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Newsletter 36

"The glory of creation is in its infinite diversity and the way our differences combine to create meaning and beauty."

Honorary Members: Gene Roddenberry, Majel Barrett, Jonathan del Arco, Richard Arnold, James Doohan, Michael Dorn, Siddig El Fadil, Robert Justman, Walter Koenig, John de Lancie & Marnie Mosiman, Mark Lenard, Michael Okuda, Ernie Over, Nichelle Nichols, Susan Sackett, Marina Sirtis, Patrick Stewart, Rick Sternbach, George Takei, Guy Vardaman, Rupert Evans, Lorraine Kelly, Anne Page, Rick Parfitt, Bjo Trimble.

Hi. Welcome to another newsletter. We would like to give a special welcome to our new honorary member, Michael Dorn. Michael was an excellent guest at Contagion.

Apologies to those of you who were looking for the newsletter in September - we said it was due out on Sept 5th instead of October 5th. Most of you did spot that the closing date was Sept 14th and sussed out the mistake.

In the last newsletter we mentioned that there was to be a professional convention at the Albert Hall next February. This has now been confirmed. The Generations Convention is to be held on the 4th & 5th of February and it is being run by Horizon International, which is a company run by Eric Stilwell. They are advertising that all the TNG cast are to be there, subject to work commitments - see con ads.

A couple of members have asked us whether they should go to this event. They don't want to see professional conventions take over in this country but they do want to see the actors, so they are in a quandary. Our personal opinion is that this event is more a

stage show than a convention. If you want to see the actors then by all means go. On the other hand, if you want to go to a convention to meet and chat with other fans, watch videos and have closer contact with the guests, then go to a fan-run convention. The ideal is to be able to do both, which is what we hope to do. We plan to attend Generations (weather permitting), Sol III and Conundrum in 1995.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

The closing date for the next newsletter is Nov 9th (Nov 7th for anything sent to Sheila).

PLEASE put your full name on all submissions - if you don't and it gets separated from your letter then we can't print it.

Our order of preference for receiving newsletter submissions is:

Email - send to Janet and she will try to confirm receipt within 2 weeks.
(jquarton@arcade.demon.co.uk).

Computer disc - send to Janet. (ASCII text

files on MS-DOS, Atari ST, Acorn or Amstrad PCW - SAE to Janet for details)

By letter or fax - send written postbag submissions, articles and reviews to Sheila. Send news, cuttings, adverts and anything else to Janet.

Our thanks to Jennifer Blanchard, Ian Bricknell, Stephen Daniels, Barbara Ellams, Peter Fryer, Ena Glogowska, Joen W. Goss, Therese Holmes, Lyn Johnstone, Dejan Ladika, Paul Lazarus, Catherine MacLeod, Stephen McCall, Dan McCallum, Fiona McDonald, Stewart McMillan, Kevin Noble, Harminder Pal, Becky Owens, Margaret Rainey, Neil Safi, Jean Sloan, Karen Sparks, Alan Stephen, Jenny Turner, Joan Verba, Marion van der Voort, Mary von Heide, Linda Ware and anyone we have inadvertently forgotten to mention, for sending information and/or cuttings.

BADGES

You can still order IDIC logo badges from Janet at 50p inclusive of p&p. Please make payment in stamps. Also please enclose a self addressed sticky label or write your name and address on a piece of paper which we can stick on an envelope.

IDIC GUIDE DOG APPEAL

Sheila took 13 kilos of stamps and a *very* heavy collecting box to Forfar after Contagion, and at the same time met Darcy, our fifth dog, who has now gone in for training.

The collecting box held £107.27. We would like to thank everyone who contributed, with particular thanks to Taruka Quauhtezcatl and Judith Taylor, who spent much of the con rattling the box for us. Judith even approached Michael Dorn for a contribution (thanks, Michael!) We also took £130 over the table in second hand books, zines, etc. Thanks to everyone who donated these.

Darcy, a German Shepherd, is a big softy, a little paler in colour than Aero or Sadie and possibly just a little bigger. He's reported to be a little unsure of children (perhaps he should really be called Picard?) but is

beginning to settle in to his training - although the puppy walkers teach basics it usually takes at least a couple of months to show the effects of the specialised training.

We got £90 from the sale of second hand books, etc, at Archon, but didn't push the collecting box because one of the official con charities was also for the blind.

MAIL AUCTION

The following two items are being offered by auction in aid of the Guide Dog Fund. There will be two rounds; send SAE with your bid and you will be notified of the highest bid and given the chance to re-bid. If after the second round there are two or more equal bids, these people will be notified again and given the chance to up their bid. If we still end up with equal bids we will draw the winner.

Please submit bids to Sheila by 31/10/94.

The items for auction are:

Taruka Quauhtezcatl has offered to make a 'uniform to measure - your choice of series. There is a reserve of £20 on this item.

We've been given a set of Voyage Home front of house stills. These have currently been valued at £20. There is a £10 reserve on this.

RAFFLE

By popular request we are having another raffle in this newsletter. We are offering four prizes: a hardback copy of the novelisation of the TNG episode, All Good Things...; an autographed photo of Michael Dorn; an autographed photo of William Campbell as Koloth in the DS9 episode, Blood Oath; and the usual IDIC membership. For those who wish to take part - please state any preference and put it with your name and address or membership number on each individual ticket. Tickets are £1 each. (If you want any extra just send the money and we'll put in a ticket for you.) Please send your ticket/s (and money, of course!) to Sheila or Janet by November 7th. Winners will be announced in the next newsletter.

Please do not send £1 coins (some of these

have been lost in the post); we will accept stamps (any combination of values from 1p to £2).

USED STAMPS

From time to time, we're asked what kind of used stamps we collect - eg, are foreign ones, or George VI ones, of any use? The answer is yes. All used postage stamps are of use; all countries, all denominations, modern or 100 years old - though in the case of the last, you might do better trying to sell them yourselves to a stamp dealer!

Any American/Canadian members who would like to contribute used stamps can send them to Bill Hupe, 916 Lamb Rd, Mason, MI 48854-9554, USA and he will forward them to us along with a list of your names so that we can acknowledge them.

We would like to thank Irene Ambrose, Lynne Banister, Elizabeth Barrie, Neil Barrett, Jean Barron, S A M Bedford, Eilean & John Berridge, Sandra Blackwell, Jennifer Blanchard, R Blundell, Lynne Buckley & Buckinghamshire Fire & Rescue Service, Julie Burton, C Bury, David Butler, Alan Callaby, Sandy Catchick, Clement Chung, Susan Clarke, P Culucci, Contagion, Chris Coxon, E.D. Davies, Matthew Deegan, Barbara Duckas, Veronica Duthie, Sue Embury, Michael Farquhar, Ferengi Bazaar, A M Flowers, Gary Fraser, Mark French, Antje Freudenberg, Tony Garnham, Steven Gibb,

Glasgow Libraries, Philip Goodchild, Damian Griffiths, Meg Grossman, David Hall, Ursula Hartlaub, Gary Heron, Catherine Hill, Glyn Holland, Irena Hradecka, Bill Hupe, Sara Jackson, Christine Jones, Nanaki Kaur, Brenda Kelsey, Lloyd Lewis, Sadie Logan, C Macleod, Alex McPherson & HMS Scotia, Sadie Mason, Kerry McGuire, Sonja Migalski, Philip Morley, Bill Murphy, Maria Nausch, Maureen Norton, Harminder Pal, Suzanne Perry & sisters, Ann Peters, Linda Plume, Taruka Quauhtezcatl, Margaret Rainey, Janice Roberts, Vicky Roberts, Michael Sadler, Neil Safi, Baerbel Schmidt, Elaine Sheard, Karen Sparks, Alan Stephen, Maggie Symon, Judith Taylor, Yvonne Toop, Jenny Turner, Torres Pumps, Gratienne Vandekerckhove, Dorothy Wallace, S Watkin, Carol Weatherill, Daniel van de Weile, Denise Wendler, Sharon Wenzel, Di Williams, Edward Woo, Edwin Yau and anyone we have inadvertently forgotten to mention, for donations of money, collectibles, and/or used stamps for the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association. We can use all used stamps, whether British or Foreign. If possible please trim them, leaving 1/4" of envelope around the stamp

We hope you will enjoy this newsletter. We plan to post the next newsletter out around November 30th.

Janet, Sheila, Valerie 17/9/94



LATEST STAR TREK NEWS

compiled by Janet Quarton

SATELLITE

TNG 7th season has continued on Sky One on Sunday nights, while through the week Sky are repeating the whole run of TNG. As of 16/9 they are 7 episodes into the 3rd season with, The Enemy. This will surely mean that Sky One and BBC2 will be showing 4th season TNG at the same time,

although Sky should quickly draw ahead of BBC2.

Meanwhile a number of DS9 fans are upset that the screening of the 2nd season has been interrupted by TNG. I believe the plan is to continue with DS9 after 7th season TNG has been shown.



TNG 7th season does seem to be getting better ratings than DS9 2nd season did. DS9 was getting 0.35 - 0.45 million; TNG jumped in at 0.9 million on July 31st then dropped to 0.62 - 0.64 million during August.

STAR TREK **THE NEXT GENERATION**

• EMMY NOMINATIONS

TNG and DS9 were nominated in the following categories:

Outstanding Drama Series (TNG)

Sound Editing for a Series (TNG, "Genesis")

Sound Mixing for a Series (TNG, "Genesis")

Editing for a Series, Single Camera (TNG, "All Good Things")

Art Direction for a Series (TNG, "Thine Own Self")

Costume Design for a Series (DS9, "Crossover"; TNG, "All Good Things")

• **EMMY AWARDS** - TNG won awards for Sound Mixing; Drama Series ("Genesis") and Visual Effects ("All Good Things..."), but lost out to "Picket Fences" for the Best Drama Series Emmy. The Emmy Awards were on September 11th.

• TNG NOMINATED AGAIN

Fresh off its Best Drama Series Emmy nomination, TNG has a Best Drama Series nomination from the Environmental Media Association's annual awards. The Association recognizes TV productions (as well as film and music) that responsibly deals with environmental issues.

Winners are to be announced October 17, and the awards show is scheduled to air on TBS later in October. (Reuters/Variety)

STAR TREK: VOYAGER

• Genevieve Bujold was cast as Captain Elizabeth Janeway at the beginning of September but she walked off the set on the second/third day of filming. The official story is:

"Genevieve Bujold has resigned her role in Star Trek: Voyager. After several days of production, she realized that the rigors of episodic television were much too demanding," said producers Rick Berman, Michael Piller, and Jeri Taylor.

"We will remain in production while continuing our search for the best possible captain, and fully expect to meet our January 1995 launch date," they said.

Other reports were:

1) Rick Berman announced that Genevieve Bujold is leaving ST:Voyager because of creative differences. (CNN)

2) ..other reasons given for Bujold's leaving are that Bujold objected to the hair and makeup help provided to her, that she was unfamiliar with the Star Trek series and its prominence in American pop culture, and that Bujold is adamantly against giving news interviews. NY Times (15/9/94)

3) ...after 3 days of shooting on Star Trek: Voyager, Genevieve Bujold has walked off the set after repeated conflicts with the director, Rick Kolbe.

4) Bujold left the set after a scene at about 5:30 last night (Thursday) and then left the Paramount lot about an hour later after "discussions" in her trailer with the director (Kolbe?). She was scheduled to be filming until about eleven last night. The impression of those left behind was that she wouldn't be back and, as of nine this morning, she wasn't. (Reportedly from an 'insider')

5) "I did not study acting to play a cartoon character" says actress Genevieve Bujold, explaining why she bowed out of the lead role in the fourth instalment of the Star Trek TV series.

Star Trek: Voyager was supposed to be launched in January. Bujold walked off the set on the second day of filming last week after a dispute with the show's director. Cast members said Bujold's fall back to Earth was in line with her prima donna behaviour on the set. (Vancouver Sun - The article is simply attributed to News Services.)

Brannon Braga, in an interview, said that production continues on Voyager – the crew is shooting around those scenes involving the Captain.

According to "The Hollywood Reporter" Joanna Cassidy, Helen Shaver, Kate Mulgrew, Chelsea Field and Karen Austin were among the actresses being considered.

On 16/9/94 it was announced that Kate Mulgrew was to be the new captain.

• Jerry Goldsmith will be composing the Main Title Theme for the New TV series "Star Trek: Voyager". The Two-hour opening episode will be scored by Jay Chataway.

• A number of papers and magazines carried reports speculating on who was to be the Voyager Captain - all wrong - and then reports that Genevieve Bujold had been chosen. This was correct at the time - but, as you see above, events have moved on.



- The release date in the US is 18/11/94.
- Entertainment This Week, Sky One 4/9/94 showed some scenes from Generations. The uniforms look similar to uniforms worn on DS9. William Shatner said that he had made a friend in Patrick Stewart.

Bjo Trimble notes that the Tabloids were reporting quarrels between Patrick Stewart and William Shatner in April and they didn't do their first scene together until May 24.

• In Generations Marina Sirtis found the 'hot' seat hotter than she expected. Her scene began with an explosion, then she was supposed to pilot the starship. "But there were embers on the seat," says Marina. "I sat down and they set my bottom on fire. On the next take I went over to the chair and wiped it down first!"

STAR TREK on BBC/ITV

TNG 4th season returned on BBC2 for most of the country on 7th September but due to football Scottish viewers had to wait until the 9th.

Star Trek screening dates.

Ep.	Title	Date Shown
186	The Wounded (Scotland)	7/9/94 9/9/94
187	Devil's Due	14/9/94
188	Clues	21/9/94

STAR TREK DEEP SPACE NINE

Star Trek: Deep Space Nine.
Season 32 Broadcast Schedule.

Date = Date of satellite uplink.

Episode List-

Date	Episode & Title
24/ 9/94	447 The Search
01/10/94	448 The Search, Part II
08/10/94	449 The House of Quark
15/10/94	450 Equilibrium
22/10/94	451 Second Skin
30/10/94	452 The Abandoned
	448 The Search, Part II - written by Ron Moore, directed by Jonathan Frakes)
	449 The House of Quark - Quark marries a Klingon....
	450 Equilibrium - a Dax episode
	451 Second Skin - a Kira episode
	452 The Abandoned - a Jake story that the Jem'Hadar also figure in.

In the 9th episode this season, Jonathan Frakes will reprise his role of Lieutenant Thomas Riker. Jonathan is also slated to direct the 10th episode.

- **Note:** The season 2 final, *The Jem'Hadar*, was formerly called *The Dominion*.

- **Lolita Fatjo** (DS9 Script Supervisor) is now looking for scripts for the 1994/95 season. For guidelines & waiver, send self-addressed manila envelope with 59 cents (UK two IRCs) to Hart Bldg 105, Paramount Pictures, 5555 Melrose Ave., Hollywood, CA 90038., USA. (info Bjo's STC)

- Jose Gonzales on Usenet posted this information, from a Paramount press release:

'Star Trek: Deep Space Nine' Faces New Ventures and New Enemies in Third Season.

'Star Trek: The Next Generation' Cast Member Jonathan Frakes to Direct Upcoming Episode

HOLLYWOOD, July 21 /PRNewswire/ -- Production on the third season premiere of the Emmy-Award winning, first-run syndicated series "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine" began on July 11, 1994. Produced by Paramount Network Television and distributed by Paramount Domestic Television, the two-part season premiere, entitled "The Search," is scheduled to air the week of Sept. 26, 1994, and marks the introduction of a new Starfleet ship, *The Defiant*, which will be stationed at Deep Space Nine.

"The Search" is written by Ron Moore, co-writer of the critically acclaimed series finale of "Star Trek: The Next Generation" and the feature film "Star Trek: Generations." Formerly a producer with "Star Trek: The Next Generation," Moore will join "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine" in his new role as supervising producer.

"The Search, Part 2" will be directed by Jonathan Frakes of "Star Trek: The Next Generation" and the upcoming "Star Trek: Generations" feature film, while part 1 of "The Search" will be directed by Kim Friedman. Frakes has previously directed seven episodes of "Star Trek: The Next Generation" including "The Offspring," "Cause and Effect," "The Quality of Life" and "Attached," among others.

In the episode, the Deep Space Nine crew boards the new ship on a search for the Founders of the Dominion. The crew confronts the evil enemy known as *The Jem'Hadar* (introduced to viewers in the second season finale) in a fierce battle, and despite the superior defense capabilities of *The Defiant*, are left with a questionable fate.

Originally built by Starfleet to combat the evil Borg encountered in "Star Trek: The Next Generation," *The Defiant* is a powerful, fully weaponed ship that is approximately three times the size of the existing runabouts on Deep Space Nine. The addition of *The Defiant* to "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine" allows the senior staff to travel as a team into the Gamma Quadrant.

The Deep Space Nine crew will have the opportunity to utilize *The Defiant* throughout the third season when their adventures will include a visit to the planet Trill, an encounter with Klingons who believe Quark (Armin Shimerman) is their leader, as well as a special episode reminiscent of the classic "Star Trek."

All cast members return to "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine" for the third season. They include: Avery Brooks (Commander Benjamin Sisko), Rene Auberjonois (Odo), Siddig El Fadil (Dr. Julian Bashir), Terry Farrell (Lieutenant Jadzia Dax), Cirroc Lofton (Jake Sisko), Colm Meaney (Chief Operations Officer Miles O'Brien), Armin Shimerman (Quark) and Nana Visitor (Major Kira Nerys).

Rick Berman and Michael Piller are creators/executive producers of "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine." Ira Steven Behr is co-executive producer of the series. "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine" is based on "Star Trek," created by Gene Roddenberry.

- Paramount have produced a 3-minute 30-second program filler story about the exciting DS9 Season Premiere. This piece features lots of action-packed footage, including shots of the crew's new warship, the *Defiant*, as well as interviews with the show's executive producers, Rick Berman and Michael Piller.

MISC

• **STAR TREK PHONE LINE** SkyText are advertising this line, which is operated by TTAP Ltd., Borley, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 7AQ. They say they give the latest news and more... and that it is updated every Monday. The number is 0336 404343 and calls cost 39p/min cheap rate, 49p/min other. **BEWARE** as the tape lasts 5 minutes it would cost you £1.95 to hear it all each week.

• Various newspapers carried reports on July saying that Spock dolls could not be imported from China because of Euro red tape which decrees that toy figures made in China can only be imported into the European Union if they are 'human-like'.

However a Commission spokesman said that the reports were wrong and that the confusion arose because the world customs body distinguishes between human and non-human toys.

The quota on Chinese imports agreed by the EU ministers earlier this year covered non-humans - "soft" ones like teddy bears and "hard" ones like plastic animals. But there are no restrictions on human items like Barbie dolls.

Top bosses in Britain said they could have allowed customs officers to turn back models of Spock while allowing in those of Kirk. Teenage Mutant Turtles might be

rejected if they were classed as pizza eating reptiles. But they would be accepted if customs officers regard them as sewer-dwelling teenagers.

• **New Trek Logo** - Trek Collector reports that Paramount will unify all Star Trek properties & merchandise under a new universal symbol, first seen on Berkley System's new computer screen-saver Star Trek Posters, then during commercial breaks of TNG's finale All Good Things, & will soon be seen on TNG items.

• Skybox has a new series of behind-the-scenes trading cards which will cover the entire process from story pitch to set design, to production meetings, props and music composing.

• "Theatre, Jim, but not as we know it" Evening Standard 8/9/94. Bromley Production company JGL has bought the stage rights to Star Trek from Paramount, and is casting the first British theatrical adaptation for a tryout at Bromley's Churchill Theatre in November, with options on West End and Broadway runs.

[Sources of info - Dateline Starfleet, Bjo Trimble's Space Time Continuum, Internet - rec.arts.startrek.current/info/tandom]

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STAR TREK: VOYAGER

From Paramount:

Actress Kate Mulgrew will join the cast of "Star Trek: Voyager" as the first-ever female captain of a Federation starship, replacing actress Genevieve Bujold, who resigned the role after several days of filming. Mulgrew will immediately join the previously announced cast of this one-hour series scheduled to premiere in January 1995 on the United Paramount Network.

In making the announcement, creator/executive producer Rick Berman stated, "The Starship Voyager is lucky to have such a gifted actress as Kate Mulgrew at its helm."

From creators/executive producers Rick Berman, Michael Piller and Jeri Taylor, "Star Trek: Voyager" is set in the same timeframe as "Star Trek: The Next Generation" and "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine". The series, which premieres in January 1995 on the new United/Paramount network, chronicles the adventures of the Starship U.S.S. Voyager which finds itself in a distant part of the galaxy along with a former enemy, the Maquis. Together, they must find their way back to Federation space.

Captain Kathryn Janeway

Kate Mulgrew - Currently appearing in the feature film "Camp Nowhere", Mulgrew has

appeared in "Throw Momma from the Train" and "A Stranger is Watching". She has appeared in numerous television productions including the starring role in the NBC series, "Kate Loves a Mystery" (Mrs Columbo) as well as series regular roles on ABC's "Ryan's Hope" and NBC's "Man of the People". Mulgrew has also appeared in CBS's "For Love and Glory", "Roses Are For The Rich" and "Murphy Brown". In addition, she has appeared in NBC's "Daddy", "Cheers" and "The Word" as well as ABC's "Roots: The Gift", "The Mansions of America" and "A Time for Miracles".

Tom Paris

Robert Duncan McNeill -- His feature film credits include the leading role in *Masters of the Universe*. His television credits include his Emmy-nominated performance as Charlie in ABC's "All My Children", as well as recurring roles in ABC's "Homefront" and CBS's "Second Chances". He portrayed Colin in ABC's "Going To Extremes" and guest-starred in Paramount's "Star Trek: The Next Generation" and NBC's "L.A. Law".

Chakotay

Robert Beltran -- Beltran's feature film credits include "Shadow Hunter", "Bugsy" and "Kiss Me a Killer". His television credits include the series regular role of Lt. Soto in FOX's "Models, Inc." as well as guest-starring roles in ABC's "Lois & Clark: The New Adventures of Superman", CBS's "Murder, She Wrote" and HBO's "Slowbleed".

Tuvok

Tim Russ -- With feature film credits including "Mr. Saturday Night" and Paramount Pictures' "Fire With Fire" as well as the upcoming "Star Trek: Generations", Russ has also appeared in ABC's "Hangin' With Mr. Cooper" in the recurring role of Victor. He appeared in USA Network's "Double Cross" and has guest-starred in numerous television productions including FOX's "Living Single", NBC's "Sea Quest" and CBS's "Murphy Brown", as well as Paramount's "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine".

Harry Kim

Garrett Wang -- Wang will appear in the upcoming ABC series "All American Girl".

His feature film credits include "Flesh Suitcase" and "Angry Cafe".

B'Elanna Torres

Roxann Biggs-Dawson -- In addition to lead roles in such feature films as "Darkman II" and "Bound By Honor", Biggs has also appeared in "Guilty By Suspicion". Her television credits include NBC's "Round Table" and "Nightingales", USA Network's "Mortal Sins" and "Dirty Work", Paramount's "The Untouchables" and CBS's "Matlock".

Neelix

Ethan Phillips -- Phillips will appear in the upcoming feature film, "Jeffrey". His feature film credits also include "The Shadow", "Man Without a Face", "Green Card" and "Glory". His television credits include a series regular role on NBC's "Benson", as well as guest starring roles in NBC's "The Mommies", "NYPD Blue", "L.A. Law", CBS's "Murphy Brown" and Paramount's "Star Trek: The Next Generation".

Kes

Jennifer Lien -- Her television credits include the role of Roanne in the ABC series "Phenom" as well as the role of Hannah in NBC's "Another World". In addition, Lien has guest-starred in ABC's "Brewster Place".

Doc Zimmerman

Robert Picardo -- Picardo will appear in the upcoming feature film "Wagons East". His other feature film credits include "Gremlins II", "Innerspace" and "Back to School". He earned an Emmy Award nomination for his recurring role as Coach Cutlip on ABC's "The Wonder Years". In addition, he portrayed Dr. Richard on ABC's "China Beach" and had a recurring role in NBC's "L.A. Law". Furthermore, he has guest-starred in ABC's "Home Improvement", "From the Crypt" and NBC's "Golden Girls".

In the two-hour premiere episode, the excitement and adventure begin early when the Starship Voyager is dispatched in search of a Maquis ship which has disappeared in an unusual region of space known as the "Badlands". The Maquis is a group of resistance fighters considered outlaws by the Federation. The Starship Voyager finds the

Maquis ship but not before being swept up in a strange and terrifying phenomenon which sends the Voyager into the far reaches of the galaxy - so far that even at warp speeds, it would take nearly 70 years to return. The two diverse crews band together to explore this distant part of space and to find a "shortcut" home.

The following is the crew of the Starship Voyager:

Starfleet Captain Elizabeth Janeway (a human female) leads the combined teams of Starfleet and Maquis personnel. She is not the only female captain in Starfleet; however, her intelligence, thoughtfulness, dedication and diplomacy have earned her respect and recognition as one of the best Starfleet captains - male or female.

The Starfleet Lieutenant Tom Paris (a human male) comes from a proud family of Starfleet legends. When the pressures of living up to the family name result in tragedy, Tom is given a second chance by Captain Janeway. He boards the Starship Voyager determined to prove his worth and remains grateful to the captain for this opportunity.

The first officer is Chakotay (a human male) who is the steady, fearless captain of the Maquis ship. When the two teams become one on the Starship Voyager, Chakotay agrees to the position of first officer. A Native American who attended Starfleet Academy and became a lieutenant commander, Chakotay resigned his position to join the Maquis, a group of freedom fighters.

Tuvok (a Vulcan male) is the Starfleet tactical/security officer. Tuvok is a Vulcan with a powerful combination of wisdom, experience and vitality. His fit and active regimen and his ability to use his physical skills in battle inspire the Voyager crew, while his Vulcan equanimity and calm demeanor make him a valued peace keeper of the ship.

Harry Kim (a human male) is the ops/communication officer. He is a 21-year-old recent graduate of the Starfleet Academy.

Boarding the Starship Voyager after a stellar academic career, Harry is nervous about living up to his own expectations. Nevertheless, he looks forward to the challenges and adventures of space exploration.

B'Elanna Torres (a half-Klingon female) is the chief engineer. B'Elanna is a beautiful 25-year-old woman who is half-human, half-Klingon. A former student at Starfleet Academy, B'Elanna quit and joined the Maquis. She is tough, knowledgeable and independent, but her mixed heritage has manifested itself in a state of confusion and denial.

Neelix (an alien male) is the guide, cook and all-around handyman on the Starship Voyager. He is an alien unlike any ever encountered in the Star Trek universe since he comes from a galaxy that has never been explored. This strange-looking alien is a charming yet scraggly scavenger with wit and instincts that have enabled him to survive in this dangerous part of space.

Kes (an alien female) is a member of the Ocampa species -- a type of alien never before seen in the Star Trek universe. Kes is the delicate, beautiful, young lover of Neelix. Although she appears as a 20-year-old in human years, she is actually a one-year-old Ocampa (a species a life span of only nine years.)

Doc Zimmerman (a human male) is a holographic figure -- an emergency medical program devised by Starfleet. When the ship's doctor is unavailable or needs added assistance, the doctor can call on the holographic physician. Doc Zimmerman is programmed with up-to-date medical knowledge and is capable of treating any disease or injury.

"Star Trek: Voyager" is the latest installment of television's most successful franchise. When "Star Trek: The Next Generation" concluded its successful television run in May 1994, the two-hour series finale drew over 31 million viewers and further illustrated the stellar performance that earned the series its unprecedented 1994

Emmy nomination for "Outstanding Drama". "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine" has continued the success as it premiered as the highest-rated series in syndication history and currently ranks among the top ten hour-long series in syndication history and retains the No. 1 position among hour-long series on television among men, 18-49.

Berman, Piller and Taylor are creators/

executive producers of "Star Trek: Voyager". "Star Trek: Voyager" is based on "Star Trek" created by Gene Roddenberry. "Star Trek: Voyager" is a Paramount Network production for the United/Paramount Network. The Paramount Television Group is part of the entertainment operations of Viacom Inc.



Star Trek IN THE NEWS

compiled by Janet Quarton



The purpose of this column is to let you know which magazines to look out for as well as letting you know some of what has been printed in the papers. Most magazines are available from the book shops in the info sheets and you can often get back issues of newspapers if you write to the publisher.

• **ST THE OFFICIAL FAN CLUB 98** Aug/Sept 1994. Articles in this issue include: Star Trek Generations Update; All Good Things... report; Treknology - transporter; Richard Arnold answers questions; Bjo Trimble Column - John Abbott, Ayleborne; Interview with Leonard Nimoy; The Borg Quest - Interactive TNG video game; Preview of ST Generations; Interview with Terry Farrell; Profile of novelist Barbara Hambly; Federation Archives - Franklin Mint.

• **STARLOG 205** August 1994. Includes articles about Michelle Forbes and Denny Martin who co-scripted STVI.

• **STARLOG 206** September 1994. Includes articles on John de Lancie (Q), Booker Bradshaw (Dr M'Benga) and Peter Beagle a fantasy writer who also wrote the TNG episode, Sarek.

• **STARLOG 207** October 1994. Includes an article on Avery Brooks.

• **TV ZONE 57** July 1994. Includes part 2 of

an article on TNG designer Richard James and an episode guide to TNG season 7, second half.

• **TV ZONE 58** August 1994. Includes an article on writer/producer, Steven Bahr and an episode guide to DS9 season 2, second half.

• **TV ZONE 59** September 1994. Includes articles on Andreas (Narn Ambassador, Babylon 5) who played the Romulan, Tomalak, in 3 TNG episodes; and writer Morgan Gendel.

• **TV ZONE Submerged Special #14** Includes an article on the Star Trek Animated episode, The Ambergis Element.

• ST:TNG POSTER BOOKS

Issue 74 - Writing for the Next Generation - an interview with Ron Moore and Brannon Braga, plus episode guides to Frame of Mind and Suspicions.

