

Fast Time — Slow Time Program Listings

TV NEWS

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Weekly Television Programs Beginning Oct. 28, 1955

BRODERICK CRAWFORD
starring as the relentless,
straight-shooting and
sympathetic HEAD OF
THE STATE HIGHWAY
PATROL



SMASH TV DRAMA

HIGHWAY PATROL

Front-page EXCITEMENT!

High-Speed ACTION!

Headline THRILLS!

Eye-misting PATHOS!

New Program Times . . . See Page 3



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featuring

broderick crawford



Broderick Crawford discusses his role with a highway officer.

Broderick Crawford stars in Highway Patrol, presented by WFBB-TV, on Thursdays, at the new time of 11:00 PM (Fast Time), and by WTTV, on Tuesdays, at 10:30 PM (Fast Time).

In the part of Dan Mathews, Crawford is sure to inspire any lawbreaker with a healthy respect for the Highway Patrol. And he will be the first to admit this is a casting switch from his movie roles, including "All The King's Men", which won for him the coveted Academy Award.

Born in Philadelphia, on December 9, Crawford comes of a theatrical family. His mother, the famous actress, Helen Broderick, and his father, Lester Crawford, were a vaudeville team doing comedy, songs and dances. "And wouldn't you know it," says Crawford derisively. "I can't carry a tune!" His grandparents, he adds, were opera singers.

However as a youngster, Crawford did travel with his family and occasionally took bows onstage "just to milk the audience," he explains.

While on the road, his parents gave him his first schooling, and then he attended Dean Academy at Franklin, Mass. He also spent 20 minutes at Harvard. "I realized I couldn't learn about acting there," he explains.

During his terms at Dean, Crawford spent his summers working at small theatres. When he couldn't get that type of job, he shipped on boats as an ordinary seaman. Inexpensive way to get around the world and see the sights, he figured. During this period, he also did some heavyweight prize-fighting—for money, of course. Crawford was active in football, baseball and the swimming team while at school.

"Although I wanted to learn about acting, I didn't figure to be an actor myself," he says. "I'd seen too many

people on the fringes of success, and I felt I'd be better in the production or managerial end of the theatre."

His first job when he went to New York was assistant stage manager and a 2-line part in "The Trial Of Mary Dugan." Howard Lindsay then offered him a role in "She Loves Me Not" in the London company, playing a football player at \$50 a week. He met Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne, who, offered him a small role in Noel Coward's "Point Valaine" which Coward was also to direct. Crawford was under contract to the Lunts for two years, during which time he says "I learned more about show business from the Lunts and Noel Coward than anyone else."

At the close of this show, he again went into summer stock, where his co-actors were two other young hopefuls—Humphrey Bogart and Jose Ferrer. In the same company, Bretaigne Windust was the director. Shirley Booth and Kent Smith were also wending their way towards fame with Crawford.

Along about then, he went to Hollywood where he played a comedy role in Samuel Goldwyn's "Woman Chases Man" with Miriam Hopkins and Joel McCrea. Mr. Goldwyn didn't pick up his option, so Crawford returned to New York. He heard of George Kaufman's preparing "Of Mice And Men" and borrowed the money from Burgess Meredith to return to Hollywood to see Kaufman.

That marked the highspot in Crawford's career to that time—his first opening night on Broadway. The role of Lenny brought him instant fame and the Drama Critics Award as the best play of the year.

"After that, however, I got offers only of halfwit roles from Hollywood," he recalls ruefully. He turned them all down, loafed for 9 months, and then went to Paramount where he essayed a series of gangster movies with Lloyd Nolan as the FBI man and J. Carrol Naish as Crawford's partner in crime.

"They were so similar, we hardly needed to read the script. Just change the characters' names."

He was under contract to Tay Garnett and Walter Wanger for two years; his contract was sold to Universal-International, and then he was contracted by the US Army for 4 years in the European Theatre, during World War II. He returned to Universal for a year and was let go in a studio reorganization.

He heard of Robert Rossen's testing practically every actor in Hollywood for the role of "Willie Stark," in "All The King's Men." "That was strictly luck—my being at home to answer the phone when they called me to test. I did it on Thursday, signed the contract Friday and went on location Monday."

"Born Yesterday," "Anna Lucasta," "Lone Star" followed at Columbia, "The Night People" for Fox filmed in Germany, and "Not As A Stranger" are other important Crawford movies.

Highway Patrol marks his first TV series, though he has appeared on such shows as Lux Video, NEC Spectaculars, Kate Smith, Ford Theatre, Damon Runyon Theatre, General Electric, Schlitz Playhouse, What's My Line and The Name's The Same.

Crawford is married to former actress Kay Griffith; they have two youngsters, Kim, now 8, and Kelly, 4.

When not working, Crawford delights in his Stevens Cruiser boat, which sleeps 6, and takes him to Catalina Island, or anyplace else where he can do deepsea fishing. His freezer at home is stuffed with halibut, bass, cod, seabass, baracuda, tuna, albacore, and marlin. He has his tuna canned as gifts for friends.

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