

Star Trek Action Group



April, 1980

NEWSLETTER No. 40

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DUES

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Hi folks,

As you can see it is newsletter time again, although this one has turned out to be more like a book. We had hoped to keep the length down a bit but we had a lot on merchandise to tell you and also a lot of comments on the movie. We decided to print as many comments as we could in this newsletter rather than spread them out between a few newsletters incase you got rather fed up reading them. At this point we don't plan to print any more movie comments as we think just about everything has been said, but if you feel you really want to make a comment on something which is said about the movie in this newsletter send your comment to Sheila and we will consider printing it.

While on the subject of movie comments I reaffirm what I said in the last newsletter about the movie. James Pauley disagrees with me which is his right, but it is also my right to have my own opinion. I still say that Shatner's acting was brilliant and that I liked the relationship as shown between the characters even though it was subtle at times. I would have liked more relationship, but then I am a relationship fan. I know that Sheila and Valerie agree with me and judging by the results of the questionnaire the majority of you do as well.

We have received about 440 completed questionnaires which isn't too bad. I can't give you the exact number as I've still a couple to collect from Sheila. We plan to print the results of the questionnaires in the next newsletter, it was impossible to get them all worked out in time for this one. My mother has been doing the first section of the form as well as a few of the movie questions and she is pretty well up-to-date. One thing I can tell you is that Kirk and Spock are battling it out neck and neck to get the most votes as your favourite character but William Shatner is well out in front as your favourite actor. Most of you enjoyed the movie and thought that it was still STAR TREK and Gene's novel was very popular. The most anyone has seen the movie seems to be 18 times.

I must say that the way I judge a film is by how many times I want to see it. STAR WARS bored me the second time round; I saw SUPERMAN 4 times in one week and I'm waiting for a video of it; I've only seen ST-TMP 7 times so far but that was solely because I didn't have the opportunity to see it more often. I hope to see it every night when it comes to Lochgilphead and if you knew what a dump our cinema was you would realise how much I must like the movie.

A personal message to Kelly Downes; I've received your story Kelley and I'm hanging on to it till I can let Sheila see it. She will get back to you on it.

We usually get worried about the weather at the end of January and keep the newsletter short just in case but it is this time that we have been caught. Sheila just couldn't get here at the weekend because of the snow. She even had to dig a path through 4 inches of snow on Saturday morning to get her newsletter stencils down to the post office. It was just lucky that we were both well ahead with our n/1 stencils for once or I'm not sure what we would have done. As it was with a number of phone calls I managed to complete my stencils ready to tie in with Sheila's. It has meant that three stencils have had to be stuck together, one part typed by Sheila and the rest my me. I'm writing this Monday night (24th) and so far I've printed most of my section but I've not even read Sheila's so I'll actually have something to read this time after I print it. I'm keeping my fingers crossed that I get it all printed by Thursday night as we are planning to go to Saltcoats, to Valerie's at the weekend to get it collated and ready to post. Then we can get it posted next week before ALBACON.

Sheila, Valerie and I are of course all going to ALBACON and if it is anything like FAIRCON in should be fun. We will be showing films and probably videos of STAR TREK as well. At this stage I don't know how many. They have asked for them all but somehow I can't see us fitting in 64 episodes of STAR TREK at a SF Con. I have also been told that EMPATH is being shown as part of the main programme which should give some of you a chance to see it for the first time. We will have a table at the con so we hope those of you who go will look us up.

Foreign members will notice we have had to put the dues up. Sorry about that but there was a large increase in postage rates and we just couldn't absorb it. We are offering surface mail dues for those of you who want to keep getting the newsletters but don't mind if they arrive a couple of months late. To give you an idea of the postage rates these are the ones for this newsletter; U.K. 16¹/₂p, Europe Air 65p, USA Air 82¹/₂p, Australia/Japan Air 96p, Surface rate (all countries) 36p. I admit this is the largest newsletter we have put out but even at 100gms it is 60¹/₂p to the USA and 70p to Australia.

A rumour seems to be going round that the BBC have banned "Patterns Of Force". I can't think how it started as going by the order the BBC have shown the episodes in before it wasn't even due to be screened in the last run. I had a letter from Caroline Mackersey recently and she said one member had written to her telling her she was banning "Patterns Of Force". She said, "It was news to me."

Unfortunately it seems as if Ms. Mackersey won't be answering any STAR TREK mail in future. This is what she says, "STAR TREK is one of the many series for which I am responsible. I have always in the past endeavoured to answer personally letters from fans of series who write to me but I can only allocate a certain proportion of my time to this. The massive inundation from STAR TREK fans is now taking a disproportionate amount of time. In future I shall pass all STAR TREK correspondence to the BBC's Programme Correspondence Unit who normally deal with such queries from the viewing public."

It is a pity Ms. Mackersey won't be answering any more of our mail as she has always tried to answer queries. It also explains why some of you have been getting cards from the BBC. Ms. Mackersey also said in her letter, "The whole question of the rejected episodes is currently under review and no decision has yet been taken."

Those of you who ordered copies of WILLIAM SHATNER - LIVE should have received your copies by now. I think they started arriving last week. Sheila has sent out the ones she received direct.

The photographs from the last order haven't been sent out yet. A lot of them were printed in reverse and they have had to be redone. We hope they will come back the right way this time.

We won't have the next newsletter out till after the U.F.P. Con in May so we are hoping to see a lot of you there. Don't hesitate to come up and speak to us if you see us - we won't bite your head off. We will of course have a table there so bring plenty of money.

The deadline for anything for the next newsletter is May 16th. If things arrive late we do try to fit them in but we make no promises. Once that particular section is typed that is it. Because of the con in May the newsletter will be a week late, we hope to post it out on June 9th.

We won't set registration rates for STAG CON'81 until later in the year but we are making headway with the arrangements. Dot Owens has joined the Convention Committee and she will be acting as hotel liason. It is much better having someone on hand who can deal with the hotel personally and Dot has the experience.

I hope you enjoy the newsletter.

L.L. & P. Janet

STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE

Gene's novel, 'Star Trek-The Motion Picture' was No.1 on the Best-Selling List at a local W.H. Smiths in Middlesbrough, Cleveland. Info Linda Merryweather

EXTRACT FROM 'INTERSTAT' FEBRUARY, 1980

ACADEMY OF SF, FANTASY, ETC. has given 10 nominations to ST-TMP for its annual televised awards later this year. Among them: Best SF Film, Best Actor (William Shatner), Best Actress (Persis Khambatta), Best Supporting Actor (Leonard Nimoy), Best Supporting Actress (Nichelle Nichols).

ST-TMP: broke all box office and industry records both domestically and in Canada, England, and Australia, earning a giant \$28 mil for the first two weeks, more than \$41 mil by end of its third, and \$53 mil at the close of the 26th day. Bear in mind though, that with \$50 mil 'tied up in it' its break-even point is better than \$100 mil it needs plenty of repeat business. So run not walk to your nearest box office, etc..... Dec 6th was proclaimed as 'ST Day' in Washington, D.C. by Mayor Marion Barry, the day of the gala premiere..... TREK was the only feature film honoured by Hollywood's Film Advisory Board at its annual Xmas luncheon 16.12.79, it winning one of 9 Awards of Excellence handed out. Nichelle Nichols was present to accept the plaque for Para/GR. The trade papers have already advertised a week of free screening of TREK for Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences members who will nominate for technical categories, with ST-TMP listed in the following 'preliminary' nominations: for Best Art Direction, Best Costume Design, Best Original Score, and Achievement in Sound. Final nominations to be announced in late February. (Final nominations will be drawn from the list of prelims, so TREK is not assured of nominations yet).

More on the ABC-TV buy of TREK: 7 annual runs can begin 3 years after the Dec. 7th release, concluding Dec. 6th, 1989. Earliest time of showing is Dec. 7th, 1982, in other words.

ST-TMP ADDENDA: Las Vegas oddsmakers rate TREK at 4/1, tied with MANHATTAN to capture Best Picture Category of Oscars! Higher rated are KRAMER v KRAMER at 6/5, THE ROSE and CHAPTER TWO tied at 7/5, APOCALYPSE NOW at 8/5. But you never know... sentimental choices have won before, and Trekfen are legion. Awards night is April 14th.

The above is from a column by DIXIE OWEN.

Thanks go: to Sylvia for sending it to us.

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For those of you interested in figures we have obtained the following info from SCREEN INTERNATIONAL thank to Lynda Wilton.

The figures quoted are for up to Feb 23rd.

For the first two weeks of its release ST-TMP was No.1 in London's Top Ten. It was then no. 3, 4, 6, 7, 9 & 10 respectively for next 6 weeks.

In the rest of the U.K. in was No.1 for three weeks and then dropped to number 5.

Placings are decided by the average week's taking of each film at main cinemas across the country. ST-TMP was showing at 15 cinemas plus in London. We'll list the gross takings at these cinemas.

Empire, Leicester Square 10 weeks; £245,954

ABC2, Bayswater 4 weeks; £10,708

ABC1, Edgware Rd. 5 weeks; £14,660

ABC1, Fulham Rd. 5 weeks; £16,361

ABC, New St., Birmingham 5 weeks; £37,030

ABC, Bristol Rd., Birmingham 8 weeks; £24,060

APC, East St., Brighton 6 weeks; £37,953

ABC, New Centre, Bristol 5 weeks; £33,777

ABC, Whiteladies, Bristol 8 weeks; £18,068

ABC, Queen St., Cardiff 8 weeks; £32,431

ABC, Film Centre, Edinburgh 8 weeks; £43,618

ABC, Sauchiehall, Glasgow 8 weeks; £51,191

ABC, Film Centre, Leeds 7 weeks; £43,833

ABC, Forum, Liverpool 5 weeks; £36,456

ABC, Deansgate, Manchester 8 weeks; £29,009

ABC, Haymarket, Newcastle 6 weeks; £39,096

ABC, Chapel Bar, Nottingham 7 weeks; £36,834

ABC, Angel St., Sheffield 6 weeks; £44,289

ABC, Above Bar, Southampton 5 weeks; £34,630

U.S.A.

New York

Orpheum 8 weeks; \$303,141

State 1 8 weeks; \$356,421

State 2 2 weeks; \$145,820

Paramount 11 weeks; \$279,714

34th St. East 8 weeks \$155,021

Los Angeles

National 8 weeks; \$473,498

Chinese 9 weeks; \$631,841

Mann Westwood 1 week \$5,530

Hollywood, Hollywood 2 weeks; \$17,824

ST-TMP was still listed as being shown in the following cinemas in the Feb 23rd issue of SCREEN INTERNATIONAL. Empire, Leicester Square; ABC Whiteladies, Bristol; ABC Queen St., Cardiff; Hollywood, Hollywood, Los Angeles. + + +

After blinding you with figures on the last page we thought you might like to read a press report of the World Premiere. We have chosen this one which we think was sent in by Doreen Twivey. Janet forgot to make a note of the name on the cutting.

Washington Star Friday December 7, 1979

TREKKING DOWN TO A WORLD PREMIERE by Jurate Kazickas

In the parade of bared bosoms and famous television personalities at last night's world premiere of "Star Trek - The Motion Picture", local celebrities hardly got a passing shout from the screaming autograph seekers behind the barricades. National Security adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski did not get mobbed by reporters or photographers when he showed up for the movie at the time that Spock, also known as Leonard Nimoy of Dedham, Mass, got out of his limousine.

Klingon seemed a lot closer to reality than Iran or even the White House when Starship U.S.S. Enterprise brought its crew to the MacArthur Theater. As a giant spotlight scanned the sky, dozens of adoring Trekkies braved the rain for a glimpse of the stars.

Most were enthusiastic adolescents who lived near by. Some were recruited by the Paramount people. Nancy Handwork of Fairfax City, for example, is a member of the Virginia Association of Star Trek. She and her two children wore the familiar gray suits of the show that she had stitched herself over the weekend. A veteran of dozens of Star Trek conventions, Handwork enthused, "Star Trek" represents the future. It talks about hope and not despair. And remember, science fiction is the only known medicine for future shock."

Speaking of shocks, photographers scrambled to rev up their motorized cameras when Grace Lee Whitney, who plays Janice Rand in the movie, appeared. Her sideless white jersey dress nearly came undone as she poured out of her limousine.

"Oh, wow, this is so exciting," gushed Whitney, flinging a mane of blonde hair that looked like two Dolly Parton wigs. Asked if she wasn't cold with all that air conditioning, Whitney bubbled, "Yes, but I'm so excited I'm really warm. Feel me."

The next fascinating bosom to arrive belonged to Nichelle Nichols, who wore a low-cut, embroidered black gown. After that, along came Majel Barrett, who plays Dr. Chapel and is also married to Star Trek creator Gene Roddenberry, in black with a strategically latticed rhinestone bodice. And then arrived the beautiful Persis Khambatta - Ilia - her usually bald head sprouting black hair, in a glittery black plunge. But that's show biz.

The male stars took the boring route and showed up in black tuxedos. Nimoy didn't even wear his charming pointy ears. The Trekkies loved him nevertheless.

"Oooh, I'm in love with Spock. I've been in love with him since I was 6," swooned Teresa Giral, who's 12. She nearly fainted from joy when, answering the fervent appeals of "Over here, over here," Nimoy walked over to the barricades.

Now, not everyone of the 850 people there - most of whom paid \$100 to see the movie as a benefit for the youth education programs of the National Space Club - was a Trekkie. Noel Hinners, the director of the National Air and Space Museum, which hosted the reception after the movie, said he had never seen an entire segment of the TV show. His wife Diana said she did not allow her 6-year-old son to watch the Star Trek reruns because "there's some very sophisticated material there." Added Hinners, "Besides, we're teaching him to read."

But in the end, the Star Trek loyalists outnumbered the unenlightened earthlings. There was Rep. Patricia Schroeder, D-Colo., and her young daughter Jamie, who sported an ERA button. And Rep. Lindy Boggs, D-La., with her grandson and lawyer Tommy Corcoran's grandson, Thomas. And White House aide Anne Wexler, who said she loved the show, "when it was on."

Star Trek was launched on television in 1966 and went off in 1969, though reruns followed to nourish the cult. Roddenberry, who also produced the movie, said he didn't care whether Star Trek ever got back on TV. "But it's important that there be more programs like it. We are one people and one planet. We've got to get rid of this foolishness we have with national boundaries."

The chairman of the gala evening, Larry Hastings of the National Space Club, said he got the idea for the premiere from his two sons, adding that the club beat out 200 other organizations that wanted to have the movie for their cause. Hastings was a member of an ad hoc committee organized to try and keep Star Trek on the air. "Star Trek keeps the interest of youth alive in aerospace and encourages them to study more so they can get into that field," he said.

After the movie, which was generally favorably received - especially by the actors who were also seeing it for the first time - guests went to the Air and Space Museum. There they had a chance to mingle with the stars in the shadows of the airships from other eras - the Wright Brother's Kittyhawk, the Mercury 7 capsule and the Apollo-Soyez.

"Do you know that William Shatner has the second most recognizable face in the world after Muhammed Ali," said an enthralled Esther Moore, in plunging white chiffon and feathers, watching Shatner, a.k.a. Captain Kirk, sign autographs.

Three of Ethel Kennedy's children, wearing "Kennedy in '80" buttons, were on hand. They offered buttons to anyone asking for them. Mayor Marion Barry showed up but protested that he was a little too old to be a Trekkie.

Former astronaut Sen, Harrison Schmitt, R.N.M., had the best excuse of all for never having seen any of the original Star Trek shows. Glancing fondly at the moon-rock in the display case, Schmitt said he had been too busy training for his Apollo 17 mission.

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Rumour has it that ST-TMP has already made \$100 million. Afraid we can't confirm this but we certainly hope it is true.

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NEWS OF THE STARS

PERSIS KHAMBATTA appeared in a film called "THE MAN WITH THE POWER. She played the part of a very rich and influential INDIAN princess. (surprise, surprise!) She acted well, but did not look very pretty. The film was recently shown on Anglia and Westward Television. (info Edward S. Laurence. Another member also sent is the info about the film being on Westward but Janet has forgotten who.)

Daily Express - Frankly, it wouldn't surprise me if Sister Teresa was chosen to be the next Charley's Angel. That said, those ubiquitous Hollywood sources are now revealing that Priscilla Presley - spouse of the late king - and Star Trek actress Persis Khambatta are front-runners to replace Shelley Hack on the series this autumn.

Film Review, March '80 - Persis Khambatta, female star of the movie (ST-TMP), refused to shave her head for the film's premiere. Reason? She's getting married and didn't much fancy turning up at the altar with a bald noggin. The former Miss India will next star with Sylvester Stallone in "Attack". (Info Susan West)

Some papers carried articles about Persis Khambatta at the end of January. They say that after a car crash in West Germany Persis was unconscious for eight hours and spent several weeks in hospital. The accident has left her with a scar on her head. Doctors say she will have this scar for the rest of her life.

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WILLIAM SHATNER

As a number of you will already know, William Shatner has finally agreed to having an official club organised for him. This is being done in California and I have been asked to act as the British Liason by Sonni Cooper who is running the club in close co-operation with William Shatner.

I would like to quote a paragraph from 'Interstat' which is part of a letter Sonni wrote to them concerning this club:- "This club has come into being because of an out-pouring of fan interest which Bill could no longer put aside. He wishes to thank all of you for your continued and persistent interest in him and his career and is responding to your demands for a reliable fan representative."

Accompanying this STAG newsletter is a flyer giving details of the club. If you wish to join you should write direct to the address given (not forgetting to enclose 2 IRC's to cover return postage) or if you wish I will forward a bulk enrolment. If you wish me to send off your enrolment for you please send me your form, plus the money in English currency (approx. £9.00) and I will do the rest. I will send off any enrolments I have to hand on week-ending 26th April.

Bill also intends to keep his own personal records of how many people really are in his fan club so let's have a good response from this side of the Atlantic.

In a recent letter Sonni said, "Bill spent a great deal of time with me last week. He is looking and feeling marvelous. He is radiating energy and it's great to see -- and it's catching!. It's like being in a room charged with electricity. He is really enthusiastic about the club and is eager to help. He chose the photo which will appear in the membership package. In fact, he provided 1,000 copies and paid for them himself! He's a pleasure to work with."

"Bill handed me all of his office complete. At rough guess there are four-thousand unanswered pieces of mail. Talk about being swamped!"

Janet has had a number of phone calls from the WOMAN wanting to know the colour of Bill's eyes. She said they were hazel but they wanted more proof as Bill's agent's secretary had told them they were blue-green. Eventually Janet gave them Sonni's phone number and this is what Sonni said in her letter, "The reporter for the Woman called me. I was astonished that she would call about something as trivial as the colour of Bill's eyes. They are hazel everybody! But they do seem to change some with differences in light." The only other thing I would like to add is that I shall also be responsible for the selling of the record 'William Shatner - Live'. As yet I have no idea of price as I am waiting to hear from Sonni on this point.

If anyone has any articles they can spare on William Shatner whilst he was overhere - whether they are fans of his or not - I would be pleased to receive them to forward to Sonni, also any photographs which some of you may have been fortunate to take of him during his visit.

I guess that is all I really have for you this time, so I do hope I hear from some of you regarding Bill. Sonni has asked me to let you know that she would like input for the yearbook and newsletter.

Sylvia

Birkenhead News, Dec. 22nd, '79 Television by Jean Benfield

Michael Parkinson, although disconcertingly somewhat craggier faced than I recalled, has certainly lost none of that homely Yorkshire charm - polished to glossy TV perfection. His main guest though, fresh from a multi-million dollar movie mission to go where no man has been before, was an entirely different proposition.

There was good old Bill Shatner looking years younger than I remember from the Star Treks of a decade ago. That cuddly hint of a spare tyre melted away and his hair still dashingly dark, if not darker.

After they got over the promotional spiel for "Star Trek-The Movie" - I can't wait to find out whether Mr. Spock is also more glamorous these days - James Burke made his entrance. He was somewhat dismissive towards Mr. Shatner - especially when the man who has had so many fictional encounters with the proverbial little green men expressed a belief in UFOs. And that's when I started to thoroughly enjoy myself. For Bill proved to be not so dumb an actor after all and leaped upon Mr. Burke's sweeping cynical statements with total American charm and reasonableness, just like old Captain Kirk at his best.

What's more I've no doubt at all that I wasn't the only woolly-headed nitwit - the type who gets confused about Bunsen burners let alone nuclear physics - who positively revelled in the way that scientific cynicism was put firmly in its place. That's what I call good entertainment! (article we think was sent in by May Jones)

Times Saturday Review, Jan 26th, '80

Travel

Mr. William Shatner is an actor known to millions as the intrepid Captain Kirk, hero of "Star Trek". Associating him, as one does, with the fiction of the future, it was something of a surprise - albeit a pleasant one - to encounter him among the solid evidence of history, and English history at that. The encounter took place at the Lygon Arms in Broadway, one Sunday last month. Mr Shatner, with his wife and three daughters, had travelled there merely for lunch, but was persuaded to remain overnight so as to see something more of the Cotswold countryside, and something more of the inn, parts of which are probably around six centuries old.

He said afterwards that he thoroughly enjoyed the experience, as did the Shatner ladies. He also said that he would one day return to the Cotswolds for a proper weekend holiday, and if his work does bring him back to England I am pretty sure he will keep that promise, for even in the gloom of December the Cotswolds make an attractive setting in which to relax. (article sent in by Ann Looker)

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LEONARD NIMOY

Leonard Nimoy will again take "Vincent" on tour, between Feb 28th and April 30th. It will be playing at Minneapolis, Atlanta, Baltimore, Detroit, Aspen, San Francisco, Denver, Philadelphia and Oklahoma City. The Guthrie Theatre, Minneapolis will again sponsor the tour as they did last year. Rumours persist that he is considering bringing the show to Britain, but so far there is no confirmation.

I've heard that Leonard is to have another book of poetry published later in the year - as yet, I have no word of the title.

A postal auction of Star Trek and Leonard Nimoy items is to be held. Lists are now ready, and can be obtained from Liz Bowling, 998 E. San Antonio, San Jose, CA 95116, U.S.A. Please send large addressed envelope and two stamps (U.S.) or 4 I.R.Cs. Leonard and Sandie Nimoy celebrated their 26th wedding anniversary on 21st February, and March 26th will be Leonard's 49th birthday. Would any former members of the Scottish Society of Leonard Nimoy Fanatics who are willing either to sell their copies of the Society's publications, or lend them for photocopying, please contact me. I will refund all postage.

Valerie

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DE FOREST KELLEY

I have heard rumours that De was ill whilst in Australia to promote the Movie at the end of last year. I have heard nothing to contradict this but from the information I have received I would think it was more a case of jet lag than anything else. Having said that I've heard nothing else - sorry!

I am informed by Marilyn Johansen that there is a rather good picture of De in a book called "The Films of Bette Davis" but I haven't actually got that book yet so I cannot give my opinion.

