p.m.:** Limousin cattle judging, Livestock Pavilion.

■ **2 p.m.:** Designing with flowers and plants, Agriculture Building gazebo.

■ **2 p.m.:** Yeast breads judging, Homemakers Theater.

■ **7:30 and 9:30 p.m.:** Blue Band concert, Pabst Light Stage.

■ **8 p.m.:** Color Me Badd concert, Grandstand.

THE REGISTER



IOWA STATE FAIR

HERE ARE THE daily attendance totals:

	1991	1992
Wednesday	52,575	Not open
Thursday	60,160	75,739
Friday	72,228	86,175
Saturday	127,277	110,267
Sunday	96,349	93,413
Monday	66,741	66,444
Tuesday	63,027	
Wednesday	73,843	
Thursday	65,254	
Friday	53,504	
Saturday	84,432	
Sunday	44,099	
TOTAL	859,489	

SOURCE: Iowa State Fair

was open halfway, exposing his fit, nearly hairless chest.

The hair on his head is vintage Keith.

"I think my heart just stopped," Shae Barrell said.

Rob Kuhn, who carries photos of Micky Dolenz and Davy Jones in his wallet, went through the line three times, since promoters allowed only two autographs per trip.

Barb Fenton and her friend, Dottie Bauer, each left with a signed photograph of the man Fenton intended to marry.

Fenton ended up with Polk County District Court Judge Ray Fenton. She'll probably hang her photo of Cassidy in their bedroom, she said.

On it Cassidy wrote, "Sorry I missed you at the altar."

Watermelon run

THE REGISTER'S IOWA NEWS SERVICE

Fayette, Ia. — The 1992 Fayette Watermelon Days Run will be held Sept. 12 in Fayette at 8 a.m.

Center closed

The Saylorville Lake Visitor Center will be closed through Thursday due to the resurfacing of the parking lot.