Issue 75 - The Trouble with Transporters plus episode guides to Rightful Heir and Second Chances.

Issue 76 - Season 6 Overview plus episode guides to Timescape and Descent.

Issue 77 - Data's Family plus episode guides to Descent Pt II and Liasons.

• **STARBURST 192** August 1994. Includes part 1 of an interview with novelist Peter

David and an interview with Patricia Tallman who appeared in both TNG and DS9.

- **STARBURST 193** Sept 1994. Includes part 2 of an interview with novelist Peter David and an interview with Shannon Fill who played Sito in Lower Decks.

- **ST: THE NEXT GENERATION 30 (final issue)** (Starlog) Article on Season Milestones, Portrait Gallery and Mission Reports on Masks, Eye of the Beholder, Genesis, Journey's End, Firstborn, Bloodlines, Emergence, Preemptive Strike and All Good Things.

- **ST: DEEP SPACE NINE 8** (Starlog) Articles on William Campbell (Koloth), writers Michael McGreevey and Frederick Rappaport, plus the episodes Shadowplay, Playing God, Profit and Loss, Blood Oath, The Maquis Pts 1 & 2.

- **CINEFANTASTIQUE** October 1994. Includes a two page article on ST Generations.

- **CINESCAPE** August 1994. Include articles on ST: Generations on ST: Voyager

- "Midwest Klingons also a Charitable Lot" Chicago Tribune 8/7/94. Article about the charitable work done by the Klingon Armada International.

British Klingons also do a lot for charity. KAG, the Klingon Assault Group, has a number of IDIC members.

- "Much ado about Klingon" Guardian 14/7/94. The first conference of the Klingon Language Institute was held at a Philadelphia Hotel. Delegates debated weighty issues, such as the 750-member organisation's project to translate the Bible into Klingon. So far they have managed four books, including Jonah. They are also translating Shakespeare and have completed Much Ado about Nothing, four sonnets, and they're halfway through Hamlet.

The rendition of Hamlet has created particular excitement in the terrestrial Klingon community. "It's a wonderful example of a Klingon play," Mr Shoen said.

"It's about honour, revenge and family loyalty, and everybody is dead by the end."

- "Let's Parles Klingon" The Times 21/7/94 Libby Purves and her family are off to France but her 11 year old son prefers learning Klingon to French.

- "Aliens get a Glasgow Welcome" Evening Times 26/7/94. Short article and a picture of Michael Dorn, backed by two KAG members in costume, signing at Forbidden Planet in Glasgow.

- "Best Ears of my Life" Evening Times 18/8/94. Armin Shimerman says that the toughest part of playing Quark is the make-up. He has problems delivering his lines because Quark has crooked teeth and he is constantly biting himself in the lip.

Regardless of the difficulties Armin says that he loves playing Quark. "It's a dream come true to be part of a legend," he says. "I've done lots of theatre, TV and movies but when they bury me this will be my epitaph."

- "To boldly speak" Mail on Sunday 15/8/94 Full page article about the Klingon Assault Group in the US.

- "Still They Kling-on" Daily Star 22/8/94. General article on Star Trek and fandom to celebrate Star Trek's 25th Anniversary on BBC. It includes a short piece on William Campbell.

- "Greetings from Koloth" 22/8/94. Tonight Article about the Archon Convention at Heathrow. It also mentions Contagion in Glasgow, mentions that the convention raised £15,000 for charity.

- "Inside the Enterprise" Daily Star 23/8/94 Cut away picture of the Enterprise with the various parts numbered and identified.

- "To boldly go where no woman has gone before" Today 24/8/94. Full page general article on Trek, only notable for calling Walter Koenig 'William'.

- "I'm in good nick nick" Daily Record 3/9/94. Jim Davidson says he is a real Trekkie.

"The last time I played Glasgow me and the band dressed up like the crew of the Enterprise and we fired phasers at the audience - it was great!"

☆☆☆☆



Cast & Crew NEWS



• Fan Mail - Try actors' clubs first, especially with gifts! Mail sent to Paramount may not reach addressee. When writing to an actor always enclose a self-addressed envelope and an International Reply Coupon (available at main Post Offices.)

Send TNG/DS9 mail to Paramount Pictures, 5555 Melrose Avenue, Los Angeles CA 90038, USA.

Send Classic/Movie Mail to Lincoln Enterprises, POB 691370, West Hollywood, CA 90069, USA.

Exceptions:

Nichelle Nichols, c/o Jim Meechan, AR-WAY Prod., 22647 Ventura Bl, #121, Woodland Hills, CA 91364, USA.

Grace Lee Whitney, POB 69, Coarsegold, CA 93614, USA.

Robert Justman, POB 491008, Los Angeles, CA 90049-9008, USA

• **Rene Auberjonis** likes to get an audience to pronounce his name: Re-NAY Oh-BEAR-zhon-WAH.

• **Avery Brooks** is neither mentioned or seen in Paramount's new DS9 - Behind the scenes video. Paramount say he was not available when it was made.

• **Stephanie and LeVar Burton** had a daughter, Michaela Jean, on July 8th

LeVar Burton, will be returning to TV later this year as a new character on the CBS series "Christy." He'll be playing Daniel Scott, who comes to the fictional town of Cutter Gap to apprentice in the field of medicine under the tutelage of Dr. MacNeill. As the first person of African heritage to come to the mountain community, his presence will no doubt spark much controversy among the mountain folk.

• **Denise Crosby** was in an episode of The

Adventures of Brisco County Jr, on Sky recently. She played a sheriff in an all woman town (it is a comedy western series). (info H.S. Pal)

• **James Doohan** has asked Peter David to help him with his biography. "I found I wasn't a writer," Jimmy says, laughing. "So we called in Peter David, who's doing it with me."

There are very good stories to tell, but my agent, wife - everybody - told me I tell a hell of a lot better story than I write. So I'm telling Peter my stories."

The book will probably be out next spring.

The independent feature, Storybook, in which Jimmy plays a character named Uncle Monty who reads his nephew a tale about walking puppets that come to life, may be coming out soon. "It's really quite cute," he says, "and we're hoping a studio like Disney will pick it up and release it." (High Trek 15/7/94)

• **Terry Farrell** acted in Star for NBC and Red Sun Rising for HBO during her hiatus from DS9. She is reported to appear fully nude in Celerity Sleuth Magazine's Women of Fantasy 5. With computer abilities to put heads on other's shoulders, this may not be fact. Terry hosts the first DS9 video: Behind the Scenes.

• **Michelle Forbes** says, "There was a lot of talk of my going onto 'Voyager', but I'm not ready to commit to that any more than I was ready to commit to 'DS9' or any other series."

"If they ask me to make guest appearances as Ro, and my schedule allows, that I'd do. I like Ro very much and always enjoyed playing her."

Most recently, Forbes completed "Reel Film", an independent feature that takes a

satirical poke at Hollywood's hit machine. Her next project will be a Los Angeles theatre production of "Call it Clover".

When not acting, Forbes, who is single, can often be found hiking with her dogs, skimming through bad scripts or reading books "that'll probably turn into bad movies," she says. "I lead a pretty quiet life." (High Trek 5/8/94)

- **Jonathan Frakes and Genie Francis** had a son, Ivor Frakes, on August 20th.

They are hoping to tour in 1995 with a two person play called Love Letters. They both appear "as hapless parents in a new Disney live-action feature called "Camp Nowhere", starring with Christopher Lloyd.

- **Whoopi Goldberg** is in the movie Corrina Corrina, which got excellent review most of all because of great performance by Whoopi.

She also received an Emmy nomination for hosting the 66th Academy Awards.

Whoopi has adopted a 4-month-old girl, Dianne. (Philadelphia Inquirer)

Whoopi has signed for Warner Bros' Bogus with Gerald Depardieu, directed by Norman Jewison, written by Alvin Sargent.

- **DeForest Kelley's** house was not as seriously damaged in the earthquake as previously reported. It is now repaired.

His US fan club has ceased activity.

- **Walter Koenig** will be back aboard Babylon 5 in the 2nd season to reprise his guest-starring role as Bester. I think the episode is called A Race Through Dark Places. Expect him 1 or 2 times a season.

- **Gates McFadden** starred in the pilot for a new series called "Mystery Dance" which has not yet been picked up by the Network. The show was loosely based on Murder She Wrote, where a dancer in a travelling dance troop would also solve the occasional crime or two.

- **Colm Meaney** - David Puttnam's latest movie The War of Butoms" was premiered in Cork recently. Colm plays a mean-minded father in the film. (Evening Times 5/8/94)

- **Ricardo Montalban** -- after a year spent

recovering from spinal surgery -- is back with a vengeance.

The 73-year-old actor, best known to Trekkers as Khan Noonian Singh from the Trek-classic episode Space Seed and the movie Trek II: The Wrath Of Khan (1981), will return to television this fall, playing an angel in Aaron Spelling's new syndicated series Heaven Help Us.

Last July, Montalban suffered a spinal haemorrhage. Now, despite persistent pain and occasional spasms, his muscular control is improving and he can get around with a walker. His work on Heaven, he notes, forces him to get out of bed and helps keep self-pity at bay.

"When I first played Khan (on television) I really enjoyed it," Montalban says during a telephone interview from his home in California's Hollywood Hills. "The show was treated with all seriousness by everyone and that spirit got to me."

Later, when he was in his sixth year of portraying the composed, almost emotionless Mr. Roarke on TV's Fantasy Island, Montalban was asked to reprise his role as Khan in Wrath.

"I was dying to do something other than Mr. Roarke," he says. "It was wonderful, because Khan had become so passionate and consumed with avenging his wife's death by getting Kirk (William Shatner)."

Montalban's only complaint is that he had no face-to-face scenes with Shatner because the Kirk-Khan confrontations took place via viewscreen. "I had to do my lines with the script girl, who, as you might imagine, sounded nothing like Bill," he laughs. "Still, it was a very rewarding experience." Montalban counts Khan among his career highlights. (High Trek 2/9/94)

- **Leonard Nimoy** is talking to Amblin Entertainment about directing the two-hour pilot of the U.S. Dr Who. He says he will make a decision after he sees the script.

- **Gene Roddenberry** - A&E's biography of Gene aired in the States on July 14th. Providing reminiscences of Gene was an impressive list from both the original series and TNG. Majel Barrett provided home-movie footage of her and Gene's wedding in Japan, as well as other glimpses of their

family life. There was some nice film of Gene sailing with Jimmy Doohan.

Attendees of Contagion were lucky enough to see this programme, thanks to Richard Arnold.

Papers have continued to print reports on Engle's 'book' on Gene. I only hope they give as much space to David Alexander's Biography on Gene when it is published in the UK by Boxtree in November.

Unfortunately the papers like 'dirt' and one review of Engle's book in the The Mail on Sunday was very derogatory of ST fans as well as Gene.

- **William Shatner** is the voice behind British Airways TV ads for its "space-age service" to Europe. BA said: "When you think of Kirk you think of space and the final frontier. We are pushing back the frontiers of air travel, so he's ideal. (info Sun 13/9/94)

THE TONIGHT SHOW with Jay Leno NBC 28/7/94.

William Shatner was Jay's guest on The Tonight Show. Bill talked about how surprised he was with fellow actors' responses to him, while doing his book Star Trek Memories. He also mentioned doing the movie Generations, and how well he got on with Patrick Stewart, who he considered one of the best actors he had ever appeared with and a fine horseman - praise indeed from Bill.

Jay asked whether, in a straight fight, could Captain Kirk whup Patrick Stewart, Captain Picard's, ass? Bill replied Patrick doesn't have an ass.

Bill also said that his next book of memoirs, Star Trek Memories, will be out shortly, and his series Tekwar will air in the US and Canada in the New Year.

- **Brent Spiner** held out signing for Generations not for more money, but for other movie rights. He will appear in another Paramount film - not as Data.

Brent makes a cameo appearance in Whoopi Goldberg's new movie "Corrina, Corrina." He's one of the guys in the conference room when the Ray Liotta character is pitching his Mr. Potato Head and Jello jingles. No lines,

and the character's name is credited as "Brent Witherspoon".

Brent can currently be seen in an uncredited role toward the end of the film "Crazy from the Heart", currently showing on The Movie Channel (Sky).

- **Patrick Stewart** "Giving the Captain some stick" Daily Express 2/9/94. The writer recalls how he played As You Like It at the Sheffield Repertory Theatre with Patrick. He played Orlando while Patrick played The Wrestler, and was required to break Patrick's neck.

"In the wings we had a stagehand snap a dry stick while I yanked Patrick's head over my knee. Ladies in the audience fainted in their scores. Splendid fun."

On CNN Showbiz Today 26/8/1994 there was there was a set report from Patrick's new movie, Jeffrey. The movie is based on the play of the same name, and is a comedy about gay love in the age of aids. Patrick: "There were people who said 'Are you afraid this may damage your career'" ... laughs... "I mean, for instance I've once played Leconte in Winter's Tales who murdered his wife and both his children and it didn't damage my career."

Patrick stars with Signourney Weaver and Steve Weber. (info Dejan Ladika)

- **George Takei's** autobiography, To the Stars, is due in the shops in early October. He has also done an abridged audio cassette version.

Other tapes to watch out for are the audio cassettes put out by Simon & Schuster about the Adventures of Captain Sulu. The first cassette has sold well and George has recorded another one called, Cacophony, which was due out in September.

George will be making personal appearances to promote his book from late Sept through early Oct. He will be in Boston, New York, Atlanta, Little Rock, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Denver and all up and down the west coast, San Deigo, LA, Oakland, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle and Miami.

Oblivion, Peter A. David's first movie

screenplay, will also come to US theatres in September. George Takei will play the role of "Doc Valentine", the town alcoholic. The movie was shot on location in Romania, which is right next door to Bosnia. The movie will be "part sci-fi, part western, and part spoof." Mr. Takei said it is like a combination of "Naked Gun" and "Gunsmoke" (Naked Gunsmoke?) and will feature a cute line ad libbed by Takei.

George is due to film in Toronto in August for an episode of "Kung Fu: The Legend Continues", which will probably air in October or November.

[Sources of information - Bjo Trimble's Space Time Continuum (zine ads for ordering details); Media Watch; Dateline Starfleet; rec.arts.startrek.current@info.fandom]



MERCHANDISE



compiled by Janet Quarton

• BOOK UPDATE

The following information on proposed books is from TV Zone and is subject to change.

Sept STDS9 7: **Warchild** by Esther Freisner.

ST 71: **Crossroads** by Barbara Hamley.

Oct STNG 32: **Requiem** by Friedman & Ryan.

STDS9 Young Adult 3: **Prisoners of Peace** by John Peel.

To the Stars: George Takei's autobiography.

STDS9 The Jem'Hadar by Diane Carey

ST Adventure 8: **Devil World** by Gordon Ecklund.

ST: **Great Birds of the Galaxy** - Gene Roddenberry & The Creators of Trek

by Edward Gross & Mark Altman

Nov STNG **Dark Mirror** by Diane Duane

STDS9 8: **Anti-Matter** by John Vornholt

Where No One Has Gone Before by JM Dilliard h/b

The Nit-pickers Guide for Classic Trekkers by Phil Farrand

Captain's Log Season 7 Supplement.

The Law of Trek by Paul Joseph.

Dec ST 72: **The Better Man** by Howard Weinstein.

STDS9 Young Adult 4: **The Pet** by Gilden & Peterson.

Star Trek: **Generations** by John Vornhold

The Making of STDS9 by Gar & Judith Stevens.

Star Trek Federation by G & J Stevens hb.

ST Adventure 9: **Fate of the Phoenix** by Marshak & Culbreath.

Making of the Trek Films by Edward Gross

Lost Voyages of Trek & The Next Generation

• VIDEO UPDATE

CIC Releases - Info from Terry Shuttleworth

26/9 - TNG 88 Emergence/Preemptive Str.

DS9 22 Crossover /The Collaborator

3/10 - TNG 89 All Good Things Pts 1 & 2

(2 ep execution)

31/10 - DS9 23 Tribunal/The Jem'Hader

5/12 -

All Good Things Collectors (Feature Length Execution + Behind the Scenes + Generations Trailer +2 4 page booklet)

Borg Box - All the Borg Eps in a cubular (?) box. Special packaging etc etc

Q Continuum The Q Eps (except Farpoint & AGT) in a special box with special packaging etc

• **Star Trek Creator** the Authorized Biography of Gene Roddenberry by David Alexander. Published by Boxtree. Due in November

• **Gene Roddenberry, The Last Conversation**, written by Yvonne Fern.: A dialogue

with the creator of Star Trek. University of California Press, 2120 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, CA 94720-5810, USA, Aug. 1994, 244 pp., 5x8", illus., ISBN 0-520-08842-5 (cloth), \$20.00. [With a foreword by Arthur C. Clarke]

• **George Takei's** autobiography, **To the Stars** is due out in October. The book is published by Simon & Schuster. The audio cassette abridged version should be out at the same time.

• **SOLID STERLING SILVER STARSHIP COLLECTION** 11 ships plus DS9 space stations. Each ship has its own base, measures about 2" (5 cm) in length and contains over 400 grains of solid silver. The ships come out bi-monthly and cost £55 each. A distinctive wall display, with mirrored starfield background will be sent free as part of the collection. Franklin Mint, 138 Bromley Road, London SE6 1BP.

• **STAR TREK TRI-DIMENSIONAL CHESS** - first seen in *Where No Man Has Gone Before*, complete with rules. The 32 playing pieces are coated in sterling silver or 2-carat gold. Rather nice. £145. Franklin Mint, 138 Bromley Road, London SE6 1BP.

• **STAR TREK TANKARD COLLECTION** The Hamilton Collection. "SPOCK" porcelain tankard. One one side is Thomas Blackshear's portrait of Spock, encircled by a shooting star motif in 23K gold. Repeated at rim and base. The reverse as the Star Trek emblem and title, also in 23K gold.

• **SILK TIES** Tie Rack has the exclusive licence to sell silk ties under the official Star Trek name, translating colourful designs onto Italian silk. Featuring the Starship, and characters like Kirk, Spock and McCoy, there are a total of 8 designs at £14.99 each.

• **STAR JOURNEY - MYSTERIES of the GODS.** William Shatner investigates the work of archaeologist Erik Von Daiken. Merlin Home Entertainment, Running Time 60 minutes. VHS video £10.99.

• **STAR JOURNEY - LIFT OFF.** Patrick Stewart narrates this official account of

NASA's 1988 Columbia Space Shuttle mission, the most ambitious project since Challenger exploded. Merlin Home Entertainment, Running Time 52 minutes. VHS video £10.99. (Cat No: MER 1001, r/t)

• **WARNING** - I bought figures of the CT and TNG crews which I was told were Rawcliffe Pewter. These are in fact white metal fakes of very inferior quality. They are lighter in weight and colour, and very badly finished. They do not come with 'name tags'. Rawcliffe are attempting to find the source of these. (Marion McNaught).

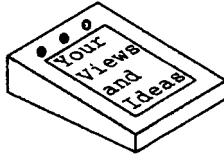
• **STAR TREK COMPUTER PRODUCTS** in the pipeline: (info Damian Griffiths)

Just released on CDROM for IBMPC is **Star Trek 25th Anniversary**. This is the prequel to *Star Trek: Judgement Rites*, and follows a similar format. The main difference between this and the floppy version is that now you get the actual voices of William Shatner et al instead of on screen text.

Planned for release in 1995, to coincide with *Star Trek: Generations*, is **Star Trek: A Final Unity**. This is a CDROM game for IBMPC, which has you exploring the galaxy and generally doing whatever you want. It is supposed to contain excellent graphics and sound, but that's about all I know about it as yet.

Also planned for a 1995 release is a *Star Trek Computer Encyclopedia*. I know even less about this, but it will probably be not unlike a computer version of the *Star Trek Technical manual*.





We welcome your letters of comment and discussion for this section on the understanding that they may be edited for length or content at our discretion.

Some pointers: When referring to anything in a previous n/1 make it clear what you are talking about for those who do not have that newsletter.

Keep your letters as short as possible - a maximum of 500-550 words. If you find this impossible consider whether you should be writing an article instead. As letters may be edited for length, if there is something you would prefer us not to cut please indicate this.

We encourage active discussion, but please try to avoid negative and aggressive letters. If you make a request which requires members to write to you please give your address.

Keep letters on a separate sheet from other submissions and put 'for postbag'.

• **Jacqueline Comben - Gower**

Flattering as it is to be mistaken for someone considerably younger than myself - and far more deserving of fame - I am writing this handy guide to future con attendees to save you from making the same mistake as was made three or four times at Contagion. Janet Quarton has dark hair and, if with dog, will certainly have Shona - a foxhound cross.

I (Jackie Comben) have grey hair, once fair, and if with dogs, will have two Cavalier King Charles spaniels. I wear glasses, Janet does not. I wear a gold ring on each hand, Janet does not. If one of us registered you at the con, it was me, not Janet! I am a member of IDIC, but not of the committee - I am, you see, a mere hanger-on!

Janet was a very good friend of Gene's. I only met him when he came over to a con - and that a very brief meeting at the bar

during which I uttered only one word, "Hello", before retiring in considerable disorder, awed.

I am, however, much more "pushy" than Janet, although far less deserving of notice. I jump up to ask questions of speakers, make points, etc. Janet does not. I smoke, Janet does not.

I sometimes wear a Bajoran earring, sometimes wear Trek or Bajoran uniform - Janet does not.

I love being mistaken for Janet, but don't like embarrassing those who mistake me - hence this guide!

• **Mark Cooksey - 14 Oak Drive, Syston, Leicester LE7 2PX**

To Janet Quarton - The scenes at the end of TOS were frequently the highlight of the show. When the scenes were missing I felt that the episodes didn't end on their usual high.

To Maggy Edwards - I also am very angry with the way Sarek and Spock were used in Unification. I can't understand why they killed Sarek and stranded Spock on Romulus. It would have been a much better episode if Sarek had lived and Spock left Romulus to be reunited with him. It would have been great to see Sarek and Spock work out their differences and then leave the end open for further adventures. I'm not even going to comment on the death of Kirk, as I'm still in denial about the whole idea. It seems to me that they are trying to sever all ties with Classic Trek by killing off as many of the characters as possible.

ST: Excelsior - I would much rather see the adventures of Captain Sulu and the Excelsior for the fourth series of Trek. The series would be great for fans of TOS and

TNG because it would focus on the events leading up to TNG, such as the new uneasy alliance with the Klingons; but the best part would be seeing a TOS character back on our screens again and would be great for people like me who feel cheated by the deaths of Sarek, Spock (he might as well be dead) and Kirk as they could make frequent appearances due to this series being set before TNG. At least this series would be boldly going where no one has gone before and not plodding through the galaxy looking for a way home!

Aliens in Trek - Now that we are going to have a fourth series of Trek, I think we should see more 'heavy make up' aliens like Morn and the others we see in the background of DS9 - apart from these aliens, every race in Star Trek has looked just like us. I want to see new and different races! I don't feel that introducing more races that look the same as us will keep the shows as original and entertaining as they have always been; Trek has always been the most entertaining show on TV because of its new ideas in all areas, and if everybody looked the same it would become boring to watch, not because the stories are not entertaining but because there is no visual appeal.

• Sheila Clark - Dundee

To John Snelling - There is a legend. Far, far to the north there is a rock, a hundred miles long, a hundred miles high and a hundred miles wide. Once every hundred years a bird comes to it and sharpens its beak. When the rock has been worn away by this, a single day of eternity will have passed. Using that as a criterion, I can believe in a literal interpretation of the Creation story.

• Jenny Turner - Birmingham

Well, TNG is finished. It's such a pity. Mind you, I didn't like it when it first started, it seemed a rip-off of the old series, and all the actors seemed nervous. But as the series progressed it worked, the stories got better and the people seemed to relax - so what do they do? Axe it! It seems odd to me to axe something that is doing so well and bringing in such a lot of money.

Okay, I know the \$\$ signs are what

counts and if the films make more money so be it, but I bet like thousands of others I will find it odd not to have McCoy or Spock in the film, even in a cameo role. Why couldn't they have had the Undiscovered Country extended and finished off properly? Did Spock bring peace to Romulus? What happened to McCoy? Did Scotty finally get to sail his boat? Did the others get command of other ships, or what? We only sort of know what happens to Kirk (if true).

The old series was definitely the best in my opinion. It may seem corny now, with all the SFX etc on NG, but it was ST as I know it. It gets everywhere - even when I was in hospital there was a doctor called Kirk! I nearly fell out of bed laughing. Another patient was a ST fan too.

I hope the NG films are a success and they make more than one - but as for Deep Space 9 they can keep it! As for Voyager, I think they are milking it a bit too much.

• Maggy Edwards - Coventry

To Ann Coulstock (p45) - Sorry, Ann, can't seem to cool down, not after so many Trekkers have worked so hard to keep Kirk & Co alive for 25-odd years, only to have some NG script try to destroy them. I seem to remember all those statements prior to NG saying the series would stand on its own feet, not be an attempt to re-create the original series. What happened? There seems to be this compulsion to mess up the original characters and destroy the series. Is it really such a threat to NG? But beware - if it's Kirk today, maybe it will be your favourite character tomorrow!

Yes, I know people can't live for ever - but Kirk & Co are not people, they are characters in Sci Fi, and in fiction they can live for ever. As I'm sure zine editors will tell you, Trekkers don't like to read of the deaths of the main characters. So as long as we original Trekkers ignore NG, Kirk will live on. But is that what Paramount really wants? To lose \$\$ when all those classic Trekkers stay away from the NG movie because they can't bear to see Kirk die?

Remember, all you GNers, if the movie

doesn't bring in \$\$ there won't be another. And in the future, I'm sure you too will be just as protective of 'your' generation. I just wish Kirk & Co would be allowed to fly off into space and let us decide for ourselves how and when we imagine they go. Didn't Paramount learn anything from ST I? But then again, maybe they did. ST 8 - The Return of Kirk?

To Rory Smith (P23) - It was a figure of speech - Spock might as well be buried, they dressed him in a shroud!

I loved the Michael Sadler item (P 69), made me smile - very unVulcan!

• **Maureen Norton - Canvey Island, Essex**

Re professional novels v zines - I haven't read any zines as there are so many on offer. I could do with some recommendations as to which to buy.

To David J Raper - For your Amiga, I suggest you contact Scribble Pd at 2 Hillside Cottages, Burstall, Suffolk IP8 3DY and send them £1 for a catalogue disc (with free game) plus 75p P&P. I can recommend Trek Trivia (an excellent CT quiz). We also have a TNG tactical adventure which is hard to start with but could keep you going for hours. For anyone who's stuck there is a complete guide to the 25th Anniversary game in Amiga Action issue 55. I have the Gameboy game, but I'm still useless even with the level codes! Here they are anyway - stage 1, 0523-4; stage 2, 4262-0; stage 3, 6841-2; stage 4, 3310-7; stage 5, 7057-3 and stage 6, 6046-2. I also hear that Sega will not release their TNG game for Mega Drive this side of the Atlantic as it would have to be quite an expensive cart due to large memory needed etc. and they don't think it would sell as well over here.

Does anyone remember a Western series, probably late 70s-early 80s, starring Kurt Russell and (I think) Tim Mathieson as two brothers, one brought up by Indians and one in the city. I would really love to find out the title!

Finally, a quote from a non-Trek friend. "Hey, what do you think about this new series, they've got a bald bloke as

Captain and 'Dr' Spock's not in it!" She couldn't understand why I thought it so funny!

• **Baerbel Schmidt - Ashford, Kent**

To Keith Morton - I think the main reason Worf is still on the Enterprise is his son Alexander. When he first came to live with his father he was a very difficult and aggressive child. At first Worf wanted to send him to Klingon school to learn Klingon ways, but Deanna showed him that Alexander's problems were due to feeling abandoned. First his mother died, then his father gave him to his foster parents and sending him away again would do more harm than good. In a stable environment and having learned to trust people, Alexander improved.

Re the relationship Deanna/Worf - I like it. It was a surprise for me first when it became apparent, and it was hard for me (for a time) to picture her with somebody other than Thomas or even Will Riker, but now I think they are a very interesting couple with lots of potential. It's a shame that with the series over we will probably never learn much about it.

To Simon J Growcott - Yes, if it's a crime to record movies from TV, all owners of a video recorder are pirates - so why are blank cassettes available everywhere? I think it's only a crime to copy from sales cassettes and sell these copies to others - but copying something from TV as a favour to a friend is not a crime. People complaining about this should think about the positive effects; not so long ago you could only watch TNG or DS9 on tapes from the USA; there was no German version on TV at all. I know many German Trekkers who went to England to buy their favourite episode from the shops

At the end, a remark towards the discussion about Ferengi women. In The Jem'Hadar, Quark said that Ferengi have no slavery, no concentration camps or interstellar wars in their history. His conclusion is, the Ferengi are therefore better than Humans. Well, Quark, think again! What the Ferengi are doing to their female population is nothing else than slavery! (I

hope we see Pel again.)

• **Judith Hopkinson - Hull**

I read in TV Zone 57 that during the filming of ST Generations the Captain's chair, which had been used throughout the TV series, was stolen and another had to be made. I was saddened, not by the loss of the chair, but at the thought of who might have done such a thing - surely not a Star Trek fan - and yet who else would want it? Have they thought of asking Dixon Hill to look into it, and does Kivas Fajo have an alibi?

Talking about Spock's surname (N/L 35 P 14), does anyone know if Worf has a surname? Is it Rozhenko? I know this is the name of his adoptive parents, which he may not have taken, but his son is given as Alexander Rozhenko and he can only have been named this by Worf. If Rozhenko is Worf's surname, why is it never used? No other crew member is called only by his given name.

I too am wondering about my ST Encyclopedia, is there any way one can tell if it is the corrected version or not?

To Jean Perrin (P36) - You are not the only one who wondered if she should have more sense. Not really knowing anything about fan-clubdom, I had half expected it to be mostly teenage males. I am also surprised and pleased about the number of females involved. I am shortly hoping to attend my first convention and trust I find the same mixture there too.