I would like to take this opportunity to tell you that Mr. R.A. Mayfield, 732 Chenery St., San Francisco, California 94131, U.S.A. has some rather unusual B/W photos of De (and other stars) from "Variety Girl" (Paramount 1947) for sale. They are 80c (USA) each, postage paid and I feel they're a really super addition to anyone's collection. Those available are:- 1, Variety Girl title banners; 2, Credits with De's name in the centre star; 3, Barbara Stanwyck with unidentified bit player; 4, The famous Paramount Studio gates, 1947; 5, Ray Millard has his own way of answering the phone; 6, Paulette Goddard in a bubble bath; 7, Gail Russell, with pet, on set; 8, De as Bob Kirby; 9, Nella Walker & Olga San Juan as Mrs Webster & Amber; 10, Directors Mitchell Leisen & Frank Butler; 11, 12, De; 13, Olga San Juan; 14, 15, De; 16, Mary Hatcher & De; 17, De; 18 Bob Hope as Emcee; 19 Alan Ladd & Dorothy Lamour singing "Tallahassee, the Southland at its best"; 20, Olga San Juan & De; 21, Pearl Bailey singing her famous rendition of "Tired"; 22, Lisabeth Scott & Burt Lancaster in a skit; 23, William Bendix doing a Tarzan bit; 24, Barry Fitzgerald, Gary Cooper, Diana Lynn & Dorothy Lamour in the carousel scene; 25, De - an enlargement of $\frac{1}{2}$ of print 16. The film "Variety Girl" is about a girl who goes to Hollywood for a screen test where she meets up with another girl who impersonates her to further her own career. Both girls come into contact with just about every star on the Paramount lot in 1947. Many of the stars starred as themselves but De, Mary Hatcher, Jack Norton, William Demarest and Olga San Juan starred throughout the extravaganza. The film was directed by George Marshall and runs for 83 minutes.

I hope anyone lucky enough to be in a TV region which screened "Gunfight at the OK Corral" recently was able to watch it. As of writing this it hasn't been screened in my area so I'll leave a report until next time.

That's all for now folks. Hope to have some more news for you next time, don't forget that I'd appreciate anything you have for me. De Kelley is the REAL McCoy. - Lynn

Lynn Campion, 6 Bramble Road, Canvey Island, Essex, SS8 7EB, England

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STAR TREK IN THE NEWS

CUE NEW YORK Dec 7th, '79 had a 4 page article on ST-TMP with a rather nice full page colour picture of Kirk, Spock, McCoy, Decker and Ilia.

THE SUN - The winner of the Sun competition for two tickets to the World Premiere of ST-TMP was Peter Burrows who dyed his skin and hair with green food colouring to go to a costume party as a Martian and then couldn't get the dye off. We weren't very impressed with the result of this competition at all. It would have been fairer if they had had a STAR TREK based competition so that the winner would have at least been a ST fan.

THE SUN Dec 31st '79 had an article about William Shatner and Marcy entitled 'The Woman Who Saved Captain Kirk'. There was a nice picture of Bill and Marcy and the article mentioned his biography.

SMASH HITS Jan 10th '80 had a $\frac{1}{2}$ page on ST-TMP

WARCRY - article mentioning STAR TREK

OBSERVER Jan 6th '80 had an article about William Shatner, saying that he is a vegetarian. The article had a nice description of Bill's arrival. "He arrived a bit late in a limousine you could have a game of football in the back. He is a dapper and firm fleshed; the kind of man who doesn't have to suck his stomach in. He had the glazed look of a man who had just - and only just - survived ordeal by a thousand interviews."

EVENING GAZETT Jan 17th '80 had an article about a Computer Exhibition at the Dragonara Hotel, Middlesborough. One of the centerpieces was a STAR TREK computer. The computer experts were battling it out with each other in a computerised game in which the winner was the team which destroyed the most Klingons in the shortest time. The winners were sixth-formers Neil Jones and John Mohan. The two lads competed against organisations like ICI, Monsanto and Cleveland County Council's research and intelligence unit to win the trophy for the best individual team game.

NEWS OF THE WORLD Jan 20th '80 had an article about William Shatner. There was a picture of him with Marcy and a small picture of Jeffrey Hunter. The article concentrated on Bill's desire not to be solely identified with Kirk. It also said that his favourite movie is the ST bloopers.

TELEGRAPH PEOPLE Feb 12th, '80 There was an article about the excellent models of member Tony Freeman. "Tony makes his models from ordinary household materials and each one barely costs more than a tanner - although their spectacular looks belie it." Tony, 21, is a progress chaser with the Robinsons dressings firm of Chesterfield, his ambition is to become a full time special effects man in films. Tony's models were also portrayed, in full colour, on his firm's magazine and they really are excellent.

DAILY EXPRESS Feb 23rd, '80 - In the Daily Express Playtime TV and Film Awards, where voting was restricted to children aged 15 or under, STAR TREK-THE MOTION PICTURE won the Film of the Year Award. MOONRAKER was the runner up. Clint Eastwood won the Film Star of the Year Award but William Shatner also had a big following.

THE LIBRARY REVIEW No.10 Feb 23rd, '80. There was a lengthy article on STAR TREK by Janet Daley. She seems to have some funny ideas. She not only accuses ST of being sexist but states that, "Females are not simply seen as trivial or irrelevant. They are depicted as lethal, consciously or unconsciously treacherous sirens of doom and destruction."

"Virtually every threat to the life of the ship (or the mutual loyalty of the crew which is seen as tantamount to the same thing) turns out to have female form. Or (and this is often crucial) apparent female form. Time and again the ship and its captain are waylaid (no pun intended) by seductively pneumatic, irresistibly beautiful females who, in fact, are revealed to be, for example, mere illusions created by Evil Forces; repulsive old crones who have magically (and temporarily) refashioned themselves; disfigured ancient females with psychic powers of delusion, or, worse yet, Things having assumed human form, but which are ultimately revealed to look like a cross between an octopus and a failed blancmange."

Now Janet Dailey can no doubt find some episodes to back up her ideas but I think she goes rather far with this description of DOOMSDAY MACHINE. "The Enterprise sets out to take on this unknown horror, guided by its guest captain who bears a peculiarly personal sense of vendetta. At last the Enterprise finds the D.M., which turns out to be - wait for it - a huge, cylindrical tunnel of overwhelming and irresistible internal force which sucks in whole ships and obliterates them. The surviving captain, compelled by a desire to avenge his ship and his comrades, insists on tackling this monumental female genitalia alone. In a tiny space shuttle craft, he propels himself into the great tunnel creating such an explosive force that he destroys the D.M. and, of course, in a blinding, ecstatic blaze, immolates himself. One suspects that the awed admiration expressed on the Enterprise for his sacrifice has many levels."

Well, she got some of her facts wrong there, but talk about reading what you want into a situation. The article is too long to quote in full but it continues in the same theme, ending with this report on the movie:

"STAR TREK, in its new motion picture guise, reaches an apotheosis of virginal trauma. This time the Ultimate Threat from Space involves a plot of such pretentious complexity as to be beyond paraphrase but the inevitable theme occurs in staggering proportions. Great sentimental play is made of the reunion of the three men who return to run the Enterprise on this highly dangerous mission. Captain Kirk is shown to be pole-axed by his failure to evoke any emotional response from the super-logical, half-alien Spock. A woman officer joins them from an alien planet, who sports a shaved head and who has apparently taken some form of celibacy vow. This appropriately desexed female is now fit to take on a position

of responsibility on the ship. To cut a very long story short, the ship encounters the Great Anonymous Threat in Space which seems to be an enormous cloud. On flying into the cloud, the ship passes through an aperture and finds itself travelling down a cavernous passage which ends at a closed orifice (no, really.) This series of events produces some excruciating priceless lines: 'The aperture is closed, Sir. We're trapped!' from the lady who mans the intergalactic switchboard, and: 'I believe the closed orifice leads to another chamber,' delivered with ponderous logic by Spock.

For awhile the ship languishes outside the uncommunicative orifice until Spock, with singular heroism, decides to propel himself through it single-handedly. In an individual, rocket-propelled chair, he fires himself through the orifice encountering first a beautiful image of an entire universe (Mother?) and then an orgasmic explosion of light in which the face of the desexed female colleague is refracted through the computer graphics. With this, an unconscious Spock is ejected from the orifice into the arms of the anxiously waiting Captain Kirk. The film's resolution comes with the sacrifice by one officer of life as we know it in order to be united with a facsimile (who is qualitatively, if not quantitatively, identical to the original) of the desexed female. Their union transforms them to some transcendental plane of existence and as they touch, we see their physical selves being consumed."

Gene, I never knew you had it in you. I bet you didn't either - Janet

MODERN SCREEN (USA) March '80 had a small piece on ST-TMP plus two pictures.

FILM REVIEW March '80 2 page interview with William Shatner including three b/w pictures.

FANGORIA No.4 Cover picture of Spock in his Vulcan Robes on Vulcan. 3/4 page article on the Aliens of Star Trek.

TV TIMES had an article about the Celebrity Kosher Cookbook by Rabbi Jerome Cutler and Marilyn Hall, which has just been published in the States. The article contains two recipes, one for Passover Dumplings chosen by William Shatner, and one for Pickled Herrings chosen by Leonard Nimoy. There was a small picture of the Enterprise and one of Kirk and Spock from the movie.

MONTHLY FILM BULLETIN (Vol 47, No 553), published by the British Film Institute had a favourably review of ST-TMP by Philip Strick.

Both ORBIT (BBC2) and ORACLE (ITV) had reviews on ST-TMP. The reviewer for ORBIT didn't like the movie but Alan Frank for ORACLE did. He finished by saying, "It's a stunning combination of the literate script likeable characters and quite spectacular special effects. Without doubt it's my film of the year. Even if you're not a Trekkie or normally a Sci Fi fan - Don't miss it. Hollywood filmmaking at its peak."

There was also a review of the ST-TMP CBS soundtrack on ORACLE between Jan 18th and 25th. The reviewer hated the record but called the film - quote, 'marvellous'.

STARBURST 19 - 6 page review of ST-TMP by John Brosnan who admits he often finds the series to be banal, ludicrously simplistic, overly sentimental and far removed from what he considers to be good science fiction. His attitude shows in the review and I would have thought they could have got someone more impartial to review the film. Russell Willmott also commented on this in a recent letter, "The comments on ST-TMP leave much to be desired. It seems to me that their ideas of what an SF movie should include are not dissimilar to those that 'Star Wars' presented - good fun yes but hardly thought provoking! It is certainly obvious that they do not fully understand Trek's main characters and certainly true that they couldn't have fully understood ST-TMP's story. I sometimes can't help wondering that, with the general public in mind, Star Trek (& ST-TMP) is too good for its own good!"

Lynette Percy was also upset with the comments in Starburst, "I've just read the ST-TMP review in Starburst, and I'm just writing to say that I found some of their comments rather offensive. How they can have a man who is at pains to tell us how he disliked the series telling us how fans react to it I don't know. I accept that everyone's entitled to their opinion, but the article was very one-sided. I know Star Trek fans are hardly the most unbiased people in the world, but it might have been better to show their reaction as well, even if it meant using two reviewers.

I was disgusted with some of the remarks (including the one attributing Bill Shatner's youthful looks to a new hair-piece! I ask you!) No doubt you've seen it, but I just had to send you the bit from "Things to Come" where they refer to "Star Trash". As I said, they're entitled to dislike it, and I would respect their right to say so, but there is no necessity for the downright rudeness which the writer uses."

OH BOY! March 1st, '80 had a take-off of STAR TREK including pictures.

LOVING Feb 23rd '80 had a small piece on ST-TMP giving it a very favourable review, there were also two pages on William Shatner which had two very nice colour pictures.

STARLOG 32 - Nice cover picture of Kirk, also picture of Spock on contents page.
 - 1 page article, 'Imagining the V'Ger'. ST Illustrator Maurice Zuberano.
 - 7 page article where Andy Probert talks about the 'Lost Designs of ST-TMP'. Includes some nice designs and pictures of the models.
 - Chekov's Enterprise Part 3, 5 pages includes 3 colour pictures.

STARLOG 33 - COMMUNICATIONS contains 24 letters in favour of the movie and 13 against.
 - $\frac{1}{2}$ page article on STAR TREK - THE PREMIERE
 - RUMBLINGS - Contains David Gerrold's review of ST-TMP.
 - 1 page article, 'The Origins of Star Trek's Wormhole' by Jesco Von Puttkamer.
 - Bob Fletcher talks about 'Outfitting the Crew of the Enterprise' 7 pages.
 - Ellison Reviews Trek, 3 pages. Ellison has a right to his own opinion on ST-TMP but I object to his blatant attack on Gene Roddenberry and William Shatner. Ellison has obviously never heard that a reviewer should not get involved in personalities - his jealousy shows. - Janet
 - $\frac{1}{2}$ page editorial on ST-TMP by Howard Zimmerman.

Thanks to: Robert McCabe, Christine Miles, Malita Edwards, Mark French, Nicola Moore, Lynda Wilton, Anne Shields, Bill McBlane, Teresa Hewitt, Peter Scott, Margaret Bertram, Ray of Barnsley, Sheila Cornall, William Snell, Mark Slade, Mrs L. Hingley, Karen Rowland, Ann Thrush, Shirley Buck, May Jones, John Patterson, Lynette Percy, Ann Preece, Tony Freeman, Susan West, Silkar Mader, Ian Christie, David Coote, Jean Donkin, Jean Barron, Ruth Merrell Bollerud, Edward Laurence, Doreen Twivey, Tony Murphy, Sue Stockley, Colin Hunter, Lorraine Goodison, Teresa Hewitt and Russell Willmott for sending in cuttings and information on them. We couldn't print all the ones we received so we have tried to print the most interesting ones, or let you know about magazines which you might be able to get hold of. Please keep sending in cutting and items for this column to Janet.

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THE TRANSPORTER

After reading a most distressing review of the Transporter in the generally great 'Trek' magazine, I decided to have a moan about it. The article was in 'Trek' No 14, and if you've read it I reckon there is a fair chance you will agree. It stated that: 1) The transporter was technically impossible; 2) That it was dramatically lousy. Now our future Einstein type Trekkers can battle the first point out, but as for the second one - I doubt that there is anyone out there in S.T.A.G. who is of the opinion that the Transporter was just a rotten way of getting out of a financial problem, as this review clearly states. Amongst other things, this article accused episodes like 'Enemy Within' of simply being an excuse for having the transporter blow up. My sensors indicate that 'Enemy Within' was a fine episode and not the result of poor imagination on the part of Richard Matheson and certainly not just another 'transporter goes wrong for the sake of going wrong' episode - I don't think there were any. Yes, I will admit that the writer of this review does point out several inconsistencies and errors in continuity that must have taken a fair bit of research, but I consider it totally unjustified to slam the transporter like he did with phrases like, "every show had its bad points." O.K. - Star Trek had plenty of them, but to my mind the Transporter was definately not one of them. It helped to bring the show alive... S.T. and no Transporter is like Tom and Jerry; Scott and no 'Bairns' and Kirk and no Spock! To be quite frank, I could not give a***** if the Transporter is the most scientifically inaccurate idea ever, and, I just can't see how anyone has the right to say what will or will not be possible in two or three hundred years. Remember what they used to say not twenty years ago when:..... I'd be very interested to see the views of others in the n/1.

Edward Laurence.

I thought I would just try and answer some of Edward's points. I haven't had a chance to read the article in 'Trek 14' yet so I can't really comment directly on it. I do like 'Enemy Within', in fact it is one of my favourite episodes for obvious reasons. I do feel that in this episode the transporter malfunction was a necessary part of the plot. The whole episode revolves around this malfunction and what it has done to Kirk. Dramatically the Transporter is a problem. If you want to strand your characters in a dangerous situation you first have to disable the Transporter or get rid of the Enterprise.

- Janet

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FRIENDSHIP CORNER

At last, my appeals have borne fruit, I've had letters from satisfied customers. Let me quote from one sent by Wendy Downes: "You put my ad in the Friendship Corner some months back. I received a letter a day or two after the N/L came out, it was from Moggie Medhurst. A little while after that, I received a couple more, and it has grown from there." So, it does work! Also there are a few items for the social diary.

On Sunday 27th April at 3pm there will be the second meeting of the Beds district group. Anyone wishing to attend, who didn't come last time, please contact me, Beth Hallam, at the usual address or Ray Dowsett, Top Flat, 177 Victoria Rd., Cambridge, CB4 3BU.

The Plymouth/Devon group meet once a fortnight on Saturday afternoons. They are hoping to organise a fancy dress party. Write to Carole Cooper, 10 Dundonald Street, Stoke, Plymouth, PL2 1EJ.

24th/25th May U.F.P. Con at the 'De Vere' hotel, Coventry (a fine venue, I've been at an S.F. Con' there). Contact Kim Knight, 135 Greensted Rd., Loughton, Essex

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I've had so many requests for mentions this time that I shan't include names listed in last N/L (If I make it too long Janet might refuse to print it!). For those wanting U.S. pen-pals I have written to "Interstat" asking for contacts, I await replies. Here are this N/L's list of contactees:-

Carole Cooper Age 19, wants to write to anyone interested in ST, SF, Music and who is planning to attend the U.F.P. Con'. Letters to:- 10 Dundonald St., Stoke, Plymouth, PL2 1EJ

Kelly Downes is dying to write to a ST fan of his own age (9½). Kelly lives at 96B Broadway, Bexleyheath, Kent.

Alison Lightfoot would be delighted to hear from a female fan who is planning to attend Albacon'80, so that they can meet there and be company for each other, write to 5F, Allanfauld Road, Cumbernauld, G67 1GX

Elizabeth Shillitoe is seeking a U.S. penpal preferably from California (though she'll answer letters from anywhere). Elizabeth is 19, Spock mad, an amateur astronomer and loves animals. She lives at 70 St. Michael's Close, Feniscowles, Blackburn, Lancs. BB2 5DL

Caroline Haslip aged 16 would appreciate hearing from U.S. or British fans. She likes all SF and is a 'heavy rock-fan' (does that mean she likes Gibraltar?). Write to 71 Adur Ave., Durrington, Worthing, Sussex.

Tony Stout wants to hear from a lady fan. Tony is 18 and likes the theatre and cinema. He is especially keen to have someone to go to cons with and who lives in his own area. His address is 118 Dee Road, Connan's Quay, Deeside, Clwyd, CH5 4PA

Fiona McFarlane is seeking a friend in the Dumfries area, to rescue her mother from being inundated in ST chatter! Fiona is 19 and likes SF generally. Contact her at 8 Goldie Ave., Sandside, Dumfries, Scotland, DG2 0AY

Maria Stanton would like a pen-friend, around 15 years old, either a STAG member and/or living in the U.S.A. As well as SF Maria likes Elvis Presley and rock'n'roll music. Write to:- 281 Knowsley Lane, Huyton, Merseyside, Liverpool L36 8EL

Christina Wright is keen on meeting ST/SF fans in the South-East of England, and writing to any ST/SF fans anywhere. Christine is 18 and lives at 8 Beards Road, Ashford, Common, Middlesex, TW15 1TO

Lynne Dolan, a ST and "Starsky & Hutch" fan is planning to revisit Los Angeles this summer. She would be grateful to hear from anyone she met there before, or any ST fan in the L.A./California area. Letters to 37 Londonderry Rd., Newtown, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland TS19 0DJ, England

Barbara Chegwidan is looking for other fans in the South-East and East London areas. Barbara is a trainee nurse and 26 years old. Write to:- Room 54, Hither Green, Nurses Home, Hither Green, London SE13.

Valerie Lowe lives in Manchester and would like to meet a 'big' ST fan in the area (her choice of adjective - not mine!) Valerie was born under the sign of Leo, is between 25 and 35 and likes animals and Mr. Spock (again her priority not mine!). Contact her at 13 Gunson Court, Miles Platting, Manchester M10 7NT.

(It's a good job Valerie likes animals because Andy got to her letter before I did, paper-tearing is an ancient Burmese art-form - and there wasn't much left of it to read!)

Sharon Cogger would like to hear from fans in the U.S.A. or Europe and she would like to meet fans in her area. Sharon's address is 34 Great Garrett, Welwyn Garden City, Herts AL7 3DE.

Lesley Walker will be travelling to the U.F.P. Con in Coventry from Euston and wondered if anyone else will be making the trip from there. If so, an if they would like to break the monotony by joining her in idle banter for an hour or so would they call her on 01 353 2282 to arrange a meet somewhere.

Terena Tobin would like some pen-pals with an interest in ST, K/S relationship in particular. Terena would like a pen-pal from anywhere, either male or female. She is 21 and likes to read ST and other SF and do crafts. Contact her at 1210 Eastbourne Rd., Windsor, Ontario, Canada N9H 1B7

Karen Hayden would like to apologise to her pen-friends for not being a very regular correspondent recently. Karen is expecting a baby soon and is finding herself rather short of time. She wants to let everyone know that she does intend to continue corresponding with them, but it won't be on such a regular basis.

Stephen Peters would like to meet any mad students interested in Star Trek or even Mission Impossible. Contact him at: Wright Robinson Hall, Altrincham, St, Umist, Manchester. Stephen is in his late teens.

Any fans interested in informal get-togethers on a non-regular basis in the Merseyside area, contact Roy Evans, 77 Selby Road, Orrell Park, Liverpool, L9 8EB.

Any members who would like pen-friends in Australia please write to SASTREK, P.O. Box 369, Nth Adelaide 5006, South Australia, giving particulars.

The Birmingham Science Fiction Group meet every 3rd Friday of the month at a pub called the Ivy Bush at The Five Ways, Birmingham.

Well that's all for now - stay friendly.

Beth

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CLUBS

BEYOND ANTARES - Sue Toher, 56 Spring Lane, Bishopstoke, Eastleigh, Hants, SO5 6BA, England

EMPATHY - Dot Owens, 51 Furniss Drive, Illingworth, Halifax, West Yorkshire, England

OMICORN - Tracy Cooke, 67 Eden Grove, Horfield, Bristol, B57 0EQ (ST & SPACE 1999)

STAR TREK CORRESPONDENCE CLUB - Judy Mortimore, 92 Thurlow Park Road, West Dulwich, London, SE21 8HY, England.

STARSHIP EXCALIBUR - Shirley Lambard, 8 Pentland Avenue, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 4AZ, England

DE FOREST KELLEY APPRECIATION SOCIETY - Marquita Crisp, 28 Church Road, Northfield, Birmingham, B31 2JY, England.

STARFLEET - an international organisation based on the Federation Military Fleet presented in STAR TREK. The club has its HQ in the States, the address is Chief of Personel, Vice Admiral Brandt Heatherington, 6455 Fairland Street, Alexandria, VA 22312, U.S.A. British fans can write to Captain Ronald L. Lingham, USS Hood NCC-1707, c/o 23 St Chads Rd., Blackpool, FY1 6BP, England for information/recruitment forms.

ALPHA STAR - The committee of Alpha Star are sorry to announce the closure of the club, sadly there is a lack of interest and financial support for the club and they don't feel they can carry it on. This does not mean that they are dropping out of the ST scene, they still look forward to seeing many friends at conventions etc. (info EMPATHY)

WILLIAM SHATNER FAN FELLOWSHIP P.O. Box 245, Hayward, CA 94543, U.S.A.

