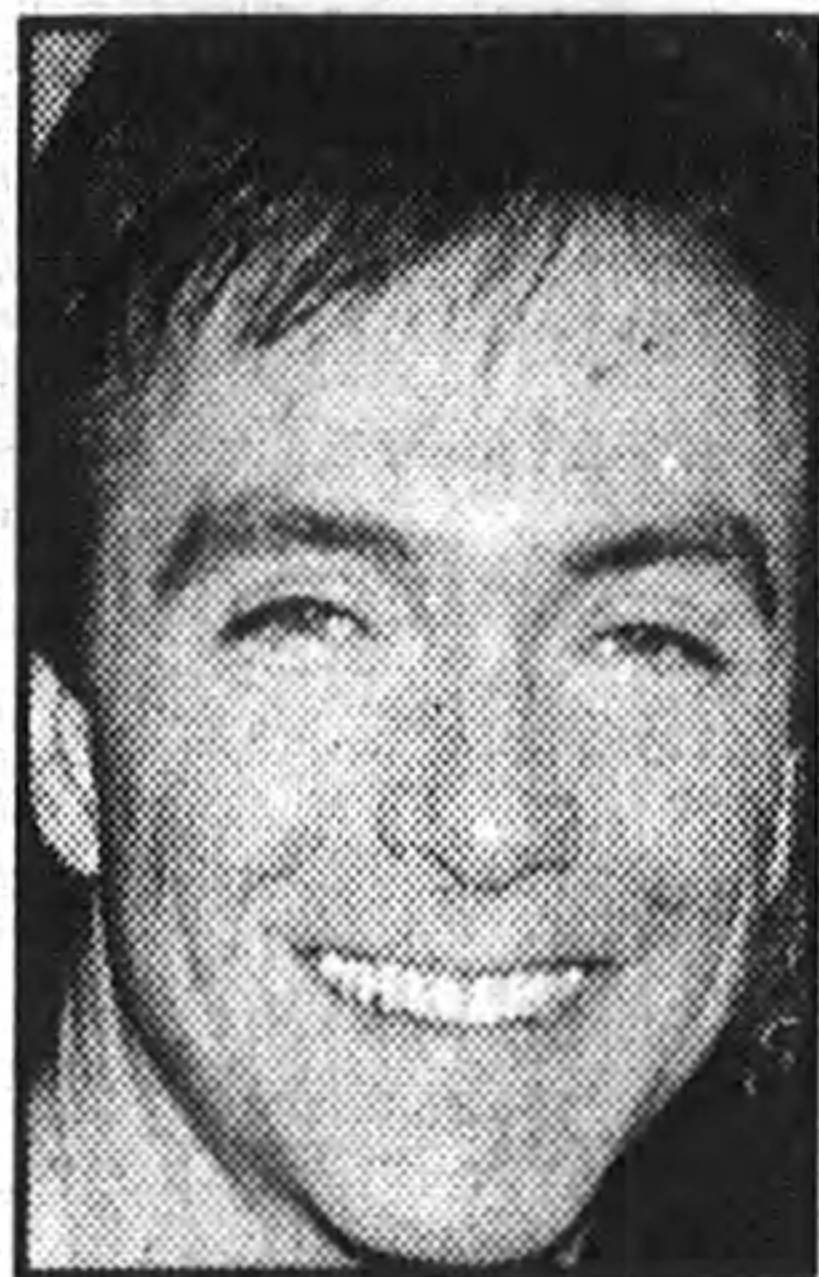


# David Cassidy to replace Crawford in high-tech show

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Keith Partridge is leaving the '70s behind and going high tech.

**David Cassidy** will replace an injured **Michael Crawford** in the starring role of "EFX," a \$41 million sight and sound production at the MGM Grand hotel-casino, the hotel said Wednesday.



**Cassidy**

Cassidy, best known for his role in the hit TV series "The Partridge Family," will take over for Crawford while the "Phantom of the Opera" star recuperates from a hip injury.

Cassidy, who just finished a performance in the Broadway play "Blood Brothers," will begin rehearsing "EFX" this week and is expected to debut next month.

In the high-tech, special effects journey through time and space, Cassidy will play several different characters including Merlin, the wizard; circus impresario **P.T. Barnum**; **Harry Houdini**; and **H.G. Wells**.