To Matthew Hemsley (N/L 34 P51) - My favourite characters are Chekov, Dr Crusher & Kira.

I enjoyed the episode Thine Own Self, but I wasn't convinced that an organisation like Starfleet would just let officers re-take parts of an exam ad infinitum as Troi seemed able to do. Also I thought she wasn't very respectful to Riker on the two occasions when she was talking to him about failing the exam. I know they have a special relationship, but she should have been particularly careful about how she spoke to him as he was her examining officer. What

did everyone else think? I do think wearing a proper duty uniform has made her seem much more professional and I definitely take her more seriously than I did before she wore it.

• **Lesley Arrowsmith - Hereford**

To Simon Growcott - Re pirate videos. There was a move, some years ago, to force all home tapers to wipe their tapes 28 days after they had recorded a programme. The Bill was abandoned early in its passage through Parliament because it was recognised to be totally unworkable. Since then the preferred option has been to put a surcharge on blank tapes as a royalty to TV companies, but I don't know if that's actually happening.

To Edward Woo - Re mutinies. Surely the crew would be right to mutiny if the Captain had gone stark staring bonkers (as Garth had)? I recommend The Caine Mutiny by Herman Wouk on this very problem, also an excellent film starring Humphrey Bogart.

To John Snelling - I agree that physical change in species has little to do with the personal preference of an individual of that species. However, I would find it very hard to belong to a church where I had to believe that the Creation story was literally true. The more I find out about scientific discoveries, especially in physics and astronomy, the more wonderful the Created universe becomes.

• **Alberto Gorin - Holland**

I would like to thank the staff for their very good work. I couldn't do it!

On my third Enterprise A I used super (one second) glue. I also used it on 1701-D. I also (at last) found that the runabout is a new shuttlecraft, and there is a new Enterprise - I asked the men at the shop.

It would be nice if Kirk was trapped in a black hole that led to the future or the past. For me he's the top admiral of Starfleet. I would like to have with the motion picture longer TV shows with many special effects. When will the motion picture come out?

I know why Klingons and Romulans are dull, we only see them when they are fighting. I would like to know how life is on both ships. I wonder how both ships look in DSP (DS9?). Hope we see it soon on BBC.

About signed photographs - I wrote to William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy, with IRCs - no answer. I also wrote Richard Dean Anderson and Oprah Winfrey - both sent signed photographs back.

• **Stephen Shaw - Stockport**

To Gloria Fry and all - Planet Earth. Contrary to the introduction to the 'pilot' episode shown on BBC, this was not a first pilot episode, it was the second pilot episode; the first has also been broadcast in the UK and was called Genesis II. The story is set up in Genesis II and Planet Earth follows on directly. You missed some of the story if you only saw Planet Earth!

To Gloria - Nice to find another Animation fan. While I can see Paramount's point in treating the movies as official and the cartoons as not, nevertheless Gene had far more input to the cartoons, which were much closer to the original than the rather militarised movies. The cartoons allowed more aliens!

To Judith Taylor and others - Arable farming need not be eco-destructive! Tearing up hedgerows actually destroys the soil by allowing increased erosion. There is also nowhere for helpful bugs and birds to live. We need a determined and sane agricultural policy but arable farming can be quite good.

It has just come to me where I met a Bashir-character. That characterisation is not at all out of line. I once came across a similar young doctor on board a very small transworld ocean-going ship (12 passengers + crew) who was enjoying seeing the world cheaply. He once appeared for evening meal in full dress uniform - with dress sword. And quite enjoyed eating truly exotic food. Siddiq has it just right for a frontier doctor!

• **Dallas Hadaway - Maud, Peterhead**

I have just received my second newsletter and I simply wanted to say Hi to

everyone and congratulate IDIC on a well run and informative club. My passion for TNG began two years ago when Sky started showing TNG, although I always enjoyed CT. I'm glad to see DS9 is improving too. I felt a little disappointed with the first season generally, but it's getting better and I'm eagerly awaiting Voyager. I really don't like to compare the series. They all have their good and bad points and we all have different opinions. We should just agree to differ and leave it at that. On the other hand, as my favourite character, Beverly Crusher, seems to get slated, please beware, anyone who claims to dislike her had better have a good reason as, like any good fan, I'll defend her to the end!

To Su Taylor (P 45) - I believe Crusher to be a very strong character. Over the years she has never backed down in a given situation and will stand by her convictions no matter what, eg Symbiosis, Ethics and Transfigurations. She often plays devil's advocate, throwing the proverbial spanner in the works, eg Clues and I, Borg; and has even been known to disobey a direct order or two, as in Suspicions and Descent II, she is so motivated to preserve life or get to the bottom of a mystery!

• **Ann Peters - Kidderminster**

To Marysia Kolodziej - I know it's widely mentioned in books, but I'm not convinced that a few bolts of lightning acting on a mixture of amino acids is enough to start life. If it were that simple, it would surely have been done in a lab by now - something the Creationists are rather quick to point out. I think life began in volcanoes. The early Earth, it seems, had very many small tectonic plates all colliding and separating, so there would have been much more volcanic activity than there is today. Vulcanism provides constant heat and a constant supply of chemicals, so there would have been a lot of chemical reactions taking place and the probability of 'life' reactions might therefore have been quite high. Even today there are bacteria around volcanoes, so the hot environment would not be a problem for primitive life. Who knows, maybe Venus supports a thriving community of heat-loving bacteria right now.

Whether or not DNA is universal must surely depend on whether or not alternative replicating mechanisms are possible, given the properties of the various chemical elements. If there are no alternatives then any organic life must be based on DNA. If there are alternatives, then statistics would suggest that exactly the same structure would not arise on all planets, and alien cell replicating systems would be different from ours.

Regardless of internal physiology, I feel that any scientifically intelligent life must have a big brain, a sophisticated communication system, manipulative limbs of some kind, and the ability to function well on dry land (for experimenting on fire, particle acceleration etc). Given these restrictions, maybe space travelling aliens are really quite likely to be humanoid.

To David Horman - Are you sure that the universe began expanding at the speed of light? I get the impression the rate is undecided as yet. Please convince me otherwise.

• **Nanaki Kaur - Birmingham**

To Marie Park - I liked your article Command Ability. Thank you for voicing my opinion and defending Deanna Troi. After all the praise showered on the DS9 women, the NG women have been left in the background. I for one think that Troi and Crusher are strong characters even though they're not always seen in command situations.

To Stephen Daniels (P29/30) - I must disagree with you. I liked Dark Page. If all the NG episodes were only technobabble, I don't think the series would have made it past the pilot. The thing that makes TNG special to me is the characters and what happens in their lives. I've really enjoyed watching all of them grow and develop for the past seven seasons, and I'm looking forward to further developments in the movies.

To Matthew Hemsley (N/L 34) - My favourite characters are Spock, Troi, Quark - but it took me two newsletters to decide!

To Michael Sadler - Have you read any Peter David novels? Or Michael Jan Friedman's? They're the NG books worth reading. Okay, some NG novels are pretty naff. I gave up reading Chain of Command because the characterisation was so off. However, before you condemn all the NG novels, I suggest you read one by the above authors. I'm sure you'll enjoy it.

• **Carole Taylor - Rossendale, Lancs**

To Shaun Brannigan - Re your famous misquote "Beam me up, Scotty" - ever tried convincing a supposed ST fan that it's actually Mr Spock, not Dr Spock!

To Roberta Martin - I agree about the poor standard of professional novels generally, but I think it's all a matter of personal taste. For instance, the three books you recommend (Sanctuary, The Vulcan Academy Murders, Ghost Walker) I didn't find impressive at all. It's just a shame they're such expensive mistakes to make. Does anyone else agree that the price of books these days is ridiculously high (and getting higher!)?

• **Tracy Saunders - Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex**

To Pen Cramphorn - I disagree with you that it must be selfish to have children at any age. I said it was selfish after 50. I have a very stable relationship with my mother who is 22 years older than me. We do quite a lot together, but what happens with mother being 50+ years older than their son/daughter, especially when they get to the age when they need their mothers most, eg adolescence?

To Taruka Quauhtezcatl - I never intended upsetting you. I was brought up in the East End of London where racism is at its worst and I have always encouraged my foreign friends to keep up their customs, so as not to be defeated by the racists. I do apologise if I upset you.

By the way, I have never read a book on the aboriginal religions. I get my information from my Spirit Guide White Cloud. I would like the translation of your Aymara quote. If we are still friends maybe you could tell me where I could get some

aboriginal Indian music? Thanks a lot, and again please accept my apologies. Please keep up your culture. Don't let these so-called racists stop you.

To Martin Helsdon - I am aware that there is a dark side to every culture, but I cannot accept the fact that the whites had any justification to massacre them so that they would believe in the white's religion. A friend was talking to me about certain cultures in Asia that ate dogs; but as I said to her, they also find it disgusting to kill the 'sacred cow'. It is how you are brought up; you don't know any different. Just because it doesn't appeal to us doesn't mean it is wrong. (May I take the opportunity to thank White Cloud for his help?)

To Gloria Fry - I was interested in your comments about the feud between Spock and Sarek. When did this feud come about? Also how can a logical race have a feud, especially since they don't have emotions? Could you possibly explain?

To Marysia Kolodziej - I know people have been chopping down trees and about the mass extinction of animals. That is why people should start thinking what they are doing now, because of the effect it is having on the planet.

• **Clement Chung - Ipswich**

In This Side of Paradise, Kirk said to Spock that if he beamed down to the planet, no-one would be able to get back to the ship. How did he beam down and back before (just after Uhura left for the planet)? If Commander Data is always looking for some of his 'kind', why not look at I, Mudd?

From my first look at season seven, I get the impression that it is more 'dark' than the other seasons, eg Genesis, Sub Rosa, Thine Own Self, etc.

As some know, there is a new PC CD-ROM ST:TNG game out. The very nice people at Microprose have made a colour A4 and 2 B&W flyers for computer shops, but I got one. Write nicely to Customer Services, Microprose Ltd, The Ridge, Chipping Sudbury, Bristol BS17 6AY. I got an answer

within days. I warn you, there are a lot of mistakes on them! Can you spot them?

Thanks for telling me how the stamps help blind people. More enclosed!

To Maureen Norton - So you have the Captain's Yacht. No wonder we haven't seen it on the telly!

My view on DS9 and Babylon 5 is that they should merge the two. DS9 is too clean for me and Babylon is more realistic as a station of the future, but the B5 acting is terrible, so wooden! DS9 and TNG focus on all the actors - B5 should be renamed The Commander Sinclair Show. I never liked that C Christian, but still I watch it.

• **Catherine Carter - Harrogate, N Yorks**

To Ann Coulstock - storing videos? Simple next time you buy a bed get one with drawer's under it. This has the added advantage in my case that you can hide your secret addiction from your (non-resident) family. I love 'em all dearly but they have tongues like razors and minds like steel traps and I would never NEVER hear the end of it.

To all those who disliked Best Destiny and the juvenile delinquent Kirk. I thought it all made reasonable sense - nobody said the kid was dumb just angry - traumatised by Tarsus IV, bothered by an absentee father and tugged at by a roving disposition enough to knock any one of the rails temporarily. I was a thoroughly poisonous adolescent with much less excuse and I turned out OK (I think).

I'm so impressed with the answers I've got to questions so far - thankyou Ray Dowsett and Pen Cramphorn - here's another one. In the Tholian Web Kirk is believed dead and Spock and McCoy are rifling through his belongings and you see a shot of a medal - big silver thing with a red, white and blue ribbon - I've always suspected that we're meant to recognise it but I don't. Any Americans or americaphiles out there know what it is?

• **Margaret Rainey, Harefield, Middlesex**

While recovering from Contagion

(congrats to the organisers, by the way, it was great) I was telling a friend who wasn't at the con about the panel discussion on the future of Fandom. We got to reminiscing about The Good Old Days, and in a manner that's only *slightly* tongue-in-cheek, we'd like to offer the following proposals:

How about starting a Campaign for the Preservation of Real Fandom? CamPReFan. Its major objective would be to hold a Real Convention; only those who can prove they were active in fandom or attended at least one con pre-1985 (say), would be eligible to attend. It would have no guests, and would be limited to a maximum of 250 attendees. We'd stage it in a hotel (the Leeds Dragonara-as-was?) with a decent lobby area so we could sit around and gab a lot, Classic Trek would be a major feature of the video programme, we'd have only amateur dealers like ScotPress in the dealers' room, there'd be a decent Zine Library, we'd have Real Room Parties, and play "Starship Trooper" at the disco a lot, have panel discussions on "whatever happened to Real Fandom", and generally indulge in a lot of "do you remember when". We could call it "Wrinklie Con"!

Any takers?!

• **Roger Neal - Didcot**

(Email:- kjb@kjbmac.demon.co.uk For the time being!)

To Michelle Oldroyd, p16. I think you could get a sentient hologram on a star ship. In the TNG episode Elementary, Dear Data we saw Moriarty. In the ST Chronology (page 106) "...results in the accidental creation of a computer software-based sentient intelligence.." The creation was accidental, but it shows that a hologram can be sentient.

To Raj Badham, p35. Although you are right about the ship speeds, a ship cannot go from Impulse to warp 9.9 without an acceleration period. It still won't normally add up to the 15 seconds, so you could say it was a very under powered Bird of Prey.

To Neil Barret, p39/40 and Rory Smith. The replicators get the "food" from a "organic

particulate suspension" - page 153 in the TNG Technical Manual. Having read The Prime Directive, Dilithium could not be replicated because of its unique structure and abilities.

To Edward Woo (again) I gave you some duff info in the last N/L. I am going to the MIDCON and not Wolf 359, sorry.

To Judith Hopkinson, p22. I have just spent eight months trying to find a company making Tridimensional Chess Sets. In the end I gave up and made my own! If you have any luck in your search please can you let me know. If you decide on making your own, I can let you have a set of my rules and plans. [Ed: see Merchandise Section]

I am sitting here watching Decent II and I am furious that both Picard and Riker left Bev in command. It has shown that Bev cannot follow orders. How can you beam up over 1000 people in less than one minute (according to the Tech Manual this is impossible)? It was very irresponsible for Picard to beam down most of the ship's company in a possible combat situation.

Anyway it's time to watch the rest of the episode, but before I go, I have just watched some of All Good Things, I was at a friend's house and his TV blew up whilst in the Neutral Zone with the "NEW" Enterprise D, isn't it awesome or what!

• **Sara Jackson - Leeds**

To Neil J Barrett: Are you going to be at Lightspeed '95? I'm hoping Taruka and Judith will be going again. A round of tequilas on me, guys! (Don't say a word, Neil. What I meant was - I'm buying).

To Marysia Kolodziej: I see you too are mourning the loss of Quantum Leap. What do you think of Time Trax? I seem to be hearing a lot of negative stuff, but personally I think it's well worth watching.

To The Temple of Doom: Loved your article Alien Sex Appeal; but you missed out Khan Noonian Singh! Judith, what an oversight! Extremely handsome, vastly intelligent and physical perfection. Who

could blame Marla MacGivers for giving up Starfleet!!

To anyone familiar with the Hamilton Collection: Don't you think they're going a little overboard with Trek merchandise? Who on earth can afford to buy every issue??

• **Stephen Daniels Smailholm, Nr. Kelso**

SPOILER ALERT Having watched the 7th season episode 'Thine Own Self, I was left with a somewhat confused understanding of the procedures for promotion on board the Enterprise. Deanna was a Lieutenant Commander, but she decided she wanted to be a full Commander. We aren't told how many days the episode spans, but at the end of it she has received her promotion! All she did was take the Bridge Officer's test. When she fails the Engineering Qualifications test Riker consoles her with the fact that she has passed diplomatic law, first contact procedures, and bridge operations. I'm no expert, but surely if Deanna managed these then Data could also. Why is he still a Lieutenant Commander? I'm sure he'd know all about secondary plasma vent characteristics and other ship statistics, and would have no qualms about sending Geordi to his death if it was necessary in order to save the lives of the others on board.

The flashing light at the bottom of the main viewer on the bridge is a carryover from CT where I expect it was just put for effect.

To Marion van der Voort (N/L34 p44) I got my Star Trek Encyclopedia in a bookshop (Waterstone's) so does that mean it will be OK, or is it full of errors too?

To Simon J. Growcott (N/L35 p30) I believe there has been an amendment to the copyright laws which permits temporary home recording. Recording on a permanent basis is, however, another matter. Re taping 6 x 45min TNG episodes this adds up to 4.5hrs, so wouldn't fit on an E240 (4hr) tape. All is not lost though, BASF produce an E300 (5hr) tape! You can even get (theoretically ahem!) 6 original Star Trek episodes at 50mins each on it.

• **Catherine Hill - Staffordshire**

To Andrew William Merritt - Hi! I too am a teenage member, I'm 13. I agree with you about Voyager. I too am sure that it will be as successful as the previous series. The more I hear about Voyager, the more excited I am about the expansion of the Trek universe.

To Edward Woo - Re Sisko's command presence. I agree that Sisko does have command presence and I also think that he is a good character. There is a lot of slagging off of Sisko, no-one seems to like him much - I do like him and I'm glad that someone else at least has something positive to say about him.

To everyone - Firstly, my favourite characters are - OT, Spock/McCoy, TNG Data/Geordi and DS9, Kira. All right, I know that's not one per series, but I really couldn't decide between the characters in OT or TNG - it's just too difficult to decide between all the fantastic characters in Star Trek! Secondly, I want to say something about the BBC in agreement with a lot of other members. I thought they had finally got their act together, putting TNG back on, when in the middle of the 4th season they take it off again! I know it is because of Wimbledon/the World Cup, but it really makes me angry to think they could put TNG on and take it off, just like that. Oh, well, back to videos and Babylon 5, I guess, until September.

• **David Cameron - Dalbeattie, Dumfries & Galloway**

SPOILER Re the end of TNG as a series. Personally I think this is a good idea, simply because the writers seem to have run out of ideas for the characters - season 7 has been very, very mediocre (exceptions being Phantasms, Parallels, and The Pegasus) with people's relatives continually cropping up (Data's mother, Geordi's mother, Worf's brother, Deanna's long-lost sister, etc, etc, etc) giving the show an unlikeable soap-opera feel. I only hope the movie will be better, but the inclusion of the Duras sisters, the destruction of the Enterprise-D and the death of Kirk are leading me to serious misgivings.

To Dave Styles - How much of season

2 of DS9 have you seen? in episodes such as The Maquis, Paradise and The Jem'dahar, Sisko plays an important role (Avery Brooks is also great in Crossover as the alternative Sisko).

Re DS9 in general, it's getting better all the time and I think by season 3 they'll have cracked it. I just hope that Voyager doesn't cause it to suffer the way TNG did when DS9 arrived (though most scripts for seasons 6 & 7 of TNG were pretty unimpressive anyway). As for Babylon 5, it certainly has the potential to be far superior to DS9 (not being tied by the Star Trek universe) but so far this hasn't been realised so I still prefer DS9.

Re Star Trek: The Roleplaying Game, I've run this on a number of occasions and it's good fun (just ignore the Action Point system and use your common sense instead). There are only 2 slight problems - the first is you've pretty much got to write your own adventures and the second is non-Trekkie players (the ones who throw themselves across the room when you tell them the ship shakes, or constantly beam down redshirts for cannon fodder, and so on). A good game all the same, though.

Finally, favourite episodes and characters. I'm a Classic fan so my top 5 episodes are probably City on the Edge of Forever, For the World is Hollow, This Side of Paradise, Where No Man Has Gone Before and The Paradise System. Favourite characters are McCoy (just!), Riker and probably Odo.

• **Clare Finkel - Woking, Surrey**

Is the telepathic link between Spock and Kirk a common theme throughout fanzine literature? (I've only been ordering from ScoTpress.) If so, how did it come about? I saw no evidence of it in the series. The only possible evidence I've seen was in one of the movies, where Spock failed at Kolinahr because he longed to return to space. One might stretch it and say Kirk was calling to him.

I believe in infinite diversity and that people should be able to fantasize in any direction. I guess what I'm wondering is if

anyone out there is fantasizing in my direction. Unfortunately it is difficult for me to explain 'my direction'. I know I'm very interested in the 'logic versus emotion' theme. We humans cannot do without emotion as Spock tries to, but I think we need logic desperately. I agree with Spock that emotional motivation is the root of all our wars and our personal human difficulties. Emotion enables us to love and care, but it also stimulates us to hate and fear what we perceive as a threat to ourselves, our possessions and those we love and care about. Of course, logic alone would leave us empty.

My personal belief is that logic must rule over emotion, even emotion that appears good. Emotion is so irrational that we can't always tell if it's good or not.

What do you think?

• **Teresa Dawn Whaley - Huntingdon**

Re Glyn Holland's letter - I've always wanted to stick a Garfield on the front viewscreen and maybe hang a pair of fluffy dice up.

I have now seen several episodes of DS9 and all I'll say is "They are different."

Major moan - Star Trek is about Gene Roddenberry's vision for the future and I don't like the way it is being bastardised just to make money for Paramount. Do we really need another series so soon (ie Voyager)? Bring back TNG!

Top 5ish OT episodes - The Trouble With Tribbles; The Naked Time; A Piece of the Action; All the Other Episodes. Top 5 TNG episodes. The Naked Now; Data's Day; Rascals: The Game; Second Chances.

To Matthew Hemsley - favourite characters - Kirk, Riker & Dax.

To anyone - I am a desperately hard up unemployed student on a strict budget (if it costs money I can't afford it!) and would appreciate any zines that you could let me have for postage. Write to T D Whaley, 32 Moynerd Rd, Sawtry, Huntingdon, Cambs

PE17 5TN.

• **David Hall - Ashington, Northumberland**

I would just like to express how good it was to read "A Case for Comparison" by Lorraine Goodison between the series Deep Space 9 and Babylon 5 in IDIC 35, for whilst the original and present TNG outings of Star Trek remain the definitive space series, a comparison between these 'newcomers' was most welcome, in particular in view of the 'guest actor' who checked in to make a most interesting appearance on this 'rival show'.

Of the final series of TNG, and whilst Sky are now thankfully delivering the goods, I have no doubt that many will have had 'sneak previews' of the episodes that are still to be released on video cassette in the UK, courtesy of the satellite channel SAT 1, and whilst I will refrain from adding any notes on such here, for the sake of those who prefer to see an episode without 'advance details', such German dubbed screenings have however provided a fascinating taste of the goods still to arrive at a video store near you, and suffice it to say that All Good Things is everything it is said to be - and more!

Finally a big thank you to all at IDIC for producing such an informative magazine - live long and prosper!

• **Anne Marie Flowers - Glasgow**

To Pam Baddeley - I too cannot accept Beverly in command. As for Troi - she should have failed the Commander's exam. The episode title was part of the quote 'To thine own self be true'. I would much rather have seen Troi working out the solution but being unable to give the order which would have been a death sentence for Geordi. If we are expected to believe that Troi and Beverly are strong characters, then let's see them facing up to their limitations for once.

To Judith Hopkinson (P 22) - If you thought the Paramount compilation was clever, you should see the Bohemian Rhapsody tape which was shown recently at Contagion. The scenes from TNG were carefully fitted to the words of the song - outstanding!

To Baerbel Schmidt re Journey's End - I disagree with you. I think the Federation was right to try to evacuate the planet. An ethnic minority with no intention whatsoever of integrating with its neighbours is a perfect set-up for suspicion, resentment and eventually violence. Would you trust a Cardassian to leave you alone? Picard knows what they are capable of - I don't think he can be happy leaving Wes there, although anyone who can pull himself out of time will probably be all right.

Re the holographic character on Voyager: I wonder if this is Star Trek's attempt (finally) to allow the crew to interact with the ship/computer on a personal level.

To Michael Farquhar - Like you, I think the best thing about DS9 is the Bajoran culture and religion. Of course this has nothing to do with the fact that Vedek Bareil is absolutely gorgeous! I suppose we had Klingons on TNG and Vulcans on CT. While we're on the subject, can anyone explain to me why Sarek was left to suffer? Surely such a logical race would practise euthanasia?

• **Michael Farquhar - Golspie, Sutherland**

To Andrew Carnegie (P 44) - Data isn't just a walking computer - he is a sentient being with a strong sense of what is right and wrong, a strong sense of duty and loyalty, and the ability to think for himself. That's why he didn't follow Pressman's orders in The Pegasus. In a similar vein, Data disobeys a direct order from Picard in Redemption II, after which Picard told Data that Starfleet needs officers who think and act, not blindly and unquestioningly follow.

To Stephen Daniels (P 29) - If the treatment of Alyssa Ogawa is bad (although see Lower Decks for a better view of her) what about poor Dr Selar? Appears in one episode then forever condemned to being eternally paged over the ship's intercom!

To Keith Morton (P 25) - Maybe the challenge of being Starfleet's only Klingon is a greater source of honour for Worf. Incidentally, I dislike the heavy-handed way that Worf treats Kurn - as an extension of himself. Kurn (as younger brother) is

expected to follow Worf's commands in everything, regardless of any opinion of his own.

Re Lower Decks - This is definitely one of my favourite episodes this season, and I agree the power of the story is going to be diluted if Sito lives in Voyager. Is there any chance we'll see any of the other three officers in Voyager (including Ogawa)?

• **Ann Lindsay Wright - Merseyside**

To anyone - I have a 486SX33 processor CD-ROM with ISP-IG audio board (Windows 3.1). I am having great difficulty in getting ST games to play. I have Interplay's ST 25th Anniversary on CD. It loads but I can't get it to play. Help.

Has anyone got more info on the Horizon ST con Generations, such as where and when tickets are available? If anyone in the Formby/Southport area is thinking of going, how about going together? [See ads]

What does anyone think of Q Squared by Peter David? I took the author's advice and "assumed nothing". From page 1 it confused me, then just as things were becoming clear it went off on a tangent again. Having said that, though, I enjoyed it immensely. I think one of the most enduring things about Trek is the interconnection of the generations, Classic Trek and DS9.

Finally does anyone know where life-sized cardboard figures of the TNG crew can be bought in this country? The only ones I have seen are from the US. [Sheila - some of the SF bookshops are carrying them. Try Sheffield Space Centre, 33 The Wicker, Sheffield.]

• **Chris Bailey - 7 Balliol Dr, Didcot, Oxon, OX11 9RH**

To all - William Shatner fans wanted for exchange of information and lists, etc. If interested, please write to my new address above with details. If you're a WS fan and want to know what films, programmes, he's starred in, or what his character name in them was, I can let you have a copy of my own list, containing more than 340 entries; drop me a letter. SAE appreciated, but not

essential.

Re the Shatner 'bashing' debate - a personal observation. There's no mistaking the fact that Bill has worked very hard over the last three decades, and more, employing a multitude of personal acting skills acquired along the way to display some very convincing characters, Captain James T Kirk foremost, of course, but also others, to excellent and convincing effect. I know this, because I've seen him in action on screen enough times to remain convinced! It goes without saying that Bill is the sort of actor who tries his damndest to give 100% every time to achieve his character portrayals. You disagree? Well, witness the sheer quantity of programmes that he has starred in! How many actors can claim the same? Not many! So it's quite, er, logical to presuppose that being so dedicated and singularly focused on what one is doing could, from another's point of view, be construed as indifference, and cause a certain unintended friction.

Equally, I would like to add, I have followed all the Classic Trek actors' careers with great interest and admiration for a number of years and continue to do so. I personally feel that each and every actor in their own special way, has given us fans (Trek or otherwise) much thoughtful insight and enjoyable entertainment, in an otherwise dull, dreary and often dangerous universe, and much else besides; someone to look up to, and wish that we could be the same as they - special.

To all - Christmas is coming, and Aaargh!!! I just hate those boring old frumpy cards the shops keep pumping out, don't you? It's jolly well time we Trekkies pulled our fingers out and came up with a better design! With this in mind, I'd like to invite discussion, both personal (see address above) and within the Postbag pages, on Xmas 'Trek' card designs. There are, of course, many ways to design a card, either by hand, photocopying or even computer generated artwork. Personally, I favour the last way; designs by computer. If any IDIC member wishes to make comments on, offer artwork for, or give their opinions on how to go about designing, printing cards (both B&W and

colour), I'd love to hear from you. If you have a PC, using MS Publisher V2; or an Amstrad PCW series machine using MicroDesign V2/V3, let me know, as I make use of both myself, but could do with hints and tips to help... or indeed, any computer-using any DTP software, I'd still love to hear about any card projects that you are working on.

• **Pen Cramphorn - 29 The Lanes, Pudsey, W. Yorks LS28 7AQ**

To any IDIC members living in or around Nottingham - Because of work we will be moving from Yorkshire to Nottingham - I'd be really grateful if anyone could write and let me know where there are good schools, playgroups, doctors etc. I will refund any postage.

Re Lessons - What I find surprising about all this is - why is everyone so surprised? I imagine being on a large Starship to be much the same as an overseas posting in the services. My father was in the RAF and when we were in Aden, affairs (liaisons, relationships, what you will) were rampant from the C-in-C downwards. You have a group of like-minded people away from home, in a war zone (as the Enterprise often is) - it makes sense that they are going to form - and change - relationships. Sex and companionship are basic human needs; would being on a Starship alter human nature to that extent? What does everyone else think?

To Stephen Daniels - Maybe Beverly does mix socially with Nurse Ogawa, but we'll never see it. She certainly seemed interested and supportive to Ogawa in Lower Decks. And did Bones ever spend spare time with Chris Chapel? I don't remember - but he always seemed to be her friend.

To Taruka Quauhtezcatl - If you're going to run a postal library, do you want donations of books and zines? I've got some you can have.

• **Suzanne Vann - 8 Wildfell Close, Christchurch, Dorset, BH23 2PU**

To Andrew Merritt - I too am a teenage member and a first time contributor to the

newsletter. I am 14 and have been a Classic Star Trek fan for over a year now. My favourite characters are Chekov, and in TNG, Data.