THE LEONARD NIMOY ASSOCIATION OF FANS - Miss Louise Stange, 4612 Denver Court, Englewood, Ohio 45322, U.S.A.

JAMES DOOHAN INTERNATIONAL FAN CLUB - Anna Hreha, 1519 NW 204th St., Seattle, Washington 98177, USA. British fans can get details from Jenny Elson, 11 Woburn Close, Meadows Est., Wigston Magna, Leicester, LE8 1XB, England.

HOSATO - Worldwide fan club for George Takei. Kathy Bayne, 41-09 53rd Street, New York 11377, USA. British enquiries should be sent to Ena Glogowska, 62 Southbank St., Leek, Staffs, ST13 5LN, England

THE ROYAL SPACE FEDERATION H.M.S. Fearless/RNCC-1745 Membership Archives. For further info, membership form, send a couple of IRCs to Sabran, Vulcan Consulate/Alien, Cultural Exchange Centre, P.O. Box 25003, Los Angeles, CA 90025, USA. (info Jerri Franz)

THE INTERNATIONAL DAVE PROWSE FAN CLUB - 58 Northampton Road, Wellingborough, Northants, NN8 3HT. Send a 10p stamp (not SAE).

BLONDIE FAN CLUB - P.O. Box 63, London, W2 3B2. (info Paul Lazarus)

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CONVENTIONS

ALBACON '80 4-6th April Albany Hotel, Glasgow
31st British Easter Convention. Registration £6. Supporting Membership £3
SAE for further details to Gerry Gillan, 9 Dunottar Street, Glasgow G33 SCIENCE FICTION

U.F.P. CON 1980 24th/25th May, 1980 De Vere Hotel, Coventry
Registration - £6 per person. Room rates - £9 per person per night sharing a twin room; £12 per person per night in a single room; £25 per night for triple rooms.
SAE to Kim Knight, 135 Greensted Road, Loughton, Essex. STAR TREK
Information Update (2)

- 1) Our guest for the convention will be Joan Winston.
- 2) Whilst the fashion show and drama competition are two entirely separate events, you can enter both, using the same costumes if you wish. The fashion show will be before the drama competition (it is currently planned to hold it on Saturday, with the drama show on Sunday) so that the impact of the costumes will not be lessened when they are judged in their own right. (Fashion show costumes must be original designs and not copies but for the drama as well as your fashion show costumes you may use any outfit you choose).
- 3) Monday 26th is a bank holiday in the U.K. If for this, or any other reason, you need to change your hotel booking, please do so as quickly as possible. (Those of you in Scotland and N. Ireland will need to check whether Monday is a public holiday in your area).

SF MEDIA CON Saturday June 21st 1980. Centre Spot Convention Hall, Dale Street, Admission Charge £1.00 10.00am - 6.00pm Central Manchester.
Programme includes 2 full length episodes from favourite TV programmes; 2 major SF fiction feature films; Archive slide show, prize quizzes, guest speaker. There will also be sales tables and displays. You may purchase admission tickets in advance by sending an SAE to: IMAGE SPECTRUM, Mike Wild, 98 Toxteth Street, Higher Openshaw, Manchester M11 1EZ.

TERRACON '80 20th/21st September, 1980 Dragonara Hotel, Leeds
Registration £4 until the end of May, £4.50 till the end of July and then £5. STAR TREK
SAE to Keith Jackson, 45 Wesley Road, Stanningley, Pudsey, West Yorkshire, LS28 6EJ

STAG CON '81 11th/12th April, 1981 Dragonara Hotel, Leeds
Guests - Susan Sackett & Rupert Evans. Details to be finalised. STAR TREK

AUCON '81 29th/30th August, 1981 STAR TREK Leicester
Confirmed guest George Takei. Other guests to be confirmed shortly. For lowest registration rates send SAE to:- Janet Hunt, (Registrations), 54 Foxhunter Drive, Oadby, Leicester.

CONVENTION September 1981 Dragonara Hotel, Leeds
No further details at this time.

SPACE-EX 1984

Total escapism into a world of the imagination will be available for seven days in August 1984. The entire Wembley Conference Centre is to be transformed by SPACE-EX LTD (The Interplanetary Space Travel Research Association - I.S.T.R.A.) into a vast exhibition and symposium on the space orientated subjects of Science Fiction, Space Research, UFO Investigation and Astronomy.

Part of this exhibition will be known as the Radio Shack, presenting a week of radio on the formentioned subjects, and as organiser of this presentation I am seeking out all available material. CAN YOU HELP?

If you have any recordings of vintage science fiction programmes such as BBC's 'Journey Into Space', or maybe Radio Luxemburg's 'Dan Dare', American Radio Science Fiction, coverage of NASA, etc. - Anything at all. Please contact me, Ralph Titterton, 49 Capel St., Capel-Le-Ferne, Folkestone, Kent, England, or telephone a message on Folkestone (0303) 55624. Any tape, record sent to me will be returned.

For further information on SPACE-EX 1984 (there will be a lot of 'Star Trek' there) please write to 21 Hargwyne Street, Stockwell, London SW9 9RQ.

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TRIVIA

If you ever invite George (Takei) to dinner, you'll please him if you have a hot Mexican-type meal for him. George and I discovered we have similar tastes when, the first time he was here, we asked where he'd like to go for dinner. George said where they serve Mexican food. My friend Evelyn Aguilar said, 'Sit still, George. I'll have dinner ready right here at Dick's in about an hour.' So Evelyn went out, bought the ingredients for tacos and guacamole, and George moaned with pleasure for the next hour. I've never seen anyone pour on the salsa brava (hot sauce) like George (except me). Apparently we both subscribe to the theory that, if you don't sweat, you don't enjoy. - Dick Mayfield

Did you know that according to Pliny, a Roman Writer, the feast of Vulcan is on the 23rd of August and the letter which mentions it was written in the year 112 A.D. - Anne Chalmers.

On Terry Wogan's BLANKETY BLANK show the following question was asked: "On the U.S.S. Enterprise Capt. Kirk said, "Who set course for Knotty Ash? We're being attacked by the starship Diddy and they're firing Blanks at us." The answers were Diddy Men & Tickling sticks.

A TV advert for Romson pens, lighters and electric razors, with the Goodies, ends with Tim Brooke-Taylor using the razor as a communicator and saying, "Beam us up, Scotty."

On the 'Little and Large Show', Eddie uses a communicator device to 'beam' themselves between sketches (with a few appropriate sayings and jokes.)

The above 3 items were send in by Mark Slade. Thanks to the others who mentioned them too.

Did any of you see '321' on Friday Nov. 17th '79? It's a terrible show but this time the theme was 'space'; believe it or not the first clue was a Dinky Enterprise which stayed in view nearly the whole show. The kept insultingly referring to it as a rocketship but none of the contestants did let the name 'Enterprise' slip out before the end. There was, I think a Klingon battle cruiser as well, in an early sketch. Then of course there was a STAR TREK sketch, they got the uniforms and colours right, the jokes were mostly those of the 'Dr. Spock' type but I wasn't sure whether they were saying 'Dr.' Spock as a joke or whether it was the usual error. The clue following this sketch was, "You'll miss the räck if Dr. Spock is captain of this ship." There were no other SF shows parodied so it just goes to show; I'm sure they thought STAR TREK was the one most people would be familiar with! - Teresa Hewitt

There was a competition in the Shropshire Star - 'Seek and identifi Sci Fi personnel in ads.' There was a small picture of Kirk in an advert for, 'All makes of Automatic Washing Machines. Plumbed into services. All materials included in price. All work guaranteed.' A small picture of Spock appeared in an advert for 'Skips For Hire.' Pippa Sykes wonders whether Kirk is included in the price and what work is guaranteed. She says Spock looks understandably emotionless!!

Advertising boarding at Glasgow Airport - "Natwest Will Help You Boldly Export Where No Man Has Exported Before. National Westminster Bank Group." - Bill McBlane.

BLANKETY BLANK - yet another STAR TREK question. "On the starship Enterprise Captain Kirk told Mr. Spock, "The crew don't mind your pointed ears, it's your pointed BLANKS they object to." Answers included pointed toenails, pointed teeth and pointed eyebrows. Pointed Remarks was the most popular. - Brendan Ryder

There is a record called 'Where's Captain Kirk' which has been released by Spizzenergi on the Rough Trade label. No. RTSO 4. Sylvia Fontana tells us the song was written by 2 of the group. She sent us the words but unfortunately we don't have room to print them. The words are on the record cover which is useful as they aren't very clear in the song. Mark French, Jean Donkin and Lorraine Goodison also sent in info on this.

THE SCOTSMAN Nov 29th, '79. There was an article about heavy penalties being inflicted upon Mark James and Ken Brown following alleged misconduct during the Ryder Cup match (Golf) last September. It stated that James was visibly stunned by the verdict but will not appeal against it. After spending more than an hour with the committee he said, "I accept the verdict and that is all I am prepared to say. Now I must dash off home because I want to see 'Star Trek.'"

OMNI Jan '80 'A Real Feinberg' - Joel Davis

A 'feinberg' as Star Trek fans know, is the tiny salt shaker like device Dr. Leonard McCoy used to diagnose instantly what was ailing any sick person. Dr. McCoy would pass the hand held feinberg over the person's body, and, presto he'd know what was wrong.

Now science has caught up with science fiction - again. George Rinard, Dale Seffen and Ronald Sturm of the Denver Research Institute, have invented the closest thing to a feinberg the medical world has yet seen.

The trio has proposed building a battery-powered "hand-held vital-signs monitor," using hybrid integrated-circuit technology they recently invented. Its anticipated final form, Rinard says, will be no bigger than a large, conventional, hand-held calculator - maybe 7 by 18 by 3cms - and would weigh about the same. It would have three chest electrodes as well as a temperature-monitoring thermistor.

The monitor's LCD display would show any one of four functions: body temperature (in either degrees Centigrade or Fahrenheit), heart-beat rate (per minute), and blood pressure.

Rinard says the actual hand-held device hasn't been built yet, because he and his two colleagues weren't contracted to do that. "Right now though," he adds, "the institute is talking with several companies interested in commercially producing the monitor."

The above quote was sent in by Malita Edwards. Thanks to the others who also mentioned it.

I've heard that THE ELECTRIC THEATRE SHOW shown on Westward March 12th showed part of the Klingon battle scene from ST-TMP. I am only guessing but I think it might have been this programme that had an interview with William Shatner. I believe they also showed an interview with Leonard Nimoy in the same programme. - Russell Willmott.

The Local Government Chronicle a few months back had an interesting cover. There was a drawing of the Enterprise with housing block below her. Two speech squares were above the houses. "Hey you in the funny clothes.... Wanna buy your own gas centrally heated council house on a thirty year mortgage?...." "Beam me up Scotty!!!!" - Kelly Mitchell

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ZINE ADS

CAPTAIN'S LOG 12 £1, A PLACE TO RETURN TO (reprint of 'Shattered Dream' & 'Second Chance') £1.50. Prices include p&p. Cheques/POs made payable to Sylvia Billings, at 49 Southampton Road, Far Cotton, Northampton, NN4 9EA, England.

BRITISH FANZINES You can now obtain a flyer giving details of currently available British Star Trek Fanzines by sending a SASE (9"x 4") to Sylvia Billings, 49 Southampton Road, Far Cotton, Northampton, NN4 9EA.

ZINES: BY POPULAR REQUEST!

4th reprint of ANGRY SUNSET by Jenny Elson. The story of McCoy's marriage and divorce. PLEASE STATE THAT YOU ARE OVER 16. Price £1.

THOUGHTS OF LOVE A K/S poetry zine. Contributions from Sue Meek, Tina Pole and Janet Balch. Price 75p.

From T & J Elson, 11 Woburn Close, Wigston Magna, Leicester, LE8 1XB

ZENITH 2, genzine, approximately 75 pages. Available at the end of March from:- Susan Meek, 314 Coach Road, Est., Washington, Tyne & Wear, NE37 2EZ or Tina Pole, 11F Prior's Terr., Tynemouth, Tyne & Wear, NE3 2AB. Price £1.00 + 32p p&p 1st class, 26p second class.

SAURIAN BRANDY DIGEST - Sylvia Stanczyk, 1953 East 18th St. Erie, PA 16510 USA. Several issues available. Addressed envelope and 2 IRCs for info on availability and prices, which vary from \$2.50 airmail to \$4.50 airmail.

SOUTHERN STAR 5 - Rebecca Hoffman, 205 Pine St, Greer, SC 29651, USA. This is an SF-orientated zine which includes Star Trek. This is a very good zine for anyone who likes SF as well as ST. Issue 5 is \$6.00 first class, USA & Canada, \$7.50 Australia & Europe.

STARBIRD - due May, a SF zine including some Star Trek. Starbird, 41410 Whittier, Hemet, CA 92343, USA. Addressed envelope and 2 IRCs for info on price.

UNIVERSE 3 - a genzine set around a fan developed set of planets. Containing a sequence from Thunder Agents: Invasion, by Swinae/Karlos/Panucci/Tam/Jones, Anathoth by Panvac, The Winds of Space by Jones and Austin, and a poem by Linda Knights.

If any members of STAG are interested in general SF, they are looking for new writers constantly. For more info concerning Universe 3 please contact Davey Jones, PO Box 3370, Ft. Stewart, Ga 31314, USA. Foreign price, \$3.50 surface, \$5.84 airmail. Publication date for Universe 3 is/was set for the end of February.

SPIN DIZZIE - Marilyn Johansen, 11424 Kensington, Eden Prairie, MN 55344, USA. Addressed envelope and 2 IRCs for info. We know nothing about this zine but have been asked to advertise it.

NEXUS 5 - we plan to bulk order this as soon as we get a price on it. An excellent issue. For anyone wanting to order direct, SASE (envelope and IRCs) to Marty Barquinero, EE2 Irongate Apts, Beverly, NJ 08010, USA.

UNIVERSAL TRANSLATOR - a newsletter listing zines in print, with reviews and comments. Subs, USA \$3.75 for 3 issues; Europe, \$5.70 for 3 issues; Pacific, \$6.45 for 3 issues. This is an excellent production. Make cheques payable to Rose Marie Jakubjansky, 39-84 48th St, Long Island City, NY 11104, USA.

FORUM - a newsletter listing zines, etc. Subs, USA \$6.75 for 9 issues; Europe, \$12.00 for 9 issues. Cheques to KathE Donnelly - Forum, 6302 South Spotswood Street, Littleton, CO 80120, USA. We haven't seen this one so don't know what quality it is; they've only just got in touch with us.

The last four issues in the now discontinued GROPE series are still available. These are recommended reading for any adult Trek fan with a sense of humour. Not all the stories are funny but you certainly need a sense of humour to appreciate the ones that aren't.

Issues available: Son of Grope, Deep Grope, The Gropes of Roth, King Grope.

Price: £1 each including postage within U.K.

By popular request I am in the process of compiling a zine containing selected material from the original GROPE and followup, MORE GROPE. This will be ready soon after Easter and is tentatively entitled GROPE: FLASHBACK. To help defray costs advance orders are already being taken @ £1.20 U.K., \$6.00 USA airmail, \$5.00 USA surface. It will contain the usual sordid stuff and, as usual, be in the worst possible taste. Book now to beat the rush. All orders and enquiries to: Anne Looker, "The Forge", 41 Main Street, Weston Turville, Aylesbury, Bucks.

The 1st ALNITAH OMNIBUS is now ready

Contains reprinted material from ALNITAH 1 - 4. It's a beautiful zine!!

Cost £1.25 UK, \$6.00 USA airmail, \$5.00 USA surface. Orders to Joyce Cluett, 3 Antona Close, Raunds, Wellingborough, Northants, NN9 6EA or to Margaret Draper, "The Lodge", Wantage Rd., Nr. Didcot, Oxon. OX11 0JT.

COMING SOON - TRIBBLE TREK-THE MOTION PICTURE. A short tribblization by Gene Tribbleberry - Transcribed by the humanoid Tina W. Pole. Incl. actual movie stills by Robin Hill. A limited propagation. S.A.E. to Ms T.W. Pole, 11F Priors Terrace, Tynemouth, North Shields, Tyne & Wear, NE30 4BE for further details.

FRONTIER WORLDS 2 25p incl p&p. Contains Paxidan Influence pt.2, Liberator article, Paradox pt.2, new ST Story, 'The Master of Cythulu IV', Enterprise & Devisor - 'Log Entries', prize competition. Frontier Worlds, 25 Woodville Drive, Sale, Cheshire, M33 1NF
Frontier Worlds.... a Bandros Production.

All zine ads are printed as we get them. We make no editorial comment unless clearly specified.

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SMALL ADS

Charge 5p per line (approx 12 words). Send to Janet. British stamps are acceptable.

FOR SALE: Starsky and Hutch magazines 1-27 complete, 29, 30 and 31. All in mint condition, £6 (inclusive of postage & packing) Also C90 cassette of the episode "Gillian" £1. Please contact Lynette Percy, 3 Cedar Crescent, Huyton, Liverpool, Merseyside L36 5UP.

FOR SALE: VIDEO TAPES, on Philips 1700 or VHS format.

Conquest of the Planet of the Apes £22

Battle for the Planet of the Apes £22

1 hr tape containing clips and interviews from:

Superman-The Movie

Alien

Star Trek-The Motion Picture only £15

AUDIO TAPES: Planet of the Apes (1968) £5

Beneath, Escape, Conquest, Battle For.... Apes @ £4 each

Star Trek-The Motion Picture £5

Superman-The Movie £5

Close Encounters of the 3rd Kind £5

Dark Star £5

Starsky and Hutch (pilot) £3

Starsky and Hutch (The Set Up) £3

The Prisoner (Once Upon A Time and Fall Out) £3

For complete list of Video and Audio tapes, send SAE to: Ian Baker, 43b, Edmund Rd., Southsea, Hants, PO4 0HZ or tel: Portsmouth (0705) 732385 any day 6-8pm

FOR SALE: S&H novels 1-8 as new. S&H Mags 6-33, S&H fold-out posters 1+15, Job lot S&H pics, mostly Starsky. Also newspaper clips, British and American. Hulk fold-out poster, Battlestar Galactica Comic, (Marvel) Starburst nos 9, 14+17, Starlord nos. 2-21, 2000AD 97-125, 128-153. Also summer specials. Enquiries and offers to:- Lorraine Goodison, 'Helenslea', High Street, Burrelton, Perthshire.

WANTED: Audio cassette recordings of William Shatner on "Parkinson", "Clapperboard" and "Open House" - any any other material about him. Good prices paid. Nicky Croxford, Runnel Oaks, Thicknall Lane, Clent, Nr. Stourbridge, W Midlands.

WANTED: Urgently on video tape. Any format. For duplication. Any (reasonable) hire charge paid. ST: "A Private Little War", Persis' interview on SWAP SHOP on 15/12/79, "Film 79's" preview of ST-TMP on 10/12/79, any of the TV adverts. Audio recordings of Bill on Capital Radio's "Michael Aspel Show", Bill and Leonard Capital's "Mummy's Weekley", any radio adverts and any other TV or radio-video or audio tapings. Reply to Robert McCabe, 24, Downing Close, Harrow, Middx., HA2 6QQ

WANTED: Anything on the "CHIPS" TV programme, including photos, badges, magazines or articles. Anything reasonable paid. Sue Winn, 12 Lemington Grove, Bracknell, Berkshire.

WANTED: Could anyone who knows where I can definately get the AMT model kit of the Enterprise (series) please let me know. I will be very grateful. I have a tape recording of Bill Shatner on "Open House". If anyone would like a copy they can have one, just send a cassette plus return postage to: Terry Bunting, The Green, Edgefield, Melton Constable, Norfolk, NR24 2AL

WANTED: 8x10 glossy b/w cu photos of the young Richard Greene, Ian Ogilvy and Christopher Cazenove. Does anyone know any reliable British companies which might have pictures of them? Mary Manchester, 1297 Monroe Avenue, Rochester, NY 14620 USA

FOR SALE: Audio tapes C90. Complete 'Star Trek' episodes - two per tape. Also interviews with the "Star Trek-The Motion Picture" cast, taken from "Swap Shop", "Film 79" and "Clapperboard". £2.50 each, postage paid. Cliff Woodhouse, 95 Dayton Road Hull, HU5 5TE.

WANTED: Any STAR TREK zines. Please send list with prices to Katy Deery, 14 Whitchurch Road, Harold Hill, Romford, Essex, England

- FOR SALE:** Transporter control console. Full scale mock up. Accurate to last detail. Rigged for lights. Write or phone for photo. Ross Carter, 29 Castle Road, Southsea, Ports, Hants. PO5 3DE Tel: Ports 29589
- FOR SALE:** Video tapes for Phillips 1700 and VHS machines. Episodes available: Balance of Terror, Naked Time, Mudd's Women, Menagerie 1 & 2, Space Seed, Corbomite Maneuver, The Apple, etc. Also Dark Star, Goodbye Girl, Kojak, Making of Starwars, Close Encounters. 29 Castle Road, Southsea, Ports, Hants, PO5 3DE. Tel: Ports 29589
- FOR SALE:** Colour Photographs, 5"x3½" - 50p each, plus post 12p. Blakes Seven: Avon (10); Cally (1); Vila (1); Blake's 7 group (1); Bill Shatner in "Disaster On The Coastliner (4); Robin Williams in "Mork & Mindy" (1). Miss Sandra J. Ferriday, 104 Stockton Road, Hartlepool, Cleveland, TS25 1RP
- FOR SALE:** Colour Badges 2½" metal, with real photograph. 60p each, post: per 3 = 14p; per 6 = 17p. Paul Darrow-Avon(1); Robin Williams-Mork(1); Chris Reeve as himself(1); Cpt. Kirk(6 diff); Mr. Spock(3 diff); David Soul-Hutch(6 diff); Paul Glaser-Starsky(6 diff). Allow 3 weeks to be made up. Sandra J. Ferriday, 104 Stockton Road, Hartlepool, Cleveland, TS25 1RP.
- WANTED:** The zine "DEATHDANCE", and also a copy of the TREK:KIRK SPECIAL issue, in good condition, please state prices required. Karen Hayden, 61 Sandyleaze, Elmbridge, Gloucester, GL2 0PX.
- WANTED:** ENTERPRISE INCIDENTS 1 & 3
TREK 3-7, 9, 11
Please state price.
Christine Miles, 101 Mayplace Road West, Bexleyheath, Kent.
- WANTED:** 1979 STAR TREK CALANDER. Will pay £2 or £3. If anyone can send me one I'll also pay postage to send it. Please contact: Sandra Rose, 40 Haig Avenue, Gillingham, Kent.
- WANTED:** Anything on 1974 SF film "Zardoz" - Anything at all. Prices paid, etc. Postage refunded. Roger Mitchell, 14 Powis Court, Powis Square, London W11 1JQ
- FOR SALE:** 1000's of STAR TREK items for sale including - Badges, T-shirts, Key Rings, Beer matts, posters and magazines, we also make to order. Why not send off today for our free catalogue. Send an S.A.E. (8½"x6½") to Powerpulse Productions, 121 Princess St; (3rd floor), Manchester, M17AG
- WANTED:** For a passionate Shatner fan. Absolutely anything on Bill Shatner. Write to Mrs Sylvia Fontana, 62 Whitewebbs Way, St Pauls Cray, Orpington, Kent. I would also like to meet other Shatner fans. I am 22.
- FOR SALE:** Seven episodes of 'The Invaders' on VHS cassettes. Good quality picture. Can re-record more cassettes if necessary.
Also the films THEM, THE QUATERMASS EXPERIMENT, EARTH II, JOURNEY TO THE FAR SIDE OF THE SUN, RED ALERT, A FISTFULL OF DOLLARS and ½ hr documentary THE UNIVERSE. Over 50 episodes of STAR TREK available on audio cassette, plus several sci-fi plays including Asimov's FOUNDATION TRILOGY.
I am also considering recording future STAR TREK episodes on U-matic video cassettes which are suitable for use as master tapes. Anyone interested in acquiring copies on VHS please contact me. Peter Donger, 98 Empire Road, Winhill, Burton-on-Trent, Staffs.
- FOR SALE:** 3-dimensional pendant hologram of pyramid with chain, diameter 1½ inches. £12.80 + p&p. Ian Senior, Woburn Hill, Addlestone, Weybridge, Surrey, KT15 2QQ Phone Weybridge 55225.
- FOR SALE:** SCIENCE FICTION PHOTOS, 8"x10" b/w and colour photographs from favourite television shows. SAE for free catalogue to Mike Wild, c/o 98 Toxteth Street, Higher Openshaw, Manchester, M11 1EZ
- WANTED:** Anything to do with MISSION IMPOSSIBLE. Stephen Peters, Wright Robinson Hall, Altrincham St., Umist, Manchester.

