

Channel 22—WDAU—Scranton
 Channel 28—WBRE—Wilkes-Barre

WEEK
 HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1962

Bob Fuller of 'Laramie' Attracts Crowds in Japan

In 1950 when Bob Fuller was only 17 years old he had advanced himself from usher in a Hollywood theatre to assistant manager. His future in the business end of show business seemed assured. However, Bob was more interested in the front of the theatre; his one desire was to be seen on the screen—not in the lobby.

He tried desperately during this time to get a card to work as a screen extra, and through sheer persistence and a little help from his father, who was then a dancing instructor, he landed a job as a dancer in a musical.

Eleven years later, after scores of minor parts in movies and TV and a hitch with the Army in Korea, Bob has become one of Hollywood's busiest personalities.

His role as an unpredictable saddle tramp, Jess Harper in the NBC-TV Network's Western-Adventure series, "Laramie" has skyrocketed him into an international personality.

Last year in Japan he drew the largest crowds and received more honors than any TV personality before.

Because "Laramie" had become so popular in Japan, Bob traveled to the island nation to meet his new fans. Even though his popularity there was known to him beforehand, he never expected to find the overwhelming receptions everywhere he visited in the country.

When he visited Osaka, a crowd of 500,000 turned out to meet him. Grateful for his warm reception, Bob put on two two-hour shows in the Tokyo Gymnasium, drawing capacity crowds of 10,000 for each, with proceeds again going to Japanese charities.

In appreciation of his fund-raising, government officials honored him with the Golden Order of Merit, highest award of the Japanese Red Cross, presented in the name of the Emperor. To that they added the Heibon Award for the best actor of the year.

"They relate our cowboys to the samurai warriors," he says.

Present plans call for him to make a feature film there next March. It will be made by a Japanese company and his part will be dubbed in Japanese.

Further expression of his warm regard for Japan and her people will come when he builds a new home.

"One room of it will be devoted to housing the 3,000 gifts I received after my last trip," he says.

Although it was most exceptional, Bob's popularity in the United States is in no way dwarfed by Japan's. Along with his spectacular rise from usher to star came a host of fans in his own country.

A one-time stunt man, Bob is waging a personal war against sharks menacing West Coast bathers. On weekends, in skin-diving regalia—he harpoons them and has even killed sharks with bow and arrow, standing in the surf. He also gets a kick out of hunting mountain lions as a lone bow-hunter, busting bronses and bulldogging in rodeos, practicing judo, fencing in competition and staging phony fights with his friends in barrooms.

A bachelor, Bob lives with his parents, calls his father his best friend and often goes on double dates with his parents.

Handsome Bob is 5' 11", has blue eyes, dark brown hair and drives a white Thunderbird.



Bob's father and Fuller himself practice dance leap.

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Tonight at 11:15 Academy Award Theatre

Presents
"GUN FURY"

Starring
**ROCK HUDSON
DONNA REED**

Sunday Night 11:15 P.M.

"WALK EAST ON"

THE SKY'S THE LIMIT WITH "SUPERMAN"