To Baerbel Schmidt - Thank you for the Babylon 5 address. Although I prefer Star Trek, I like Babylon 5 very much. Did anyone see Walter Koenig's guest appearance?

I would also recommend Traitor Winds as reviewed in N/L 35. It is a terrific book and great value for money. Other good books to look out for are Ice trap and Death Count (also by L A Graf) and The Disinherited (Peter David, Michael Jan Friedman & Robert Greenberger).

Can anyone explain to me why Kirk and the crew never seem to be off the bridge? Obviously they cannot work for days on end without meals and sleep, so who takes over when they have gone? Spock is usually with the Captain on the bridge. In the novels, characters are always disturbed in the middle of their sleep but why do we hardly ever see this on the screen? One other point I'd like to make is that when Kirk beams down to the planet surface he is nearly always with Spock. Surely as Captain and Second-in-command one of them should be aboard the ship in case anything happens? I would be really grateful if someone could explain this to me.

To Richard Hewitt - I would also like a copy of Star Trekkin'. I think it was sung by a group called The Firm but I am not totally sure: can anyone verify this?

I have included my address, should any poor bored soul want to contact me. I will be happy to hear your views and will reply to all letters.

• **Adam North - 88 Aylsham Rd, Norwich, Norfolk, NR3 2HN**

To all - I am in the process of writing my first TNG story and I would appreciate it if anyone could tell me which Starbases are situated near the Romulan Neutral Zone.

To Marie I J Park - I'd just like to say

thanks for your article Command Ability. It needed to be said. Troi is my favourite character (it's not just because she's absolutely gorgeous!) but I've always felt that her character should be more involved with the bridge. I recently saw the episode Thine Own Self where I was pleased to see her become a full bridge officer. (By the way, Marie, Ro is my least favourite character.)

My mother has asked me if I could find out if there is anyone she could write to. She's 48, she loves TNG, her favourite characters are Riker and Picard; she's not a member of any clubs but she would really like to have someone to talk Trek with (my Dad is not a Trekker.) Please write to her at the above address. If anyone would like to write to me, I'm at the same address.

Finally, to Marina Sirtis - You said that you're really hurt that Paramount won't miss you as much as you'll miss them. Well, I'm certain that all the fans around the world are going to miss you. I think that's more important than the ***** at Paramount!

• **Philip Morley - Fleetwood**

To Andrew Merritt - Hi, there. Yes, I'm 16. As to why the Klingon Bird of Prey's design hasn't changed, 150 years is an exaggeration. It's more like 80 years. The first time we see a B of P was in Star Trek III, and of course they keep popping up in TNG. Ship builders in the C23 - 24 must be good at their jobs because the Excelsior class design is also the same age, as is the Reliant type vessel.

To Pam Baddeley - As explanation as to why Dr Crusher was given command in Thine Own Self was because she is a fully qualified bridge officer. Apparently non-command officers can take this test to enable them to command a ship.

To Andy Percy - USS Constitution NCC 1700; USS Enterprise NCC 1701; USS Farragut NCC 1702; USS Lexington NCC 1703; USS Yorktown USS 1704; USS Excalibur NCC 1705; USS Exeter NCC 1706; USS Hood NCC 1707; USS Intrepid NCC 1708; USS Valiant NCC 1709; USS Kongo NCC 1710; USS Potemkin NCC 1711.

To Matthew Hemsley - Presumably the producers of Star Trek would want the Voyager flung a fair distance from home so it would take several years to get home. But if the Voyager ended up in the Gamma Quadrant, then this would not be the case because the co-ordinates of the wormhole must be known, therefore the Voyager would just return home via the wormhole. Incidentally, that's a good get-out clause. If the series is a flop, to end it quickly you could just have the Voyager encounter a wormhole that sends it all the way home.

• **Pam Baddeley - Farnborough**

To Shaun Brannigan - I read Picard's remark about material things to refer to conspicuous consumption, rather than paying for essentials and the occasional treat or present. I imagine they do have credits but these are mostly 'plastic' rather than actual coins. Meals, etc, are either provided as part of the job or an electronic tab is deducted from their salaries/bank accounts. In DS9 they do use currency - gold-pressed latinum - so it might just be because TNG is focused on Starfleet that we don't see money changing hands.

To Dave Smith - Captain Merik wasn't a Starfleet Captain; he failed the exams and didn't get into the Academy. John Gill was a historian. If you want examples of Starfleet types who went off the rails, there are two who behaved dangerously following mental breakdowns - Commodore Decker (Doomsday Machine) and Garth (Whom Gods Destroy) but the only person who was a real villain was Lt. Commander Finney (Court Martial) who framed Kirk in revenge for Kirk's having logged a dangerous error Finney once committed, and therefore prevented his promotion.

To Douglas McIntosh - I don't see how people find Kira useless. We get more information on her years in the underground in season 2 and she plays a pivotal role in a trilogy in that season where she is extremely brave and averts a crisis. Opinionated and stubborn, maybe, but not useless! I would agree that a really strong character is one who has vulnerabilities but still manages to do what is necessary. If someone lacks

weaknesses, you can't relate to them and they don't come across as interesting or convincing. I think Troi and Crusher are strong characters in the true sense but I would still like to see better things done with them scriptwise.

To John Snelling - Yes, I'm sure the geothermal springs are mentioned. Spock says they'll have to create a hydroponic garden using them but he'll have to make do with eating animal flesh in the meantime.

To Jacqueline Comben - It's many years now since I listened to it so I can't recall the details, but I'm sure the record Inside Star Trek has a track about Spock's origin which includes details of how he was brought to term in an artificial womb, etc.

To Carol Sterenberg - I found your article on Data very interesting but I disagree as to why Jenna became disillusioned with her relationship with him. Her behaviour throughout is rather immature - clinging possessively in front of others, for example - and she strikes me as someone interested only in what she was getting out of the relationship. She got upset because he was unable to be focused only on her, for example when she finds out that only part of his attention was on kissing her and the rest on umpteen other programs he was running. Although, as you say, he was being extremely considerate by developing programs just for her, this was not 'romantic' or spontaneous enough for her. She saw it as artificial and lacking in passion.

Re Taruka Quauhtezcatl's article on shapeshifters. The vampire in The Man Trap doesn't actually change shape. When we first see it, McCoy sees it as the young Nancy he knew years ago, Kirk as the older Nancy and the young crewman as a blonde woman he once met. The creature seems to project an image into the person's mind rather than physically change shape. And re the Kelvans, I believe Spock caught an impression of large, multi-tentacled beings.

• **Gratienne Vandekerckhove - Belgium**

To Douglas McIntosh - If you want an academy with more or less the same ideas/

ideals as presumably Starfleet has, then in our day and age it can be nothing else than a United Nations Academy, preferably based in neutral territory with no ties to a major power and open to everyone regardless of their social, cultural, political or religious background.

Postal library - for those interested, STAG runs a library; the person to contact is Sara Lyford-Smith, 8 Highfield Rd, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 5DF.

To those whom it may concern - Give the guy a break, please. If you don't know who I'm talking about, I'm referring to William Shatner. I get the distinct impression there is a continuous smear campaign going on, or is it that he is such a grateful character for that kind of dirt? For Heaven's sake, he's just a human being with all his strengths and flaws, like any one of us. If for instance every little (or large) negative thing I've ever said would be printed or referred to, well, I can assure you it definitely wouldn't show a very pretty picture! If he's such a bogey man as some would want us to believe, how do you explain he's such good friends with Leonard Nimoy? Or doesn't that tell you something about him?

• **Joan Marie Verba - Minnetonka, USA**

In answer to a question, there was most definitely a television program called Tales of the Gold Monkey, starring Stephen Collins and including a dog named Jake with an eye patch. This program only lasted one or two seasons, but a friend of mine was so fond of it that she published a fanzine with stories based on that program.

Most science fiction fans recognise that many science fiction stories and novels are of poor quality. Someone once approached the late science fiction author Theodore Sturgeon (who wrote Amok Time) and said that 90% of science fiction was rubbish. Sturgeon agreed, saying that 90% of everything is rubbish. This quote became known as Sturgeon's Law.

If the vegetarians are going to advocate that all of humanity should adopt their diet, they are first going to have to find a cure for various physical disabilities that require

humans to eat meat. I, for instance, have very severe food allergies. If I ate nuts, peanuts, or coconuts, those foods could kill me. I also have very strong reactions to beans (including soybeans) and other vegetable proteins. If I were not allowed to eat meat or dairy products, I would not survive. One out of every 100 humans has food allergies severe enough to kill them, and it takes only a tiny amount to do that. I carry a prescription adrenalin syringe at all times in case I am accidentally exposed to food I am allergic to. Unfortunately, many vegetarians overlook people with allergies. I'd suggest that before vegetarians tell others how wonderful a vegetarian diet is, they examine the consequences first. *[Ed - Due to lack of space we have cut all other references to vegetarianism in this n/l but felt Joan's pointed needed to be stated. Apologies to everyone else but this topic has got rather away from Star Trek and something had to go.]*

• **Carole Weatheril - Twickenham**

Well, folks, it really is a bit late in the day to decide not to be so 'tunnel vision' regarding Classic Trek v TNG. TNG is now in its final series and here's me trying to catch up with all the early episodes now running/ showing twice daily on Sky. I'll admit that in the beginning I could not accept TNG; Wesley drove me mad. It seemed that with him around to almost solve many situations, Captain Picard and the rest were unnecessary, and why should he go to the Academy at all when he seemed to know so much already. And Picard - why did he never smile? What was he afraid of, that the bridge crew would think less of him for a touch of whimsy? Whatever, I now watch it and have only missed a couple of episodes - I thought I might as well, and if I didn't I would not understand the tie up with DS9.

I do now enjoy TNG, especially as I can always watch Classic Trek whenever I need that favourite, friendly, warming fix. I soon came to learn that Wesley wasn't so awful after all - "he is a prodigy," as Picard is advised in an early episode "and will show himself to be an excellent student and member of the crew". I also like Worf.

As in all things in my life, I'm a slow learner and don't take well to change. Classic Trek had all that was needed to make it a great show, with humour, brotherly love, and hope for the future. TNG lacks the humour (except with Data, a great character), is very military in its presentation, but is great with the special effects in this high-tech era. DS9 - I've not seen much of, but what I have seen I like. Channel 4's Babylon 5 - a slow start, but with each weekly episode it is proving a most interesting show and the characters are interesting and developing well. Thank goodness there is still some sci fi on normal TV.

• **Matthew Hemsley - 54 Bancroft, Glascote, Tamworth, Staffs B77 2ES**

To Richard Hewitt - Re Star Trekkin'. I'd be happy to do you a copy if you'd like. If you do, send me a tape and a stamp (and your address!)

To Paul Jennings - Re the DS9 lift (ops). I've watched the videos and saw what I think is a loose cover on top of the lift which plugs the hole when the lift goes down.

To Andrew William Merritt - I'm 14.

To Tina Baker - Re The Next Phase. I haven't a clue why they didn't sink through the floor, but I've got a better question. How could Ro Laren touch the con positions chair?

To Douglas McIntosh - Re Starfleet Academy today - it would be better than school! Another thing - what's wrong with never having ST off the air? But they should save ST:Voy for a bit (not long!). Re what ST series would you like to see next - I wouldn't mind seeing a series set on a non-Starfleet ship - Romulan or Klingon, or even one set on the Borg colony from Descent.

To Andrew Carnegie - Re the episode Pegasus. Data might not have followed the Admiral because 1) The Admiral was breaking a law/treaty, 2) He decided Picard was right.

To Alan Stephen - Re what you said about comics and you're in luck if they become valuable; I wouldn't have the heart to

sell anything of Star Trek, valuable or not

weapon in Arena.

• **Sarah Grist - Skegness**

I joined recently and was both surprised and pleased with the brilliant quality of the newsletters. There is plenty of useful information for every kind of Trekker and I have really enjoyed all aspects of it, so thanks and please keep up the good work.

I was beginning to feel very lonely here in Skegness as I couldn't find anyone else who loves all Trek as I do.

Finally I must comment on the Official Fan Club, which I had to chase for everything. I have to agree with Mike Hazelwood that this club does seem to have its problems. The only good thing was finding the IDIC address since I didn't know it existed. Also I didn't know the Official club had changed its address until I read it in IDIC - they didn't tell me!

• **Leslie Moyes - Glenrothes**

I would like to take the opportunity to say how much I enjoyed my first convention (Contagion 94). It was a great feeling, meeting other people who hold Star Trek (all generations) so dear to their hearts. It was a great way to really let yourself go and not worry about what anybody thought of you.

I also enjoyed my stint as steward. I would like to extend a very big thank you to the con committee for giving me (a first timer) the chance to do something different and exciting. I would love to do it again at next year's con. A little word of thanks to Taruka, Felix, Ed. Woo, the committee, KAG, Tina and Simon, the X-files lot, Katrina, Daris and Douglas, and if I missed anybody out, you know who you are!

• **Glyn Holland - Willenden, W. Midlands**

Gee, ain't it great to be controversial! To Hayley Clarke's brother, 50 bars GPL, to Gill Marsden and her man a pair of knickers each for the ones they got in a twist after reading my letter re female Captains. OK, so it was a cheap jibe at women drivers - big deal. It was meant as a joke! Methinks I'll have to watch my back at the next con. Hope I can still remember how Kirk made the

To Shaun Brannigan. The replicator can produce alcoholic drinks on request - see Up The Long Ladder. As for a replicating error creating Data ornaments - what a great idea/money Spinner - er, spinner. I'll take half a dozen. Re my last letter - I have got other Trek memorabilia on display other than a Data poster - don't want people to think me a cheapskate where Trek's concerned!

To Ros Holland. Enjoyed your write-up on the Trek cruise to Alaska. You didn't mention how you rescued Majel's beloved hat when she left it on the plane. Too modest, eh?

Finally, is there anyone else out there who likes the Star Wreck parody books, or am I the only person who finds them the funniest thing since..... that would be telling, and I did give my word as a Starfleet Officer!

• **Kay Clarke - Bexleyheath**

To Patrick Ceuppens (P 29) - How about sharing the personal addresses with the rest of us? Perhaps you could compile a list we could purchase. *[Ed - If in fact Patrick has home addresses for any of the actors, rather than box numbers, it would be unethical for him to pass these on to anyone. The actors are happy to receive fan mail via Paramount or a box number that they might have opened for fan mail, but it is an intrusion to write them at their home address. Actors are entitled to regard their homes as a place where they can have privacy and in fact most will destroy, unread, any fan mail that does reach their homes.]*

• **Edward Woo - Security for The Way to Eden**

To Tina Baker - From what I have read of the ST:Generations script, the film has been a rush job. The script is poor, and some of the characters only have bit parts.

To the Disgruntled IDIC Member - I have been waiting for an autograph from Rosalind Chao for 7 months. A letter I sent to Patti Yasutate (Nurse Ogawa) was returned by Paramount, saying "No-one of that name here" - she's just been on the set of TNG for 4

years, on and off!

To Martin Stahl - Have you asked the German TV station why they change the titles of the episodes? Can't they convert the title to German? Do any other countries change the titles like that? (Foreign members please reply.)

To Judith Hopkinson - One of the dealers at Contagion had a 3-D chess game but it seemed incomplete, the rules were brief and there was no mention of who wrote them.

To Dave Styles - I read the Postbag through once slowly, then highlight the sections I want to reply, make rough answers and then a final copy. Sheila will no doubt edit it further for space.

To Gerry Taylor - I think most people like Tasha Yar because she was a woman of action, but her character had no time to develop. If she had stayed, would Worf had had the exposure to develop his character? In fact, have either of them been good security officers? When the bridge has been invaded, people tended to help the injured even though the Captain might still be fighting on. Surely the prime concern is to make sure the Captain is safe, and then tend to the injured.

To Sue Richardson - If you do go to San Francisco, go and see Chinatown - it is the oldest in the world (outside China). For ST stuff, your local library should have the SF yellow pages - try book or comic shops, there is bound to be a street there dedicated to items like that.

To Vicky Roberts - We haven't had much reaction from Dr Crusher about Wesley's disappearance, yet she may never see him again.

To Raj Bahdan - The map of the ST universe was originally advertised in the 1st DS9 season 2 video from CIC. You send £1.50 (payable to Star Trek offer) to PO Box 1814, Marlow, Bucks SL7 2YP, but I think the offer ends this autumn.

To Su Taylor - Re your definition of strong characters - could it be that Kira has more lines and is second in command? Troi and Crusher were relegated to background characters at times.

• Roger Buck - Cambridge

The following is written for the benefit of those of you, who, like me, are buying all the TNG prerecorded tapes. I realise many of you differ from me and are quite content to watch tapes taped from T.V. While hardly rich, I haven't been able to settle for this, and have foregone many other Trek pleasures (conventions, merchandise etc) because as I watch and rewatch the shows, picture quality is very important to me, and first and foremost I want to see the shows in the best possible format - for which CIC can't be beat. So if you aren't like me, you can stop here - otherwise please read on.

For those buying the tapes, I wonder how many of you are dissatisfied with CIC's first two seasons. Personally, I feel that the mastering innovation introduced in the third season was brilliant, resulting in vibrant colours and far sharper images. However, it does leave seasons one and two looking decidedly shoddy, and I long to see the whole series properly.

If you feel like I do, there is something we can do about it. I wrote to CIC suggesting that it might be profitable for them to re-master the first 24 volumes - adding that I would very happily go out and buy them all over again. I also indicated a wish to see the extended Star Trek II made available. I received this reply (excerpts):

"With regard to re-launching the first 24 volumes in re-mastered form, we are currently looking at the potential of this, although I cannot make a firm commitment that we will decide to go ahead. I have noted all your points concerning this and thank you for your useful ideas. Also thank you for your suggestion to release the extended version of Star Trek II - the Wrath of Khan. This is certainly an idea which I will look into further."

I was very pleased by this reply. This

and their actions in the past prove that CIC is one company that listens to its consumers. I urge, then, anyone who feels the same as I, to WRITE.

Clearly CIC is open to this, and enough enthusiastic letters will tip the balance. Write to: Terry Shuttleworth, CIC, 4th Floor, Glenthorne House, 5-17 Hammersmith Grove, Hammersmith, London W6 0ND. Fax 081-741 9773

Finally, may I add that writing these letters has been an exercise in humility? I was one of the first people to complain several years ago when I bought the first third season tapes and noticed the change in pitch. Since then, I've come to accept this, and instead be very grateful to CIC for their innovation which has resulted in such clear, beautiful images. I really hope to see the WHOLE of TNG available in this country, seen as it should be seen.

• **David Styles - Ashford, Kent**

To Alan Stephen: I'm sorry I seem to have confused you, but as I have so often intimated in the past, literacy is not my strong suit. I also reserve the right to change my mind!

Re pirate videos: you were quoting from my letter of over a year ago. At the time a lot of people, including myself, were writing into IDIC wanting to get into the "pirate video circuit". The question I was trying to raise was that because these video tapes were being illegally circulated, should any organised fan club, such as IDIC, condone such sale. I admit that I did state that "pirate videos are plain illegal". However I didn't intend to convey that I looked down on anyone who enjoyed them. Personally I watch pirate videos and have shown them to friends meeting in my home. At the same time I am conscious of the fact that I am breaking the law. While on the subject of pirate videos there is one point I would like to raise: The editorial comment after your last letter hinted that many collectors of pirate videos discard the pirates in favour of bona fide copies when they become available. I have heard this argument before. However I have only ever met in person four people

with regular access to pirate videos. They, without exception, laughed at the suggestion that they should pay twice for the same Star Trek episode. Any comments? *[Janet - We have never knowingly printed adverts from people selling pirate videos - printing such adverts would be illegal. However, it is not illegal to request copies of tapes.]*

Some people may get copies of US tapes just to see the episode as soon as possible, but any serious collector of ST videos is not going to be satisfied with the quality of these tapes. They are just a stop-gap to buying CIC tapes or recording off TV.]

Re Pizza Hut mugs: They are rubbish. They are crappy. They look cheap and nasty. They are worth a fortune. I am not as moral as you are, Alan. I have bought them with the sole intention of selling at a profit. Incidentally does anyone know how I can go about selling them?

Re Generations: Personally I feel that after eight two-part TNG stories the film is going to have to be VERY good. I rather suspect that it will come over as yet another double length episode. Where the classic films scored was that it was some ten years between the end of the TV show and the start of the films.

To Jean Perrin: Please don't consider yourself old, age is a state of mind. Recently I hosted a Star Trek theme barbecue where there was an age difference of over seventy years between youngest and oldest ST fans.

• **Brenda Allan - Dawson Creek, Canada**

To Moira Warburton (NL 35 pg 15) I think the Greg Evigan show you are referring to is called "BJ and the Bear" (at least that's what I remember the show's name being?!)

While I'm on nostalgia, does anyone remember the 80s series "The Dukes of Hazard" concerning a couple of good ol' boys and their fast car? I remember one episode which starred a young Jonathan Frakes sans beard. I may be in the minority, but I still prefer Jon without the beard - it makes his blue eyes even more vivid!

To Morag Phillips (NL 35 pg 18) Re

Trills. I agree that ST producers must be using extreme artistic license in the development of the Trill. Odan said he could not use molecular transportation, yet Dax uses transporters constantly. Also, how would Sisko know so much about Trills if they kept their physiology a secret; Odan seemed loath to reveal his true nature, and did so only when he was dying. It's been said that Curzon Dax was something of a renegade, who lived to break the rules, so maybe he broke the silence of the Trill and told Sisko.

To Raj Badhan (NL 35 pg 53) and Janet Quarton Re Spock's name. I thought that in the episode "This Side of Paradise" Leila asked, "You never told me if you have a first name, Mr Spock." Spock replies, "You couldn't pronounce it."

To Keefy & Peter Benei (NL 35 pg 28) Re lack of Ferengi women. It makes me wonder, if Ferengis have such a low esteem of women, why is the 31st Rule of Acquisition, "Never make fun of a Ferengi's mother!"

Re Sheila Clark's article on plagiarism (NL35 pg58). I saw an episode of Twilight Zone that featured a device that could create any item based on a molecular formula stored on punch cards. Call me crazy, but this sounds like an early form of the replicator! (I believe Twilight Zone was broadcast before Star Trek.)

To all Here are a few more Ferengi Rules of Acquisition
 285 No good deed ever goes unpunished. (The Collaborator)
 102 Nature decays, but latinum lasts forever. (The Jem'hadar)

This next one Quark says in "Babel", but never mentioned an acquisition number (possibly before the writers came up with the idea?), but it sounds like a rule!

Never ask when you can take!

• Dominic Hornblow, 31 Ryhill Way, Lower Earley, Reading.

I have just renewed my membership

and thought that I would take this opportunity to thank the committee and all you IDIC members out there for a great year of newsletters. This is my first contribution to the mailbag so please forgive the poor quality. I hope it will improve.

To Tina Baker Re ST: Generations I agree that it will be a bit bland with only reruns in between films but at least we will have DS9 and ST:VOY to keep us occupied. I am hopeful that the bigger budget will enable a more imaginative or exciting plot although they may opt for a more standard format to gain a wider audience. I think that in the sixth season particularly the writers seemed to have exhausted the possibilities open to them with a weekly TV schedule and budget.

Re ST:VOY Any new series in the ST universe must include certain things. We will all have our own opinions but to me these are:

- a) a vision of a bright future for humanity.
- b) the credo of IDIC (held dear by at least one major character).
- c) stories involving both the known and the unknown (which can be equally challenging).

Thus I feel that DS9 fits in, and from what I've heard, VOY will as well.

However, we will all base our opinions on individual episodes: despite all of the above what we actually look for is a good story. Some of the best stories feature very little "boldly going", for example "Conspiracy". Does this make any sense?

Something that disappoints me in ST is music. I am heavily into the Blues and apart from a brief melody in Redemption this genre has been ignored. This is coupled with an absence of the guitar, particularly the electric one. Surely the people of the 24th century will still have a place for 12 bar musical laments and wails, played on a trusty Fender Strat. For example, "My warp field's gone and left me" and "Boom Boom".

Any other views?

• **John Stubbley - Boston, Lincs.**

(E-mail- jps3@unix.york.ac.uk)

I have recently seen the last episode of TNG, called All Good Things. WOW! This is an absolutely excellent Star Trek episode. If you ever get the chance, watch it!!!!

• **Judith Taylor, live from the Warner movie lot**

Yes it's me again, hello to anyone I met at Contagion and many apologies to anyone I met at the stewards party, but to them BANZAI!!!!

Hello Sheila, how are you. Re lessons, when I watched it, it was three in the morning and it was the end of a particularly long Trek marathon, I thought it was a comedy. The worst part was when I watched it the day after with Taruka, I still thought it was a comedy.

Hello Andrew William Merritt, I am 17 going on 18, is that teenage enough?

Re Generations, Mike Dorn at Contagion said it had about 125 different effects. I hope it doesn't turn into another motion picture with over lingering effects shots.

To Nanaki Kaur, the bloopers are not likely to get sold on video. According to Richard Arnold it's the fans' fault. When the first season bloopers got out it was because a friend inside gave it to a friend outside who then copied it and sold it. Paramount found out and put a seal on all the other out takes. Plus some of the actors were upset by the way they are portrayed in them. So I doubt they'll get out which is a pity since I'm sure fans would buy them. I certainly would.

Something for the record: 'Beam me up Scotty' came from an episode of Mork and Mindy, where they used the beaming effect (another one of their in jokes, since TMP was being filmed during the filming of one of one of the Mork and Mindy seasons, see Chekov's Enterprise).

• **Paul Taylor, Anhk Morpork, Discworld**

Well after a lot of moirdering and a

straight Borg v Federation war for the IDIC and her letter disc, I have managed to wrest them from her, lock my little sister from hell out of the room, and write my first letter.

What is the matter with Wesley? Why does every one hate him? Just because he's got brains and saves the entire universe with his school homework. He's always good for something - how about target practice?

To Henry Gallagher. I love QVC, it's about the only programme that shows Star Trek stuff for a whole hour without interruption!!!!(If you don't count the hard sell and the presenter.)

To Hayley Clarke of Australia. How about the nudity in the whole of Star Trek? So far we've seen most of Kirk, a lot of Picard, enough of Lwaxana and Deanna Troi, plus quite a lot of O'Brien.

What about Babylon 5 v Deep Space Nine? Personally I love them both, considering that D C Fontana and David Gerrold have written an episode each and I've heard that Peter David is writing for the second series, plus a lot of Trek actors have been in it, oh yes, I've heard that Tron's Bruce Boxleitner is going to take over Michael O'Hare, as Captain John Sheridan.

• **Neil J Barrett - Saving up for some 'Shore Leave'**

To: Gloria Fry CC: Jean Perrin. I think the idea that Carey (& Brodeur) were trying for in 'Best Destiny' was that Jimmy Kirk was a maverick. His abilities and his natural leadership were being wasted because he didn't have any direction for them - possibly because of his father's absence. Once he 'saw the light' he needed all his determination to rediscover his skills and catch up. Remember, a lot of juvenile delinquents have been shown to have high or near genius IQ. If we look a little more closely at Kirk, we see that his strengths are not in book learning but in innovation, team-building and leadership.

An alternative answer can be found in the introduction to the novelisation of TMP. This suggests that the highest flyers, the

cream of the crop, are temperamentally unsuited to space exploration thus Kirk and his contemporaries were chosen for characteristics other than supreme intellectual ability.

To: Douglas McIntosh. On your version of Starfleet Academy, I have two quick questions. 1) Where will the resources come from? 2) Have you met Sherry Golding? (She was pushing that idea a while back).

To: Stephen Daniels. If you spend all day with a person then perhaps you might want to spend your spare time with other people like your family or friends. When one person is in authority over the other then socialising can be awkward. It is perfectly possible to have a good and friendly working relationship with someone and then forget them completely outside of the working environment. I do this and so does Bev. Does this mean I'm not a very nice person either?

To: David J Raper. Worf can also be seen in bed in 'Genesis'. This time his pyjamas are grey with leather patches - obviously Klingons and leather are inseparable!

And finally (cue sighs of relief from readers...) To: Dave Styles. I prefer rude replies to no response at all. At least it proves people are reading what you write.

• Julie Evans - Liverpool

Can anyone recommend zines containing Data and Lore stories - Lore especially.

• Disgruntled IDIC Member

So far only Whoopi, Levar, Odo have replied with proper 10 x 8 personally signed photos. Gates' photo turned out to be a very good printed signature on a 10 x 8 photo which was still better than the small postcards sent by Michael and Marina.

Michael Dorn was so nice at Contagion, in Forbidden Planet he even dedicated a photo to me and posed for a photo. As I said before the actors probably

don't deal with the mail.

However, LeVar's photo was personally dedicated to me which was really nice as I'd just asked for a signed photo.

Has anyone had replies from Tasha, Q, Ro, Vash through Paramount and Kirk, Spock, McCoy through Lincoln? I sent classic photos to Lincoln but nothing back so far. Perhaps it is just luck, here's hoping for success with the others.

• Rory Smith - 1 Cwmbach Cottages, Cwmbach, Glasbury, Hereford HR3 5LE

To anyone with information concerning Space Agencies. I think I can safely say Star Trek has fuelled an interest in me about space and its exploration. However, in our current state of technology, I don't know how this interest could be applied in a job. Could anyone with prior knowledge or information please write me either through the newsletter or to my address. I would be interested in knowing what jobs would be available, what exam levels I would need, and where - currently I live in Wales.

To Andrew William Merritt (p 14) - You are definitely not alone as a teenage member. I'm 14, and I know there are more of us. It seems strange that non-Trekkies regard Star Trek as a children's programme but in reality there seem to be more adults than children - or is it just that the adults write in?

To Dave Styles - Could you please give me an address for Comet Miniatures in Battersea - do you know if they have any way I can order from them via the post?

Re Excelsior - On the micromachines model the number reads NCC 2000. Which is correct?

Can anyone explain to me why the Borg can't simply come back with another ship? Was the destroyed ship the only one they had that contained most of the Borg race?