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NEW AND FORTHCOMING MERCHANDISESTAR TREK: THE MOTION PICTURE BLUEPRINTS Wallaby, \$6.95.

These consist of 14 sheets of exquisite line drawings, contained in a vinyl case. The first 5 sheets concern the 'new' Enterprise. There are 4 sheets of various elevations and 1 sheet about the bridge layout. This last sheet is rather lacking in detail, showing only broad outlines of the stations.

The next 4 sheets concern the Klingon Drell-4 Battle Cruiser. Again, there are various elevations and a bridge layout. The bridge is, I think, rather fascinating to look at and, as with all things Klingon, purely functional.

The next 2 sheets are of the long range shuttlecraft seen carrying Spock in the movie. These will be especially helpful for anyone planning to build the shuttle (like me).

The next 2 sheets show the Work 'Bee' and some of its attachments. It is a pity that this craft was only briefly shown on the film.

The last sheet illustrates the travel pod which conveyed Scotty and Admiral Kirk to the Enterprise.

All in all, these prints are very good, well drawn and with the illustrations of each craft come notes on specifications, function etc. I was disappointed to see that there were no drawings of the dock, the Earth Orbit Station or the Epsilon 9 Station, but perhaps they will be out later. Ian Pearce.

STAR TREK SPACEFLIGHT CHRONOLOGY by Stan & Fred Goldstein Wallaby \$8.95

I must say I thoroughly enjoyed this publication. It gives a fascinating account of the development of spaceflight from 1957 to 2201; from Sputnik 1 to the new Enterprise. It has just under 200 pages, many with illustrations, some in full colour.

The time period covered is divided into sections of 25 years. Each section starts with an 'overview', a brief account of major events of the era. Next come four pages illustrating major ship advances and noting important dates and events. Then some several pages illustrated with full colour pictures of the representative ships of the era. This is followed by a page concerning advances in Stellar exploration during the period. Finally there are six pages covering the most important events, detailing each with an excerpt from the appropriate ship's or institute's log.

Events covered include first contacts with various races, the most amusing being the encounter with the Tellarites; the founding of the UFP; invention of warp drive; the duotronic computer breakthrough, and many more.

In all, a highly imaginative look at the developments that led to the present level of space travel, as well as a brief glimpse at what may happen in the future.

There are omissions; there is no mention of the other starships of the Enterprise's time as illustrated in the Technical Manual, and no account of the encounter with V'ger; but nevertheless, I thoroughly recommend it (and the blueprints) to anyone who would like a reference source to turn to, and those modellers who would like to build some of the craft we saw on the big screen, and some that weren't. In fact, I'd recommend it to all who like STAR TREK, and many who don't! Ian Pearce.

25mm MODELS OF STAR TREK CAST Citadel Miniatures Ltd

In my last Starburst issue I observed an advertisement by Citadel Miniatures Ltd. They produce miniatures of different periods, Spacefarers, Fantasy, Dark Ages, Fiend Factory, Gangsters and now Star Trek. The models are made from lead based white metal which is so soft you could dent them with a finger nail. I must however warn you that because of the high content of lead in these models, they must be kept from children otherwise lead poisoning will result, especially if children take to bite-testing them.

As to accuracy of the details on these models, the uniforms are quite good. Things like phasers, tricorders and communicators etc are not good at all, but if you are good at modelling and very patient then you could shape them to look more accurate. As far as the main characters (Kirk, Spock, McCoy, Scotty through to Ilia and Decker) are concerned again there is only a passing resemblance at best. There is also some caricaturising, ie heads and arms very slightly large for the body but not so much as to ruin their looks. You must take into account their size. In modelling of any kind this is always the deciding factor in the amount of detail that can be applied. These models of this kind are unpainted and more often than not have burrs on them (surplus metal) which must be removed to increase detail.

These models would look good in diaramas. These are a combination of scaled models and modelled landscapes (ie fields, forests, farms, battlefields etc). I suggest you look at some model catalogues that can be obtained from model shops - I suggest Tymia as a good example, they show good examples on the back of their catalogues. There are two main types of diarama, a) war games and b) static display. The former can be at least an acre in size,

and the latter can be at least five inches square. On the whole, these miniatures are a good buy (50p for two figures). I strongly recommend them even though as stated above the detail lags behind a bit. I suggest you buy one or two packs before buying the whole range in case you decide you don't like them. If you do like them and wish to make a bridge scene then write to Citadel Miniatures - if they get enough response they may make sitting down models too. Mark Higginson.

STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE 'ANNUAL' Marvel Comics Group £1.95

This is a reprint of the movie comic reviewed in N/L 39. The artwork has not improved with familiarity and is still a distraction. However, the book, which is hardbacked, has beautiful cover illos (stills from the movie), the front being of Kirk, Spock and Ilia with the Enterprise above, and the back the group of Kirk, Spock, McCoy, Decker & Ilia with the Enterprise in a pink cloud above them. The centre eight pages have short biographies of the main characters, with photos, an article about the production of the movie, a quick run-down on the lay-out of the ship and some of the armament, all illustrated with stills from the movie. All this is different from the factual data in the paper-back comic. None of the information is new to the established fan. However, it's probably worth getting for the stills even if you aren't a collector. Sheila.

STAR TREK MAKE-A-GAME BOOK by Bruce Nash & Greg Nash. Wanderer \$6.95

There is no time for delay! The Klingons are approaching! The Enterprise must be saved! You must save it! Hurry - there's not a microsecond to lose! It's just a pity that the excellent still of the 'approaching' Klingon shows it moving away... The game is quite simply to see which man can reach the bridge first with six deflector shield pieces. The playing parts are punched out of the book, which includes a thick paper 'board', and for the money it hardly seems worth the effort - though I haven't in fact tried playing it; the game might in fact be quite interesting. There are several excellent stills in the book, though unfortunately some of them are in reverse. It is probably unfair to judge this item from an adult point of view, though, as it is clearly intended for children - assuming they have the money to buy it. Would anyone who has actually played this game care to send in a comment on it for next N/L? Sheila.

STAR TREK - THE USS ENTERPRISE BRIDGE PUNCH-OUT BOOK Lokvig/Murphy Wanderer \$5.95

As the title indicates, the parts to assemble the bridge are punched out of the not-very-thick cardboard pages of this book. Janet has started work on assembling it, and says that provided you have patience, it's easy enough, though some of the bits need careful trimming to smooth out the bits. There are figures for all the main bridge characters, all very carefully named although in fact the likenesses, although not perfect, are reasonable. (Even though Decker is named as Kirk and vice versa). Apart from the front cover, this book does not have any stills which is possibly why it's cheaper in comparison. It does seem to be better value for money than the Make-a-Game book. Sheila.

STAR TREK PEEL-OFF GRAPHICS BOOK Lee Cole Wallaby \$6.95

This book is a considerable disappointment. It includes many logos that we never saw in the movie (or the series!) and which appear to have been made up for the purpose of being included in the Graphics Book - Officer's door insignias, store room signs, etc. Not even a particularly interesting book for the collector of ST related trivia. Sheila.

PERRY'S PLANET by Jack C. Haldeman Bantam \$1.75

When I first saw the author of this book was the brother of Joe Haldeman, I must admit to having reservations. (I still haven't recovered from World Without End). Thankfully, Jack C. Haldeman is a much better author than his little brother. 'Perry's Planet' is one of the best ST novels yet.

Although the cover shows someone (Kirk, I think) in a movie uniform, the story is set during the 5-year mission. In the first couple of chapters the Enterprise is attacked twice by a nasty Klingon called Korol, who uses a new weapon to do so. He also announces he has taken a blood oath to kill Kirk in revenge for his brother's death. (I could have wished for some detail as to why Korol thought this worthy of requiring revenge - Sheila) Our requisite heroine turns up, but don't worry, she's not as bad as some of them.

Kirk, understandably worried, is diverted from yet another well-earned R & R (doesn't he ever get any R & R?) and is sent to Perry on a diplomatic mission. The founder of this colony, who should have died 300 years ago, is apparently alive and well when Kirk and Co. beam down. This is when the fun starts.

Apparently the people of Perry's planet are all very peaceful, but this is caused by a special virus. Only trouble is, Sulu infects the whole crew with the virus, so no-one can commit a violent act without collapsing half-dead!

Interested? Well, next thing is - Korol turns up again, Uhura and Davis (our heroine) are kidnapped by some unsavoury characters, and Kirk and Spock run into trouble when they try to find out just who and what Perry is. The dilithium crystals are failing fast, Korol is about to blow up the Enterprise, Spock has a bit of trouble with a computer, when...

Read it!

All in all, Perry's Planet is a good, entertaining novel, with more than the usual character interplay. I got the feeling someone had at last listened to the fans, because there is some of the relationship between Kirk and Spock. There is a new character, but she does not intrude much, she doesn't fall into anyone's arms, and by the end of the story I quite liked her. The book keeps going at a good pace, and there are lots of good exchanges between the main characters. Scotty has a hilarious time discovering a new dance - the Klingon Two-Step...

If you want to know more, folks, look for the book! Lorraine Goodison.

CHEKOV'S ENTERPRISE by Walter Koenig

To write a review of this very amusing book would be almost impossible but for my trusty dictionary (I can't spell).

Walter Koenig's Journal is a book that I enjoyed to the point of exhaustion. Many parts of this book are hilarious, many are sad and many also make you look to the future for a follow-up which he is quite obviously looking forward to.

To say that Chekov's Enterprise will make you cry with laughter would be an understatement. (I did, which is why I'm exhausted.) Walter Koenig has a talent for writing and a sense of humour to match. He can appreciate the things that happened during the time that ST-TMP was being made. It can be amazing how many people are fans of Star Trek and in this book you would be amazed at who are fans of whom.

After reading this book once, you will most definitely want to read it again and again, which to my mind spells a very good book. There is a quotation by Francis Bacon (1561 - 1626) that expresses my feelings about this book exactly.

"Some books are to be Tasted, others to be Swallowed, and some few to be Chewed and Digested; that is, some Books are to be read only in Parts; others to be read but not Curiously; and some few to be read wholly, and with Diligence and Attention."

Chekov's Enterprise belongs in the last category, to be read with careful attention, to be read slowly, and enjoyed. Carole Hume.

STAR TREK - THE POP-UP BOOK Lokvig/Murphy Wanderer \$4.95

The book consists of five pop-up illos and four 'moving' illos which between them illustrate the story of the movie. Very much a book for young children - I'd say pre-school - and in my opinion rather over-priced for this age group - I wouldn't pay that for a kiddie's play-book considering how quickly it would be torn. The first pop-up (of the Klingons) is probably the most effective - none of the others seem to be as well constructed and jam to some degree (at least in the copy I'm reviewing). However, one of the Klingon ships is designed in such a way that optical illusion reigns supreme - whichever way you look at it it looks upside down (at least to me).

Of passing interest to a youngster, otherwise an item only for keen collectors. Sheila.

THE HUMAN FACTOR Peter Pan Records, Newark, NJ, USA. 79c.

A children's record; a ST story, no author indicated and voices bearing only a minimal resemblance to the real thing. The story itself is a fairly simple one involving Uhura's kidnap by the Ambassador of a race newly joined the Federation. The reason and solution are straightforward. About par for the course for this type of record.

Worth getting for the sleeve - front, very nice head/shoulders, Spock, profile, watching Kirk who is wearing his white shirt, and it's even right way round. Back, four small prints, one of Kirk/Spock/McCoy and one of the group consisting of Kirk, Spock, McCoy, Scotty, Sulu, Uhura, Chapel & Rand, both publicity stills, a general shot of the bridge (Kirk and Sulu are recognisable, but the navigator doesn't seem to be either Ilia or Di Falco) and the fourth is a repeat of the one on the front. This is probably available only in the States. Sheila. (It's a 7" 45rpm record.)

STAR TREK COMICS issues 2 & 3 Marvel Comics 40c

These continue and finish the story of the movie yet again. They do seem to be coming out regularly, though. Issue 4 should be an original story. I do hope that it is better illustrated, though. Warkentin's strip in the newspapers here and in the States is far better drawn. Sheila.

STAR TREK - THE MAGAZINE Power Pulse Productions 60p

This is the first magazine of what the editors hope will be a regular one. 16 pages, it is produced in slightly reduced print and contains several articles on the history of both the series and the movie. For the long-term fan there is probably little if anything that is new but the newer fan will find things in it that are, and the articles are well-written and interestingly presented.

I was not too happy with the multi-colour pages - it's printed on grey, mauve and pink paper - but that is a very minor quibble. Sheila.

STAR TREK GREETINGS CARDS The Cambridge Card Company 30p each

This is a set of eight general greetings cards (the wording inside reads simply 'Best wishes') with stills from the movie. There is the one of Kirk in admiral's uniform standing beside Spock with McCoy leaning against the console at Spock's other side (Spock sitting); one of Spock at his console (standing), a standard publicity shot; one of Kirk about to speak into his communicator standing in front of V'ger; two straight shots of the Enterprise and one of her moving away from a sort of explosion (meant to be coming out of warp drive?); one of Kirk and Spock, H/S, under the Enterprise; and the last one is of the group, Kirk, Spock, McCoy, Decker and Ilia under the Enterprise with a pink cloud effect surrounding her. The last two also are shots I've seen several times. They are rather nice, and at 30p a card, about standard for price nowadays. I got this set from Andromeda, and haven't seen them for sale anywhere. Sheila.

THE U.S.S. ENTERPRISE PUNCH-OUT BOOK Lokvig/Murphy Wanderer \$5.95

Similar to the Bridge Punch-out book, this provides a model Enterprise that can be made up without using glue, paste or scissors. All you need is patience. It looks as if it might be rather fun; and if, like me, you don't have any space left to stand it on anything, it even provides anchors for hanging it up as a mobile. Sheila.

THE BEST OF TREK 2 Signet \$1.95

A second book of articles reprinted from the magazine Trek, edited by Walter Irwin and G.B. Love. I can't help feeling that the title is a misnomer. If they put out a 'Best of Trek' 3, they will just about have reprinted every article that was ever printed in Trek. At the same time, their articles do show signs of deep thought on the part of the writers. (The fact that I don't agree with half of them is beside the point, the thought is there. The book is probably an excellent starting-off point for many a discussion both on aired Trek and on fan speculation regarding Kirk, Spock, Vulcan, Starfleet...)

If you have all the copies of Trek, it probably isn't worth your while getting this book; you'll have all the articles. If you don't, then it is worth getting to fill in the gaps. On the other hand, even if you do have all the Treks, this book is still a good collection of interesting articles selected, it seems, for maximum thought-provokingness. Sheila.

OFFICIAL STAR TREK TRIVIA BOOK Pocket Books' \$2.25

Paperback book of ST trivia questions and answers. Includes some b/w stills from the series. All questions are based on the series and there are summaries of the episodes.

STAR TREK POSTERS from Sales Corporation of America, 350 Townsend St., San Francisco, California 94107, U.S.A.

A) A fantastic full colour poster of the Starship Enterprise printed on mirror finished chome mylar. size 22"x29" Price \$6.00 (very few left)

B) The Enterprise in Deep space in colour complete with the major characters from the Motion Picture. size 22"x 34" price \$3.00

Q A cut-away illustration of the Enterprise complete in every detail. Printed in full colour. size 22"x 48" price \$3.00

Postage/Handling \$1.00 (British members would be better writing to check) Offer expires June 30th, '80 (from Omni - sent in by Andrea Marven)

Russell Willmott tells us the following:

"Barry and I have noticed that ST-TMP "toys" are slowly beginning to make an appearance in shops. These include 12½" figures of Kirk, Spock, Ilia, Decker, a Klingon and an Arcturian. Also available are 3 3/4" figures of Kirk, Spock, McCoy, Decker, Scotty and Ilia plus 6 aliens, including a Klingon. None of these figures really do justice to the likeness of the characters but they could be a lot worse.

The shops are expecting a lot of ST-TMP orientated items soon."

Jean Donkin also send us info on the figures which she got from a comic.

STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE on 8mm film.

Starrwood Films Ltd., 12 Western Road, Folly Bridge, Oxford have given us the following information: 3 x 400ft Colour/Sound @ £89.95 + £1.20 p&p
12 min Colour/Sound @ £25.95 + £0.50 p&p

Release date for the 12 min Promotional Reel is given as March 15th, with the 3 x 400ft version to follow approx 4-8 weeks later. They advise you order in advance.

We've been in touch with Regent Films, P.O. Box 54, Blackpool, FY1 1SP who we order all our films from and they say that they will be stocking any ST-TMP films. They are expecting the 400ft version soon but say there is nothing definite yet about the 3 x 400ft reel version as plans for it keep being changed.

Regent also tell us that STAR TREK episodes are being released on video over here. There will be two episodes per tape, costing about £30. We'll let you know when we have more details on this.

Thanks to David Noone for telling us about Starrwood Films. Russell Willmott give us another address of a firm who will be selling the 12 min version. Quality Products (Romford Ltd.), Dept FM/4, 43 Victoria Road, Romford, Essex, RM1 2DD.

MODEL KIT of the NEW ENTERPRISE as advertised in STARLOG

Eric Lynn sent us this info on Feb. 14th: "I just thought you may be interested in some info" I obtained last weekend at the "British Toy and Hobby Fair" at Earls Court, On display was a model of the new 'Enterprise'. I knew there was one available in the U.S. after reading 'Monsters' magazine a few weeks ago, and I've been trying to get hold of one ever since. Anyway, I had a chat with a very helpful person from 'Lesney/Matchbox' who will be distributing the 'A.M.T.' kit.

"The model is 22" long and comes complete with the lighting kit so the primary and secondary hulls can be illuminated. It also features metallic shimmery effect decals for the inside faces of the warp engines, impulse engines, and photon torpedo tubes. It will be available in May and will sell for around £9.45. Also due for release in September will be the 'Amar' Klingon battle cruiser (movie version) and the Vulcan shuttle, 'Surak'. Both will sell for about £5.50-£6.00.

Paramount have only given merchandising rights for these 3 models, further-kits may be produced if a sequel is made.

Actually the 'Enterprise' kit was due for release here in December, to tie-in with the launch of the film, but the demand for the kit in America was so great, A.M.T. broke their contract with Lesney/Matchbox and decided to keep all kits destined for export, for the home market." Source of information: Lesney/Matchbox Representative.

Kamaljit Singh Dulai and Margaret Richardson also gave us info on the Enterprise model.

FUTURA Richard Bracewell gives us the following info from the new Futura catalogue.
Release Dates

Feb 1st - STAR TREK SPEAKS @ £1.00

Feb 29th - THE OFFICIAL BLUEPRINTS (ST-TMP) @ £2.95

Feb 29th - THE MONSTERS OF STAR TREK @ 75p; THE GREAT ST TRIVIA BOOK @ 95p

Apr 30th - THE MAKING OF ST-TMP @ £3.25; ST-TMP (A PHOTOSTORY) @ £1.75

Apr 30th - CHEKOV'S ENTERPRISE @ 95p; THE ST SPACEFLIGHT CHRONOLOGY @ £3.75 (full version?)

LYONS MAID ST ICE LOLLIES

If you are having trouble getting these you may be interested in the following extract from a letter sent to us by Mrs D. Barr, Manager, Consumer Services, Lyons Maid Ltd. "Our stocks of Star Trek lollies throughout the country are very good and there is no apparent reason why these products are not available in our dealers shops and we can only assume it is because dealers are not placing orders for them. Perhaps we could suggest that your members contact their local dealers asking them to place the orders on their behalf."

STAR TREK POSTER Athena are selling a poster which is the same as the Lyons Maid one, but without the lollies and places for the cards.

A STAR TREK WARGAME will be available in a couple of months. It contains dioramas with different races such as the Federation, Klingons, Gorn, Kzinti and Romulans and should cost about £7-£8. - Ian McManus

Mark French tells us that the Games Workshop, 1 Dalling Road, Hammersmith, London W.6 has in stock some STAR TREK wargames; STARFLEET BATTLES, STAR FLEET BATTLE MANUAL, both £3.95 and ST figures based on the movie, two for 50p. Postage is 10% of your order. They do other ST items so enclose SAE for details.

WEETABIX Keep an eye open for the special S.T. Weetabix packets. There are 18 action cards to collect including Kirk, Spock, McCoy, Scott, Uhura, Chekov, Sulu, Decker, Ilia and aliens. Family and Giant size packets feature 2 make'n'play-sets from ST-TMP and 2 cut-out ST Spaceships, the Enterprise and Klingon Cruiser. There is also a poster which you can order for £1.25. There is a TV advert for Weetabix which includes clips from the movie. (info Jean Donkin and Sylvia Vallentin.)

CITADEL MINIATURES LTD., Newark Folk Museum, 48 Millgate, Newark, Nottinghamshire.
Tel: 0636 77495. (further details)

25mm miniatures, 2 in a packet price 50p, 24 different packets available. Main cast and aliens from the movie. Mail order charges, UK please add 10% p&p. (minimum 10p: Post free over £10) Overseas: please add 33% p&p. S.S.A.E for full lists, S.S.A.E. plus 25p in stamps for sample figure and full lists.

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BOOKSHOPS

We recommend the following bookshops which all give excellent mail order service. We used to list what each shop had in stock but with so many ST books available it isn't really feasible for us to do this any more. We suggest you write to the shops, enclosing a SASE and ask for a list of the ST books they have in stock. Andromeda is at most of the ST conventions so a lot of you already know Rog Peyton. Perry. In fact all the bookshops with the exception of DARK THEY WERE... have been represented at ST cons.

