50 Crazy Years in Broadcasting by Bryan Norcross

1975 – Director, News Producer

KBTV, Channel 9, Denver

THIS IS A PLACE HOLDER

In early 1975, a friend and I drove around the country visiting TV stations and looking for work. One of the stops was KBTV in Denver, which was owned by the same company as WXIA-TV in Atlanta. I had a nice visit, got back in the car and we continued west on our job-hunting adventure. A couple weeks later, my mother got a call. KBTV was trying to track me down. They wanted me to direct the news. Somehow they had gotten the idea that I had done a lot of that in Atlanta. Somebody in Atlanta obviously was trying to help me out. I don't know who or how it happened. I had only actually directed a handful of shows.

But, I headed to Denver to direct the prime-time newscasts. There were stumbles, but their production system was so convoluted that nobody would pick it up quickly. In a couple of weeks, I was good and nobody ever knew they had hired a rookie. In an unusual twist of TV fate the directing job evolved into producing the news – deciding what stories to cover and assembling the elements of the newscast – and for more than a year, producing and directing the 10:00 PM news. It's a big story.





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