To Andy Percy (P 47) - *[Ed - this is in*

addition to Philip Morley's list] Re Constitution Class ships; Constellation, NCC 1017; Republic NCC 1371. I believe many of these ships were destroyed or shown seriously damaged during the OT series. Many of the others would have been upgraded until they were too old, then dismantled.

• **Tim Goodchild - Ashted, Surrey**

To Andy Percy - Re Constitution Class ships and what happened to them. USS Constellation (NCC 1017) - under the command of Commodore Matt Decker, heavily damaged by planet killer, then destroyed using self-destruct to destroy planet killer (The Doomsday Machine). USS Defiant (NCC 1764) - disappeared near Tholian territory into what was believed to be a spacial interphase (The Tholian Web). USS Excalibur (NCC 1664) - commanded by Captain Harris was severely damaged by the M-5 computer in 2268 (The Ultimate Computer). USS Exeter (NCC 1672) - commanded by Captain Ronald Tracey was found orbiting Omega IV in 2268, its entire crew reduced to dehydrated crystals (The Omega Glory). USS Hood (NCC 1703) - participated in the M-5 tests (The Ultimate Computer). USS Intrepid (NCC 1631) - destroyed by massive amoeba in 2268. The crew consisted entirely of Vulcans (The Immunity Syndrome). USS Lexington (NCC 1709) - commanded by Commodore Robert Wesley was damaged during the M-5 tests which also killed 53 people (The Ultimate Computer). USS Potemkin (NCC 1657) - participated in the M-5 tests (The Ultimate Computer) and was due to rendezvous with the Enterprise shortly after stardate 5928 (Turnabout Intruder). USS Republic (NCC 1371) - Kirk and Ben Finney served aboard her around 22590 (Court Martial). USS Yorktown (NCC 1717) - The Enterprise was due to rendezvous with the ship in 2268 but was unable to (Obsession).

To get a more in depth background on these ships I would strongly advise you to buy the Star Trek Encyclopedia by Michael and Denise Okuda (£12.95). *[Ed - Note this list differs in several respects from the one given by Philip Morley.]*

To Gordon Smyth - My favourite

episodes from all different ST genres, in no particular order, are Genesis, Phantasms, The Pegasus, Frame of Mind, A Piece of the Action, The Siege, Emissary, City on the Edge of Forever, and Data's Day.

• **S A M Bedford - Sale, Cheshire**

Hi to Maureen Norton. I also have been stuck at home for long periods with rheumatoid arthritis, so when I went away to Uni I decided to finally join some Trek clubs.

I enjoy the books just as much as the TV series, but being a poor student can't see Trek on Sky. Anyone know when TNG will be back on TV? *[Ed - 7th Sept.]*

Also I am going to my first convention, when I scrape cash together, in May 95 (Sol III in Blackpool). I thought for my first convention it would be nice to be in my home territory - I was born in Blackpool. If anyone from IDIC is there, do say Hi - I shouldn't be that hard to spot, I should either be in my chair or using a rambler to help me with the lovely queues I've heard so much about.

Has anyone else had trouble getting through to Imzadi, the Deanna Troi club?

What's the address for Sheffield Space Centre? *[33 The Wicker, Sheffield.]*

Thanks for a lovely first year. The newsletter gives me hours of Trek reading.

• **Di Williams - Tranmere**

To Maureen Norton (P 13) - Re Worf/Troi relationship. I sincerely doubt that Troi would let anyone 'claim her' even if it was Tom Riker. The relationship between Worf/Troi has been slowly building for some years now, starting with her involvement with Alexander. As a partnership, they would complement each other; Worf has slowly built upon the respect and affection he has for Deanna and his character is so complex that she would have a lifetime challenge in getting to fully know him. It is qualities like these that would see their relationship grow and mature, not old memories for Will/Tom Riker. Have you seen Parallels? This gives us a good insight into what might be; this is also built upon in All Good Things.

To Morag Phillips (P 18) - Re the Trill - how many races on our planet have different structures both facially and in build. Would this not also be true for the Trill?

Finally, does anyone have any info/addresses on B & B clubs, etc, as I've searched in vain for ages.

• **Jennifer Blanchard - Godalming**

To David Horman, Rory Smith and anyone interested in astronomy. Try From Quark to Quasar by Peter Cadogan; it covers the complete scale of the universe and describes the topology of a hypersphere more clearly than I did.

Thank you to Carol Sterenberg for her article The Perfect Mate. Every word of it was The Truth! I speak from a lifetime's experience, Carol, and you were spot on.

• **Gaile Wood - Tamworth**

Zzzzzz... Hey, what was that diabolical episode which made me lapse into a coma? Not Masks (bad, pretty bad) nor Eye of the Beholder (aaaggggh!) but yes, you have it, the one that makes Scotty's accent sound positively authentic, Sub Rosa. Well, what can I say about this little gem? Not a lot that won't send most folk into rigor mortis, I'll bet. What I'm going to claim is that it is a direct plagiarism on two books by Anne Rice (The Vampire Chronicles), The Witching Hour and Lasher. I was mortified to see an extremely competent story relegated to pseudo-SF. What on earth was Paramount doing to allow this through? Ah, well...

The DNA debate seems to have tickled a few comments out of the membership, so I'll be my usual opinionated self and go straight for the throat as there is also a limited amount of space. OK, DNA is made from available elements, agreed, which are universal. I'm not disputing this. That it is also a (relatively) simple means of replication won't find me climbing on my soapbox either. All I was trying to point out is that it is highly arrogant of us to assume that an alien species would have the same means of genetic replication. Something analogous, perhaps, but who could possibly hypothesise as to what that might be? There are an

infinite number of variations and as Martin Helsdon pointed out you've only to read Stephen Gould's Wonderful Life to appreciate this. Also, Marysia, it's a looong way from a few peptide chains to DNA molecules and life as we do or do not know it.

Tasha Yar is still the crappiest Security Chief ever. How's that for inflammatory? She was just so weak, and though I know she still retains a great deal of popularity (I have a feeling that body might have had something to do with it) she was not a good role model. Give me Kira any day!

To John Snelling - Yes, I've read the Crispin novels and liked 'em, but I still think you shouldn't swan around in sub-zero temperatures in a g-string. She was going outside, for God's sake, and she could've got chilblains in some pretty interesting parts (hey, that livened up the story line a little if you think about rubbing life back into affected parts. No wonder Spock was smiling!)

Finally, a Hiya! to Taruka (ta for those tribbles) and my other friends in IDIC, not least to the Contagion committee. Thanks for a good time. See you at an Away Team, and to all my much-loved Scottish friends - xxxxx.

• **Andrew Roper - Wigan**

One topic in the last N/L caught my attention, and that is the decision to place Beverly Crusher in command of the Enterprise. I fail to see why certain members are against this.

It has been pointed out that experience in command decisions, tactical, weaponry, etc, is required to command a vessel. Whilst I would agree with this in part, surely basic aspects of all the above qualities are taught at Starfleet Academy, as well as gaining experience on various missions and working with the senior officers. After all, what would happen if, for instance, the senior officers were killed? I am sure that no-one would question the command ability of Captain Picard on the Enterprise. However, but for the abilities of other members of the crew, he would have lost his ship and all

aboard on a number of occasions. A commander of a vessel is only as good as the crew (s)he has. To say that Beverly Crusher lacked experience is not enough to hand command to other personnel. After all, how do we know that she has not held command before, or what experience she had had previously? In conclusion, I think that Beverly handled the situation well. She was confident in her decisions and seemed to react well with a tight situation and with the crew. Any comments, anyone?

Re Data. If Data has experienced anger (as in Descent) will he be able to call on this feeling if any similar events occur?

• **Sarah Finch - St Andrews, Guernsey**

Let me first prove myself a traitor by mentioning Babylon 5 before Star Trek. Like several others, I think it is a very worthwhile programme. My estimation of it went up tremendously after a scene where Sinclair and Garibaldi were having a conversation in a urinal! I've never seen that before in a science fiction series. They set a good example to us all by 'washing' their hands afterwards. Incidentally, David Horman - you can't be that bad for a Jerseyman if you like Babylon 5 and Star Trek.

To Edward Woo - I first liked Star Trek when I was about 11 years old. This encouraged a leaning towards astronomy. Eventually I studied physics at University. Whether I would have been interested in science if it had not been for Star Trek I cannot tell you. I guess it was all part of my fate.

In answer to Matthew Hemsley's very popular question, my favourite characters are McCoy, Quark and Picard. Quark appears to have a large following among DS9 fans. I like his mischievous eyes - like the Jack Nicholson of the Ferengi community.

To Jean Perrin - You can have one of my copies of Pawns and Symbols if you wish. I seem to have acquired the British and American copies along the way. Just let Janet or Sheila know.

• **Alan Stephen - Bridge of Don, Aberdeen**

To Dave Styles - It's a bit late to complain now; fly with the crows, shot with the crows, I say. Sorry you were first, and if you read my letters I say 'Dave Styles and ilk/company/whatever' - you're not alone.

With regard to letters, I always write my first letter longhand then edit it when I put it in my word processor. To the best of my belief I've never been rude - if I have offended you, I apologise, but I give as good as I get and I consider many of the anti-comics people have been very rude. Anyway, our letters are usually edited before publication. In my last letter I wrote a reply to [a] suggestion in a letter [in a previous n/l], which I found rude, offensive and shocking. My reply was none of these. Sarcastic, yes, rude, no. May I suggest to the editors of this fine publication that the sign of a good editor is knowing when to edit. In my opinion [that] suggestion should never have seen print, but since it did a reply should have been allowed. [Sheila - *That was a case of ignorance, I'm afraid. We recognised only that the comment was meant to be funny, not that the statement could be taken as offensive. As no-one else has mentioned it we suspect it slipped by most people and we see no reason to draw their attention to it.*]

Now on to things Trek. I attended Contagion this year. Numerous fans expressed the opinion that TNG should have continued; now while I am saddened that the show is over, I'd rather it wrapped up this way than continue till it became a shadow of itself. Remember, when it started it was only going to be for 6 years, so we have had an extra year. More news on ST:Voy was given by Richard Arnold; the only thing that gives me any worries is the suggestion of a Vulcan security officer. Somehow I don't see Vulcans as security officers.

• **Sacha J Cowan - Eye, Suffolk**

Re Contagion - I missed the convention in Glasgow due to moving and starting work. Does anyone have any good gossip to make up for it? What did Richard Arnold say? What's this I hear about a tribble fight? I'd love to know!

Also several people have voiced concern over the possible hologram character, fearing it to be like Rimmer from Red Dwarf. I hope it's more like Selma from Time Trax, a way to put Humans (and other humanoids) at ease by making the computer more than just a disembodied voice.

SPOILER ALERT - Re All Good Things. If the anomaly created by the explosion of Captain Beverly's ship in the future runs in negative time, growing as you move back into the past, how come when Admiral Riker's Enterprise returned to the scene after the explosion the anomaly was visible, positive to the instant of its creation? Surely it shouldn't have been there?

• **Kirstie Jordan - Pilsey**

To the Committee - Well, aren't you the clever bunch? How do you propose to post this newsletter 'around September 5th' when the closing dates for submissions are September 12 and 14? Don't tell me - the Ferengi have taken over your computer! *[Ed - Woops! time. With one of us typing 'September' instead of 'October' and the other two missing it at proofreading, the Ferengi obviously have taken over.]*

To Gill Marsden (P 23) - If you can't laugh at yourself you have no right to laugh at others. Glyn Holland's comments were meant to amuse us - they certainly worked for me. Don't take life so seriously - after all, everyone makes fun of women drivers, but insurance companies know that we are the better drivers and offer us lower premiums than men.

To Jean Perrin (P 36) - More sense?! What could be more sensible than being a fan of Star Trek, whatever your preference. Anyway, what does age have to do with it? You're only as old as you feel!

Has anyone else noticed a rather disturbing occurrence in their local supermarket? I refer to an innocent-looking washing powder that my mother has inadvertently invited into her kitchen. The name of this intruder... (da, da, daaaa)... Q! Yes, folks, you too can have washing with the power to become invisible (so that's where all

those lone socks go!); to cause havoc in the home; and to cause mayhem to the wearer! You have been warned!

Finally (What do you mean, 'thank goodness?') does anyone know if there are any ST games available for Sega Megadrive?

• **Elizabeth Barrie - Dundee**

To Matthew Christie - Thank you for telling me about IDIC.

To Matthew Hemsley - My favourite character is Kirk. I don't have any favourites in TNG or DS9 as I don't like either of these series.

To Tracy Saunders - I don't think Kirk should be killed off either. It would be nice if he could be allowed to retire gracefully.

• **Jennifer Harrington - Glasgow**

I enjoyed N/L 35 and am looking forward to future issues. I was intrigued and interested in all the letters and running debates and discussions and the questions they have raised.

In reply to the object of these letters, ie to answer questions, I would like to know if anyone has purchased a ST Encyclopedia in the US, as I have a query regarding the reported typos which Michael Okuda claims to have missed before publishing. (I am not aware of the same edition being sold in the UK or Europe.) Primarily in the timeline of the Trek universe at the end of the book, the stardates specify, when computed, that Captain Picard is 65 years old but Will Riker is in his 30s. I would like to know if this is true, as it seems highly improbable that he is that old. If, however, someone can explain it to me, I would be very grateful.

I would also like to know if anyone has purchased a copy of the script for ST VII and if they have read it. I have not, and will probably not until I have seen the film. *[Sheila - there is a script that purports to be ST VII which was posted to Usenet - much to the objection of some fans - and some computer BBS probably have copies. Just how accurate it is remains to be seen.]*

I would also be interested in hearing from any fellow Trekker who lives in or around Glasgow as I am of the opinion that all the other fans are connected and I'm lost in the wilderness. *[Ed - see ad for the Away Team in Local Groups.]*

I cannot say I have any favourite characters as they change depending upon whichever episode I'm watching; however I thoroughly enjoy the conflicts and humour between Picard and Q, which I feel were lacking in the DS9 episode QLess, with Sisko.

I would also like to know if anyone has been to the Paramount lot in LA, as I have visited it, but was not able to get onto the sets because of filming.

Finally I would like to say that I think that ST fandom is a very well-kept secret and I only wish more people could know about it so that I'm not the only lunatic in the asylum!

• **Martin Stahl - Germany**

To Jay Stevensen - I liked your article about the ST titles in different countries. You asked about the German 'Epigones' for A Piece of the Action. The meaning you found (One of a later and less distinguished generation) is a mistranslation. The word 'Epigones' comes from Greek mythology, meaning 'imitators without own creative power' which, according to the Iotians, makes sense

To John Snelling - The concept of evolution you described was not the selective one but one known as Lamarck's Theory, which says that during evolution an organ grows because you need it. Darwin's Theory, which is accepted by most scientists now, says that there are accidental mutations. Most of them are bad ones, but sometimes (very seldom) a mutation causes an improvement in an organism, eg giving giraffes longer necks. This enables them to reach the leaves of trees, thus giving them access to a new source of food which, of course, gives them greater chances to reproduce (survival of the fittest). So you could never evolve an extra finger, but a mutation could occur in one of your gametes so that one of your offspring could be born

with an extra finger, making him a better guitar player. In one point you are right; personal preference has very little to do with the development of specific organs. The cause is accidental mutation and selection.

Now I've watched all episodes of DS9's second series. I have the impression that the episodes become much better, and now I really like DS9. During the last weeks, O'Brien suddenly became my favourite character - episodes like Armageddon Game, Whispers, Tribunal, and even small scenes from The Jem'Hadar showed me what a fine and skilful actor Colm Meaney is. Even when he has no dialogue his miming lets him speak, while Dax appears just to deliver her dialogue but nothing more. She is my least favourite character, and I find her rather boring. O'Brien is followed by Kira, Odo and Quark, while Dax is followed by Sisko.

• **Rebekah Owens - Stratford-upon-Avon**

Re the discussion as to where Lore's dismantled remains went when he was taken apart at the end of Descent Part II - if there's a storage problem, I have *plenty* of room!

• **Bernard Silva e Carmo - Portugal**

Re ST VII - Picard brought Guinan into the 2nd season, and if the storyline is correct (N/L 33) he found her at the Nexus - but the 1701-D is destroyed. How can that be if we know that it has been flying for another 5 years? Highly illogical, unless we're proceeding from one or more false assumptions.

To Gloria Fry - I don't remember Mark Lenard having acted Sarek's death, in Unification or anywhere else, but I think I know what you mean re fans keeping the integrity of Star Trek. Don't forget about the struggle that led to ST:TMP (although they only agreed to do it because of Star Wars). If it weren't for the fans, Star Trek would have ended after 79 episodes. However, let me remind you of this, which the Great Bird always emphasised - ST is in each one's mind and it isn't just a game of 'he dies', 'the ship was destroyed', 'his name is', 'his rank is', etc. It is... well, I think you know what Star Trek is, so words would be meaningless. What I wanted to say is about your comment 'They

will never die". First, you have to agree that they can't die because they were never alive (in a more realistic sense). Second, and this is Gene speaking again, you don't need to 'believe' what the movies or episodes tell you. They're just variations on a theme. I mean, you can ignore the death of Kirk and keep imagining adventures for him, because ST is in each one's mind. Of course, movies and episodes (except animated ST) are to be considered canon, ie they're like a language whose words you can't modify only because of the basic rules of communication. But you can keep imagining.

To Shaun Brannigan - Re introspective fandom (please eliminate the 'UK' because it can be off-putting; after all IDIC is an international club). I think that things are pretty well as they are. My case, for example; I joined fandom after an incredible sequence of events, each with the smallest chance of happening. If Dave Simons had written his letter on the magazine about a week earlier I would never have known fandom; but I did, and I'm very happy with that. I think, however, that if it had been easier it would have been too easy. These things have to be difficult, or some day we'll be a *big* bunch of people, the majority having only a superficial or temporary interest in Star Trek.

Hey, what happened to the raffle?

• **Alan Callaby - Thetford, Norfolk**

This is my first letter since joining IDIC some two newsletters ago, and I have had some great fun reading people's feelings about different aspects of Trek. I am sure, like many other people, I am not alone when I say how disappointed I am that TNG series has now completed its final mission in its present format. It does seem strange to bring the curtain down when the ratings are so high. My main love of Trek is TNG and I think it always will be. I have seen the first 30 episodes of DS9 and find it to be acceptable, but it will be hard to watch a Star Trek series without a ship called Enterprise.

To James Keating - I also suspect Romulans are working with the BBC, the show should be screened later - 8.10 to 9.00

would be ideal.

To Matthew Hemsley - Not easy, but I would go for McCoy, Crusher and Quark.

Looking back on TNG, does anyone have any favourite alien characters? Mine are as follows; 1) K'Ehlyr (Klingon/Human). What a great shame she was killed off. 2) Captain Dathon (Tamarian). No doubt this was my favourite character and race; a pity they couldn't have included the Tamarians in another storyline. 3) The Traveller (?). An alien nobody knew much about (except Wesley), very strange but with tremendous knowledge of the universe. 4) Tomalak (Romulan). A formidable opponent to anyone. I wonder if he and Captain Picard ever became penpals? 5) Soren (J'naii). A super character from one of my favourite episodes. I wonder how the J'naii would fit in today's world.

To everyone - I can just about remember watching Star Trek when it was first shown in this country, but at what time was it shown? I think it was on BBC 1 between 7.20 and 8.10 - can anyone confirm this? [*Janet - 5.15 pm Sat 12/7/69*]

• **Simon Growcott - 127 Manor Way, Crewe, Cheshire, CW2 6JS**

On the subject of Data showing surprise in the episode Datalore, I have come up with this analysis.

Charles Darwin stated that the facial expression of emotions is largely innate, ie they are instinctive. In the same book, it states that "A small child... learns on what occasions it is appropriate to express particular emotions, and also which emotions are socially acceptable", ie they learn from their surroundings and experiences of situations which emotions are conveyed, and these become inherent in their behaviour. Since Data's mother Juliana said that Data's early life was similar to a child's, there is every reason to believe that Data learned facial expressions in the same way. The fact that he was turned off is not relevant; when he was activated, these inherent responses were embedded in his net. The fact that Data still clothes is proof that the modesty sub-

routine Juliana mentioned had remained in place, despite his period of being shut down, therefore there is every reason to suppose that these other inherent responses did too. When he expressed 'surprise' in Datalore, it was these inherent responses kicking in. I doubt Data was even aware that he had made such an expression. Of course, for this to be true, Data has to have a subconscious, ie a part of his neural net which is not directly accessible, and his dream program, especially in Phantasms, proves that this is true.

On the subject of Data, has he had a promotion outside our knowledge? Everyone refers to him as Commander for as long as I can remember, yet I thought he was only a Lieutenant-Commander. However, when Troi passes her Commander's exam in Thine Own Self, she says to Data, "Now you can call me 'sir,'" or something, which suggests Data is of a lesser rank. I would have thought the Commander's exam would be easy for Data, and he does command the Enterprise sometimes, which Troi could only do once she had passed her exam. This therefore suggests that Data has passed the exam, and is therefore a full Commander. Can anyone clarify this?

Having been a politics student for 2 years, I have become very interested in the affairs of Northern Ireland. I would like to contact people in the province, or in Eire, and find out your views on recent events. If you wish to write, my address is above. Having a mutual interest in Trek will be an added bonus in any letters.

Genesis was very strange, but I have just one question - how can a cold-blooded reptile which lays eggs evolve into a warm-blooded mammal which gives birth to kittens? Spot, you must have some very sick ancestors! I welcome any theory as to how this is possible.

• **Michael Sadler - South Wirral**

I would like to thank the committee members of Archon who organised the most amazing convention I have even been to. Thanks also to the stewards, especially in the autograph queue, who were very brave! The con also gave me the opportunity to finally

meet the IDIC committee members and thank them for the great job that they do.

Hello to anyone I met at Archon. I was dressed up as Trelane, Stormtrooper in the fancy dress and a Mexican bandit in the Fistful of Datas.

To anyone going to a con, I recommend you buy an IDIC badge if possible, as they are great conversation starters!

• **Mike Hazlewood - Porth, Rhondda**

To Michelle Oldroyd - 'Sentient' may not be the right word for a holographic character, but they don't have to be in an environment such as a holodeck to exist. Take Rimmer from Red Dwarf or Al from Quantum Leap.

To Richard Hewitt - The chief medical officer in ST:Voy cannot be a hologram as (s)he would need to interact with the crew and equipment, something a hologram can't do.

To Kirstie Jordan & Peter Benei - The Borg don't transport their dead back to their ship, they destroy any bodies, therefore they remove any reusable items prior to disintegration. If you study one of these scenes from a Borg episode, just after the dematerialisation there is a dark shadow left on the ground. I believe this to be the remains - after all, what good is a dead Borg to the Collective?

• **Neil Saffi of the Clan Saffi, Hiding on Holy Ground, Willenhall**

To David J Raper - re Worf's night attire. His pyjamas can be seen in the seventh season episode Genesis. You may also like to know that your reply inspired my choice of costume for Friday night at Archon (Martial-Arts Worf with a Bacofoil Bat'leth!)

To Mike Sadler (he of the continuum) - I would just like to ask you four questions: What is the name of the character played by John de Lancie in TNG? What is the seventeenth letter of the alphabet? Who supplies James Bond with his high-tech gadgetry? What is the common name for an

orderly line of people awaiting their turn to be attended? Answers on a postcard please. Are we going to do the same at the next con - set disruptors to maximum!

To Sue Richardson - I've recently come back from a holiday in San Francisco. When you go, try Pier 39 near the Alcatraz tour jettv. There are two shops there called Hollywood USA and Zero Gravity, which both stock Trek stuff and some very unusual Trek/fantasy jewellery. There are a couple of small comic and model shops I found a few blocks outside of Chinatown (sorry I can't be more specific). Don't forget, any USA branch of Toys'R Us is well worth a visit too. I hope you enjoy your trip.

I've noticed a trend recently for live bands to be featured at convention parties. I must admit that I prefer the usual convention disco. I'm not implying that any of the live bands I've seen were in any way substandard, on the contrary they have been quite good. I just feel that a DJ can provide a more varied mix of music, and so can entertain a larger proportion of people. We all have our own favourite music.

• **Henry Gallagher - Newcastle**

To Lorraine Goodison & Judith Taylor, etc - Having watched 1.5 seasons of DS9 and 12 episodes of Babylon 5, I have to say (cat among the pigeons) that I prefer B5, although I like both (phew!). All my friends and family who like Trek agree that DS9 started slowly but is getting better. The 'jump gates' are similar to the wormhole in that unknown ships from elsewhere in the galaxy appear suddenly at the space station. Another aspect of B5 is that the visual medium (ie TV) exists. ST in general talks vaguely about 'entertainment' and 'educational' tapes and programmes, plus 'old style radio'. B5, however, has TV news and reporters. Does anyone have any idea why independent information gathering and transmission is not necessary in ST? Perhaps it does happen and I've just missed it.

On another tack, I read that Michael J Stracyzinsky (probably the wrong spelling) tried to interest the ST team in B5 but they said no, and then a couple of years later DS9

appeared - is this true? And if so, how different would B5 be from its present self or DS9 if it was Star Trek: Babylon 5?

To anyone - A book I would recommend is Prime Directive by Judith and Garfield Reeves-Stevens. A brilliant story with background technical details (I don't know how accurate/official).

To Janet Quarton - Why not put yourself forward as an expert on QVC's ST Hour? Also congratulations, very impressive to see you in The Star Trek Encyclopedia.

• **Irena Hradecka - Prague**

To Sue Richardson - You are absolutely right. There are faces and images flashing through Spock's mind meld with V'ger in TMP. I'm glad that someone else noticed them. There is Ilia's face undoubtedly (to be more precise - Ilia's face for seven times and several times her eyes). Then there is a face of a man and a face of a woman. The woman is not obviously T'Pol because she is Human by her appearance. I'm afraid I can't guess who they are. I could make a really big mistake in that guess. Maybe someone else will be successful.

To other images - there are several objects or parts of objects as well. They are visible quite clearly. So there are V'ger, Klingon battleship, the outpost Epsilon 9 and the plaque (symbols from it) which contains basic information about Humans and the Solar System. This plaque is the same that was attached to Pioneer and Voyager spacecraft in the 20th century.

I admit that I could make a mistake in this description because it goes a little fast even if I fully concentrate on it, but I believe most of that is correct. I hope this will be helpful for you.

To Jay Stevensen - Please could you tell me how do you know Czech translation for The Trouble With Tribbles? I didn't know that Czech was known in your country.

• **Sue Watkin - Bungay, Suffolk**

To Gerry Taylor - Can I be unpopular too, because I always thought that Tasha Yar

was not the kind of security officer I'd want backing me up. But wouldn't it have been interesting if they'd stuck to the original casting and had Marina as security officer and Denise Crosby as Counselor - how that could have developed over seven years! And would either of them have wanted to leave?

To Douglas McIntosh - I think your idea of Academies is very good, although a lot more interest and money would have to be put into the space programme than is currently being done. Having seen all the recent Apollo II programmes on TV, and remembering how excited everyone was about it all (oh God, I feel old!) all you can say now is what happened? Where did all that enthusiasm go? At the rate we're currently progressing, Mars will still be out of reach by the 24th century.

To Michael Sadler - Re your article on P 69 on Next Gen books - you don't tell us which are the other four books you have read, so I can't really tell you if you have picked just the turkeys. Agreed there are turkeys, but there are also some very good books - Vendetta; Imzadi; Q In Law (all by Peter David, oh what a surprise!); Contamination and The Eyes of the Beholders all spring to mind. Having said this, a good fan writer can knock spots off most of the so-called professionals, but I think that this applies as much to Original Trek as it does to Next Gen. For all those who like reading zines - BSFR may have stopped zine production (hopefully temporarily) but they are printing short stories within their regular Stargazer and Voyager magazines - well worth a read.

To Matthew Hensley - Favourite characters? Oh, help! After a lot of thought - Spock, Riker and Kira. As for least favourite - don't know. Geordi and Sisko?

• **Mervyn Leeder - Market Harborough**

To Moira Warburton - Yes, Tales of the Gold Monkey was a 50 min TV series from the USA, in which Stephen Collins played a flying boat captain flying cargo between islands in the Pacific Ocean, before WW2. He helped a girl out of trouble with the local 'baddies', who turned out to be a secret agent

for the USA, and then she kept popping up through the rest of the series, involving him in her job.

To Michelle Oldroyd (and anyone else interested in ST technology should get the TNG Technical Manual from Pocket Books. This gives you the A - Z on how things work in detail.) The communicators work by digital encoding an analog signal, then digital encrypting the signal. It is then modulated onto a subspace emitter. It is powered by a sarium kfelline power cell that can be recharged. The communicator is switched on/off by tapping the 'arrow head'.

Have you seen the episodes Lonely Among Us (season one); Elementary, Dear Data (season two); Ship in a Bottle (season six)? The one new story I have read these episodes explain now: a crew member beams up, the transporter malfunctions, the crew member dies but his bio pattern is still stored so the transporter operator does an abort transport dump of the bio pattern to protected memory from where the holodeck transporter access it to recreate the sentient crewmember on the holodeck (only), but only as a holographic image on the rest of the ship.

• **Marie I J Park - Hull**

Firstly, I'd like to offer some observations re Data's pet cat Spot. I've always been under the impression that the cat in question was female (In Theory, Timescape, Force of Nature, etc); also seeing the heavily pregnant Spot at the beginning of the episode Genesis seems to support my supposition. So how come in the episode Phantasms that Spot is frequently referred to as a male cat by Data and Worf? Is it just me or did anyone else notice this continuity error?

I've also started to notice that Spot seems to be very choosy in her like/dislike for people. Other than her owner, Data, she certainly has something of a soft spot for Lt Barclay, who made a very welcome return to TNG recently in the episode Genesis.

You're quite right, Hayley Clarke, Data's medals *were* mentioned in the episode

The Measure of a Man, but *how* he earned them was not mentioned. Since Data's medals were quite prestigious, it is quite likely that he was awarded these commendations for courage above and beyond the call of duty.