Andromeda Book Co. 57 Summer Row, Birmingham, B3 1JJ

Dark They Were And Golden Eyed 9-12 St. Anne's Court, London W1

Forbidden Planet, 23 Denmark Street, London WC2

Science Fiction Bookshop, 40 West Crosscauseway, Edinburgh, Scotland

The Bookshop, (East Sheen), 233 Upper Richmond Road West, London, SW14 8QS

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FOR THE LATEST STAR TREK ITEMS, all at reasonable prices, send SASE to: T & J Elson, 11 Woburn Close, Wigston Magna, Leicester, LE8 1XB

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TOPPS BUBBLE-GUM CARDS

We've had a very good response to the exchange service, and so far have been able to fill all requests. It seems, though, that the gum has been impossible to obtain in some areas so that some of you have not been able to begin collecting. For that reason STAG has bought in a supply, and we can now offer full sets of 88 cards for £2.50, including postage, or \$8.00 including airmail postage and bank charges (USA). Please contact Valerie. Requests will be filled in order of receipt, so please indicate if you are prepared to wait in case we run out of sets.

Thank you to all members who donated cards to the pool, especially to Linda Merryweather. We have heard that the American sets also include 20 stickers, but these don't seem to have been released in Britain.

Don't forget to send all correspondence concerning the cards and orders for them to Valerie. If you send them to another committee member they will be delayed.

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A DAY TO REMEMBER or WHY DON'T THE ELECTRICIANS STRIKE WHEN YOU WANT THEM TO? (i.e., when you're in the Cafe Royal lift)

Tuesday, December 11 was a day that will definitely live in my memory. I had been able to obtain through my paper, SCREEN INTERNATIONAL, tickets to the Press screening and subsequent reception for "Star Trek - The Motion Picture".

As a devotee of the TV series since its first UK showing in 1969, I had grown up following the exploits of our intrepid heroes. But to actually meet them - well, even in my wildest dreams....

Nevertheless, here I was, following the screening at the Empire, Leicester Square, off to the Cafe Royal to meet - yes - Captain Kirk and the new navigator Ilia. The reception was to be held in the cellars of the restaurant and that, I soon found, was meant literally.

Stepping out of the lift I found myself among racks of vintage wines and in almost total darkness made my way to a small clearing where I could just make out a few people clustered around a table prepared with a buffet lunch and drinks. Seizing a nerve-steadying whisky I melted into the background - not a hard task - and bided my time. When Mr Shatner finally arrived, accompanied by his wife, Marcy, he was easy to spot. Either he had been briefed beforehand on the location or is blessed with precognition - he was dressed in the palest of suits.

As tends to happen at such affairs, our guests had to contend with a barrage of uninformed questions from the attendant Press: "Is Kirk always as cranky as he appears in the film?"; "Didn't the TV show use to be shown in England?", etc, etc. To digress for a moment, this brings to mind the most inane of all critical comments I have read about the movie - courtesy of Richard Schickel in TIME magazine, who glibly dismissed the phenomenal response to the TV series as "its cult vogue among the half-educated". This for a show which, despite its weaknesses, all my well-educated friends wouldn't miss - although they still seize every opportunity to jibe me about "trekkies". It has never been "in vogue" to admit to ST fandom, as those who meet with the withering glances of friends can testify, but to hit at the fans as Mr Schickel does is, to my mind, to hit below the belt.

Anyway, down from my soapbox, Bill was able to fend off such twaddle with well-practised charm, while also plugging his latest projects, including that dreadfully over-written biography by Marshak and Culbreath and the recently completed "Kidnapping of the President", filmed in his native Canada with Hal Holbrook and Ava Gardner.

Unfortunately, all too soon, the publicists whisked him away for the next stop on his crowded itinerary. I left with SCREEN's film reviewer, Marjorie Bilbow, only to find we were sharing the only lift with...guess who.

You know the familiar fantasy - Who would you most like to get stuck in a lift with? Well, if I could have spirited away five other people and caused a touch of mechanical failure - I could have lived it. As it was, we were soon all in the cold light of day but, to my chagrin, instead of insisting on escorting me back to my office, Bill sped away in a waiting limousine with his all-too-attractive (and petite!) wife.

Nevertheless, a glimpse of that famous "weak-at-the-knees" smile as he stepped back to let us through the swing doors of the restaurant (I think the sight of Marjorie following me into the same section of the doors may have ruined the facade of feminine elegance!) was enough to send me on my way contemplating the stuff of which dreams are made.

On reflection, though, I found myself rather depressed afterwards. This was a combination of, I think, a) how dull my life must be, and b) what do you do for an encore when you've come face to face with a hero who has haunted your steps since adolescence. If anything, I'm afraid that that Tuesday meeting took a bit of magic out of my life which can never be replaced...

LYNDA WILTON

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USED STAMPS

First of all I'd like to thank all the members who have been sending us in used stamps to be passed on for Cancer Research. There are all most welcome. Unfortunately, there are now so many of you sending us stamps that we feel that listing their names would take up just too much space. You know who you are, and to all of you our sincerest thanks.

We're having a change of system regarding the stamps now. Our contact in Dundee has reluctantly decided to give up - she's 80 and frankly is beginning to find the work involved just a little too much. She still has quite a lot of our stamps that I have given her over the last few months and it will take her a while to finish processing these - they have to be trimmed (unless you have already done that) and separated into British definitives, British commemoratives, and foreign, all of which takes time.

She sent me the following letter recently -

Dear Sheila, Just a short note to thank you and your friends for collecting so many stamps for Cancer Research. I am gradually getting through the trimming of them.

I have now contributed well over 100000 stamps to Cancer Research. That is without your last parcel which I am sure will add a few more thousands.

Again, thank you very much. Regards to all. Yours sincerely, Rita.

We can't afford the time to process the stamps ourselves - however, Anne Whitehead, 32 Willowtree Rd., Altrincham, Cheshire, has offered to handle the stamps for us. If you have been in the habit of sending us a few stamps with any letter you send, you can continue doing this, and we'll pass the stamps on to Anne along with our own. However, anyone who means to send in a packet of stamps only, please send them direct to Anne.

We would like to thank Anne very much for taking this job on for us.

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A DREAM COME TRUE by Kay Johnson

Nov 20th: Received a phone call from Gene Roddenberry's office inviting me to the STAR TREK Movie World Premiere in Washington, D.C. on December 6th. Me! Really! Pinched myself to see if I was awake. OUCH! Yes, I'm awake and the call is real. "Yes," I croak. "I can go." My mind is reeling; how can I go? Sell my car for the plane fare? Already making mental lists of what to watch for, who's there, reaction to the movie, etc. List for me to do tomorrow: put an ad in the newspaper to sell my piano...shop for shoes to go with new dress...cut out and sew new dress...come down off Cloud 9... (on second thoughts, can I stay here until after the premiere?)...

Nov. 24th, 7.00a.m.: Sold my piano to the first phone caller. Now I can pay for the plane tickets, but did it have to be so early in the morning?

Dec. 6th: 9.00a.m.: Musings on the plane; why do I feel like Cinderella going to the Ball? Yesterday I was painting a bathroom...today I am on a plane to Washington, D.C. to attend the World Premiere of the STAR TREK movie. Next week I turn in my glass slipper for a paintbrush again and it's back to painting bathrooms. Ah, but there will be the 'Ball' to remember!

Noon: Rich Arnold met my plane and we walked over to USAIR to meet Shirley Maiewski then took the Metro to the hotel. My movie ticket was waiting at the hotel desk as promised - no need to panic now. Visited, ate lunch, pressed my dress, and met the other fans as they arrived. It was like a con. Shirley commented, "Wasn't it nice of Paramount to make this film so we could all get together again?" Shirley had been the subject of a news story by CBS-TV who came to Hatfield to film her at work and home, then again in Washington leaving the hotel, at the premiere, and at the reception. (The spot was shown Saturday Dec 8th on the early evening news, one of the nicest, most lucid, non-exploitative bits of coverage of Trek ever seen on TV.)

6.00p.m.: There were about ten huge busses at the National Air & Space Museum for transporting ticket holders to the MacArthur Theatre (we ten invited fans, other Trek fans who were able to buy tickets, and the general public including members of the National Space Club for whom the premiere was a benefit). How very considerate of the bus driver to go past the White House and the Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials so this tourist could get in a bit of sightseeing. We understood that no one would be allowed to arrive at the theater unless he/she was on one of the busses or in one of the limousines for the VIPs (Gene Roddenberry, et al). As we arrived, we noticed the fans undaunted by the rain waiting outside the theater watching for the arrival of the cast members. The theater appeared to be guarded by TV cameramen, and floodlights were criss-crossing the cloudy sky. This really is a movie premiere and I am really here!

7.30p.m.: Sitting inside the theater one could feel the crackle of nervous energy in the air. Bjo Trimble remarked that if we all concentrated that energy we could lift the theater right off the ground. No doubt we could have done so. John Lent, President of the National Space Club spoke briefly and welcomed us, told us a little of the history of making the movie, then introduced William Shatner who introduced Gene Roddenberry and the cast. He remarked that he and all the cast were there because this was the first time they got to see the movie.

STAR TREK: THE MOTION PICTURE first impressions: the music is magnificent...all the cast members received applause at his or her first appearance on the screen...so did most of the special effects!...no repeats of special effects footage - every one was individually made... Decker held his own with Kirk...where is Rich? Susan? Bjo? Ah, there's Paula; I'll have to see this movie at least ten more times to find everyone in the rec room scene...the end credits - so many names! Bjo is rattling off names of people she knows...tells me Doug Trumbull fought for credit for everyone who even sanded a model. Great! Looks like they are all there.

10.00p.m.: Back to the buses and the Black Tie Reception at the National Air and Space Museum. Our premiere tickets are in four parts: 'Premiere', 'Reception', 'Parking' and 'Admit One' (I never did figure out what the last one was for unless it's a souvenir to keep), Just inside the door a live band is playing the theme music from the movie. This museum is really great; I must come back someday when I have time to really appreciate it. Found the corner where the Enterprise model is hanging. All the cast members are here talking with fans, being interviewed on camera by TV newsmen, signing autographs, and occasionally trying to get a bite to eat or drink. There are about seven or eight tables laden with ham, turkey, cheese, rolls, shrimp, and fancy desserts; also several bars scattered throughout the Reception area are doing a brisk business.

Stephen Collins looks better in person than on the screen and he looks great on the screen. He is charming and friendly, so interested in the fans he talked to, where they came from, how they liked the movie, etc. Persis Khambatta's hair is growing out and she is very beautiful. The men all look very elegant in their tuxes. Oh, how I wish I could have brought my camera but I was advised not to. The official photographers took lots of pictures. Hope they appear in print soon where the fans can see them.

We had heard that the film was being worked on right up until the last possible moment before the premiere and jokes were being batted around like tennis balls that the print at the MacArthur Theater was still wet from processing and was being dried by hand as it was loaded into the projector that evening.

Finally, Gene Roddenberry is free and I get a chance to say 'Thank you'. He gives me a quick hug and a kiss on the cheek. Such a nice gesture and well calculated to keep me off the ground even longer. Perching on Cloud 9 is very, very nice, but it might evaporate out from under me any minute.

Dec. 7th 1.00a.m.: After enjoying the marvellous Reception for about three hours wandering around, talking to the stars, getting autographs, sampling the food, and talking to other fans, we manage to maneuver a ride back to the hotel in one of the limousines. More partying till after 3.00a.m., then to bed and up at 6.30a.m. to catch my plane back to K.C. in order to be home in time to greet my out-of-town guests arriving for our World Space Federation/Cystic Fibrosis Benefit Premiere of the STAR TREK movie at 10.00p.m. Sleep...what is sleep?

There's an empty space in my living room where the piano used to be and I miss it, but it was worth selling it for the miracle trip to Washington to the World Premiere of STAR TREK: THE MOTION PICTURE.

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The next two items are by Doreen Twivey and Linda Hughes, who were on holiday in the U.S.A. when the movie was released. Both did an article on their holiday for the N/L, and ~~we~~ would have liked to print both articles in full. Unfortunately, space does not permit this, so with their agreement we have edited both reports down to the highlights of the trip.

THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE (or...WHAT HIT ME?!) by Doreen Twivey

My first introduction to America was in being met at the Los Angeles Airport by the Trimble family. I won't attempt to describe John or Bjo, or their daughters Katwin and Lora, those who have met them will know that the family can only be experienced, not described. They are delightful people, and anyone who walks into their home, especially Trek fans, are immediately included into their family circle.

One of the first of many surprises (or shocks) which Bjo sprung on me happened just after Linda and I had arrived. Turning round in the front seat of the car, Bjo casually handed me a white envelope and wished me a Merry Christmas. Inside was a card giving the telephone number of Paramount Studio which I had to ring to obtain tickets for a special preview of STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE on December 7th. It turned out that the tickets had already been marked down to my name and I received them within a couple of days.

On arrival at our Motel I received a message to telephone Mae Sanchez, President of the George Takei International Fan Club. Mae told me that she had asked George to meet us and he was free to have a meal with us on the 9th Dec; so within the first 24 hours of our vacation Linda and I found ourselves cancelling our trip to Las Vegas because it clashed with the date of meeting George, and rearranging our dates for visiting San Francisco due to the special preview of the movie.

The main highlight of the vacation for me was the visit to Paramount Studios on Thursday 29th November. Bjo had made arrangements to take Linda, Maco (a Japanese student) and myself to the Paramount Parking Lot where Richard Arnold (friend and asst. to Susan Sackett and Gene Roddenberry) would meet us and give us a guided tour around the premises. Bjo had told Richard that I was a nurse and that my favourite actor is DeForest Kelley.

First we went to the Star Trek Office to meet Susan Sackett and Gene Roddenberry. Susan was extremely busy but managed to find a few minutes to say hello and tell us that Gene would be back in his office about 4pm. Richard then led us to the Stage Lot which housed the sets of the U.S.S. Enterprise. Some of the sets has been dismantled, but we saw the others, and as we left the bridge set I looked up, and who should be walking towards me but DeForest Kelley! I could hardly believe my eyes and couldn't utter a word! He stood smiling for a few seconds and then shook hands with each of us, explaining that he was sorry but he would have to see

us later as he was late for a makeup session, he was being interviewed on television. After the interview was over, De stood talking to the man who had interviewed him for a few more minutes, then started walking away. I just watched him go, wanting so much to talk to De, but I just lacked the courage to approach him. Fortunately, Richard Thompson, a Security Guard I had been talking to, sized up the situation very quickly and gently but firmly guided De to a chair, reminding him that one or two people wanted his autograph. De did not seem to mind, in fact I got the impression that he was a little shy himself. He is definitely a charming man with a warm, gentle personality.

Whilst De was signing autographs, a diminutive figure in a beautiful white coat limped up to him. It was Nichelle Nichols! Again, television and photographs have not done her justice, she is about 5' 1" in height, slim, with black glossy hair, large brown eyes and beautifully smooth skin. When asked why she was limping, Miss Nicholls explained that she had twisted her ankle getting off the plane. De told her to report to sickbay, which brought a responsive smile to her face.

Everyone connected with Star Trek made time to talk to me, being genuine in their interest in that I am a nurse and asking me a little about my work. I did meet the Big Man himself, Gene Roddenberry, and in spite of the fact he had a meeting going on in his office, he came out to spend a few minutes talking to each one of us, and to sign autographs.

Linda and I also had the privilege of meeting Bill Campbell, 'The Squire of Gothos'. Sonni Cooper arranged a visit to the Retired Actors home of which Bill is a Director and an enthusiastic fund raiser - more of that in another STAG issue.

The evening spent with George Takei is another precious memory. I sat next to him at dinner, and he was a delight to be with. George gives his undivided attention to the person he happens to be talking to, and is genuinely interested in other people.

Bjo was very concerned that Linda and I had not visited many tourist spots, but I went to America with the desire of meeting people who enjoyed Star Trek and believed in the IDIC principles as much as I do, and this is what happened. I met many lovely people who did everything they could to make sure my vacation was a memorable one, and should I ever be able to return to the States, it will not be to visit PLACES, but to renew FRIENDSHIPS.

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MY 'FANTASTIC JOURNEY' by Linda Hughes

For 13 years I have dreamed of visiting Los Angeles. In November 1979, I finally got there, and I would like to share some of my experiences with all my friends.

My travelling companion was Doreen Twivey, whom I met through the STAG N/L early in 1979. Our main contact in L.A. was Bjo Trimble, who met us at the Airport, and thereafter became our guide, chaffeuse, friend and 'Auntie'. The first three days were spent driving around the less usual spots in L.A., (the textile areas, etc) and generally attempting to combat the age-old enemy 'jet-lag'. The next day, Thursday 29th November, is the day on which our holiday became more dream-like than real. We were 'informed' that we were being taken to Paramount Studios, where DeForest Kelley was being interviewed, and that it was quite likely that we would meet him there. We did, and I found him to be a very warm, friendly, gentle person who is easy to talk to and has a dry sense of humour, not unlike that of Dr. McCoy. Our tour of the set was a memorable experience. Our guide, Richard Arnold, knowing that I am a Kirk fan, tried to put me in the same places as the Captain would have been in the movie.

While we were in the Sound Stage we also met Nichelle Nichols, who must surely be one of the most beautiful women in the world. She is a very charming and gracious person who willingly stopped for a few minutes to talk to us, although it was obvious that she was in a hurry. Our next call was to meet Henry Winkler on the Happy Days set - the poor man was absolutely shattered, but still found the strength to sign some scripts for us. Our last port of call was to the Star Trek Office, to meet the Great Bird of the Galaxy himself. Mr. Roddenberry took time out from a TV interview to meet us and sign autographs. He is a very tall, broad-shouldered and (dare I say it?) cuddleable - rather like a life-size teddy bear! A very nice man and a true genius. We left Paramount, feeling somewhat dazed and very privileged to have been allowed behind the scenes.

A few days later we were on an aeroplane once more, this time bound for San Francisco, to stay with Sonni and Ralph Cooper, in Hayward. San Francisco's Chinatown is, of course, world famous for jade, and naturally both Doreen and I bought some jade in various different forms. We also visited a local TV station. The show we saw in the making was interesting, of a medical nature and gave me an insight into the 'hows' and 'whys' of television. We returned to Los Angeles on Wednesday 5th Dec, a long but interesting journey, by road.

The following day we visited 20th Century Fox studios, for a quick look round and lunch in the commissary. The studios are what is known as a 'closed studio', meaning that you can only get in by special permission - we considered ourselves very lucky to have been taken inside the gates. From there we went on to visit William Campbell at the TV and Movie Actors' Retirement Home. Mr. Campbell was kind enough to show us around, and spent some time answering our questions.

The next evening was the one we had been waiting for, the Press Showing of STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE and we had been given tickets for the showing in the Samuel Goldwyn Theater, where the 'Oscar' ceremonies are held. This was another marvellous experience, although I must admit that I was a little disappointed at the reaction of the audience - obviously Press People do not act in the same way that we Trek fans do! The evening ended in a sort of 'after Movie' party at an incredible hotel, right out of the 25th century, called the Bonaventure.

Sunday 9th Dec, saw us up quite early and ready to be taken to the Premiere of another SF movie, starring Marcy Lafferty. In the evening we were taken to the apartment of Mae Sanchez for dinner - the guest of honour was George Takei. George is a really nice person, so easy to talk to and he has a great sense of humour.

All dreams have to end, and mine was no exception, but when I arrived home I knew that I had one other thing to look forward to. On the day after our return, I went to the Empire, Leicester Square, with some of my friends, to see STAR TREK.

I would like to thank the following people for their part in making our holiday such a marvellous experience: Bjo, John, Lora, Katwin, Zac & Maco. Sonni & Ralph, Fran & Bob, Susan Stephenson, Mae, Kathy, Sharon, Kay, Richard Arnold & Richard Thompson. Also, my thanks to Bill Campbell, Susan Sackett, Mr. Roddenberry, Mr. Kelley, Miss Nicholls & George Takei. If I have forgotten anyone, please forgive me, and thank you.

Four days later, after travelling approx 12000 miles in an effort to meet William Shatner, I finally caught up with him, at exactly 7.10pm on Wednesday 19th Dec, in the lobby of the Dorchester Hotel, LONDON - 25 miles from my own home! Thank you, Mr. Shatner.

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TERRON ENTERPRISES

Dear fellow members of STAG: On the 28th March I sent an order for one Star Trek Poster Book and two photos to a company called TERRON ENTERPRISES, who abode at 96/98 ALDERNEY ST, LONDON SW1V 4EZ. They claim to be Britain's only Star Trek merchandiser. With this order I sent two British Postal Orders to the amount of £1.25.

In this company's catalogue it stated that the maximum time taken to receive orders is three weeks. Two months after that I wrote to them asking what had happened to my order. As the London postal strike had just finished I thought that perhaps the order had been delayed until the build up of mail had been sorted out. On the 15th May I received a reply from them saying that due to the strike they had been unable to post any orders but that my order would be posted that week.

Three months after that I again wrote to them enquiring about the order. On the 10th August I received a reply saying how sorry they were to hear that my order had not arrived, that they would replace the order which would take about two or three weeks, unfortunately the poster book I wanted was out of stock so would I choose another and send them a further 25p. I wrote back to them saying that I would accept Poster Book 5 instead of 3 but I would not send them any further money; partly because it had cost me about four or five times that amount in my own postage costs between SASE and recorded delivery plus the surcharges on the postal orders themselves. It also occurred to me that I was being charged for the wholesale price of the book. I wasn't sure if they would send the order or not as this money might go the same way as the rest.

For four months I have not heard anything so a few weeks ago I sent them a letter requesting them to send my order or the money as soon as possible; so far no reply has been forthcoming. In view of what happened to me I would not recommend this company to anyone for anything and I should also like to hear from people who have had similar problems with this particular firm.

Anne A. Chalmers.

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Anne wrote to the Sunday Mail about this and has now heard from them that Terron is no longer at this address.

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VOYAGER

Voyager 6 (depicted in ST-TMP) does not yet exist, of course, and does not figure in NASA's future plans at this time. The spacecraft shown, however, is based on the existing Voyagers 1 & 2. These spacecraft were launched on 5/9/77 and 20/8/77 respectively towards the planet Jupiter. (Voyager 2 was launched before Voyager 1 but was overtaken by 1 en route, to arrive at their destination first).

Their mission: to carry out all investigations of the atmospheres and surfaces of the planets Jupiter and Saturn and their moons; by means of TV cameras, spectrometers and magnetometers. Both carry the largest radio (dish) antennae ever flown on a planetary spacecraft so far (twelve feet in diameter).

Voyager 1 reached Jupiter on 5/3/79 and approached to within 277000 km of the cloud tops (Jupiter has no identifiable solid surface). Voyager 2 made its closest approach on 9/7/79, to within 650180 km. Many remarkable photographs have been obtained and in addition Voyager 1 discovered a tenuous ring akin to that surrounding Saturn, and Voyager 2 a hitherto unknown 14th moon.

Both spacecraft will be accelerated towards Saturn on completion of the Jupiter rendezvous, using the massive gravitation attraction of the planet to provide a sling-shot effect. Voyager 1 is due to arrive 12/11/80 and Voyager 2 on 27/8/81. A successful Voyager 2 may continue to Uranus or even Neptune.

