LOST IN SPACE

CBS - TV - COLOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT Mark Goddard

Actor Mark Goddard will be the first to admit that he owes a lot, career-wise, to producer Irwin Allen's "Lost In Space" series now in it's second season. His current role as Major Don West in the 20th Century-Fox Television Production seen Wednesdays in spectacular color over CBS-TV, has lifted him from the mold of a juvenile lead to the category of a young leading man.

True, he was a much-sought-after juvenile in Hollywood the first half dozen years he has been in the film business but like all of us, Mark yearned for the maturity — both professionally and personally — that all young people seek. Of his capabilities there has never been any doubt.

Goddard, youngest of five children, was born in Lowell, Mass., July 24, and grew up in Scituate, Mass. An excellent student in high school as well as captain of the baseball and basketball teams, he enrolled in Holy Cross College to prepare for school. He also had high hopes of making the varsity basketball team. Unhappily, he found a surplus of high-grade basketball talent there, and when the coach told him he'd never make the team, Goddard was shattered and lost all interest in college.

Then one evening he wandered into the campus auditorium during the rehearsal of a student Shakespearean production and ended up with a non-speaking part in it. On opening night he had scarcely carried his spear across the stage when he knew that this was for him. Suddenly, theatrical glory seemed even more appealing than had athletic glory.

He deserted Holy Cross and enrolled in the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York City. When, upon completing his course there, he was unable to get any kind of appropriate job in New York, he drove to Florida to paint scenery and play bit parts in winter stock.

Eventually, on impulse, with his meager savings in his pocket, he headed his jalopy westward to Hollywood. There he rented a cheap room and, on pure speculation, wrote a letter to movie director Joseph Anthony, then working at Paramount, asking his advice on the best way to become an actor in Hollywood. Something about the letter intrigued Anthony, who invited the surprised Goddard to the studio for a chat, which resulted in the William Morris agency accepting Goddard as a client on Anthony's recommendation. Three weeks later Goddard had his first television role.

Goddard married his wife, Marcia, January 15, 1961. The couple and their daughter, Melissa, born August 5, 1962, live in Beverly Hills. Goddard's leisure-time loves are tennis, golf and motorcycling. He recently finished his first motion picture role, a part in the Mirisch Company's "Rage to Live," to be released in the spring of 1965.

Vital Statistics

Birthplace: Lowell, Mass. Birthdate: July 24 Height: 6' Weight: 160 lbs.

Eyes: Hazel Hair: Brown

Credits

TELEVISION: FEATURES:

"LOST IN SPACE" "A RAGE TO LIVE"

"JOHNNY RINGO"

"THE DETECTIVES"

"MANY HAPPY RETURNS"

"THE FUGITIVE"