To Dejan Ladika - Whilst I have no doubt that Gene Roddenberry had given his blessing for DS9 to go ahead, you have misunderstood what I was trying to say. I stated that Roddenberry had nothing to do with the actual *production* of DS9, rather than the *concept*. It is worth remembering that filming of DS9 did not begin until 1992; I suggest that you re-read my previous points on that vein in N/L 34.

Finally, to Matthew Christie - The proposed holographic character for ST:Voy may well be an influence/rip off of Red Dwarf, but there have been at least two instances where Red Dwarf has influenced TNG: in the episode Phantasms, where we see in Data's nightmare Dr Crusher sucking out Riker's brains through a straw (Red Dwarf VI: Psirens); and in Peter David's novel Imzadi with Riker's use of the word 'smegging'. The main difference between Voyager's hologram and Rimmer is that the Voyager character would be restricted solely to the holodeck, whereas Rimmer's now-hard light drive allows him total independence to go anywhere he wishes.

• **Taruka Quauhtezcatl, "Tierra Venida",**
15A Clevedon Rd, Ingol, Preston, Lancs PR2
3YL

To my correspondents. Please note change of address.

Sheila. Long live the tribbles!

To Tina Baker. ARTISTIC LICENCE is the reason they don't fall through the floor.

To Patricia Doyle - I think the zine you saw must have been my last copy of "Golden Star, Morning Wisdom." Considering that the entire library comprised three zines I'd brought.

To Martin Stahl - Yes, I caught All Good Things on SAT1. Now all I need is a

German bilingual television set! I'd love someone out there to give me copies of the German episode titles - are they unimaginative or what?

To Judith Hopkinson. The Picard Manoeuvre. Yes. In "The Battle" it is described as a battle manoeuvre in which the ship moves from still to warp speed, and back to sublight, appearing to be in two places at once. (ST Encyclopedia; script - The Battle). According to various cast members, also from this episode, it is that little habit of Patrick's in which he pulls his uniform jacket down. (Michael Dorn, Contagion 94)

To Martin Helsdon. Thank you for the comments re Aboriginal American cultures. As my roots (or part of them) are Aztec I thought I'd better not mention the obvious. Besides which, anyone subscribing to the "noble savage" description is waaaaay from the truth. What the Europeans did was unjustified, and far more barbaric than anything which had gone before.

To Edward - Supersteward - Woo - You've earned another tribble, if I've any survivors after that stewards' party! Re professions. I trained as a music teacher. Then I discovered Trek properly and most of my spare time's been taken up writing. It paid off at Contagion.

When I see an Andean in Trek I'll be happy. The nearest so far is Jonathan del Arco and he's from Uruguay!

To Andy Percy - from the ST Encyclopedia the Constitution class ships are;

Constellation NCC-1017; Constitution NCC-1700; Defiant NCC-1764; Eagle NCC-956; Endeavour NCC-1895; Enterprise NCC-1701; Essex NCC-1697; Excalibur NCC-1664; Exeter NCC-1672; Hood NCC-1703; Intrepid NCC-183; Lexington NCC-1709; Potemkin NCC-1657; Republic NCC-1371; Yorktown NCC-1717. [Ed: *Parts of this list differ from the earlier lists*']

• **Patricia Doyle**

To Clement Chung - you can get a copy of the TNG blooper tape - and the

Classic one for that matter - from LCARS, 70 Leadale Rd Leyland Lancs PR5 1QR. They also have a large amount of Trek-related bits and pieces on video for anyone who might ask.

Richard Hewitt - Do you want the record, or the video? Try LCARS - I know they've a copy.

Nude Frengi women. Well, we've had Deanna and Lwaxana Troi nude. We've also seen a naked Q (and I for one wouldn't mind seeing that again), Picard in the buff (drool), Worf minus clothing (bigger drool), Geordi LaForge with his modesty hidden by a strategically-placed face flannel (drool factor nine) Kira and Bariel and of course a very fetching if somewhat disassembled unclad Lore (excuse me while I mop up the carpet). Excuse the pun, but that's the naked truth.

• Vicky Roberts - 3 Golf Rd, Formby, Liverpool L37 1YH

To Maureen Norton - Re Trills. As far as I know, no official explanation exists for the difference between Odan and Jadzia, but the one most often suggested is there are 2 kinds of Trill host. (Even Terry Farrell, when asked, gives this explanation.) As for the spots - Kamala's and Jadzia's do seem remarkably alike, don't they?

To Moira Warburton - I remember Tales of the Gold Monkey! As far as I can remember, Jake Cutter (Stephen Collins) was the pilot of a flying boat, flying between several South Pacific islands during or before WW2. The title came from either the plane Jake flew or from the bar/hotel frequented by Jake and his friends, Sarah (played by Caitlan O'Heany), Bon Chance Louie (the bar's owner, played by Malcolm McDowell, I think). Jake's mechanic and several others.

To Richard Hewitt - If you (or anyone else who wants a copy of Star Trekkin) sends me a blank tape, I'll quite happily record it for you.

To Paul Jennings - It's nice to see someone putting into words what I have been feeling for a long time. You are quite right when you point out that we are *all* Star

Trek fans, whatever series we like best. At a time when fandom seems to be facing a crossroads/crisis of sorts, we should be pulling together, not squabbling amongst ourselves. (United we stand, divided we fall.)

• David J Raper - Hull

In defence of Commander Sisko (or Benji) I just thought I would say that of course he is not James Kirk or Jean-Luc Picard. That is the whole point of the character. I do seem to recall some similarly negative comments about Picard when TNG began, ie he was not Kirk. Surely if all Starfleet commanding officers were cast in the same mould, there would be complaints.

In addition the very nature of his command demands a different approach; most of his crew are Bajoran and his authority over them derives from their government. To be a good commander he must never forget this and there are times when he must be more cautious in his dealings with them than a Starship Captain. As to his 'style' of command, he does not say much, but when he does speak everyone listens and if he is not the most sociable of commanding officers, perhaps it is because he takes his duties seriously and is never truly off duty on DS9.

To Moira Warburton - I remember watching Tales of the Gold Monkey. As I recall the dog wore a patch because his glass eye had been gambled away in a card game at the beginning of the series.

To Pam Baddeley - Bev in a Captain's chair? Might I suggest you reserve judgement until you've seen All Good Things, where we meet Captain Beverly Picard (?) of the USS Pasteur. I haven't seen it yet but it looks good and let's not forget that she has passed her commander's exam, after all.

To Keith Morton - Worf is still on the Enterprise because he is still a Starfleet officer, his first loyalty is to the Federation and to Starfleet. As Guinan said in Family, when he looks to home it is not to the Klingon Empire.

To Marysia Kolodziej - Who says Melora's ancestors evolved in light gravity? Couldn't they have come from another world with 'normal' gravity but with their descendants adapting to the lighter gravity of their new world?

• **Mik Perris - Birmingham**

Hello, IDIC. As a relatively new member I would like to say how much I've enjoyed reading the newsletters. I've been a ST fan since I was young, but I never knew that there existed anything like IDIC. Its kindred spirit is refreshing.

I know these topics have probably been debated to death, but I'd like to know, for the record:

1) If there isn't a galley on any starship, where was it that Valeris fired a phaser in ST:TUC? Was that not a galley?

2) Shouldn't Valeris, as a Vulcan, know better than to fire a phaser in the galley? If in doing so this would set off an alarm, then surely all of the crew would know this anyway, making the whole demonstration illogical.

3) Whatever happened to V'Ger after ST:TMP? I know that on merging with Decker, V'Ger departed for whereabouts unknown, but did it finally transmit its knowledge to Earth? If V'Ger wouldn't, then wouldn't Decker? Did V'Ger jump dimensions, or did it just cruise out of the galaxy? Do you think V'Ger is connected with the Borg or even the Q?

Please, as a new member, I'd like to hear from anyone who has any ideas on these points.

• **Andrew Carnegie - Sevenoaks**

Last week I happened to buy a copy of the Daily Star (23 August) which had a centre page spread about Star Trek. There was a 3D picture cross section poster of the Enterprise-D which was labelled with a key to show all the different areas of the ship. It is really good and allowed me to fully understand where everything on the ship is located, eg the main computer core. Literally everything

you could think of to do with the Enterprise is mentioned and its location shown.

To Pam Baddeley - I too showed great anger at Bev's role in Descent but I now regret this having seen Thine Own Self in which it is shown that Bev has the rank of Commander because she took the bridge officers' test, like Deanna did in this episode, to make her qualified to take command of a starship. I think it is good to see these two sitting in the command seat on the bridge, eg Deanna in Genesis.

To Stephen Daniels - It is very rare to see the senior staff enjoying their social hours with other junior officers. How often do you see Riker with any of the young female officers he dates or Geordi with someone from engineering or Troi with male officers? In Lower Decks we see that Alyssa spends her time with other junior officers and Bev spends her time with the senior staff. However, in this episode she expresses concern about Alyssa's boyfriend's fidelity with the senior staff; she obviously cares for Alyssa very much. Then in Genesis she shows great delight and happiness when Alyssa reveals that she is pregnant. I think Bev is a very caring and loving person.

To Patrick Cueppens - Full impulse speed is 0.5c.

To Marysia Kolodziej - There have been many occasions when the Enterprise has been charting unexplored solar systems and other phenomena. Thus Picard and crew have been where no one has been before. I also agree with you about any Trek being good - I too eagerly await Voyager.

To Matthew Hemsley - Favourite characters - McCoy, Data (just from Troi) and Quark.

• **Dave Houston - Preston**

To Moira Warburton - Re Tales of the Gold Monkey. I too can remember watching the series on BBC 1. A certain Andean tells me that the flying boat was a Grumman Goose amphibian (whatever that is). According to Halliwell's TV Guide 3rd Edition - Tales of the Gold Monkey/ 1982 TV

movie (US). ABC/Universal, producer Donald P Bellisario. In a remote chain of South Pacific islands in 1938 an adventurer operates a seaplane service. Cast included Stephen Collins, Caitlan O'Heaney, Geoff Mackay, Marta Dubois (Ardr in Devil's Due), Ron Moody, John Hillerman (Magnum), Johnny Sekka. According to one reviewer, the aircraft out-acted everyone else. *[Ed: Thanks to everyone else who mentioned remembering this series.]*

To Marysia Kolodziej - Re Quantum Leap. Yes, it was the last series - and wasn't the last ending a cop-out. Why do time travel series *always* end with the hero caught in a time loop??? (as in The Time Travellers and The Time Tunnel). Unfortunately, the Innovation comic (which I enjoyed) has come to an end as well. So much for a good series.

To Alan Stephens - Re comics. Say no more, I am in complete agreement. I have been a comic reader/collector for 30+ years. Don't knock 'em if you haven't tried 'em.

I really enjoyed Contagion in Glasgow this year. Nice to see quite a few people wearing IDIC badges, so as to see at a glance fellow members.

Suggestions

Dorothy Wallace - how about providing binders which we can buy for keeping the newsletters in. *[Janet - we are not sure how much demand there would be. If anyone is interested let us know.]*

Chris Bailey - What about running a 'Trek' Xmas card design competition? Perhaps it would be possible to do so for best designs for hand-made, photocopied and computer generated, or whatever. What do you think? *[Janet - It is too late for this year. If there is any interest maybe we could consider it next year.]*

Help!

• **Maggie Symon** - I am looking for some quick feedback to this on what

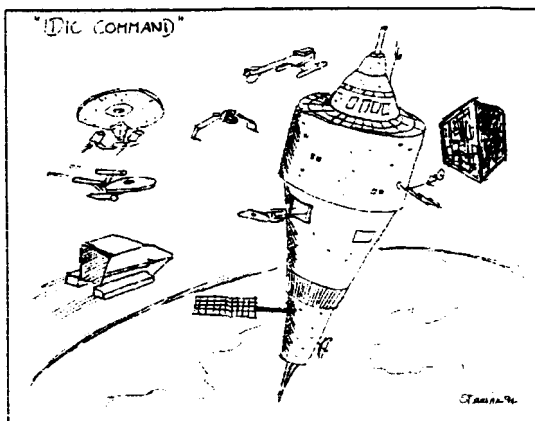
people think I should do, and help if I do get involved. My local museum recently ran a very successful Dr Who exhibition and the Assistant Curator contacted me about running a Star Trek exhibition next summer. My problems are these:

I am not sure exactly what they want this exhibition to be. Should I get involved? Could we put on an exhibition to equal or better the Dr Who exhibition? What could we display to rival Daleks and a Tardis? And what would interest the general public? So much is just accepted by us that would have to be explained to the public; zines, folk music, cons, music videos, model making, fan art, etc. Of course, this is the perfect opportunity to advertise fan-run clubs to the public, and hopefully improve the standing of fans locally.

Secondly, if I do agree to help, would people loan the museum their prized possessions? What I have is only where my interest lie and doesn't cover the whole range of the spectrum of fandom, and not many 'displayable' items - you can only show so many zines and books! I would suspect they would be looking for models and such like.

As the wheels will have to be set in motion soon I need a quick response to this. Postcards and letters with comments, please, to Maggie Symon, Upper Dallachy, Spey Bay, Fochabers, Moray IV32 7PW. You can include them in the next IDIC N/L too, but I need to know soon.

• **Dejan Ladika** - does anyone have a list of the Emmy Awards that TNG has won - all seven seasons?



CONTAGION 24

reported by Jean Sloan

MICHAEL DORN

Prologue

Contagion was a phenomenal weekend, and raised £14000+ for charity. Thank you to the committee for all their hard work. The Contagion committee is having a well-earned rest next year, but never fear, Offspring of Contagion - Conundrum - will run next year. I wouldn't miss it for anything; enough said.

Act One

Michael Dorn does *not* like prune juice. I thought it important to spread this piece of news as widely as possible, as he is frequently presented with prune juice by well-meaning fans. However, it just stacks up in the fridge. One day his mother was visiting; she opened the fridge door then turned to stare at him... "Are you all right, boy?"

Michael Dorn, 6' 3.5", with that velvety deep voice, is an entertaining speaker with a sense of humour. He started out in the business doing a Communication course at college which mainly concerned the production side of TV and radio. He played with bands for many years - piano and bass guitar - and loves rock and roll. Eventually he discovered that he liked being in front of the camera, and went back to school.

His first job was on the Mary Tyler Moore Show - he commented on the 'time capsule' effect of doing TV, and how strange it is to watch yourself again years later. He would like to work with Jack Nicholson and Marlon Brando, and enjoyed working with Christopher Plummer in ST VI.

His hobby is flying. His first childhood recollection is of a toy helicopter, and he had always wanted to take flying lessons. His chance came during TNG's first season, during the writers' strike. He took lessons, got hooked, and now owns an ex-military jet trainer (sorry, folks, didn't get the model).

His contract banned him from flying during the filming of Generations; the studio could kill him, though he wasn't allowed to kill himself. In point of fact he did have a close shave on the set when a special effect exploded rather too enthusiastically.

Michael Dorn's career is progressing satisfactorily beyond TNG. He has just finished making a film called Time Master in which he plays a baddie - the Chairman - who has invented a Virtual Reality game which manipulates real people. If a game character is killed, the machine punishes the player. Another project he hopes to be involved with is a TV feature for CBS about the Redtails - the black fighter squadron in WW2. He is also planning a stage play with Marina Sirtis, directed by Patrick Stewart; they have considered Othello, but will probably do Antigone.

Act Two

The character of Worf was Gene Roddenberry's afterthought, and so Michael Dorn was the last to come into the cast. The reading for Worf was just one of his interviews for that year. He knew the Klingons from Original Trek, so he walked onto the set as a Klingon, gruff and rude to everyone. The make-up helps him to act - it was very easy to be mean in the make-up, particularly in the first year when it played havoc with his skin.

Michael feels that the character of Worf is the most well-rounded in the series - Worf has more relations than anyone else! The writers have taken up suggestions and allowed him some freedom with interpreting the character. The pony-tail was Michael's idea; he was tired of 'Prince Valiant' hair - it was "silly that Worf should curl his hair before going to work". He was also given freedom in presenting fight scenes. The stunt director would choreograph the fights, then Michael put in his own moves. He wanted grace and style - a martial arts/Samurai feel. He does the close-up work himself, with a

stunt double doing "the big stuff".

He works well with Marina and likes the idea of their developing relationship. He always used to say at cons that he wanted to see Worf and Troi get together. The fans wrote in, and the writers took up the idea. He is pleased because it was not an obvious plot move - "It's Beauty and the Beast." The romance is not carried over into the movie. Michael Dorn shares Worf's attitude to truth and honour, but he does not find it difficult to separate himself from his role, and he enjoys not being recognised.

The thing he hates most about the role is when one of the creative talents on the show says, "Wouldn't it be cute if..." Then he knows that Worf is in trouble - in a mud bath (sanitised dirt mixed with water) or in red tights. He hated Qpid. "I'm not a merry man" was easy to say. I looked like a Klingon pimp." He had trouble with the cat in Phantasms, when he had to hold Spot in *exactly* the way you shouldn't hold a cat. The pussy looked at the Worf make-up - "and you could just see it thinking 'holy shit'." He likes working with Majel Barrett-Roddenberry: "She's a wild person; she's very fond of my butt."

The most embarrassing thing that happened on set was when he was teaching Wesley how to attract a mate. He had an extra bottom set of false teeth put in for the scream - they flew out. Filming All Good Things was hard. The cast had changed, moved on, so going back to the Farpoint scenes was difficult in terms of recapturing those early emotional responses. It was also hard to end the filming, and everyone on set was treated to the sight of Worf in tears.

Act Three

The show was cancelled - the cast does not understand why as the 7th season was the best in the ratings, and TNG has been nominated for an Emmy as Best Dramatic Series. Michael pointed out that it would be a great irony if a cancelled show won an Emmy.

In response to a question, Michael talked about the effect Gene R's death had on

the show. The change was "subtle, gradual". At first nothing happened then when DS9 came along, the cast "knew something was up". It didn't sound like Gene's vision. It became clear that everyone at Paramount had "started divvying up the ST pie" and the TNG cast realised that it was now just "part of the machine". Renegade officers were not part of Gene's vision. ST "was special; it's not special any more".

For Michael, the worst episodes of TNG, the most difficult to watch, are Code of Honor and Masks. When they were shooting Masks, they said the words but they didn't know what they were talking about - the story has no point. His favourite episodes are The Offspring and Drumhead. He thinks Jonathan Frakes is a fabulous director. Michael has no desire to direct himself - at least, not in TV which is "confining, restricting - you're more like a traffic cop". He might be more enthusiastic in the medium of film if it was something he felt strongly about. He has watched Patrick Stewart's frustrations in directing - in fact, he has caused some of them!

Act Four

Michael Dorn has what he describes as "a running battle with Patrick... comes to our country, takes our jobs." Patrick has been doing NASA voice-overs and car commercials, and Michael seems to have made it his job to keep Patrick in his place. He has done voice-overs himself but his ambition is to get one Patrick is up for. He 'assassinates' Patrick once a week: "Patrick just *loves* to die."

Act Five

Michael was more or less sworn to secrecy about Generations, but he did give us a glimpse of the artwork for the movie poster. In the film, Worf gets a promotion. The movie has 182 FX (the show averaged 12 per episode). The film uniforms are a mish-mash of NG and DS9 - the insignias are different. Whether there will be a series of TNG movies will depend on the money, but 'they' have talked about another film in '96.

Epilogue

Michael Dorn described TNG as

"wonderful job security". He misses the people he worked with and the laughter. Patrick Stewart summed it up with he said he was really afraid that he would "never laugh as much again on a job". Michael feels that the how has "elevated his career a step" and given him "a lot more stuff". He has a Star Trek pinball machine, and a room full of samples of ST merchandise, sent by marketing. He hasn't taken any mementos from the set except for the chair with his name on it.

Contagion was Michael's first con over here, and he was unused to having the same audience for two days running. He seemed surprised at the size of the turnout, and staggered at the amount of money raised for charity. He was an entertaining guest - I'd love to see him on the same stage as Patrick Stewart.

RICHARD ARNOLD

Richard brought a video that A & E Biography have produced about Gene Roddenberry, entitled *Star Trek and Beyond*. It was very good - very moving; I am not sure how or when it will become available over here - but look out for it.

The question and answer session after Richard's talk moved on to the vexed question of where *Star Trek* is going just now, a subject which Michael Dorn also touched on. Gene Roddenberry's vision for *Star Trek* was "we are better now than ever before, and getting better". Richard Arnold expressed the view (which I share) that the ST universe of Berman and Piller has moved away from Gene's vision, which would not have encompassed bad or renegade SF officers or the increase in militarism and conflict in TNG and DS9. *Voyager* seems unlikely to improve matters because *Trek* has been about exploration, not about finding your way home. However, on a more positive note, Jeri Taylor has now moved over to *Voyager*.

Richard commented that DS9 "is about to learn what it is like to be a poor relation"; this happened to TNG when DS9 went into production - the main monies were

concentrated on the new project. He also suggested that if *Voyager* is more successful than DS9, DS9 might well be cancelled.

Moving away from the depressing bit

Did you know that -

- Brent Spiner's stomach provided the model for the false stomach for the symbiont-being-inserted scenes in *The Host* and other episodes.

- Cirroc Lofton grew 5" during the second season of DS9.

- In *The Eye of the Beholder*, Marina's upper lip looks swollen; she had a bad reaction to having it waxed.

- Brannon Braga is moving to *Voyager*.

- Ron Moore is to be the supervising producer on DS9.

- Patrick Stewart adopted a cat orphaned in the earthquake. He is in New York making a film of the play *Jeffrey* with Rowan Atkinson.

- Rick Colby is ready to direct the premiere of *Voyager*; as of 29th July all he needed were a script and a cast.

- Sets 8/9 have been stripped of TNG and redressed for *Voyager*. The ship is recognisably *Starfleet* but much smaller than *Enterprise*.

- Rumours that a *Starship* is to be permanently attached to DS9 have some truth; there's a need to do more stories than a runabout can cope with.

- *Voyager* season 1 will consist of a 2-hour premiere plus 20 X 1 hour episodes. It has been sold to 60 stations so far - 55% of the market. TNG had 99% of the market.

- *Voyager* is still casting. Lindsay Wagner is interested in the part of the Captain, but there is pressure from the studio to cast a man (!)

- Fans represent 5% of the ST viewing

audience but 100% of the market audience. If fans want to get a message across, it has to go via marketing. If fans stop buying, marketing will bleat!

CHARITY AUCTION

All fan-run conventions aim to raise money for charity, hence the Charity Auction. Items are donated - by fans, and sometimes by guests who bring collectibles from the USA. Richard Arnold is noted for his contributions to this event.

I thought it might be interesting to list some of the items that were sold at Contagion and the prices they went for, so that you can start to work out how much collateral you have in your Star Trek cupboard(s).

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

BANZAI!!!!

or

I wasn't in the lead, it was the guy behind me!

Yes, you've guessed, a con report from Taruka Quauhtezcatl.

The Hospitality Inn, Glasgow, slept peacefully on Friday night, little suspecting the chaos which was then to break out. The fans had arrived for Contagion 94.

I made a point of catching the only Trek episodes I wanted to see on Friday night, then I could do what I'd intended to - enjoy myself. This time I was sharing a room with two more stewards - Judith Taylor and Felix Wilmot.

Saturday morning. Breakfast - and what a breakfast. The Scots sure know how to provide that! One of those and I didn't need food for the rest of the day.

On to the Dealers' Room, which as I was stewarding I got into early. Well, that was mine and Judith's first mistake, because a large, jolly lady called Sheila came up to us, thrust a Guide Dogs collecting box into my hands and requested that we go and see what we could get.

Richard Arnold brought a number of Impel trading cards signed by the stars. Most went for between £20 and £30, *but* the Data card (signed) - £55; the Imzadi card (Frakes/Sirtis) £75.

Signed photos fetched on average £30 - £40, *but* Spock, ST publicity still, b/w. signed, £90; McCoy, b/w, signed, £50; Kirk colour 10 x 8, signed, £50; 1994 ST cruise log, 9 autographed photos, £100.

Other items - ST:TMP souvenir programme, £16; ST II LP soundtrack, £12; surgical glove (unused!) signed John de Lancie, £45; first day issue Christmas stamps, signed Patrick Stewart, £60.

Well, that's exactly what we did. We even persuaded the dealers to make contributions. Judith got £1 out of Richard Arnold, one of the guests. She had an even better plan up her sleeve!

For a fair part of the con we had a television crew filming, which wasn't too bad but did tend to block up the aisles occasionally.

The Opening Ceremony, when they managed to evict the stewards from the main aisle of the Imperial because someone had forgotten a row of seats, was impressive - especially the Klingon bodyguard for Michael Dorn. The other guest was Terry Shuttlesworth from CIC Video.

Following the Opening Ceremony was Michael's first guest talk. This was where Judith struck. She got Michael to contribute to the Guide Dogs box! Things went rather well for us after that.

I managed to get myself invited to attend Klingon language lessons, and the teacher finally met his match as regards pronunciation. He also found three Spanish attendees to let me get a bit of practice.

Back to the dealers' room to drop off a couple of dozen tribbles and rattle the tin a bit more. Then out into the streets of Glasgow prior to the Fancy Dress.

The actual start of the Fancy Dress was delayed...and delayed by a debate on the future of fan-run conventions in the face of professional ones - at least in Britain. Though none of us were present, the ripples from it have prompted four of us to try and do something about it. I certainly don't want American-style conventions here - I wouldn't have half as much fun!

The fancy dress was as usual hilarious, full marks to the "Klingon Medic" in his short nurse's uniform and black stockings. The winner was an excellent Cylon, with Ambassador Worf second. Me? Oh I started off in Carolyn Palamas' dress (Who Mourns for Adonais?) then dropped it to reveal my real costume which was considerably smaller! I had to miss the Ceilidh because I was night stewarding and I needed some sleep. Eddie Woo in a kilt is a wonderful sight, but only those who saw him would have appreciated Dave Houston as a Christmas card holder - he had about 500 of them sewn to his costume! (Needless to say, this was a Christmas Ceilidh).

Sunday approached cautiously. Having finally got back to bed at 3.15 after an hour's stewarding I missed breakfast because I was shattered. I managed another circuit of the Dealers' Room with the tin, and spent a lot of time socialising. I did gain one unusual event - I was thrown out of a room by Klingons!

Revenge, when it came, was wonderful. I now have a battleH which has two autographs on it - those of Richard Arnold and Michael Dorn. Purely because I was too tired to change, I went to the signing session in my Klingon Kleavage costume. (And I only fell out of it once!)

I had been intending to attend the Quiz, but when my room-mate, who had stewarded for it, explained what had happened I was glad I hadn't. No-one told her how the tapes were meant to be played, and the sound engineers didn't quite think it through so no-one actually heard a word being said.

That was the night Chaos came to Contagion. The Stewards Party started off quite normally until a huge blackhaired barbarian grabbed a handful of tribbles and hurled them across the room with a yell of "Banzai!" I'm amazed there weren't more injuries.

Quite how I ended up in the corridor discussing Andean history with Jean Sloan and Gary Heron I can't remember, but it was the safest place to be. Anyway, I was stewarding at midnight.

There was a minor panic as it appeared for a moment that the main halls would have to be closed due to a burst water pipe in the bar, which resulted in water pouring through the light fittings. Half the floor was roped off when the populace left the disco (the karaoke didn't turn up) and there were several inordinately large buckets scattered about. Thanks due to the Maintenance Staff of the Hospitality Inn; they had it cleared up by morning.

When I was on duty my relief praised something I'd entered for the fiction Competition. Though welcome, I didn't think any more of it. Was I in for a surprise!

Judith, last seen haring past the Clyde Suite just after midnight pursued by a string of stewards, finally arrived at 2 am, slightly intoxicated. The line in my heading is only one of three gems she came out with, the others being, "We wrapped the paper in the cheese...." and "I wonder if he's got the teeth marks out of his leg yet?"

We didn't see her all Monday. I offered to steward for her, but she gave me the wrong time - didn't I feel stupid! Time for another circuit of the Dealers' Room - drop off the survivors of the Tribble fight at the

Stewards' Party on Sheila's table and collect an idea from Sheila which I will be implementing when I get some more fur.

Another circuit of the ground floor of the hotel - how many people heard "I've come to part you from your small change" that morning. It was worth it; Val Piacentini said that the box didn't get that full at English conventions; one more circuit of the bar and there would have been no space left in it.

To the Closing Ceremony. During the presentations for the competitions I got a surprise. There's something indefinable about being handed second prize in a writing competition for something you didn't think good enough; just being on stage with Michael Dorn was enough. I was asked how to pronounce my surname; poor George Haggerty, reading the names out said, "I'm not even going to attempt to say that!"

During the con over £15,000 was raised for charity, split between the Glasgow Humane Society, a local school for children with cerebral palsy and a local carers' group. Thank you everyone.

I lost count of the people who came up to say hello to me. Some spotted the feather chunchu in my hair - it was rather

long - which I had threatened in these pages to wear; others came up, said hello and then suddenly realised who I was. Thank you Scotland, you made me very welcome.

If I have one complaint, and I'm not alone, it must be the stewarding. One steward on duty in a room the size of the Imperial Suite is just not practical, especially when that same steward has to watch two doors and work the video machine at the same time. (Felix, at her first convention, was one steward to whom this happened.) There were instances of the steward being unable to work the video equipment, and perhaps the Committee would be willing in future to follow the example of the one at Lightspeed 93 where prospective stewards were asked what they could do. I can work a 48-channel sound mixing desk but so far have never been asked to. Committee, please, next time you organise a quiz, make sure you have enough microphones (Felix again) so everyone can hear what's going on.

Other than that, what can I say. That certainly rates as the craziest and to date most enjoyable con I've been to. There's no Contagion next year - the committee deserves a rest - but there's Conundrum. Will I be going? Watch out for those feathers!