Like Voyager 6, Voyagers 1 & 2 communicate by means of radio waves, though unlike 6 they transmit data back directly to Earth. There is no facility for storage and data retrieval later on. Barring accidents, the spacecraft should be able to communicate with Earth for up to 30 years or cut to a distance of 9300 million miles.

I am an Associate Fellow of the British Interplanetary Society and if any member would like any query on Astronautics or Astronomy answered, I will be happy to try to do so. Just write enclosing a SAE for reply (or I might be able to answer them in the STAG N/L if there was room!). Keith D. Pugh, 27 Treetops Drive, Brackendale Estate, Wilkenhall, West Midlands.

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THE SPACE PROJECT

I wish that people were made aware of the optimistic aim of the space project. Most people in Britain and America appear to have become rather bored with the present space project because they do not have the facts.

There is a mistaken belief that billions of dollars are wasted on such a project which could be put to better use here on Earth. The opposite is true. Through weather satellites, droughts and typhoons can be spotted and countless lives saved. Cancer may well be solved through spin-offs of the space project.

No Earthbound effort on its own, without the assistance of the space project, can help us shape a better world.

The problem is that the American space budget has been cut quite substantially.

I am going to put forward a suggestion that at first glance may seem rather far fetched.

Arthur C. Clarke has said that Man might never have gone to the moon if it hadn't been for science fiction convincing people that there might be something in this.

I suggest that travel to the distant reaches of our galaxy to planets with intelligent life will be possible within our lifetime.

The suffragette movement started at the beginning of the century and gradually gained momentum. I suggest that we also can influence the course of history by writing to other STAR TREK groups in Britain and America and asking them to help people to become aware of the facts of the space project.

Anybody who has ever read the science fact books of Isaac Asimov on the possibility of travel to other galaxies in a week by human beings being converted into a beam of tachyons, Adrian Berrie's book 'The Iron Sun', on the possibility of travel to the stars through artificially created 'gravitational whirlpools' (black holes) must be impressed. The space project can also help expand our life spans and, if we can help broaden public interest and awareness of the space project, American Government policies concerning such a venture may well change. These last two factors I have mentioned may result from the fact that many young people may well see the future of STAR TREK become a reality in their lifetime. We must do more than merely predict the future - we must help shape it.

I hope fans will write to experts such as Patrick Moore and ask for their advice, on this topic. If we, the public, can help increase the speed of technological progress who knows what wonderful innovations might occur in the not too distant future. From what I have read on the subject, the space project seems the only answer to ensure our survival.

Martin Walker

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BOOK REVIEWS

ST-TMP - TB (otherwise known as The Novel) by Gene Roddenberry.

This explains much about the film, and not from a purely factual point of view. Because it does so, however, it does not excuse the failings of the film. The novel of 2001 - A Space Odyssey explained many things that the film did not, yet the film was able to stand on its own by virtue of those very questions left unanswered. This has not happened with ST-TMP, although they tried to introduce the same sort of mysticism about V'ger near the end. We see a much better explanation of both Kirk and Spock's attitudes. Roddenberry says it himself with '...was not the Kirk of the Enterprise logs...', and makes his whole obsession far more acceptable, and also his finally coming to terms with it. The discussion between McCoy and Chapel over Kirk's psychology profile would have made a good addition to the film, explaining a lot.

I cannot but feel that Gene has, in this novel, tried to make amends for some of the more glaring mistakes made by Foster and Livingstone. Almost without exception, those places in the film that grated on me have been changed for the better, although there was not always much that could be done about it.

Spock's initial mood fares better, although not much could have been done without major departure from the film. His final disillusionment also comes over better, although this was a point where the film perked up for me. Of course, there are practical difficulties in conveying Spock's private thoughts on the screen. At the end of the book, however, in the Voyager 6 scene, he makes more use of Kirk's first name, which I believe was absent from the film at this point.

McCoy comes out much better, too. In the film he appeared frivolous, whereas in the book, he is much more sensible.

Points of clarity emerge: it is much more obvious why Ilia was taken as she attempted to intervene between the probe and Spock. This was not so apparent in the film. Also we can examine her return as V'ger's probe in greater detail, and see that she in fact came to Ilia's cabin initially white-hot. This was so confused in the film that I actually thought she was colder than the surroundings.

Obviously some parts of the book couldn't have been filmed without changing the rating of the film, such as the description of the figures caught in the transporter malfunction. (How did Kirk know that one was Sonak in the film? Although a pre-released still shows him clearly enough, it was absent in the film), and the loveplay between Decker and Ilia.

Certain parts of the book should perhaps have been omitted. I hate to disappoint Janet, but the scene where Kirk orders the Enterprise to self-destruct in 19 minutes is inconsistent with the series, where we see in Let That be Your Last Battlefield that no less than vocal commands from Kirk, Spock and Scott can destroy the ship. To make it possible for Scott to do so alone - and presumably anyone with sufficient engineering knowledge - is a clear diminishing of the safety factor of the vessel. Whilst a logical step for Kirk to take, it should not have been possible.

Similarly, Scotty had 'long ago learned how to ignore the hellish glow from the intermix chambers'. Since they are a recent addition, this is apparently inaccurate.

In conclusion, however, I would recommend the book to anyone who saw the film and was disappointed; it makes it a little easier to understand. Indispensable reading.

Peter Scott.

(For reasons of space I had to edit Peter's comments on the novel quite considerably, but I tried to leave in most of the points he made. Sheila)

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SHATNER: WHERE NO MAN by William Shatner, Sondra Marshak & Myrna Culbreath

First of all, I agree with Valerie's comments (in N/L 39) absolutely. The book both appalls and fascinates me. Appalls because it is so badly written and fascinates because it is quite an insight - and a sobering one at that - into the life and character of William Shatner. When I first glanced through the book, I thought it would have been better if he'd written it without the help (?) of Marshak & Culbreath. Now I'm not so sure. In their defence, they probably got more out of him than he himself would have considered putting down in print - and a lot which would never have occurred to him without a 'third party' asking the questions.

However, and this is where the crunch came, not content with asking the questions, Marshak & Culbreath have seen fit to add their own comments at every opportunity and it's hard to take seriously a book which has comments in it like 'that slim look of an apprentice angel' and describes Shatner constantly as 'shellmouth' and is forever making references to his

anatomy. I mean, M & C's tone is positively adulatory, which, if you're doing a biography of someone, is the wrong line to take.

Actually I wish there had been more on his childhood and early career before Star Trek and even more about his career since. I know that we do associate him with Kirk most of all, but by concentrating on that aspect for most of the book, it seems to me that M & C are falling into the trap of forgetting that the role of Kirk was only part of Shatner's working life, no matter how big an impact it had.

That's another thing that annoys me about their book. (I hesitate to call it 'his' book, that to me is insulting). One begins to wonder if it is Shatner's biography. M & C are obviously more interested in the character of Kirk and how it and Star Trek as a whole relate to changes in the sexual and social roles of male and female in society over the past decade. Don't get me wrong - I think it's an interesting study (though what they say about male/female roles seen through zoological behavioural studies is nothing new to me) but quite honestly it should not figure so largely in a book which is meant to be primarily about Shatner. (Actually I would question their ideas about the effect ST had on society. I think it may well have had a profound effect - in the idea of 'male openness' - on American society. I really doubt whether it's had the same effect on our own. And quite honestly, without meaning to belittle Shatner's talent of contribution to ST in any way, his portrayal of Kirk has never struck me as being extraordinary - in its true sense - in its combination of macho male and gentle openness in any way. Perhaps that's just because of my upbringing - I don't know, others might see it differently). It's fairly obvious (and has been from their fiction writing) that M & C are obsessed with the 'dominant woman' theme in the social revolution that has taken/is taking/will take place and they really go to town on it. (Sorry, but this book really makes me see red).

On top of the whole mish-mash, it's very badly written. If M & C said what they had to say once then the length of the book would be cut quite easily in half. I'm surprised the publishers didn't do some ruthless editing - it would have made it a lot more readable, particularly the first half. And to crown it all (and I know it's nothing to do with them) the cover really sums the whole thing up. You would think it would be an easy matter to get a photo the right way round, especially when the same photo is printed correctly in the book (again, I agree with the comment, very poor reproduction.)

To be fair, it's a book that does improve towards the end, and when Shatner is allowed to speak for himself or is in conversation with other people it's certainly interesting reading. I suppose one could equate it with the curate's egg. I am surprised though that Shatner himself didn't have more say in the matter (as he's supposed to have read the manuscript). As a writer and very eloquent speaker I would have thought he would have made a lot of changes and pruned it considerably. After all, he is supposedly one of the authors. I had to get that off my chest. It just seems that M & C would have gushed over whatever aspect of ST they were writing about. It strikes me (and maybe I'm being unfair) that they give the impression that ST owes its all to Shatner. I'm not saying it doesn't owe a tremendous amount to him - I think it does - but they are so uncritical they give the feeling that no-one else really had a hand in it (I know it's a book about Shatner and so they'll play up his part in it but they needn't do it in such a way.) In fact they are so uncritical that I get the feeling that if they'd been writing about another of the actors/actresses of any one of the many people involved in ST, they would have made it would exactly the same - that person made a far greater contribution to ST than anyone else.

Cory King.

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ZINE REVIEWS

As New Wine by Meg Wright

I must admit that I do think it's a very good idea for fans to review zines, for not only does it help authors but it also tells other fans a little more about the zines in detail. I probably would not have bought 'Tomorrow is Another Day' by Lesley Coles had I not read Nickie Moore's review - and I thoroughly enjoyed it too.

I therefore decided to try my own review, and picked a zine by Meg Wright called 'As New Wine', which, in my opinion, is one of the best I have ever read. (I have just finished reading it for the third time).

It basically shows the development of the friendship between Kirk and Spock - how they first work together, and begin to understand each other.

It starts with Kirk having commanded the Enterprise for only three months, joining Spock on a planet survey. It sticks up for Spock right from the beginning, volunteering to join him

on the survey to study and record the first vulcanoid race to be discovered - a mission which Spock has been sent on by the Vulcan Council. No-one else was available to help the Vulcan - or wanted to - and Kirk is determined to discover what the previous Captain, Pike, had seen in him.

The planet culture is of mixed classes, basically Lan and Du - the Lan being the upper class and the Du their slaves. Kirk has to act as Spock's slave, and Spock is in command - an interesting reversal of roles.

During the story, Kirk undergoes beating and poison - but survives through the help of Spock - and we are introduced to the mind meld, which is handled beautifully.

Their friendship grows, Kirk is quite surprised at Spock's hidden warmth and kindness and begins to understand him. Spock also discovers he has found a real friend.

I particularly liked the last few pages, with the introduction of the 'new' Dr. McCoy - we learn how he gets his nickname.

The characters have been fully understood and handled excellently - and there are touches of humour throughout the story, along with a few particularly good illustrations.

This story really conveys the deep and close friendship between Kirk and Spock so well - and I found it very believable.

To say I recommend this zine to anyone would be an understatement, to say the least!!!

Sally Marsh

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Vice Versa (An Alternate Universe Story) by Simone Mason

An alternate universe where one night a fanatical party led a massacre of all aliens on Earth is the background to this fine story.

Although expelled from the Federation, Earth managed to regain entry but at a heavy price - no high post or rank in any sphere of Federation activity would be allowed to Humans. The law had existed for twelve years during which time capable Human officers in Starfleet grew to resent constant watching and checking by their superiors. A new Party arose, a secretive organisation with 'a Plan' to change this state of affairs. Though not limited to Starfleet many of the Human crew are members of the Party.

Enter newly-promoted Lt-Commander Kirk, being appointed as joint Chief Navigator aboard an experimental vessel, the USS Enterprise, under Captain Spock, the Vulcan's first command. Kirk is a member of the Party, as are McCoy (part of the medical staff) Scotty (assistant engineer) Sulu (assistant navigator) and Chekov. Apart from Kirk all the senior officers (and all of Security!) are Vulcans.

It is somewhat disturbing to read of our favourite Humans' hatred and fear of Vulcans but, although at occasional intervals I wondered whether they could really feel that way, given the situation it is not impossible - and, indeed, as we saw in Mirror Mirror not only situations but peoples' attitudes can be different. In any event the story follows Kirk's relationship with Spock and the former's intended part in 'the Plan'.

The original idea is good, the development and continuing suspense very well done and the whole story excellently written. It is difficult to comment on some of the more interesting aspects of the story without giving some of the plot away but suffice to say there are some interesting twists.

I usually refrain from recommending anything to people for fear that someone will pay out money and be disappointed but in this case I have no hesitation in advising any Trekker to read the story - it is very good indeed.

David Coote

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CLIP INFO

Pam Baddeley has suggested that it might be a good idea to give some general info to help with clip identification. To start with, here is a list of episodes in which Kirk wears a green wrap-around uniform.

Charlie X, Court Martial, Enemy Within.

Apple, Bread & Circuses, Doomsday Machine (no black trim at neck), I Mudd, Immunity Syndrome, Journey to Babel, Mirror Mirror, Trouble with Tribbles, Wolf in the Fold.

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YOUR OPINIONS

Many of the voting forms sent in to us had comments of various kinds. There isn't space this time to include all of them, but we'll print others in later newsletters.

With regard to the proposed increase in dues, we got the following comments (among others) -

I would like to say how nice it is to be consulted and given a choice instead of being told as in many other groups or society in general. Julianne Saunders.

While I love the newsletters (so please do not reduce the number) I do not always read or enjoy the poems and stories. I think it would be in everyone's interest (including your work load) to reduce the length. Richard Bracewell. (If we do have to cut anything out of the N/L, the fiction section will go first, but to cut only that would not save enough space - Sheila).

Whilst I'm sure all members must appreciate being kept up to date with what's going on in ST, for a long time I've feared that the length of the N/L is on the verge of getting out of control. Let's cut it now before it's too late - and leave room for scope in the future. The N/Ls at present are so full of information that I'm sure a little prudent pruning wouldn't come amiss. Joyce Cluett. (We do already prune quite a bit - Sheila).

I'm in favour of increasing the dues. A raise might also help discourage some of the flash-in-the-pan fans that are going to crop up after the release of the film. Sharon Packham. (The sample newsletter lets enquirers know what to expect from the club - we think therefore that the flash-in-the-pan fans won't join. Sheila)

If other members of STAG have ever been in other fan clubs then they will know that the dues for STAG are not exceptionally high but that the standard of service is. I feel it would be defeating the object of the club and lowering the standard if we were to consent to the N/L being reduced. Margaret Richardson.

The quantity of ST news is not miraculously going to diminish to accomodate smaller or fewer N/Ls, so the only way to maintain present prices would be to cut your service. I am not convinced that this is the best way to combat inflation. I will gladly pay higher dues - after all, renewal comes but once a year! Therese Holmes.

I rely on the N/L to keep me up to date with ST news. Josie Rutherford.

STAG is the only contact I have with other members. Gill Bedford.

For many fans the N/L is the only way of keeping in touch with all that is happening in the world of ST. Yvonne Pack.

We need a constant update of news about ST. By extending the length between N/Ls ST news will be that much staler. Mrs. L. Hingley.

With the release of the movie the last thing we want is a decrease in the length or number of N/Ls. The postal increase is the PO's doing not the club's. John Patterson.

If the N/L were any shorter the quality might suffer from the 'cram-as-much-as-possible-into-the-smallest-space' syndrome, or regular features such as book reviews, zine ads or the story section might have to be dispensed with. With fewer N/Ls news would be stale by the time the N/L was received, and anyway, two months verge on being too long between N/Ls! Ruth Lewis.

How could you ever keep them small? Newsletters are like tribbles... Karen Levett.

The N/L has to stay the same size and frequency regardless of cost. I feel it is the major source of reliable information and that has been proved very important with all the rumours in the run up to the film..... But perhaps more important is that this is the best method for organising ourselves. No-one wants a beaurocratic structure but the value of organisation in letter writing campaigns has been shown time and time again (getting re-runs on the Beeb, not to mention that Glasgow paper!).... I don't see what you can cut out of the N/L and I feel that less per year would be a great disadvantage. David Coote.

Keep the N/L the way it is. There is no finer club for reliable news of the actors, the fans, and news and views of our show. Marian Kennedy.

An increase of 25p per year works out at $\frac{1}{2}$ p per week - and I for one have always wanted a way to get rid of those horrible $\frac{1}{2}$ p pieces! Kevin Davies.

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ST-TMP - YOUR VIEWS

The views expressed here are those of various members, and are not necessarily representative of the views of either the editors and committee of STAG or of their fellow club members. Letters from members who enjoyed the movie far outnumbered those from members who did not; we have tried to select letters (or extracts from letters) that had something different to say or a positive point to make - we could have filled the N/L with letters saying 'A great movie, I thoroughly enjoyed it'.

James Pauley - After many years of frustrating false starts, rumours, counter-rumours, and general apathy on the part of Paramount, Star Trek - The TV series has finally become Star Trek - The Motion Picture, and frankly I do not think it has been worth the wait. The film was not a patch on the series and I think any Star Trek fan who believes this has deluded themselves and is doing great disservice to a superb television series.

Yes, it is hard to come to terms with the fact that something one has dreamed of and fought for during the last ten years has turned out to be such a disappointment, but I think contrary to what Valerie said in her review (N/L 39) it is possible to take a detached and unprejudiced view. Not only is it possible but it is essential in order to pass fair judgement on a subject.

If something is good it will stand up to unbiased and objective criticism; unfortunately, Star Trek - The Motion Picture does not. Do you honestly think Gene Roddenberry or anyone else connected with the movie wants blind adoration and praise? No, I believe that man would prefer objectivity and fair criticism, and such would not be construed disloyalty to Star Trek.

I thought that the major disappointment about the movie was that it totally lacked the elements which separated Star Trek from others of its ilk. I find it difficult to believe that anyone could find the series and their relationships anywhere near as well defined as in the series. Contrary to Janet's and Sheila's opinions I found the interaction between the main characters far from subtle. I thought the handling of this to be overt and obvious. Sometimes it even made me cringe, the scene where McCoy beams on board being a case in point. Compare it to the sublime scene where Spock appears on the bridge for the first time and conveys more feeling in a single look to Chapel and McCoy than all the dewy-eyed hand-clasping-arm-grasping-back-slapping sentiment displayed with such grim determination by Kirk throughout the film.

While on the subject of Kirk, does Janet really and truly believe that Shatner's acting was 'brilliant' and deserving of an Oscar? Surely not? I think of all the performances, Shatner's was the poorest. Considering his ability as an actor, I found his portrayal of Kirk to be cardboard and one-dimensional, and a caricature of his superb portrayal in the series.

But I do not believe the blame lies with Shatner or any other actor, as we have seen their capabilities proven over and over on television. No, I think the blame lies with Robert Wise, as Director. This man has the uncanny knack of coaxing the most wooden stilted performance from any actor he comes into contact with, no matter how good the performer may be. For example, Audrey Rose, The Hindenberg, West Side Story. The latter only really comes to life in the musical numbers, thanks to Jerome Robbins' guiding hand. The man has always been one of the most uninteresting directors around and this harms Star Trek.

One only has to read the excellent novelisation to realise what this film could have been. It was so obvious that at the start of the movie a lot of footage had been cut from the final print leaving it with a horrid uneven feel. Where for instance were the alien Ambassadors? And Kirk's confrontation with Nogura? Even people I knew who had not read the book felt that something was missing at that particular juncture.

I did not find the rest of the film slow as so many people seemed to, rather I found it to be erratic and very unevenly paced. I also think despite the superb special effects on the journey to V'ger, the sequence was overlong and the time could have been used to better effect at the start of the film.

I also found the script and dialogue nowhere near the literacy of many of the TV episodes, which was one of Star Trek's main appeals.

On the plus side, I did enjoy the Klingon scenes immensely. I thought the make-up and Klingonese language made them really barbaric and fearsome. I also thought Nimoy stood head and shoulders above the rest of the cast, although even he could only do so much with the available material. The special effects I thought were the best I have ever seen, but effects do not a good film make, witness Battlestar Galactica.

Overall the film was a big disappointment and hardly worth the wait.

I don't expect this letter will get printed, but if by any chance it is, I would like to make it clear that I am and always will be a loyal Star Trek fan, and it hurts me to say these things, but I believe that loyalty includes being honest and frank in one's opinions towards Star Trek. And if we want a sequel to be everything that Star Trek should be, write to Gene Roddenberry, and be honest, be direct in your opinions, for that is the only way we will get the Star Trek movie we deserve. The movie was made because you demanded it. Now demand the movie you should have had. Star Trek had the potential to be the best Science Fiction movie ever made. It didn't happen this time, but it still can. It's up to you.

Margaret Richardson - First I want to state that I am not trying to change anyone's mind or tell anyone what they should or shouldn't like. Nor am I trying to put down anyone connected with the making of ST-TMP. I am merely stating my opinion, and as an individual. I'd also like to state that I thought that ST-TMP was a very well-made SF movie; as SF movies go it must rank among the best...

On the 15th December I went to see ST-TMP, or so the billing said. What I saw was something that remotely resembled the original series of the same name. Needless to say, I was not happy when I left the theatre. I felt somewhat let down and very disappointed. But the most disturbing thing is that I felt very depressed. I have experienced many emotions while watching Star Trek, but I have never felt depressed - that was a new one on me and not a very nice emotion. That is why I felt I had to write this. I just had to point out the things I did and didn't like in the movie.

First, I saw no reason why they had to change the Enterprise so much. I would be very grateful if someone were to explain that to me. Why did they change the transporter room? The walls looked as if they needed some wallpaper on them, the room was far too big for its purpose. And why did they make the corridors smaller? Two people could hardly get past one another at the same time. Yet they made the transporter room bigger when there was no need. Why was the transporter not tested before the two crew members that were killed were allowed to beam aboard? Why did they change the tricorders? The old ones went over the shoulder and left both hands free, why did they not just update them? What was the point of putting safety straps on the bridge chairs when three members of the bridge crew were standing up?

They were just a few of the things I did not understand.

Second, what happened to Mark Lenard's death scene? Why did we only see two Klingon ships destroyed? Why did Spock go back to Vulcan? What made him turn from Starfleet? Why did the Vulcan language sound like Swedish when the Vulcan we know had more of an Oriental sound to it? Why was Kirk made an Admiral when his next promotion should have been to Commodore? Most of those things I find were totally illogical. On the whole, the movie would have had a better effect if they had made it more believable.

Third, I saw no reason to change the music. I am a great lover of music and found the music very good. But it was not the music for Star Trek. They could have used that music for Star Wars, Superman, Close Encounters or any of the other big SF movies, but not for ST. It just didn't fit. For one thing, the music was too serious, it lacked humour or any light-heartedness. I know the situation was serious, but even in the most serious TV episode they had a little bit of humour in the music. It helped stop that sense of depression from setting in. Not in the movie, the music just kept drumming the seriousness of the situation into you. And it shows - everything becomes heavy, makes you feel depressed.

All in all, I found the movie boring and depressing, in parts. I loved the scenes with Kirk/Spock/McCoy and the crew themselves. I liked them because that was people, and ST was always people. Not Zap guns or great special effects. It was life itself, eating, sleeping, loving, hating, worrying. I felt the movie lacked a great deal of this. It had some, I admit that. But not as much as it used to.

