

David Cassidy says Shaun under stress

By MARILYN BECK

HOLLYWOOD — Shaun Cassidy might be generating the impression that he's not allowing pressures of "Hardy Boys" idolhood to bother him, but his brother David reveals, "He calls me up in a panic all the time. He says I'm the only one who can understand."

Who better to understand Shaun's stress than David — who parlayed "Partridge Family" fame into international success as a bubblegum rock artist? You might not be aware of it, but David bowed out of the business a few years ago when he found himself unable to cope with its pressures any longer.

David feels that Shaun's able to handle fame more easily than he did, "because I took things too much to heart, felt misrepresented, manipulated. But he's a very wise soul, and by nature much less intense."

Still, he adds, "Though Shaun's less bothered by the business than I was, he is bothered. No matter who you are, the situation's not easy to take when you're harassed by people knocking at your door at 4 a.m."

David, who's 28 and still looks 18, feels he's at least ready to knock on the show-business door again. He's cutting an album for the Warners-Curb Company, makes his first post-"Partridge" acting appearance as an undercover narcotics officer in NBC's "Police Story," and is expecting to star this summer in a two-hour TV movie that will be used as a pilot for a David Cassidy series.

"I don't have to work," he wants us to know. "I made enough from my records and tours so that I can retire nicely for life — for a nice long life! But I want to work. I feel it would be real nice to be a success again."

What about the pressures attendant to success?

Well, the way he puts it, "I'm ready now for the disappointments and heartaches, the thrills and spills, whatever."

Whatever.



SHAUN CASSIDY