CONTAGION 94 CON REPORT

by Edward Woo

Friday - journeyed north on a diet of biscuits, apple pies and ham sandwiches. Reached the hotel to find Sheila, some of her chain gang, Philip, Gary and some others of the Away Team in the foyer. Our rooms were not quite ready so we communicated for a while. Jean arrived - by air, having changed her travel plans and reduced her baggage from 3 cases to 2 at Manchester, between one minute and the next!

The con was building up as attendees arrived. George opened registration early! A video programme began at 8 pm - some of us gathered to watch 4.5 hours of Trek, coming up for air and water as it was a hot night.

Well past midnight it was down to the foyer for drinks. Quite a few folk there. One group had gone to see The Flintstones - I'd still prefer the cartoon.

I am loomed and we headed for bed. We set 4 alarms for our wakening calls. I couldn't really sleep the first night - why are con beds so uncomfortable? It was hot, sticky, and we had a noisy fan.

Saturday - Alarms, artificial and real light woke us. Wash and breakfast (even twice for some people!) Dawn tried selling me her blueprints over juice. Red badge wearers got into the dealers' room early; I got

a few photos of Worf and gave Moira my White Horta items. The art room was part of the dealers' room; portraits of Worf, Picard, Riker, Odo and Quark were the outstanding items. There were also a couple of starships and numerous pencil drawings.

Noon arrived and we filed in for the opening ceremony. First to arrive was a group of Klingons as background. Our guests, Terry Shuttleworth and Richard Arnold were introduced. Finally the GoH, Michael Dorn, arrived, escorted to the stage by a flank of Klingons bearing torch carriers. He had only arrived that morning, and was all set to do his talk, but George told him it was scheduled for a little later. Notepad Jean was ready as he reappeared a few minutes later to a huge welcome and many flash bulbs. He's *tall*. He began his talk about his career, the Worf character, Patrick's accent, life on he set, his flying and prune juice. (He then went off to a 2-hour autograph session at Forbidden Planet, escorted by some of KAG.)

With a brief rest before Richard's slides I found some tea, biscuits, Taruka, Judith and Vicki spending money on Trek items. All I did that day was look. Richard took to the stage with slides of DS9, TNG and Generations. There were some familiar sets from the movies. Paramount was making loads of money from Trek. DS9 3rd season started filming in July 94. At the end of his talk we saw a video - clips of TNG to Bohemian Rhapsody (Queen). A brilliant piece of editing.

After that was Terry, our man from CIC with the next releases of Trek, Quantum Leap and N. Exposure - always informative. Then it was up to the 8th floor for the autograph queue. We didn't have to wait long (the system used worked extremely well).

Dinner was next; 7 of us went off to Pizzaland. When we returned the ceilidh had started and the fancy dress was next. It was good this year - costumes included Borgs, a Ferengi holidaymaker, Klingon Laurel & Hardy, Star Wars and a Cyclon, a Federation bear and Taruka's costume. Dave's

Christmas card tree didn't make it in time.

As the ceilidh began, there was a panel next door on the future of fandom. It got a little off the point but seemed to be quite successful. I enjoyed our 2 hours fun dancing. (I still don't know the steps - hope I didn't bruise anyone!) We had a Ferengi giving gifts away during the brief pause, including a next year's registration. More drinks (to cool down). After midnight we caught some original Trek videos; I was stewarding at 2, getting to bed at 3 am.

Sunday - woke early and went back to sleep. Woke again, down to breakfast, got 2 magazines from the dealers' room, chatted, went in for Richard's talk. Just before noon, Richard showed an excellent video biography of Gene R and there were tears as the final moments of Gene's life were described by Marina and Majel. With lights up, Richard gave us the latest news on Voyager (even though he had mislaid his info sheet). The sets are ready for a cast now. Pickup of the series has been poor so far, only about 25% of stations have taken it.

As Richard finished, Michael come on again. He arrived expecting to do the same routine as yesterday but he must have been given some warning because he asked how many had been present the previous day, and clearly got a shock when virtually every hand went up; so instead of a talk we had a long Q & A session. He plays the guitar, hasn't seen much other SF (too busy) and can only speak a few words of Klingon. He told us of past con hotel experiences in the US. Finished, he went off to sign more autographs.

We went off to the Blue Lagoon (good old fish and chips) then wandered back to the all-important charity auction. Richard started it rolling with autographed trading cards, then 8 x 10 photos (some were bargains), a script, a bag of tribbles, some partial press kits, etc. No real bidding war and we even finished early.

Instead of the planned Karaoke Trek (the folk who were to run it didn't arrive) we had an impromptu disco. Meanwhile, 8 floors up at the stewards' party, an almighty

tribble and paper fight began, never mind the food and drink and paper planes! Somehow 70-odd tribbles disappeared. (Frankie and Jean felt guilty and cleaned the street below of planes.) Everything came to an end with a leak of water in the main hall entrance and the bar was closed.

Back to floor 8 and videos till 3 am.

Monday - wakened with an effort. Did my last dealers' round before catching a video and the bloopers. Come 11 am the final act began. Keith won one of the raffle prizes (a ST game). Taruka got 2nd prize in writing. The prize winners came up to collect their prizes, the hotel staff got a vote of thanks,

☆☆☆☆

ARCHON 94

reported by Jean Sloan

Prologue - As I write this, I am sitting in Terminal 1 at Heathrow waiting for a flight. I feel jet-lagged; however, I haven't crossed any time zones - or then perhaps I have, because I have just spent a weekend with several generations of Trek, and with personalities from widely different backgrounds and from both sides of the Atlantic.

The Con was packed with activity, the line-up of guests impressive. Arthur C Clarke dropped in to do a short talk; Patrick Stewart came for Sunday; William Campbell spent the weekend; David Prowse, Jon Pertwee, Mark Ryan, Richard Arnold, Mat Irvine, Len Green and Sean Leaning representing Amblimation, Terry Shuttleworth, Chas Evans, Steve Wilson... It was impossible to attend all the talks.

The highlight of the weekend occurred on Sunday afternoon; Arthur C Clarke, Patrick Stewart, Jon Pertwee and William Campbell were all in the hotel's main hall with me, and 500+ other mature, sophisticated, educated adults reduced to gibbering wrecks with excitement. All right, I'm exaggerating; forget 'mature'...

In a minute I'll have to go and board

Richard and Michael got presents. Cheques were given to the main charities (Michael's face was a picture as he realised just how much had been raised for charity) then Michael declared the con closed.

It was time to say our goodbyes as people began to leave. We watched more videos, had an early afternoon tea, registered for next year's Conundrum (mostly a different committee but they've all worked with Contagion stewarding etc). Finally (9 pm) packed the car (with a few helping hands) and headed for the M8, thinking, "Another great con in Scotland gone. See you next year."

the plane, but just one anecdote. Next door to the hotel there is a Macdonalds. If you understand that most of the Con spent most of Sunday in the main hall, you will understand that at the end of the day most of the Con wanted to eat. Macdonalds had been quiet, then about half the attendees arrived for food at the same time. Someone ought to give those staff at Big M an award for staying unfailingly cheerful as they coped with the rush. The other 250 attendees caused a similar jam in the hotel's Con Eating Facility.

ARTHUR C CLARKE

"I'm still 90% operational under water, but not in this gravity situation..."

He lives in Sri Lanka because the climate is better for his arthritis, and he scuba dives. He was roaming elsewhere in the world at the time of the Con because he had decided to take his family to see Disney World which he hadn't seen since 1969. He returned to England for a few days to visit friends and to deal with business involving his new TV series "Mysterious Universe" which is filming now; the 'business' turned out to be 'This is Your Life' for which he had been set up.

Apart from his novels, he has published 500+ papers and articles. He was awarded a CBE and on his 75th birthday in 1992 he was given the Freedom of Minehead where he grew up. He has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for his invention of the Communications Satellite.

His novels 'Childhood's End' and 'Songs of Distant Earth' have both been optioned for films. He doesn't think that 'Childhood's End' would work now - he feels that too many different elements have been done elsewhere. He considers 'Songs of Distant Earth' his best novel; Michael Philips and Mike Oldfield are writing a suite on it. He signed a contract with Amblin to consult on a new space series 'Earth 2'; there were lots of faxes, but nothing has come of the project and he and Amblin have parted amicably. However, his faxes are up on the wall at Amblin.

AC Clarke met Gene Roddenberry when Gene attended one of AC's lectures. He put Gene in touch with his lecture agent, and Gene's resultant lecture tour convinced the studio that perhaps there was an interested audience out there after all.

On the difficulty of predicting science fact through science fiction, AC pointed out the difficulty of predicting anything - "Who'd have believed that South Africa would have a black president before the USA."

Arthur C Clarke talked with humour and wit. His mental energy is prodigious; in no sense has he retired. His work rate would leave many much younger people heading for hospital.

PATRICK STEWART

Patrick Stewart asked to come to Archon - thereby causing the Committee problems with the programme. Of course, they forced themselves to rearrange things so that he could appear, which he did on Sunday. He said that he has been carrying around a load of guilt because he seems to have been ignoring British cons, but the reason has always been 'geography and bad timing'.

His life seems to be in a state of flux at the moment; after filming *Generations* he packed up his life in LA and went to New York to film an adaptation of the play *Jeffrey*. This is a 'gay' play, about the effect of Aids on the gay community. Stephen Webber decides sex is too dangerous and that the only way to deal with the Aids crisis is not to have sex. The movie examines the effect of this decision on two friends. The film is comical, full of jokes and humour, and message being "Hate Aids, not life".

After making the film he returned to England on the QE2, with the intention of staging 'Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf' in the autumn. However, that project has been postponed until spring. He was looking forward to an extended holiday but was then offered another job in LA. He said yes - "it might be my last offer - I couldn't turn it down" so is returning to LA on 19th September.

Patrick talked about coincidence. Before he came to London, he had spoken to Richard Dreyfuss on the phone about the Dreyfuss production of *Hamlet* which will open in Birmingham in the autumn. In point of fact, RD was hoping to get Patrick for the production, and though Patrick was unavailable they spent some time discussing the play. The scene shifts to London, on the eve of a ST Con, and Patrick checks in to his hotel to find RD on the lobby. They arranged to have breakfast on the Sunday morning to further discuss *Hamlet*; at the end of breakfast, Patrick happened to mention that he was being picked up by Arthur C Clarke. RD reached for the bill, saying that he'd love to meet ACC (Patrick - "so name dropping does pay off") and so it was that "three phenomenal connectors of sci-fi and the entertainment industry" shared the same pavement.

Because Patrick was in transit, he checked into the hotel with 4 suitcases and 15 cardboard boxes of the sturdy removal type. A friend implied that this was not a very classy way to carry belongings; Michael Dorn said they contained money. Michael Dorn and Patrick Stewart are good friends, and are obviously foils for each other's humour -

Michael Dorn's talks at Contagion proved that. Patrick praised Michael's work, adding that "What MD enjoys most is dying". Now, if memory serves, that is *exactly* what Michael said about Patrick. On the set, they would act out old movies. MD imitated Patrick, sending up his accent; Patrick does a passable Worf.

The Shakespeare references in TNG do not result from Patrick's involvement - they were Gene's idea. Patrick thinks it is a pity that the exploration of Data's humanity through Shakespeare was not taken further than the Henry V and Tempest extracts which were used. A propos of Shakespeare, he would like to perform and/or direct Othello and The Tempest, direct The Merchant of Venice and play Falstaff. He most admires actors who "convey feelings; who make a strong connection between themselves and work they do".

Someone asked Patrick about the 'Picard Manoeuvre'. At first it was made necessary by the uniforms; the one-piece outfits were made slightly small so that they looked neat. The uniforms were changed into two-piece style because the jumpsuits were causing the cast neck and back problems, but by the time the Picard Manoeuvre was no longer necessary, it had become a way of showing feeling. During the TNG years, to keep his hand in for stage work, Patrick put together a one man presentation called "Uneasy Lies the Head" about all the power figures he had played over the years - everything from Henry VIII to Jean-Luc. The project was advertised in the LA Times, and the studio saw the advert. He was warned that he would have to have permission to use any TNG material, and the studio would want royalties. He had been going to incorporate a speech from Measure of a Man into his performance, but he dropped that and inserted the Picard Manoeuvre instead.

Patrick likes living in the US - he likes the people; he drives them crazy and they drive him crazy sometimes, but he thinks they get a bad press. What he admires about Americans is their energy - "their level of determination to have fun as often as

possible and their refusal to take anything too seriously". He likes moving backwards and forwards across the Atlantic, and he is determined not to lose the qualities he has gained from exposure to the States; and that brings me to the QE2.

He sailed home because it was a "private little dream" to do so. He wanted to "sneak up on England". He was finding "the shock of arriving at Heathrow increasingly uncomfortable". As he talked about his voyage it was obvious that it had affected him deeply. The ship caught the end of Hurricane Chris, and for one day there was a heavy sea and you couldn't see from one end of the ship to the other. He spent hours just staring at the waves, understanding their power, and realising what it must have been like serving with the Atlantic convoys during the war. He was invited onto the Bridge for the final approach to England, and spent "two or three quietly exciting and emotional hours there". It was very tranquil. At last the cliffs of Devon appeared in the dawn light. They came up behind a yacht that at first was just a blip on the radar screen; it appeared to have no idea of their presence, and it didn't move; eventually the QE2 had to change course. The First Officer said it happened quite often, and was not pleased.

Though TNG has finished, Patrick's connection with ST is not necessarily at an end. There will be more films if Generations does well. Incidentally, Patrick described the malicious rumours about his relationship with Bill Shatner as "bunkum". He would be prepared to guest on DS9 or Voyager, and he has a standing invitation to direct either series. His appearance at the con was a lovely surprise; it was very interesting that he wasn't asked the usual questions about his favourite episodes or for on-set anecdotes. Perhaps this was because he was there a relatively short time. What struck me particularly about him was, I suppose, a facet of his acting talent. When he was recounting the QE2 experience - in more detail than I have told it - my imagination was seduced by his voice and I was there with him on the ship.

WILLIAM CAMPBELL

Bill Campbell proved to be a delightful guest. He was accompanied by his wife Tereza; though they have done many conventions, they seemed to have a really good time, and were warm, friendly and approachable.

William Campbell was born in Newark, New Jersey; his father worked for the Water Department and he was destined for the same career. However the war came. At 17 Bill joined the Navy and was posted to a minesweeper in the Pacific. On his ship was one Leonard Stone who wanted to act, and who talked about nothing else. Bill grew interested.

When the war ended Bill went to the Fagin School of Drama - because he didn't want to go to work. His fees would be paid by the Government under their Forces resettlement scheme. He showed talent, which got him an audience at the Theatre Wing, an Academy of Dramatic Art. He did 4 years of small roles in theatre, and nearly gave up several times, but at last landed a part in *The Man Who Came to Dinner* which toured to Hollywood. He was seen by scouts and got a screen test with Warner Bros which landed him a part in his first film, *Breaking Point*, in 1950. It was the beginning of a successful career - 54 films and more than 150 TV appearances.

He co-starred with Elvis Presley in *Man Without a Star*, giving Elvis advice about acting at Elvis' request. Elvis was young, affectionate and naive - a product of the studio system: the studios owned their discoveries body and soul; Elvis had never seen the Pacific Ocean. Bill Campbell rectified that and became really friendly with Elvis off the set. He did not however particularly like Elvis' music, being a "product of a different era", and when he was asked to sing with Elvis in the film, Bill was horrified. He did it with the help of advice from Elvis, but was very embarrassed watching the film.

He worked with John Wayne in *Operation Pacific*. He was in awe of 'Duke'

whom he describes as "larger than life", but awe did not stop the young Bill Campbell complaining about his part. His character didn't have a name, and all he did was repeat what Duke said. It wasn't the career that Bill had imagined. However, you didn't complain to the studio; they let him go.

He was packing to return to New York when he got a call to do *The People Against O'Hara* with Spencer Tracey. Arriving on set, he was faced with the prospect of an unrehearsed take; though struck by stage fright, he completed the scene, and Tracey, impressed, got him under contract.

Bill Campbell's involvement with *Star Trek* was initiated by Gene L. Coon. Bill Campbell describes him as "the heart of *Star Trek*, of the morality play concept". The part was Trelane, "a sort of English fop" in *The Squire of Gothos*. Bill liked the part which was "full of one line retorts". He was invited back to play Koloth in *The Trouble With Tribbles*, a part he reprised in the DS9 episode *Bloodoath*.

He is a good friend of Jimmy Doohan. He is aware that there is a deep-rooted chasm between Jimmy and Bill Shatner but he does not know the cause. Bill Campbell brought his Trelane velvet coat to the Con; it was given to him by the fans.

Bill Campbell has a great passion in life - fundraising for The Motion Picture and Television Fund. He is currently Director of Fundraising and Public Relations. The organisation provides social security and health care for those in the world of entertainment. It is independent of Government funds, and has its own hospital and retirement community. The organisation is run by volunteers and donation. Elvis gave a million dollars; George Burns gave a supermarket, which was sold to provide funds, and later Bill 'nailed' him for a further million. His wife is a volunteer at the retirement home also.

Bill Campbell's nickname is "the titillating titan of trivia". His talks were full of trivia about Hollywood and I don't think this report does the talks justice. You had to

be there!

IRECON 4 WITH GATES McFADDEN

3rd and 4th September 1994

by Sandy Catchick

I was lucky enough to be invited to Irecon 4 as an IDIC representative to run a zine writers workshop and look after the Classic Trek video programme. The other guests were Tim Gaskill of the Official Star Trek Fan Club who ran a session on STVII and Voyager and also hosted the auction for the Children of Chernobyl and the Star Guest - Gates McFadden - who flew over from the US on the Thursday before the con and who was still suffering from jet lag. I didn't get to see her second talk, but on her second day she wore a navy suit and looked very businesslike.

Gates was really stunning on the first day in a cream outfit which included a Maltese lace top she had bought 20 years previously. She was delighted at the security provided by two very young attendees with phasers and made a special effort to take questions from the under 10s, despite the fact they asked questions like "Why do you look so tall here and so small on TV?" They also gave interesting answers. One youngster whose least favourite episode was All Good Things because he didn't understand it, when Gates asked which bit he didn't understand, replied "all of it!"

Gates spoke of her own 3 year old son and how she tried to keep him out of the public eye to allow him a normal childhood. He had never seen her either in her make up or on TV. She pointed out that the crimp in her plan was his Godfather, Brent Spiner, who constantly appeared at their trailer in full make-up. Her son had already accepted not only Brent, but also Michael Dorn in his Klingon attire, as perfectly normal. He also used the Enterprise bridge set as his playground, and she wondered what he will think when he finally gets to see it on TV and realises it isn't his personally! She gave the news that Jonathan Frakes and his wife had recently had a son, Ivor

The adult attendees gave Gates a very warm welcome to Ireland and asked a diverse range of questions.

Gates was able to say that she thought STVII looked to be an excellent film, and she was only disappointed her own part in it was so small. She thought the script was first class. She said that contrary to rumour Patrick Stewart and William Shatner got on very well indeed. She was also asked about her own relationship with Shatner and said she'd never worked with him except for publicity shots so she couldn't really say. She left a tantalising taster for all Data fans that Brent has an exceptionally good scene in the film.

She was asked about her own role and that of Marina and said it was a pity the studio didn't make use of their full range of skills. They were both experts at fencing but always ended up hitting someone over the head with a vase! The problem was that running to budget and to time and with studio guidance the actors, even Patrick, had very little say. She pointed out that although the female role was somewhat restricted, at least there were women on the Enterprise, while she had just been to a press conference in the Con hotel, the Royal, Bray, Co. Wicklow, where there hadn't been a single woman reporter!

She was delighted with Paramount's choice of Genevieve Bujold, the French Canadian actress who starred in Anne of the Thousand Days, as the captain in Voyager. Genevieve had the strength of personality to make a believable Captain. The plot was rather like Homer's Odyssey with the ship trying desperately to get back home.

Gates was asked what happened in the second season of TNG and said that basically Paramount had decided they wanted the doctor role to go in another direction. She's

been as surprised as anyone when they'd asked her back, and she thanked the fans for all the letters they'd written on her behalf. She was disappointed with her role in the third season as she'd been told there would be no change, but found that to be a fallacy. She thought it might be because the scripts had been written for Pulaski rather than Crusher, and had just been transferred over. She was much happier with the fourth season onwards.

Her favourite episode was Genesis where she had managed to get behind the camera and direct. She loves dance and choreography and saw directing much like that, with the odd bit of technospeak thrown in re camera angles. The hardest part had been the very first scene, where she had a long part to play and was also directing.

The thing she loved best in TNG was the humour both on and off stage. She said it had been hard for guest stars coming onto the set to find a group of people playing tricks, but those who survived the first day often said it was the best group of people they had ever worked with.

The filming of the final episode hadn't seemed so final to them as they were all working on STVII, but when it came to the farewell party it was brought home to them that there would be no more episodes. That had been a sad occasion. However, she was already working on some new projects and had a busy schedule.

She expected STVII to come out early in 1995 and also said that the majority of the stars had signed up to do a professional convention in the Albert Hall in London at about that time.

As well as giving the two talks, Gates signed her autograph in two marathon sessions so all attendees managed to get her autograph. She also signed a great many additional photos, books etc. for the charity auction.

One of the advantages of being a fellow guest was that I got to see Gates behind the scenes in the ops room; although

a disadvantage was that I didn't get her autograph. She showed us some beautiful photos of her son at around 18 months and 2 years. They were black and white photos, but she said he had the same ginger blond hair as she had had. He was really cute in the photos and it was obvious she had all a mother's pride when talking about him. It was reassuring to find she took special care to protect his interests, his education and his future; a tough task in the modern world, but especially in the world of Hollywood. I admire her stand on this point.

She told us she'd last visited Ireland about 15 years previously and had a special place in her heart for Ireland. She also had an interest in architecture and hoped to get to see some of the old Irish houses while in the area. She'd read a lot of books on the subject. One of her other interests was collecting old lace - hence the Maltese lace top she wore on her first day. She was looking for some real old Irish lace and not the modern items and hoped she'd find some in Dublin. She also liked fish and chips - but if you ever get to buy her any make sure you get some extra tartare sauce to go with it!

If you're thinking of writing to her you'll be pleased to know that while she usually avoids autograph sessions as such, she takes special care to try and write back personally to fan mail - so long as this is addressed to her via Paramount studios. None of the stars are allowed to reply to mail sent direct to their homes - so make sure you follow the rules if you want a reply. Gates said what she loved best was to know something about the person who had written to her, and especially to be able to picture them - so you may want to enclose a photo of yourself and a little bit about yourself. She'll also try to autograph a photo or something else for you so long as you're not greedy and limit yourself to one or two items - and provide a self addressed reply envelope with IRCs. She said it does get rather boring signing your face again and again - so she's also pleased if you have an unusual photo for her to sign rather than the publicity shots she knows so well.

Irecon 4 was also special in that it was

the venue for a Star Trek Wedding on the Saturday night. Damon Wise and his wife, Karen (McElligott), were actually married on the Thursday before the Con, but had a second, Star Trek reception on the Saturday - with a Klingon guard of honour - and members of the press in attendance. Damon is the General Administrator, Europe, of the Irish Star Trek Federation and he, together with Anny and Peter Wise, Amanda Cullen

and a host of committee members, organised Irecon 4. I'd like to add my special thanks to Frank Prendergast from Kilkenny who helped me with the Classic Trek programme. If you're sorry you missed the Con, although there were 60 attendees from the UK, then look out for Irecon 5 on 16th and 17th September 1995, where the planned guests are Peter David, Shelley Jarvis and Finnualla Flannagan.

☆☆☆☆

WHAT DO STAR TREK AND BOB MONKHOUSE HAVE IN COMMON?

by Rupert Bean

The answer is simple - he asked me questions on our favourite subject when I was lucky enough to appear on his quiz programme The \$64000 Question in February 1992. Since Rosalyn D Holland from Solihull expressed an interest in this appearance, I now relate my experiences.

The application form told me to write down main subject and secondary subject. I have to confess that James Bond films was my main one, with Star Trek secondary. I knew a little about Trek, but not to any great depth. However, they rang me to say that they had already chosen someone for James Bond, so how about Star Trek? I said fine, and immediately ordered The Star Trek Compendium from my school bookshop (I was 17 at the time).

I learned quite a lot from there for my interview, which took place in London. They asked me personal questions, and then Trek ones. I can't remember them all, but here are a few of my interview ones:

1) Name the ship encountered in The Corbomite Maneuver... The Fesarius (I didn't know that one).

2) Who ran the penal colony on Tantalus V?... Tristan Adams (his name was in my subconscious, because I just brought it out, but cannot remember reading about him!!)

3) What was the ship going to be called before the Enterprise?... The Yorktown.

(Now, that knowledge I think got me into the show, and once again I think God put it into my head!!!!)

My revision for the show was from the Compendium and watching all the original episodes about 5 times each and making detailed notes about each one. I still have them, and it is amazing what I learned - every stardate, every planet, every writer, director, producer, every airdate in 1960s USA!!! I was working at TV-AM at the time during my year gap between school and university (I am not at St Andrews) and Lorraine Kelly, honorary member of IDIC, and myself struck up a kind of camaraderie because of our mutual interest in Trek. Lorraine was kind enough to lend me loads of her videos to watch. My day would start at 3.00 am at TV-AM, and when I wasn't needed to run scripts to the presenters, I would learn Trek like I was about to take an A-level in it. Then I would get home at about 10.30 am and shove on about three episodes to watch, equipped with pen and paper. Star Trek now became my life, and I became enthralled - a true fan.

Finally in February 1992 I was called up to Nottingham to be on the show. I was terrified - my first quiz show, and I was the youngest contestant by far. Bob Monkhouse was one of the nicest guys I have ever met, and certainly the funniest. He had us all in stitches before we went on, and he has an encyclopedic knowledge of showbusiness. He also chatted to me about Star Trek - a

closet fan, no less!

Anyway, the show itself. My first lot of questions were designed to get me to £64, and although rumoured to be easy, I was still scared. They turned out to be reassuringly simple:

1) The man with the pointed ears was called Dr Spock. True or false. (OK, it's false, but I could have been so flustered that I might have said true.)

2) Who is nicknamed Bones? (McCoy)

3) Who is the Captain of the Enterprise? (Kirk)

4) Name George Takei's character? (Sulu)

5) Who is the Chief Engineer? (Scott)

6) Who plays Uhura? (Nichelle Nichols)

7) Name the Russian navigator (Chekov)

No problems there, and I had earned £64. The next set of questions took me all the way to £1600.

8) Name the episode in which Nomad thinks one of the crew is its creator. (The Changeling)

Then two questions on For the World is Hollow and I have Touched the Sky.

9) What was the spaceship disguised as an asteroid called? (Yonada)

10) What was the name of the computer which controlled the people? (The Oracle)

Then two questions on Gamemasters of Triskelion.

11) The brains on life support systems were called what? (The Providers)

12) The thrall Tamoon was assigned to whom? (Chekov)

Then three questions about alien beings.

13) Name the mental beings who forced the crew to re-enact the Gunfight at the OK Corral (The Melkots)

14) In Journey to Babel, what is Gav? (Tellerite)

15) In A Private Little war, what creature bites Kirk? (Mugato)

Then four about episodes.

16) Name episode in which Gary Mitchell dies (Where No Man Has Gone Before)

17) Name episode in which Gem absorbs pain (The Empath)

18) Name episode in which Spock finds an unknown Brahms waltz (Requiem for Methuselah)

19) Name episode in which Leila leads Spock to spores (This Side of Paradise)

To get to £3200, I had to answer five questions on episode titles again.

20) In which episode (IWE) does Kirk visit Planet Q? (The Conscience of the King)

21) IWE does McCoy deliver Eileen's baby? (Friday's Child)

22) IWE are McCoy and Spock sentenced to die in the arena? (Bread and Circuses)

23) IWE does Spock lock up parallel versions of Kirk etc? (Mirror, Mirror)

24) IWE does Apollo attack Scotty with a thunderbolt? (Who Mourns for Adonais?)

Finally, to reach £6400 I had to answer 6 questions covering the whole range of the subject.

25) IWE does Abraham Lincoln beam on board? (The Savage Curtain)

26) Which planet is Kirk on in Amok Time? (Vulcan)

27) Lee Merriweather plays who in That

Which Survives? (Losira)

28) Name the Captain of the ship orbiting Omega IV (Ron Tracey of the Exeter)

29) Who kills himself at the end of The Way to Eden? (Dr Sevrin)

30) Lt Mira Romaine is possessed in which

episode? (The Lights of Zetar)

And that was it. After all the research I had done, the questions weren't all that bad. I still know who wrote, directed, produced and starred in every episode as well as the stardates and the original airing dates in the United States. I thought all that stuff was going to come up!



DS9 v BABYLON 5

by Glenn Cooper

I've been a member of IDIC for almost two years now, but this is the first time I've been compelled to write. The newsletter has always been entertaining and thought-provoking, and I feel it's become apparent that many members, as I do, feel that Star Trek and Trek fandom is about to undergo big changes. The future is once again uncertain; I think it's pretty obvious that the Trek franchise has become Paramount's 'golden cow' and fandom can rest assured that this franchise will continue for many years to come. We really are spoiled for choice - we have TNG, DS9 and now the upcoming Voyager. Even when DS9 and Voyager have bitten the dust, Paramount will probably have plans for yet another spin-off to replace them.

My point is, okay, we should be grateful that we'll always be able to look forward to new adventures and new characters, but are we witnessing the continuation of Gene's vision or simply an attempt by Paramount to make more money?

I don't want to sound too cynical or negative because I think Rick Berman and Michael Piller have done wonders with DS9. The final season of TNG has been disappointing in many respects - the acting and production values have remained top-notch but, let's face it, some of those storylines really were dire.

This is to be expected, I suppose. Seven years is a very long time - so many stories have been told; ideas are bound to be

a little thin on the ground after so long. Which brings me back to my original point - was the seventh season commissioned purely for financial reasons? I realise that a company like Paramount are always out to make a profit; why invest the money in the first place? But I think we deserve better.