I loved the new characters, but felt it was a shame that they had to get killed at the end. Gene Roddenberry makes very good characters for ST.

The main thing was that I just didn't feel I was on the Enterprise, not the Enterprise I know and love. The ship felt cold and unhomey, full of people running around, too busy to stop and say hello. Kirk's entrance onto the bridge was dead, he was in then out again. We waited ten years for that and it did nothing for me.

To put it bluntly, the movie said in two hours and fifteen minutes what it could have said in a fifty minute episode. And an episode might have been better.

As I said in the beginning, these are my opinions. This is the way I feel. I felt I just had to write this. I had to get it off my chest and make people understand what I mean when

I say, "I didn't like the Star Trek movie". I think my reasons are good ones. Most people may not - I only ask people to look at my reasons fairly and see if there's any truth in them. You may find that there is. But at least people will know what I mean when I say that the 15th of December was the most heart-breaking of my life...

Russall & Barry Willmott - We were both very surprised to read that some members seemed to be disappointed with ST-TMP, although we felt it was inevitable that any change from the 'old' series would meet a certain amount of objection, especially from those who can be Trek's worst critics - the fans. Before the movie was released, we used to suffer from recurring nightmares that it would be a disaster but thankfully this was not so. Gene has given us a movie to be proud of.

The relationships between the main characters were as strong and apparent as they ever were. This very fact demonstrates the quality of performance from each of the cast, Bill Shatner's especially so. His ability to express the feelings of his character even without dialogue is truly an art. In fact dialogue was not needed during his reacquaintance with the Enterprise; you could read his face like a book. Although not a great deal of background on each character was presented, sufficient was evident for clear suppositions to be made by any fan; and despite Spock's 'revulcanised' state during the initial part of the story, how delightful to see that he and the rest of the characters finally merge into the old crew we all know so well.

Thank heaven Star Trek has not been tempted to stray from its original premise. This is the only SF film in recent years which has not made excessive use of some kind of ray gun or made some bleeping robot the star. As for those newspaper critics who said that the film had a boring and slow start, it is obviously true that they did not at all understand the series and the characters that it created. Perhaps they should wait to see the movie again after they are old enough to buy an adult ticket. Anybody who went into the cinema expecting yet another 'Star Wars Clone' - is it any wonder that they came out disappointed.

Who could have wished for a better story. The opening sequence with those beautifully sadistic-looking Klingon warships blending with the accompanying music was a work of sheer genius. They were obviously spoiling for a fight. And the Klingons themselves, different from the series but still recognisably Klingons.

On seeing the Enterprise leaving dry dock, how can anyone not be convinced that they were actually seeing the real thing. The foresight of including the over-excited astronaut added a very Human touch to the whole scene. And what about the Enterprise herself; surely more beautiful and angelic than ever.

We both felt that the balance between the visual effects and live action worked very well. True, many people would think that the scenes of the entry into the cloud and the flight over V'ger were rather lengthy but surely this was necessary to suggest the intruder's immensity. What a contrast for the Enterprise crew to learn that what initially appeared to be so incomprehensible finally turned out to something as comparatively comprehensible as a twentieth century Voyager probe. Had these scenes been shorter then this impact would have been lost.

Like every good Star Trek episode, this movie certainly had a powerful conclusion. We have heard comments that the movie represented various episodes but this is just the 'epidermis' of the story. Surely it is the 'guts' of the story which is the underlining meaning of the film. The beauty of this film is certainly not skin deep.

Despite mankind's self doubt of his place in the universe, the Human quality is a much sought after and desired ingredient to perfection.

The Human Adventure Is Just Beginning.

Mark Higginson - I hope that what I have written here is printed in the STAG N/L because although I am voicing my own opinions on the Star Trek Movie, as a seasoned fan of ST I feel I can give some advice to the new ST fans at least. When I watched Battlestar Galactica and it finished, a female voice behind me said "I liked it but it wasn't a bit like Star Wars" or "as good as Star Wars", I can't remember which. You could have knocked me over with a feather. I thought to myself - "Of all the dumb things to say". One thing you must remember is never - and I mean NEVER - judge one film by another, regardless of whether they are on the same subject or not. Always judge a film on its own merit and no others. This is what you should do with ST-TMP. By all means use the Star Trek series as a reference - but only as a reference - and judge ST-TMP on its own merit. This way you have a better chance of obtaining an objective view of the film and, in my opinion, a better understanding.

As to my own views - at the outset, I thought the film was simply fantastic. This is the simplest way I can put it. However, after the Klingon scene there should have been more use of the journey from the Gibraltar Complex to San Francisco HQ (Ch. 3 of the novelisation) Then at least a short scene with Kirk and Admiral Nogura in Nogura's office. (Ch. 4)

As far as all technical aspects of the Starfleet equipment were concerned, they are definitely an improvement, including colour, uniforms, insignia etc. There was a bit of blurring around the actors on close-ups. I do not know if it was a mistake but it had a great effect. As usual the acting was great, the story line was O.K. However I feel it should have been given more body, not overdoing it, of course. The space walk was great. The use of the Klingon and Vulcan languages was great and I feel should have been used in the series. Also more use of the other aliens aboard the Enterprise in the series (as crew) would have added realism.

I look at films from all angles - art, music, acting, storyline, special effects etc, and I found that ST - TMP sailed through superbly. The relationships between the main cast were there all right even though they had to wait for Spock to snap out of his obsession with being all logical. In the rec room scene I heard bird-like sounds in the background just like on the record by Mini Rippington called Loving You. It was a neat move.

For those who are wondering about the new look of the Klingons - the Klingons may have been experimenting in Genetic Engineering to create a super race (sound familiar?). If this is the case, then I'm for the change. If, however, they were just changed for the sake of change, then no, I'm against it.

I do not think the film bore any resemblance to Changeling at all.

The dialogue and special effects I thought were well balanced but the story line should have been given more body. Reference to the Klingons as enemies of the UFP should have been made clearer for those newcomers who watched the film.

If Paramount don't make follow-ups to ST - TMP they need their heads looked at. They could be kept going by ST fandom alone and that's a conservative estimate. Look at all the literature now and what it could be in a few years' time.

All in all, ST - TMP is a great film, but more importantly, don't listen to others; go and see it for yourselves and make up your own minds. That is the wisest solution.

Elizabeth Sharp - I have seen ST - TMP only once, although intend seeing it again next week. But after the first viewing I found it absolutely wonderful. Unlike many of the fans, I saw the film only days ago, so I went into the cinema having read in the latest N/L of the disappointment of many of the fans. I wondered what I was in for. The film, however, was a wonderful surprise - a masterpiece from the appearance of the three Klingon battleships to the disappearance of the Enterprise at the end.

The main criticism seems to be the apparent lack of the Kirk/Spock/McCoy relationship. Personally I did not find this at all lacking. Everyone was delighted to see Spock step onto the bridge, especially Kirk, and the Captain was very concerned about him later on, in sickbay. I think that any 'fault' does not have to be the fault of the film. We must remember that the Kirk/Spock/McCoy relationship was largely a matter of interpretation on our parts, and I say that as a 'relationship' fan. Kirk has been heard to say 'My Vulcan friend', 'one of my best friends' etc, and I am certain Spock felt the same for Kirk and McCoy, although he could never really admit to this. However, those brief moments on the TV screen have been developed and extended in fan fiction. It was the fans who had Spock stick to Kirk's side like glue, following him about like his shadow. It was the fans who had them sitting by each other's sick beds week in week out. It was the fans who had them going through hell and damnation to rescue one another, breathing deep brotherly love and affection. Now there is nothing wrong with this, as long as we realise that these stories are the result of our private fantasy. None of these stories were ever shown on the screen, and therefore, no matter how dear to our hearts they may be, they are not real Star Trek. The only real Star Trek stories are the ones the actors brought to life on the television and cinema screen. On the TV we saw two people, Kirk and Spock, come to be close friends in spite of, or perhaps because of, their cultural differences. This was still very apparent in the film, even before Spock returned. (I am thinking of Kirk wanting a Vulcan as his Science Officer, if possible). On the TV series I saw two very close friends, but I never saw the depth that many people read into their relationship. Indeed, we now learn that Spock and McCoy left the Enterprise to follow their own separate lives.

As to the film bearing a resemblance to Changeling, I don't see this either. Even if there was a likeness, it could only be apparent at the very end of the film, when we learn of the 'alien's' identity. But Nomad wanted only to destroy all error. V'ger was searching for its creator - for its God. At the end of the TV series it seems that Spock had begun asking questions about his life. Perhaps they were 'Is this all that I am? Is there nothing more?' He went off to Vulcan to try and find the answers. In a very real sense, he too was searching for the reason for his existence. But he became aware of a consciousness out in Space that was as puzzled as he. V'ger was also asking 'Is this all that I am? Is there nothing more?'. And in a very sensitive and beautiful film, both man and machine found at least

part of their answer - V'ger joined with its creator, and Spock rediscovered his Human half, on board the Enterprise. To me, this held no resemblance to Changeling at all. I will take great joy in going to see this beautiful film time and time again. I will watch the special effects in awed silence, along with the rest of the cinema audience. I am now more convinced than ever that Star Trek is the greatest science fiction ever created. Perhaps the only thing that will ever excel its spirit will be future man's real adventures out among the stars.

Christine Miles - I was so enthralled with the sight of the old ST team again first time round that I had to see the movie again to make sure that I had not missed any. Second time was so rewarding - our Star Trek finally made into a motion picture. I was absolutely mesmerised by the three Klingon vessels, highlighted by the fabulous music of Jerry Goldsmith. Definitely my favourite scene was the Kirk and Scotty sequence to the Enterprise - his Enterprise - I was there with Admiral James T. Kirk reliving his experience of returning to assume command once again - it was truly a moving scene which brought tears to my eyes. Bill Shatner looked great - despite critics' reviews - and even more handsome than ever. Hasn't he got a fantastic smile?

I felt the uniforms an improvement as the military appearance was more in keeping with a Starfleet crew, although the sameness of colours spoiled it just a little. I loved Kirk in his white shirt.

The Kirk/Spock relationship was there - Kirk's gentle welcome of the unexpected Spock to the Enterprise - his concern later when the Vulcan was hurt. I felt a little disappointed that McCoy was not allowed to exercise his normal characterisation to the full and did not seem to get-it-together with his Captain. The new characters were a refreshing addition with the introduction of Decker and Ilia - essential to the story line only. However, Bill and Leonard's performance outshone them all, but then I am biased.

Despite the minor faults - they did not in any way detract from the fact it was a fantastic film and well worth waiting for.

Kevin Davies - I have seen the movie five times now and I have found the reactions of the people (supposedly non-fans) around me proved to be quite enlightening as to the General Public's view of Star Trek

At the Premiere of course there was active enthusiasm on the part of the audience and I wonder how many of those present were affected by such mass enthusiasm and not just by the film itself.

I found for this reason it was easier to be detached about the film when it was first shown in my home town. You could sense a large amount of curiosity amongst the crowds yet as the film progressed and people grew more and more restless, I began to feel quite depressed and started to wonder if I was the only one in the cinema who appreciated it. To be fair, people were trying to understand it but I felt they were being tied down trying to unravel the plot, so they had no chance to appreciate the movie's higher ideas. Despite these observations, I had a chance to concentrate much more on the film and found, to my delight, that I was enjoying it more and more. It was something I'd wanted for years.

Then came the most trying experience. I went one afternoon and it was then that I wanted to strangle the person responsible for that 'U' certificate. Hundreds of unrestricted, horrible little kids paid attention for five minutes then decided that hide and seek and free-for-all wrestling were more fun.

By now I had the feeling that Chester was reacting to the film as a mildly curious thing which was to be seen because everyone else had, but no more. All that changed however when I caught the final performance in town. It was like being at the Premiere again, everybody was attentive and appreciative and at the end of it all, for the first time ever in Chester, I saw an audience applaud a film.

So maybe after all, Trek managed to reach even those who would not call themselves fans. What better tribute to a film?

Cory King - First of all I'd like to shout it from the rooftops that I loved it, it's 100% STAR TREK and I haven't tired of seeing it. I love the Enterprise, the character relationships and virtually everything about the movie. The music is fantastic - I think it's also extremely clever in that it uses very old-fashioned motifs in a conventional way and bridges the gap between the 20th century public and the 23rd century universe... Rather interestingly I was listening to 'Obsession' the other day and heard the beginning of the theme played when the Enterprise leaves the space dock. I'm sure Goldsmith didn't listen to the old series incidental music when he composed the new (or maybe he did!)... As for the character relationship, well, what can one say. I just sit there open-mouthed every time. They are there, particularly between Kirk and Spock in such depth and intensity that it leaves one feeling

quite limp... that sickbay scene... Every time I've seen the film - and I've seen it in London, Edinburgh, Dundee and Aberdeen, there is dead silence in the cinema during that scene, not even the rustle of a sweet paper or crisp packet... Some people have said to me that the Kirk/McCoy relationship is missing. I think that's nonsense - it's there underlying what's going on...and you can't on the one hand seriously question a man's actions and on the other be all pallywally, particularly if you parted company in some disagreement and haven't seen each other for three years. In terms of character relationship, I would say... try watching, instead of just looking.

The aliens - seriously, I'm glad we didn't see any close-ups of those joke-factory products featured so prominently everywhere else, but I think we could have had at least one Andorian as part of the bridge personnel.

On the minus side, I would agree that there's not enough dialogue in the film... A lot more could have been made of McCoy's concern over Kirk and his apparent obsession with regaining the Enterprise. The other point that's not really developed is the whole business of whether Spock is on board for the good of the Federation, Kirk, or whether he's there for his own purpose... One other area that could have been more forceful is the love affair (or lack of it) between Decker and Ilia (and what a relief not to have Kirk chasing the woman)... it was a bit wishy-washy in the true Hollywood tradition and could have been more strongly put over, even with a 'U' certificate.

The bit of the film I really loathe is the scenes on Vulcan. Or rather, the scenery. The paintings are abominable, factually incorrect and (I would have thought) scientifically improbable. After all, if Spock is watching the sunrise and the light around him is red then why is the sky black with those stupid oversize planets whizzing around? I don't believe Vulcans would put up/carve statues in the first place and one like that would be most unlikely to survive in an area of such obvious volcanic and thus seismic activity... I'd love to see a sequel providing of course that a) all the main cast is in and b) as much time and effort is put into it as into ST-TMP.

Georgie McConnell - ...It's definitely a must to visit the film a second time.

On the first occasion I staggered out, totally dazed in all senses, sight, hearing, nervous system jangling, having been quite unable to take it all in...I felt bereft, as if after all the waiting and hoping, suddenly the film was over, and a great void was left - no STAR TREK on TV, no real word on a follow-up film or a new TV series... oh! WOE, WOE AND THRICE WOE! Only another fan could appreciate my desolation - but wait! On my second visit to the film, I sat enraptured and entranced... Quickie criticism, the ship's interior lacked colour, the Vulcan scenes lacked authenticity, the poor Klingons - come back, original Klingons, all is forgiven! Where the heck were the aliens? The film was a masterpiece of technology, but we wanted more Kirk, Spock, Somebody - ANYBODY!!!

Sue Stuart - If we can accept that certain things have to be changed in the name of progress, that just about covers the uniforms and the bridge lay-out and the nacelles. It doesn't cover the radical and incomprehensible redesign of the corridors; what a waste of money to redesign a Starship's corridors, goddammit, and DECREASE their capacity. Likewise the Klingons - how on earth (or space) can you redesign a race of people? Evolution just doesn't cover it. Pointless, and poor Mark Lenard might just as well not have been in it. Who recognised him first time around, even with those marvellous eyes undisguised? They're my major objections. I rejected the film at first showing but gave it a second chance and am now much happier with it. Maybe with a smaller budget Gene would have produced immediately identifiable Trek.

Almuth Fisher - The leisurely pace at which the film moved appealed to me. One had time to digest colours, music, shapes, action and people.

Lesley Coles - I felt that the interaction between Kirk, Spock and McCoy was definitely there, but if you were too busy looking at the new bridge, rec room or whatever, you could miss it, because a lot of it was body language...

With the work I do at present I build up a fair number of relationships with patients, families and people in the medical profession. A lot of these people know I like SF and ST and they have told me their own reactions to the film as ordinary members of the General Public. Obviously there were quite a number who said that they found it difficult to follow in that it was too technical, but I was surprised that many said they enjoyed it, and one actually said it was the most beautiful film they had ever seen...

Victor Bristoll - Weighing everything up you will find the scales indicate a classic science fiction film, regardless of what the critics have said. Gene Roddenberry and Robert Wise have triumphed!

Josie Rutherford - I did not like Vulcan at all. Everything looked so false. That statue was simply awful...and what were those moons/planets whirling around over head? I always thought Vulcan had no moon. The new Klingon makeup was not an improvement on the series'. Their heads reminded me of badly-laced rugby balls, though that knobby bit in the centre was supposed to be a bone - wasn't it? I liked the use of the Klingon and Vulcan languages with subtitles; after all, it's only logical that they speak their own language in their own environment...

Thank god they didn't lose the humour that was so much a part of the series. There were some very nice touches in the film. Kirk's little wink to Chekov as the ship achieved warp drive showed the camaraderie among the crew...

The officer's lounge scene when Kirk keeps telling Spock to sit down was classic; and I loved the scene on the ship where Kirk keeps turning to Spock asking him if he's ready to transmit the high-speed signal to V'ger. The look of worry, hope and exasperation on Kirk's face all at the same time was absolutely brilliant!

G.A. Abbott - I was really impressed by the amount of the old ST Gene had managed to keep. The old spirit was there in full.

David Burton - ...I preferred the 'new' Klingons and thought giving them their own language (this goes for the Vulcans as well) was a good idea. The planet Vulcan was well done. The Enterprise was great (except the transporter room) and she looks as marvellous as ever... The aliens were good as a 'background' and were placed nicely and should not have been given any bigger parts to play.

Ian Pearce - The aliens in the crew should be more prominent, and not just appear on the rec deck with the rest of the crew, but be seen at stations, walking along corridors etc.

Cathie Moorhouse - I guess my two main groans are the Klingons and the Security (on the Enterprise). The Klingons looked too unreal. O.K., I'm used to the old-style Klingons and I suppose that's because they were rather more Human, but they really have been changed too much. The Enterprise Security reminded me of Star Wars and Blakes Seven. On the old Enterprise security men were hardly ever guarding corridors except in an emergency. They were not needed. I always felt I could trust the crew of the Enterprise. The new Security were very out of place. I felt as if they were watching every move. 'Big Brother is watching you'. Their uniforms are also out of place. The helmets and breast-plates were not needed. After all, how many of the crew are going to attempt to commit murder or rape and have to be dragged off to the brig?

Cecilia Beirne - I liked some of the new uniforms. The women's was far more practical. Kirk's short-sleeved shirt looked fantastic on him and McCoy's work shirt looked good... but the old style seemed better and more colourful. I didn't like the way the trousers went over the boots, it looked a bit strange to me. I wasn't too keen on the new style of Klingons. It just didn't look right after seeing the originals in the series. The actual features of them were good, though - maybe they could have called them something else. The battle scene on their bridge was brilliant right down to their language.

Malita Edwards - ...Spock has a black collar with all his uniforms. It seems to be under as though it belongs to a T-shirt or something. No-one else wears a collar - not even Commander Sonak who died during the transporter malfunction. Is it something from Vulcan - a Kolinahr or traditional thing, or just something Leonard Nimoy himself wears?

Ray Dowsett - Do people realise that Kirk is due a court-martial? At the end of the movie he was told to beam down for debriefing, instead he went 'thataway'. Presuming that Starfleet is a disciplined force that comes under 'direct disobedience of orders', a serious 'crime' in military circles. I can imagine what would happen should any Captain of one of HM ships have decided to give a verbal 'Harvey Smith' salute to the Admiral and go off to sea instead of entering port as ordered. (Actually, in the movie he didn't - that order wasn't given. That incident is in the novel. Sheila)

Can't agree with those who said the uniforms in the film were better than the series. For the male crewmembers I much prefer the series 'casual' style. The film ones look dead uncomfortable, especially security. For the female crewmembers, though, the film uniforms are obviously more practical to ship-board life. I'd often wondered just how Kirk kept the male members of his crew under control with all those attractive females dressed in mini-skirt uniform - bromide? Seriously, though, I miss the leg show, but the film uniforms are more practical and realistic.

Jean Wallsgrove - ...The engineroom was enough to frighten the life out of any normal person. I found it terrifying and overdone. I cannot believe anyone could function normally for any length of time surrounded by such equipment, not even Mr. Scott (which brings me to that moustache, was that really necessary? What happened to our dear friendly Scotty, it did nothing for him and made him look much older, even accepting the passing of time.) And that rib-like top to his white jacket - Ugh! Ghastly.

Joe Jarvie - The engineroom was horrible. The room in the series looked more modern than in the film. It was like the difference between the engineroom of the Ark Royal and the USS Enterprise, between oil and atomic power.

Valerie Harrison - Scotty was the one who came across best. In the TV series he never seemed very real, a bit of a caricature, but in the film he came across as a very real and believable person.

Mrs. L. Hingley - After watching the film for the first time one question arose in my mind - had the film been cut for British audiences? The doubt was there, a furious feeling of being cheated - I was convinced it was! The back of Starburst advertises it as an 'A' certificate, and has several pictures of aliens but in the film I could only remember seeing one or two! The scene of the transporter malfunction was suspiciously quick! -yes. The aliens and the transporter scene must have been too frightening for children. However by the time I'd seen the film for the second time I decided the advert must have been an error, I enjoyed it much more the second time. (We checked with a member in the States regarding the transporter scene, and we saw it the same way they did. Sheila.)

Shirley Buck - ...As for the people, I felt as soon as things began to get interesting the scenes were cut off! (Was this where the 20 mins. cut for the British release went to?) None of the scenes between the main characters were allowed to develop as strongly as one would have liked... Is there anything we can do to get the film shown without the cuts made for the British release? I feel we have missed out a lot, and there is no good reason to have cut that amount of the film - a lot must have happened in that time! (As far as we know it was not specifically cut for British viewing. Would any member who has seen it in the States as well as here care to comment? Sheila)

Ruth Merrill Bollerud - Are you aware that there are two versions of the movie making the rounds? The second time I saw it I saw a shortened version. I thought at the time that some Trekfan had been at the film in search of clips as it was very jerky. But another friend of mine, who is not a real fan but went to see the film on my recommendation and who lives in Derbyshire said she thought the censors had cut it up, so I know she saw the same version. (Has anyone else come across this? Sheila)

Ann Preece - ... There were a few scenes from the book which I would have liked retained for the film, for example the scene between Kirk and Commanding Admiral Nogura. This helped to show what Kirk had to fight to regain the command of his beloved Enterprise and that she wasn't just handed to him on a plate. And I would have liked to see the scene between McCoy and Christine Chapel. In the book, the old chemistry between them was still there.

