

HASSELHOFF IN REHAB AGAIN

DUI arrest was a wake-up call to conquer drinking demons, insider says

ON THE HEELS of his recent drunk driving arrest, "Baywatch" star David Hasselhoff has entered a 90-day alcohol rehab program. The ENQUIRER has learned exclusively.

"David is determined that he's going to conquer his drinking demons once and for all," said an insider.

"His DUI arrest was a final wake-up call.

MEDICAL DETOX

"After a medical detox at Los Angeles' Cedars-Sinai hospital, David — who's now completely sober — has checked himself into a 90-day rehab program.

"He believes that three months in rehab, far from all temptation to drink, is the answer. He's ready to put all this behind him and move on with his life."

As The ENQUIRER reported, cops pulled over the 51-year-old

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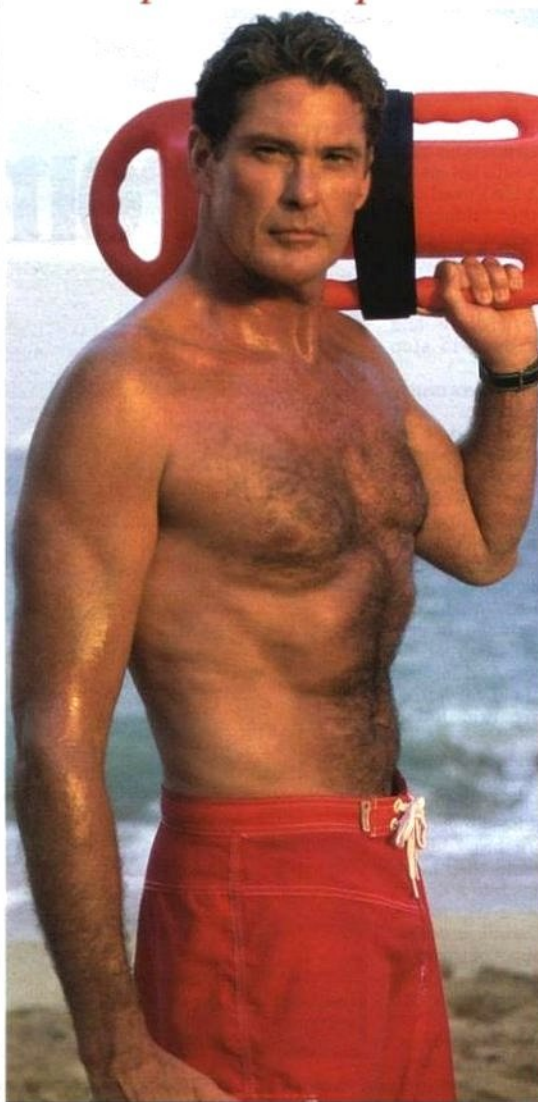
actor shortly before midnight June 5 in Encino, Calif., on suspicion of drunken driving.

After Hasselhoff was given a field sobriety test in a McDonald's restaurant parking lot near his home, he was arrested and held until posting bail the following day.

This incident isn't the first time that Hasselhoff has tried to get clean and sober in rehab.

NEAR-FATAL OVERDOSE

In a 2002 exclusive, The ENQUIRER revealed that the actor who played lifeguard lieutenant Mitch Buchannon, nearly died after bolting from a detox unit at the Betty Ford Center in California and then drinking him-



HASSELHOFF was there for his wife after their motorcycle wreck (inset), and now she's standing by his side.

continued the insider. "Instead, he checked out early and tried to treat himself by attending daily AA meetings.

"But every once in a while he would slip up and take a drink. Then one drink led to another — and he would be back where he started."

MOTORCYCLE WRECK

Hasselhoff's sobriety was severely tested last year when he crashed his motorcycle with his wife Pamela Bach on the back.



Both were hospitalized, but Pamela was more severely injured. She broke 14 bones and had to undergo several surgeries.

"Pamela's last surgery was in mid-May — less than a month before David's DUI," said the insider.

"Even though David was sober when the motorcycle accident took place, it didn't lessen his feelings of guilt."

FAMILY SUPPORT

But with his wife's help and the love of their two daughters, he is determined to get his life back on track.

"David's been by Pamela's side throughout her many surger-

self into a near-fatal overdose at the Desert Springs Marriott Resort & Spa.

Paramedics who revived the unconscious, 6-foot-4 actor rushed him to a nearby emergency room

where he was treated for alcohol poisoning before being returned to Betty Ford for further treatment.

"Unfortunately, he never completed his stint at Betty Ford,"

ies," said the insider.

"Now she's by his side as he battles for his sobriety. They're fighting this together."

—PATRICIA TOWLE and ALAN SMITH