A.J. Killelay - I would just like to say that I much preferred the novel to the film. There seemed to be much more depth and warmth to the characters. However, the special effects in the film were good. I think my favourite scene is of the Enterprise leaving dry dock. It was really breathtaking.

Josie Timmins - The parts I liked I loved, and the parts I didn't like, I hated!...Visually, it's a beautiful film. The special effects really are worth every expensive dollar, and much better than I had hoped. The destruction of the Klingon fleet is awesome - a great opening to the film.

The scenes of the Enterprise suspended in dry dock and then majestically leaving it are by themselves worth the price of a cinema ticket - sheer magic. The warp drive effect was marvellous too. I really don't think it could have been done better. All this was beautifully set off by the music. Jerry Goldsmith has written some wonderful scores and I think he has excelled himself this time. If only the basic story had lived up to the special effects and the music...

Lack of dialogue had a lot to do with it. The main characters had so little to say to each other - I was aching for them to get together in the briefing room and just talk!

Val Rogers (Australia) - ...It all seemed like an updated and lengthened TV show, which on the big screen needed action to stop it seeming to be so long-drawn-out. We were told they weren't going all out for SFX like Star Wars, so to balance that they should have had some

action and interaction. I blame Robert Wise - a good director he may be, I've no doubt - but he just didn't do his homework and so naturally the results were not Star Trek, just another SF movie which just happened to have our favourite actors in it!

As we all have come to realise, the soul of Star Trek is love, and the interaction between the characters. There was none of this! ... Spock should have shown a growing touch of Human emotion - even if only at the end - shouldn't he? More especially when he's been rejected by Vulcan for his failure to purge his soul of the Human side of his nature. Instead he was pure Vulcan, the whole time. And Kirk was so wooden. (But of course all this was the result of Robert Wise's direction - left to Gene Roddenberry, the show would have been an undoubted success).

Do you think it's worth having a survey and sending the results (condolences) to Gene? Also to Paramount for their purely mercenary attitude, but more especially to Robert Wise for his lack of integrity to the concept of Star Trek. Poor Gene, he really must be upset at what they've done to his idea, even if he doesn't say so.

Mary Aldridge (U.S.A.) - First, I loved it. Loved seeing everyone on the screen. Shatner's taut performance especially impressed me. (I was amused that one Boston critic called his performance wooden and another accused him of practically chewing the scenery - makes you wonder if either of them saw it). I am usually indifferent to special effects, but ST's knocked my socks off. I have so far seen it three times, expect to see it some more, and have had the pleasant experience of seeing more in it each time I go.

Having said which - the things I dislike fall into two categories, what they did do and what they didn't. What they didn't do: anything with the much-publicised alien crewmembers. Anything to indicate the position of women has changed much since the series went off the air (except, thank god, getting them out of those ridiculous micro-skirts). There are so many easy ways to do that sort of thing - the commander of the observation station, for example, could have been female, without making any particular fuss about it. But men were in charge of everything - and white men at that. There was a notable paucity of non-Caucasians, too (I noticed, anyway - all three times.) Remember, the big E is a planetary ship - and take a look at the distribution of racial types on Terra some times. It ain't all blond farmers from Iowa. ST-TMP wasn't as bad as Star Wars in this respect, god knows, but the whole point is that Star Trek started it, and one expects more from Star Trek. Such as boldly going where no casting director has gone before, for sure.

Fay Goodwin - I disliked the obligatory 'romance' between Decker and Ilia. It was irrelevant except to account for their union at the end. And why this preoccupation in Star Trek with scantily-clad ladies? Persis Khambatta is a beautiful woman and a fine actress but in the film she was exploited...

I wonder why Alan Dean Foster was chosen to write the story? I refused to buy any more of his 'Log' books after his description of Lt. Uhura painting her nails at the communications station. Lt. Uhura be so slack? Never! That's not the Star Trek I know. Did he ever watch the series? Not closely enough, judging by the film.

Pat Jenkins - ...I was a Kirk fan from the first and must admit I did not think Kirk would have much of a role in the film. In plain fact I expected a Spock spectacular. I also expected a routine episode type film. What I saw was a superb, totally moving film. All the actors were excellent and the new characters fitted in very well. When the Enterprise left the dry dock tears were streaming down my face, and all I could think of was that line from the novel, 'You can go home again'.

Jay Felton - One very interesting thing, not really about the movie but about its audience, is the great variety of reactions to it. This is apparent both from the STAG N/L and from talking to people about the film. I've spoken to fans who were as impressed by it as I was, fans who were disappointed by the lack of character 'interaction', non-fans with a cynical attitude and non-fans who enjoyed it very much. Some friends who didn't like the series were pleased with the film because of its 'different approach', while I and several others thought the film very true to the spirit of the series. I suppose it is not that strange for different people to interpret the movie in such different, even contradictory, ways - really a prime example of IDIC!

Catrina Howard - I feel, as I read others feel, that Gene Roddenberry compromised himself out of a great, dare I say classic, film through pressure brought about by the 'movie moguls'. They are the people our opinions should be directed to, for it is they who decide what we will watch.

Pat Mitchell - I think the reason the movie received bad publicity was that a) people may have been expecting another Star Wars/Battlestar Galactica type movie and b) ST-TMP was an 'in' movie. By that I mean, if you are into Trek, it will mean so much more. A lot of the dialogue and emotional reaction scenes would be lost on a non-fan, simply because they would not appreciate the significance of those scenes. For example, Kirk's first view of the Enterprise and the ship leaving dry dock...

I must agree with other comments that the cloud sequence gets tedious, though I can understand Gene's wishing to convey the feeling of immenseness. What I'd like to know is, how can something 82 times the distance from the Earth to the Sun in size get into orbit around little old Earth?

Lesley Crowther - ...I have some reservations about the use of the effects, which I found over-long, and if anything added little to the Star Trek we know. Let's face it, the reason most of us were fanatical ST fans wasn't because of the effects or scenery. We loved the series because of the characters' relationships and philosophy, not its polystyrene rocks and low budget alien costumes. Paramount should have thought more about basing the film on the strong points of the series and less on competing in expensive special effects with films such as Star Wars which provided little in the way of characterisation... I feel the film catered well for the general viewers as well as Trek fanatics. I have seen the film eight times, four of which I saw with people who were not ST fans. Their reactions were favourable, but their understanding was limited by not having read the book which provides greater detail and more background.

Karena Langdon - I realise that the film had to be made in such a way that non-fans would enjoy it but I really think the special effects were overdone. Despite that it was a fantastic movie - thank you, Gene.

Kelly Mitchell - "If anyone feels unhappy about the Movie after seeing it for the first time, my advice is - see it again as soon as possible!

When I left the Premiere in London on 15th December I was confused and disorientated. No disrespect to Gene, but there is just so much to absorb, that an awful lot is lost first time around. Any fan of Star Trek, like myself, is at a disadvantage in a way as the story is relegated whilst the Mind struggles to believe that we are actually seeing "Them" together again at last.

I have now seen the movie seven times, and, just like each re-run of an episode on T.V. or at Cons' brings a new dimension to the story - perhaps a word, a gesture which was missed before; the Movie faithfully follows the same pattern.

For Example - First time around who can spare any time to look at much else except the Enterprise herself? Has she changed? In what way? Oh sure we all see Jim Kirk's love for her as he approaches in the travel pod with Scotty, but next time around, take a good hard look at his expressions - that beautiful quiet sigh of contentment that says it all. Next time try to ignore Kirk (I know, I know, but try!!) and concentrate on Scotty. The pride in those sidelong glances he keeps giving Kirk as he steers that carefully planned course around the ship. There has been criticism of the length of time taken during this scene but it fulfills a number of purposes :-

1. It helps the viewer to identify with the Power and sheer size of the Enterprise.
2. It is a perfect opportunity to represent visually Kirk's obvious deep love for the ship, and hence, his desire to return to the 'center'seat'.
3. It informs the audience what has taken place at Star Fleet H.Q. and provides beautiful interplay between Kirk and Scott - the obvious Loyalty which extracted the promise - "Any Man who could manage such a feat, I wouldna dare disappoint. She'll launch on time, Sir - and she'll be ready."

I'm not claiming the Film was without its faults by any means, but it still carried the qualities which made us Fans of ST in the first place. Who can deny they were unmoved during the scene where McCoy comes aboard? Or Kirk's arrival on the Bridge? Or the words, "Thrusters ahead, Mr Sulu - take us out"? And, what wouldn't we give for the wink that Chekov was rewarded with.

You've probably all realised by now that I liked the Movie, and I think Gene has done a great job in giving us just what we wanted - the Star Trek recipe for Survival in the Future - Our 'Capacity to Live beyond Logic'.

A Review of the Film wouldn't be complete without a mention of the Film Score by Gerry Goldsmith. The haunting 'Musical Key' which smacked just a little of "The Vikings" created a perfect 'Pioneering' mood which was a perfect complement for "A Human Adventure which is just beginning." (Sorry we didn't have room for all your review, Kelly.)

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FICTION SECTION

AMOK TIME - AFTERMATH by Judy Miller

Spock folded into his chair with his habitual grace, although to the very observant or perhaps to someone who knew him particularly well, there was a hint of weariness in his actions. A faint tremor in his limbs. It told of an exhausting day, when struggles, both mental and physical, had been fought and overcome, but not without leaving their scars.

So it was over. A sigh escaped him, which even the Vulcan in him had to recognise as one of relief. The ordeal had ended. Or had it? There were many things upon which he had to meditate - or, as Humans would say, 'to work out'. Well, he had been ordered to remain in his quarters for twenty-four hours. McCoy had issued the command, to have it seconded by Kirk. Thus, an order clearly to be obeyed. At least he had not been confined to sickbay. Here in his sanctum he could think, 'work things out'. Perhaps one of those things ought to be why exactly he did not feel the slightest bit of shame about his display of emotion in sickbay not an hour ago, when he'd learned Kirk was not dead. But why try to analyse? He knew the reason. He was not ashamed because he was genuinely overjoyed, and that joy could not be contained.

But there was much more to ponder on, and Spock was reluctant to do so, for it meant reliving the events of the day just past and although his strength was legend, here he knew he would find a weakness. But it had to be done. He had to relive it.

And for the first time in his adult life, Spock found himself regarding his Vulcan heritage with distaste, even disgust.

He stretched out a hand, switched on the viewer and summoned the holograph he had studied such a short time ago and in such a different frame of mind. T'Pring. As a child of seven. A pretty child. Today, she'd been a beautiful woman. But she was Stonn's affianced, no longer his, and somehow, although it should, it did not matter in the least. T'Pring - for years his betrothed, but never to be his bride.

Today he had walked the paths of madness, stared down into the pits of insanity, despair and sorrow, and he'd fought with the one man who had offered him that once seemingly never to be possessed gift - friendship. No, more than friendship. Spock knew he had to make the admission once and for all. Kirk had offered love, and had been accepted. Yet today he had done battle with this man, with the intention of doing so till death - his or Kirk's. It frightened him. Scared the so-called 'fearless' Vulcan that he could have done this thing. He'd been prepared to kill, to slaughter Kirk, and all due to the fever that had taken hold of him, shattered his Vulcan calm and transformed him into a wild beast. He had been in plak-tow, he told himself, and not responsible for his actions, and T'Pring's rejection of him had been the breaking point. He had fought with Kirk, not as Spock, but as a total alien, consumed with the drives of aeons of ritual and tradition. Spock closed his eyes and shook his head despairingly. Excuses! Logic dictated his evaluation was correct; he had not been himself, had not been fully cognizant of what was happening around him - but upon his heart and soul lay a great weight of guilt and self-revulsion, and he could not shake it free. What had he done?

Kirk understood. Spock had seen utter acceptance and compassion in those expressive eyes...not to mention complete, unequivocal pardon, and McCoy, also, did not blame him. McCoy had simply ribbed him in his indomitable fashion about his show of emotion. But there was no condemnation, no repugnance, in the doctor. He too understood. So, to begin with... he'd not been himself. Circumstances, and T'Pring's contrivance, however logical, had placed them in the arena, to fight, to play out the contrariness of fate. Those circumstances would never recur. He would, no doubt, fall prey to the madness of pon farr in time

to come; he was, no matter how he viewed his dual personality and biology at present, a Vulcan; one could not change reality, and now that he had no wife to call upon, the situation would be even more difficult. But on this occasion the fires had been exorcised from him without the normal culmination of a Vulcan betrothal. Would it be possible to control pon farr? Could he subjugate it? Conquer it rather than let it conquer him? No. No! It would seize him, twist and enflame him, but next time he would have friends to assist him; who understood and accepted, and who would not let him suffer alone. A Human expression came to mind, which defined it aptly - 'A problem shared is a problem halved.' Perhaps it was true. But never again would Kirk be endangered by Spock's own hand. Never, he vowed. For today had also taught Spock that he could not bear to lose Kirk. They had an affinity

of the sort two Humans rarely shared, let alone a Vulcan and a Human. He would never knowingly destroy that. There! Knowingly! That was the key word. He had fought with Kirk, unknowing of his actions. Could he ever possibly come to terms with that within himself? His friends accepted him. Perhaps he ought to try and accept himself.

And now? Spock cancelled the viewer's image, snapped the machine off and glanced up from the screen. He did not believe he wished to be alone.

The door buzzer broke the silence. Spock's dark eyes gleamed and a half smile curved his lips. Even before he said, "Come," he knew who would be outlined in the doorway. Standing and turning, a thousand words were exchanged between him and Kirk without the need to revert to speech, then the Captain stepped inside and the door slid closed behind him.

"Bones said you were to rest," Kirk said softly, "but I didn't think that meant no visitors, and I wondered if you wanted to...needed to..."

"...to talk," finished Spock. "Yes, please, Jim."

Kirk smiled, moved to the chair indicated, and they sat.

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A QUESTION by Vicki Carleton

In the darkest recesses of my mind
I often wonder about all Mankind -
we strive to achieve, we reach for the stars,
we wonder if there is life on Venus and Mars.
Should we marvel at the atom or the brilliance of a star?
In this fast-paced world of ours have we really gone too far?
We often take for granted what we see with our mind's eye -
the colour of a rainbow across a painted sky -
to see, to touch, to feel; to perceive
the wonders of the universe, I believe
is the answer to the question in my mind
about the unsolved mysteries of all Mankind.

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FICTION COMPETITION

For once I'm putting the fiction competition last of all. This isn't deliberate, just the result of the return of winter. We're having to make contingency plans against my not getting to Janet's at the weekend, which include my doing all possible stencils completely; therefore I'm fitting this in here instead of another poem and compiling another full stencil to go before the fiction section.

The response from last N/L's competition was disappointing, although I admit it was a very difficult subject. We had entries from four people; one was sent in anonymously and therefore couldn't be considered - as I've said before, we will print stories anonymously, but we must know who wrote them, for copyright reasons. The others came from David Coote (two very short jokes), Ray Dowsett (also humorous) and Janette Steinton. After discussion Valerie and I decided that David deserved the prize for sheer brass neck!

For next time we've decided on a subject that we know a lot of people have wondered about. Why did Spock go back to Vulcan at the end of the five-year mission. Valerie and I have our own ideas on this and will probably write it some time, but we're sure a lot of you have ideas too. Entries should be sent to Valerie and should reach her not later than May 17th.

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And so we come to the end of another newsletter. Peace and prosperity to you all. Janet, Sheila, Beth, Sylvia, Valerie.

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PHOTOS

These cost 32p each for either an enprint or a duplicate slide. Please state clearly with your order whether you want prints or slides. Postage rates - up to 20 of either, 10p or 12p 21 - 32, 13½p or 17p; 33+, 16½p or 22p. If you put on insufficient postage we only make it up to second class as we make no profit on photos - we provide them at cost. Foreign - 85c each including postage. Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope to the appropriate value (foreign, addressed envelope). This saves us a lot of time.

We only get enough photos printed to cover the order, which goes in after the closing date for orders to reach us. Late orders will be printed but will be delayed, and will only be available as copy prints.

Most of the photos from City and Immunity Syndrome have arrived from the processor, (Mar. 15) but an unusually high proportion of them had been printed in reverse and had to be sent back. I would doubt that I'll get them now before this N/L goes out, and of course I'll be at Janet's during the first two weeks of April; therefore the photos will probably not be sent out until mid-April.

Orders for Man Trap should be sent to Sheila in Dundee and should reach her by April 30th. Please don't leave it till the last minute to send in your order, especially if you want duplicate slides. One 'City' order for slides reached me a week late, having been ten days in transit (2nd class mail).

Next time we'll be offering Miri.

Man Trap. The shots marked 'Telepic' are all of reasonable quality.

- 6/6 Uhura profile looking at negro crewman, waist length.
- 6/12 Kirk crouched beside stunned Crater, Spock sitting on Crater's other side.
- 6/17 Kirk back view just entering McCoy's cabin, McCoy facing him, Nancy sitting behind.
- 6/25 Salt vampire lying dead on floor
- 6/31 Kirk sitting at McCoy's desk looking towards Nancy stumbling forward.
- 6/32 Kirk H/S crouched behind block of stone, phaser raised.
- 6/40 McCoy H/S looking down, at doorway on planet.
- 6/41 Vampire as McCoy, knuckle to mouth, in cabin doorway.
- 6/42 Vampire as McCoy, hand to mouth, different angle. Identification is not certain.
- 6/43 Rand in Sulu's quarters looking at plants.
- 6/44 Crater back to camera looking at Nancy profile looking at Kirk & McCoy on surface.
- 6/45 Spock sitting on floor of McCoy's cabin after being thrown aside by 'Nancy'.
- 6/52 As above, closer shot. H/S.
- 6/56 Vampire as McCoy, Crater, sitting at table in briefing room.
- 6/60 Uhura at command station looking at Spock running his finger round his collar. Telepic
- 6/61 Sulu at communications, vampire as McCoy standing in bridge doorway.
- 6/62 Kirk screaming, vampire's hands on his face. Telepic. Not shown by BBC.
- 6/63 Spock H/S, plaster on forehead, almost smiling. Telepic.
- 6/64 Vampire H/S. Telepic.
- 6/66 Uhura returning to station, Spock in command chair looking very wooden. Telepic.
- 6/69 Kirk, Spock at Spock's station looking in viewer angled from below. Telepic.
- 6/73 Spock, pointing, on ground beside Kirk, planning to ambush Crater. Telepic.
- 6/74 Spock kneeling beside dead Green with communicator. Telepic.
- 6/76 General view of bridge, Sulu looking round at Kirk. 'I was just thinking about the buffalo.'
- 6/435 Kirk sitting in Crater's quarters watching off camera.
- 6/3399 Similar to 60, Spock with hand to mouth, proper clip.
- 6/4601 Kirk looking away from camera towards Nancy, profile, half length.
- 6/5350 McCoy lying on bed, half length, trying to sleep.
- 6/5355 Kirk facing Crater across table, McCoy between with his medical kit.
- 6/6072 Spock on bridge, plaster on head, different angle to 63, almost smiling. Proper clip.
- 6/6074 As 17, Kirk now holding out salt, Nancy moving forward.
- 6/6076 McCoy H/S smiling.
- 6/6077 Spock sitting to get off sickbay bed, Kirk arm only showing behind him.
- 6/6080 Darnell H/S leaning against wall holding 'Nancy's' shawl.
- 6/6084 Kirk quarter face talking to Crater, half length.
- 6/6087 Nancy standing over dead Green while Kirk is calling for him.

Prints only

- 6/P1 Spock kneeling beside dead Green, Kirk standing on other side with communicator.
- 6/P2 Spock, head, on sickbay bed, cut on head showing.
- 6/P3 Kirk lying over table, head in hands, vampire sprawled in corner behind.
- 6/P4 Nancy with her fingers poised on Kirk's face, Kirk 'frozen'. Waist length.

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SALES LIST

April 1980

This supercedes all previous sales lists.

Orders should be sent to Sheila Clark, 6 Craigmill Cottages, Strathmartine, by Dundee, Scotland. Cheques/POs should be made payable to STAG. It would help greatly if a self-addressed label (preferably sticky) were enclosed with each order (on large orders, one label for every 2 - 3 zines). Please remember to print your full name and address on your order as well. This makes it easier to check if something goes missing in transit. Prices include postage and packing. Foreign rates are \$6.00 US (£2.50) airmail, \$3.50 US (£1.50) surface unless otherwise indicated. Europe - use surface rate. Australia please add 25p per zine to the airmail rates - surface rates are the same as to America. If you pay by dollar cheque please add \$1.00 per total order to cover bank charges. Anyone paying by cash, paper money only please - our bank does not accept coins. Airmail takes up to 2 weeks; surface takes 2 - 3 months.

Log Entries 26, 27, 28, 29

£1.00 each

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(Stories by S. Mason, L Goodison, R. Oliver, T. Holmes & S. Marsh; poetry by R.Oliver, L. Goodison & J. Rutherford)

Log Entries 31

£1.00

(stories by G. Oliver, M. Hornlein & L. Goodison; poetry by R. Dowsett, G. Oliver & P. Sykes)

Log Entries is a genzine; we have a bias towards K/S/M relationship stories, but try to provide an assortment of stories to suit most tastes.

Variations on a Theme 1 by Sheila Clark & Valerie Piacentini

80p \$4.00 airmail £2

Reprint. An alternative universe story. A Spock whose Kirk has died searched the other universes for a replacement Kirk. He finds one whose Spock is a sadistic bully who uses Kirk sexually as a target for his cruelty and sets out to rescue him.

\$2.50 surface £1.25

Variations on a Theme 2 by Sheila Clark & Valerie Piacentini

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Reprint. The crew of the Enterprise have accepted Spock without question, but other problems arise when Spock has to go 'home' to visit 'his' parents.

Variations on a Theme 3 by Sheila Clark & Valerie Piacentini

£1.15

Reprint. The problems multiply. Spock must marry, but a wife will detect his imposture immediately.

Variations on a Theme will only be available to those who state that they are over 18.

As New Wine by Meg Wright

£1.15

Reprint. Spock (in command) and Kirk survey a newly discovered vulcanoid planet. What will this reversal in their roles do to their professional relationship?

Tomorrow is Another Day by Lesley Coles

90p

Reprint. While Spock is on Vulcan seriously ill, the Enterprise goes off on another mission and gets lost.

Vice Versa by Simone Mason

£1.15

Reprint. An A/U story set in a universe where Humans are forbidden by law to hold any high position, and Kirk is a key figure in a Human 'Plan' to alter this situation.

Vice Versa 2 by Simone Mason

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The friendship between Kirk and Spock has died...or has it?

Repeat Missions 1, 2, 4

£1.00 each

Stories reprinted from O/P Log Entries and one-off anthologies of ST stories.

Repeat Missions 3 - Baillie Collected

£1.15

All of Valerie Piacentini's Baillie stories that have been written. Some are reprinted from Log Entries but two are printed here for the first time.

Worlds Apart by Jenny Elson

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A zine of articles with related stories dealing with life on Vulcan, Earth and Starfleet in the 23rd century.

Prints of Barry Willmott's drawing of the Enterprise

20p each

Prints of Barry Willmott's drawing of Admiral Kirk (H/S) (from LE 31)

£1.00 each

Prints of Richard Gardner's Naked Time Collage

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