Genius, Eye of the Beholder, Force of Nature - these were some of the weakest stories I've seen since the first season. As I've said, I hate sounding so negative but I really care about the show and it pains me to see the production team 'scrape the bottom of the barrel' in front of millions of viewers.

It's quite apparent that much care and attention has been put into DS9; the second season has been consistently entertaining and exciting - the three-episode season opener was some of the best Trek I've seen since the original series and TNG's third season. Mistakes from the first season have obviously been noted and learned from. Sisko and Dax's characters are gradually being expanded and the strengths of the show, ie politics, the Gamma Quadrant possibilities, etc, are at last being played upon. Avery Brooks is a very capable actor and was well-served by the pilot, but was mostly pushed into the background for the rest of the first season. Finally it looks as if the writers have realised their error and started to make amends - Invasive Procedures, Paradise, The Maquis - great episodes that really show what Avery is capable of. Same with Terry Farrell. Dax was terribly misused for most of the first

season; now her character has really blossomed into one of the strongest on the show. You really get the impression that there are dozens of different personalities trying to get out! It's just a shame that DS9 is going from strength to strength at the expense of TNG. I know it isn't advisable to compare the two series, but when Paramount/ICI release a DS9 tape and a TNG tape on the same day, you can't help but notice the difference in story quality. DS9 wins hands down.

That's not to say Berman and Piller should get complacent. If I were them, I'd keep a very close eye on Babylon 5. There seems to be a little animosity in some fan circles regarding B5, probably due to the fact that it's rumoured Paramount pinched Michael J Straczynski's basic concept for DS9. Well, the comparisons are unavoidable, but I must say B5 has certainly captured the basic passion and feel of Classic Trek far better than DS9 or TNG. I doubt this was Michael J Straczynski's intention, and although it pains me to say it, on the whole B5 is as good as, if not better than, DS9, with only one season behind it, too. I was ready to hate this show - Warner Bros futile attempt to get on the Trek bandwagon, I thought. I was wrong. Although I'm not keen on the computer-generated special effects (they just don't seem 'real' to me) the characters, sets, storylines have obviously been well-thought-out indeed. Michael O'Hare, despite having all the facial expressions of Troy Tempest, cuts an imposing and very Kirk-like figure. Jerry Doyle, despite coming across as 'Bruce-Willis-in-his-Moonlighting-days-in-space' is a very likeable actor. The rest of the cast, with a few exceptions, are very capable and it must be said Andreas Katsulas steals the show. His character G'Kar is just a great piece of writing and performance, and whether intentionally or not, has become the main draw of the show. B5 has become a serious contender for the 'top sci-fi show on TV' throne. It just has a great sense of excitement and mystery about it - the much-talked-about '5 year story arc', including Sinclair's missing 24 hours, adds a sense of purpose to the show. You feel as if something is being prepared for; and that it's not a show thrown together with various sci-

fi elements by a studio looking to make a quick profit.

Most importantly of all, the characters and inter-relationship between them seem very real. Okay, so TNG and DS9 have also managed this (but it took TNG till its 3rd season) but B5 - deep breath - achieved this in its pilot episode. You identify with the characters and want to know more about them in 2 hours. Not even DS9 was capable of that. I don't know if the quality of B5 matters, DS9's such a good show and its ratings are solid (?) so there's obviously room for both. It just worries me that people claim that no-one will ever be able to recapture the spirit of Classic Trek - the interplay, acting, etc, was once in a lifetime, "lightning in a bottle", etc. Well, someone has managed to recapture it, and it ain't Paramount.

TNG and DS9 often seem too weighed down by their own history and continuity; there are just too many past references and rules to conform to. Sometimes this is an advantage, sometimes it's not. DS9 benefits from the fact that stories and situations aren't hampered by the Prime Directive (yes, okay, I'll admit that it's probably an excellent idea for the Federation to have a 'non-interference' law, but after seven years of hearing Picard babble on about the virtues of it I'm reaching for the 'eject' button on my remote control, you know?) I want to be entertained, not lectured. Classic Trek never lectured, it was entertainment first and foremost, with a morality tale hidden in there somewhere. It was thought-provoking but never preachy. In case my second point has been lost in all this, I'll try and say it clearly; I really hope Paramount has commissioned Voyager because it's a series too good to lose, not because they're out to milk the franchise further. They can't afford to be complacent any more - B5 is 'bringing up the rear' and with this on hand as a Trek-alternative, viewers will not tolerate an inferior spin-off.

Before I go, I'm sorry if I sound a little negative or cynical. I'm not. I love Star Trek in all its forms, it's just a little unnerving when a non-Trek series reminds you why you fell in love with the show in the first place!

FANDOM REPLY

by Edward Woo

This article is in reply to Shaun Brannigan's Is UK Fandom too Introspective (N/L 35)

I enjoyed the article and many of the thoughts, sentiments and comments in it. I liked the idea of AIDA - Awareness, Interest, Decision and Action. However, I think Interest should go before Awareness, ie IADA - I shall explain later.

I cannot really remember when my interest started, but it goes back to my childhood - I can remember the 1969 moon landings. Then ST arrived soon after and fuelled my interest. This interest continued with magazines like Starburst, Starlog, Future Life, etc; I found out about fandom, cons, etc, in the early 80s through those magazines, breaking away from fandom to study, returning in the late 80s.

The UK audience is very distinctive, and generally most people consider ST (the original series) a childish programme born out of the 60s era. Most of the engineers I work with watched TOS and never miss TNG; but they would not consider getting involved in fandom or joining a club, but just watch it because they enjoy it.

As to people on the street, clubs like IDIC, FIB, STAG etc can only advertise in other fan club N/Ls or specialist SF magazines. It is up to the fan or reader to find out about ST. The existence of fandom and ST cons is more widely known to Joe Public these days.

If a ST fan sees a magazine with ST on the cover, (s)he will read or look at it, this having been Interested. Once it is read and the ads seen, the person is Aware of such clubs/events. The individual must then Decide whether Action will be taken. That is the only way that fandom is open to a person.

I doubt many members would

approach my technique - approaching perfect strangers who are just looking at ST books/magazines/videos and ask if they want to join a ST club! Do any of the ST novels have addresses of fan clubs? Do the videos? I doubt it. I use my technique in bookshops, HMV and comic shops; I might try it at comic and memorabilia marts.

Another point; the word 'fan' still drums up the notion of a person who has a weird devotion to a particular person or TV/film item, and any fan of science fiction or fantasy is looked down upon by the public at large. Star Trek fans are even looked down on by many science fiction fans!

Most people who are not aware of fandom are interested in ST. Their decision to join a fan club will depend on whether they find it childish. Once joined, they either stay or drop out. Some who drop out come back as I did; others never return.

Large professional events will always generate publicity, and then they find out about official and amateur clubs. Genuine ST fans will stay for years whilst with others it is a passing fashion, or phase they will grow out of.

As you say, if you want to open up fandom, more advertising has to be done. To other local clubs who run videos and meetings - how do you generate interest in ST in your area? There may well be a systematic approach, but it is usually by word of mouth. I found that it was only by visiting places associated with SF that I heard of a local SF group and a local Dr Who meeting club in Liverpool.

I think KAG have a good idea; its members participate in charity events in the streets and shops of Glasgow and other Scottish cities. This must drum up interest in Klingons and ST as well to the passing public - anyone care to comment?



LIFE ON LIGHT GRAVITY PLANETS

by Sheila Clark

In N/L 34 I commented that I would expect life on a low gravity planet to be insectoid rather than humanoid. Several people, in particular Neil Barrett, have asked for my reasoning on this.

First of all, I fully agree with Marysia Kolodziej that a low gravity planet is unlikely to have much atmosphere, if any, but when I made the original comment I was specifically thinking of Melora (from the DS9 episode of the same name) who comes from such a low gravity planet that she can't even stand in 'normal' gravity without medical aids. The *idea* was clever, I admit, but it started me thinking about how life on a low gravity planet would develop - and actually there are a number of paradoxes involved.

I know that there has been a wide variety of size in species living on Earth (the only planet we can actually use for examples) over the millenia, ranging from midges to mammoths, from bees to brontosaurus. I know that some creatures do seem to defy the laws of physics - according to aerodynamic theory, a bumble bee should be completely unable to fly because of size related to wing area - but nobody told the bee, which continues to bumble on its way quite happily. Ditto with other flying creatures - theoretically there is a limit to how large a creature can be and still be able to fly, but the remains of pterosaurs much larger than any of today's fliers have been found.

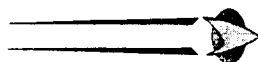
There is a limit to how big an insect can grow on Earth (ie, in 'normal' gravity) - something to do with the way it breathes, if I remember correctly; again, nobody told the prehistoric dragonfly that. As an aside, there has to be some reason why there haven't been any *really* large animals living on dry land for several million years. A change in the available food, perhaps, or permanent change in climatic conditions? There is some fossil evidence that mammoths survived much longer than was originally thought, but in such a restricted environment that their

size was much reduced.

Vicky Roberts commented that the Jarada were mentioned in Imbalance as living in a 'normal-gravity' planet. Mitchell, however, needed the Jaradan world to have 'normal' gravity for the sake of the development of the story; but only Tracy Torme (writer of The Big Goodbye) knows how he envisaged the planet and the physiology of the Jarada.

Life on other planets is unlikely to resemble us - or any species known to us - more than superficially, though I would expect the ecological niches on any planet to be fairly similar. I believe that on a low gravity planet (if we accept it has an atmosphere) life forms are likely to be delicately built (by our standards) and that these creatures, *which need not have the physiology of Terran insects*, could occupy the ecological niche that, on Earth, is held by human beings; but we, seeing them and impelled to compare them to something familiar to us, would inevitably liken them to insects.

'Insectoid' means 'looking like an insect', just as 'humanoid' means 'looking like a human'. By 'insectoid', therefore, I do not mean that I would say they are actually insects. It was simply the word I came up with to describe how I thought a native of a light gravity planet would look. I could as easily have said 'warm-blooded insect-shaped mammaloid'. Similarly, if I call the inhabitants of a heavy gravity planet 'elephantoid' or 'tyrannosauroid' it simply means that they are very sturdily built, not that I think they have any kinship with either elephants or tyrannosaurus rex.



STAR TREK TRADING CARDS

by Stephen Rothwell

Since I had an advert in the last IDIC newsletter (No 35) looking for bubblegum cards and trading cards of Star Trek, a few people have been in contact with me and asked when, where and how many cards are in the sets, and how much cards are worth. The following is a list of Star Trek trading cards and prices as quoted in the States. Remember, this is a *rough* price guide - and to be honest, cards are only worth what a person is willing to pay for them.

Makers;	Year;	Series;	Title;	No. in set;	Rough cost
Skybox	1994	TNG	Episode Season 1	108	£20
			Foil cards	6	£5 each
			Holograms	2	£30 each
			All Good Things	1	£3
Skybox	1993	TNG	Playmates Toys (Cards)	22	£1 each
	1994		(Skycaps)	29	£1 each
Skybox	1994	DS9	Playmates Toys (cards)	9	£1 each
Skybox	1994	DS9	Deep Space 9	100	£20
			Specter Cards	5	£7.50 each
			Redemption Card	1	£50
			Redemption Set	10	£100
Skybox	1994	TNG	The Making of TNG	100	
Standard (Vision) £40; Gold (badge) £50; Platinum (Hologram) £70					
(Each set is the same apart from bonus items. Only available through mail order)					
Skybox	1993	OT	Paramount episode cards 80)		£160
(Only available when buying the videos)					
Skybox	1993	OT	Star Trek Films	6	£30
(Only available with 6 films Starfleet Collection Videos Xmas 1993. 3 cards, 3 holograms)					
Skybox	1993	DS9 & TNG	Mini Cards & Hostess Mini Cards		
(Only available in Canada, 39 TNG, 11 DS9					
			10 mini folders (free with crisps)		£90
					£50
Skybox	1993	TNG	Behind the Scenes (39, sold as set)		£10
Skybox	1993	All	Master Series	90	£18
			Specter Cards	5	£7.50 each
Skybox	1993	DS9	Series Premiere	48	} £12
			Specter Cards	2	
Skybox	1992	TNG	Inaugural	120	£15
			Holograms	4	£15 each
			Gold hologram	1	£15
			Album	1	£30
			Collector's Tin		£75
Personality Comics	1992	OT	Original Crew	38	£10
Personality Comics	1993	OT	Series 2	36	£10
Personality Comics	1992	TNG	New Crew	38	£10
Personality Comics	1993	TNG	Series 2	36	£10
Impel	1991	OT/TNG	25th Anniversary (1)	160	£15
Impel	1991	OT/TNG	25th Anniversary (2)	150	£15
			Holograms	4	£7.50 each
			Album		£30
			Collector's Tin		£75
FTTC	1987	OT	STIV	60	£30
FTTC	1985	OT	STIII	80	£35
FTTC	1983	OT	TWOK (5 x 7)	30	£40

Monty Gum 1979	OT	TWOK	100	£35
Topps 1979	OT	TMP (USA) 88 cards 22 stickers		£60
		TMP (UK)	88	£35

(Some cards are different from US set, no stickers.)

Weetabix 1980	OT	TMP	18	£10
Topps 1979	OT	TMP	33	£15

(Rainbo, Manor, Colonial, Kilpatrick's Bread Company all identical except name of bread company on back of cards.)

Lyon's Maid 1979	OT	TMP	25	£35
Topps 1976	OT	Episodes 88 cards 22 stickers		£95
Primrose Confectionery 1971 OT			12	£5
ABC Gum 1969	OT	What Are Little Girls..	55	£100
1968	OT	Cartoon Characters B&W	8	£10
Leaf 1967	OT	B&W Photos (USA)	72	£3000
		B&W Photos (UK)	72	£70

(Withdrawn because of contractual difficulties.)

Collecting prices quoted are for mint cards; damage to corners, etc, reduces prices drastically.

If anyone wants more information on cards, or has any for sale, I have many friends who collect and are looking for some sets as well as single cards. Contact Stephen Rothwell, 20 Baxter Park Tce, Dundee, DD4 6NP.

☆☆☆☆

SPOCK'S WOMEN?

Jay Stevensen

Gloria Fry started this train of thought in N/L 32 (p.68) and a quick check through memory and video records (research can be fun!) certainly seems to indicate that the green-blooded and fascinating controlled Mr Spock has had more romances than any other member of the Bridge Crew apart from Captain Kirk. (Has anyone had as many women as Kirk?) Not bad for a natural celibate (except for You Know When).

Scotty lost out to a god in Who Mourns for Adonais and kept his affections for his "bairns" until The Lights of Zetar. We can assume McCoy had a dalliance in Shore Leave but For the World is Hollow is the only other romance on record. Trek's apprentice sex symbol Chekov fell for an illusion (Spectre of the Gun) and fancied some androids (I, Mudd) but they don't count any more than his hello/goodbye to an old flame in The Way to Eden. His interest in Martha Landon in The Apple was as near as he came to playing Romeo....and irritating Kirk.

Poor Sulu only ever managed to get his arm briefly round a reluctant Uhura, and Uhura was allowed no romances at all. Sulu's love story was to be This Side of Paradise.....and we all know who ended up with the girl in that one.

Spock was chased fairly sedately by Christine Chapel throughout the series and shamelessly by "living work of art" Droxine in The Cloudminders. Here I must disagree with Gloria. I would have said this flirty bimbo with multi-coloured eyelids seemed far more interested in Spock's pon-farr cycle than in his intellect. Mr Nimoy played the scene on a fairly cool note, which may indicate what he thought of some of his lines.

Excluding his non-starter with T'pol, Spock had three story based romances. Or did he? If by "romance" we mean That Sort of Thing (and we do, don't we?) are we not jumping to conclusions?

This Side of Paradise was Spock's first

sentimental interlude.....but can we believe that Spock and Leila, or indeed any of the spore-drugged settlers on Omicron Ceti III, ever made love? Sexual passion is a strong emotion. And we know what strong emotions do to the spores.

The settlement is static. We see no children and I think it's fair to assume that none exist. These people "belong to each other". They're on a permanent communal "high" and the spores keep them that way, for whatever reason. Self preservation? Or something more sinister, as hinted by Kathleen Glancy in N/L 28 (p.75)?

I agree with Gloria that Spock's relationship with Leila Kalomi seems more "playful than passionate". Whether intentionally or not Jill Ireland and Leonard Nimoy give the impression of boy-meets-girl-and-they-hold-hands innocence. Even their kisses are sweet rather than sexy. There is more raw emotion in their beautiful parting scene, when they are both free from the spores. It's one of those collectable vignettes that lift Trek way above the average sci-fi adventure series.

But is Spock regretting the loss of love or simply the fact that he knows his Vulcan psychology has caused a Human emotional pain? He does later claim that his afternoon on Omicron Ceti III was the only time he had been happy but I'm afraid this has always sounded to me like one of the most uncharacteristic lines in Trek. Was it added to please those female fans who like to dream that Spock is just a little boy looking for love..... preferably theirs?

And what about Zarabeth? Two pro novels deal with a supposed son born after her brief meeting with Spock. This seems to me both genetically improbable (given our knowledge of Spock's own birth) and also highly unlikely even in the "reality" of the episode.

Spock and McCoy cannot have been on Sarpeidon long. We know from Kirk's experiences that "unprepared" time travellers must return fairly quickly or die. The passage of time is fogged in the episode by cutting

between Sarpeidon and Kirk's adventures, but viewed consecutively, while Spock is just realising that he can call Zarabeth beautiful McCoy is up and thinking in the next cave and about to come in with the information that he and Spock can go back through the portal although Zarabeth can't. (How did he know?)

You can argue that lifting a woman into your arms and carrying her into the picture fade (or a bed of skins) is usually film shorthand for imminent You Know What (I've seen *Gone with the Wind*) but is it, when one them is a Vulcan? And what about the lack of privacy and the chance of McCoy appearing at an embarrassing moment?

How far had Spock actually regressed towards his violent past? He is clearly not a barbarian yet. He is not even the Spock who forgot his usually impeccable manners and aimed a bowl of plomeek soup at Christine Chapel's head. He is certainly not the Spock we saw waiting on Vulcan to engage Kirk in a fight to the death. This Spock would have smashed McCoy's skull against the wall without hesitation and as for Zarabeth, I doubt if her hair would have remained so immaculate or her designer bootlaces have been in any fit state to hold her chamois leathers together for the rest of the episode if the Amok Time version of Spock had taken an interest in her! (Not even a brain removal will disturb Spock's gloss.....but that's another story).

The Spock we see is still able to regain control of himself. He responds to McCoy's reasoning. He realises what is happening to him. He goes with McCoy to find the portal. Would this still rational Spock really have given up the Enterprise for Zarabeth? True there's a hint that he might not intend to follow McCoy "back to the future" but you can also read that as a desire for privacy when saying good-bye. When he realises they must leave together his farewell to Zarabeth is un-romantically civilised.....not even a parting kiss. Are we to assume that the regression has ceased? Gone backwards? Or just that it simply did not have time to progress very far at all.

In The Enterprise Incident Spock meets someone of (almost) his own kind: the female Romulan Commander. We know D C Fontana didn't include the "seduction" scene in her original script (and Leonard Nimoy wasn't happy with it) but it is still the most interesting of Spock's "romantic" encounters.

Whether he intended it or not Mr Nimoy has given us some interesting clues to Vulcan/Romulan practises. The hand touching is nicely alien and yet sensual. It has always been my belief that Vulcans can achieve a satisfying pairing by using a form of mutual mind meld....so much more civilised than all that physical stuff which they only have to tolerate every seven years in order to keep the population going. If we assume that the Romulan Commander has some kind of telepathic ability similar to

Spock's (although probably not as controlled) the rather cryptic exchange in the turbo lift at the end of the episode seems to indicate that she, at least, believed Spock had genuinely responded to her advances.

I'm sure we need not infer from this that either of them went their separate ways with broken hearts. Vulcans (and Romulans) might well feel that to expect any kind of emotional follow-up from such a pairing is extremely impolite! It does make you wonder if Spock might have thawed more often if he had been able to mix freely with those whose psychological needs presumably matched his own.

But wondering is all we can do. And perhaps it's just as well. Being a mystery is part of Spock's charm.

☆☆☆☆

CIRROC LOFTON

by William Marsh

Lofton has been acting since the age of nine after appearing in an educational programme entitled Agency for Instructional Technology. His prolific ability as an actor and his skill at portraying a wide range of characters landed him many roles in national commercials for MacDonalds, Tropicana and Kelloggs.

His feature film debut, and so far his only feature film, was the Universal film

Beethoven, which starred Charles Grodin.

The role of Jake Sisko in DS9 came about after much competition; there were more applicants for this role than for any other in the series.

Lofton keeps up his school studies while working on the set, and lives in Los Angeles with his mother and sister.



THE CHANGING FACE OF VULCAN ...

by Maggie Symon

(This is put together without reference to any books 'fact' or 'fiction', but probably influenced by nearly 15 years reading zines and nearly a lifetime watching Trek - so it is purely subjective, but I hope you will find it interesting.)

A friend loaned me his CIC copy of Gambit II because he said it gave a date for the Vulcan Reformation, which it did, but it

also left me disturbed and I started considering why ...

When Star Trek started I always saw Vulcans as being far superior to 20th Century Humans, but I could relate to Spock's insecurities. They were a cool, logical race who took their differences and telepathy in their stride - there was no cynicism about being paranormal or the allied fears attached.

There were hints of the Barbaric past of the Pre-reform days in the Kaswan and Koon-ut-Kal-if-fee, which I always took to be a more violent time akin to a Sword and Sorcery movie, I suppose. But Vulcan had no gods (I forget which episode said that), even if it did have family shrines (Yesteryear). They revered Surak and the IDIC and believed in Nome - The Whole, which I took to be an almost Bubbustic concept. Then came The Motion Picture.....

Suddenly Vulcan was a planet dominated by Mysticism, with priests and priestesses, monastic lives, giant statues in the mountains. Funnily enough I had more problems with the priests than I did about the Kolinahr. My Vulcan race probably could and would try to rid themselves of emotion, but in such a mystic way?

And then Wrath of Khan - the concept of a Katra fell in with the Mysticism of TMP, but again it rankled. Okay, they needed some way to bring Spock back, and it is vaguely conceivable that telepaths could have a tangible 'soul' which can be stored and placed in a special place and still be accessible, but the amount of times Spock risked his life before and never gave a thought to his Katra ... I always thought he had a death-wish!

And then there was Search for Spock - still probably my favourite movie, but overloaded with mysticism. Fal Tor Pan, the priests and priestesses, the vestal virgins, alters, shrines! I think my Vulcan would have been more clinical about it all: a powerful healer in a hospital room.

And The Voyage Home - probably the least mystic Vulcans we have had in the movies, but why? I was just beginning to accept this new type of Vulcans. This is more the Vulcans I saw in the original series, but I do wish they would be more consistent. Here Spock is relearning via his beloved computers as opposed to another bit of mumbo jumbo.

Then The Final Frontier which is probably still my least favourite, I mean mysticism from start to finish? Sybok was

the son of a Priestess! Going around using forbidden powers to release people's pain, and in search of God! Where was my nice logical race now?

The Undiscovered Country again has very little mysticism in it, but I still don't like the forced meld. And this is probably closer to my Vulcans since the series.

Then we come to The Next Generation (if we are going to follow the time stream properly). Vulcans are pretty rare on the ground and with highlights like Selar (and I don't want to go into Vulcan name changes here!) until Gambit II and the Vulcan mind machine. I have always thought that Pre-reform Vulcans didn't have a high psi power, certainly not disciplined enough to work this machine. The Romulans appear to be psi-nul, and I would suppose that the split happened about the pre-reformation time. If such an instrument of violence existed and the 'pre-Romulans' could use it, why didn't they take it with them or try and remake it on their new home? I grant you that a technology that could manage interstellar space travel through such a violent time could probably manage to make such a machine but it still doesn't jibe right. I see the Pre-reform Vulcans as being something like the Proto-Vulcans in 'Who Watches the Watchers', if more violent, not this sinister mind-control and destructive state where thought could kill - that makes them more like 20th Century Humans and not superior at all nor my Vulcans. Most of the Vulcans in TNG I don't find convincing as my kind of Vulcans

The only Vulcan that springs to mind on Deep Space Nine so far was a very flat female research ship captain with a Romulan hair cut in Vortex. Voyager remains to be seen, but I think the patterns of Vulcans are set by the movies and TNG/DS9, these New Vulcans we have had since then just don't feel right to me.

Oh a few other queries - why have all the Vulcans started looking like Romulans or vica versa? (the new Romulan ridges aside) And why have Vulcans stopped the S***K for men and T***** for women?

So can anyone give me a good explanation for the changes Vulcan has undergone over the last 20 Earth years, why none of this mysticism appeared in the

original series, besides the fact that they never thought about it? There is a challenge for you.



CONVENTIONS? - A SUGGESTION

by David Styles

I read with interest the article in NL35 by Lee Owers Sansome about Star Trek conventions. I notice that every newsletter carries enquiries from people who want to attend and see if anyone would like to go with them. I always read the reviews that are published in newsletters. These conventions seem to be great fun, and an ideal opportunity to meet old pals and make new friends. I often wish that I went along to them.

So why don't I?

Well, like many people there is one main reason; money. From what I can work out the "average" convention is held in a hotel over three days. Paying out about thirty pounds per night is somewhat expensive. Added to that I would be expected to pay for the other three Trekkers in my family. I realise that family rooms offer substantial reductions, but still board & lodging will come to over one hundred pounds. Add on the not insignificant cost of travelling half way across the country, and the bar bill I always run up and I will have nothing to spend in the dealers' rooms.

So what alternative did I have?

In an earlier newsletter you may have read my review of LATCon 93. At the risk of sounding like an advertisement for the London Away Team, LATCon is the perfect scheme. It's a one-day convention. It starts on a Saturday mid-morning. There are video rooms, dealers' rooms, quizzes, activities and not least a bar where you can meet with new friends.

Granted one really needs to live within two hours travel time of London for this particular event, but this got me thinking that

I could do something myself.

So what did I do?

It struck me that the cheapest way to hold a convention was to have it at home. So I did. Literally. Trek groups from Maidstone and London were invited to a barbecue hosted by my local Trek group, and the event took place in my back garden. Everyone chipped in with beer, burgers, salad, etc. There was beer, food and chat in the garden and in the house was a Trek video show, Next Gen and DS9. We started at 11 am, and the last one to leave went at 10.30 the following morning, and a good time was had by all. It strikes me that this sort of event has a lot to recommend itself, all it takes is one person willing to start the ball rolling.

So what happens next?

Back to LATCon 94, certainly. After that, the sky's the limit. Although the winter will be coming soon there are endless events that can be put together. Quasar (laser / paint gun battles) outings, one day Trek theme days, Trek beer festivals, outings to theatres / films (anyone fancy a massed trip to see "Generations" in the West End). And then as the spring and summer come round again there can be picnics, barbecues, beach parties.

Are you keen?

This sort of thing can be put together by anyone keen enough. All it takes is one or two organisers, a cheap venue (a back garden, a room above a pub, a beach, etc), and just sit back and watch things take off! For my part I would really like to hear from anyone who lives within striking distance of Ashford who would like to join in with what we have got planned. Please contact me at

117 Beaver Road, Ashford, Kent, TN23 7SG, or phone 0233 642687. I realise that meeting people for the first time can be daunting, but

I would say take the plunge; you won't regret it



COMPUTER CORNER

by Maggie Symon

Okay hands up all those with PC Star Trek Screen Savers? Now how many have got Star Trek Screen Posters yet? The company I bought my Screen Saver from sent me an offer for the Posters pre-release for a 'fantastic saving' of £20 (we'll see) and like the idiot I am, I couldn't resist.

The Posters can be an add-on to the Screen Saver and can be run as part of your screen saver randomiser or on its own, or run on its own. You can also run the pictures as 'wallpaper' if you wish too. It needs a 386+ computer, Windows 3.1+, and minimum of 4Mb RAM, but I still find it a little slow to load with my 486 with 8Mb of RAM. The quality of the pictures is excellent under the screen saver, but I wouldn't recommend the wallpaper - I suspect BMP files mess up the picture somehow, I had similar problems with colour pictures I scanned for wallpaper. The picture becomes all garish and most of it turns red - which is all very well except when you look at Spock with a red face!

The effects on the screen saver setting are fun : Blink; Rain; Wipe; Split; Spiral; Blinds; Reveal; Beaming or Random - so you can set which way you want the image to appear or be surprised each time. The Beaming is probably my favourite.

All the pictures are taken from the Movies, including the poster for ST VII. (without a poster from WOK and with Two for TUC) and, as I found out with the Screen Saver Academy Test - these After Dark people know their ST stuff. It may be a useless bit of software but it is fun - I took my computer in to work one day to fix something forgetting about my wallpaper and screen savers, and found another kindred soul who didn't sneer when I mentioned ST... All in all if the screen saver isn't enough for you, buy this to add on. I hear see there is

also a Marvel Heroes Posters edition out - for the Comic fans out there.

Star Trek Screen Posters

Entering Spacedock (SFS);
 Spock's Recovery (Spock's eyebrow - SFS);
 Spock's Sacrifice (Engineering Room - WOK);
 Searching for Spock (Kirk firing phaser at Klingon on Genesis - SFS);
 Stand-off (Enterprise v Bird of Prey - SFS or TFF);
 "Let's see what's out there." (Crew on Bridge of 'A' - TVH);
 USS Enterprise;
 USS Enterprise and USS Excelsior (in space dock - SFS);
 Into the Heart of an Alien (Spock in Vger);
 TVH Poster (American?);
 USS Enterprise in Spacedock (Enterprise in dry-dock - TMP);
 SFS poster;
 USS Enterprise v USS Reliant (nebula - WOK);
 Weapons System Damaged (Chekov's Screams - TMP);
 Shuttlecraft on the Horizon (shuttling down to Nimbus or Earth, I am not sure);
 Leaving Spacedock on an Historic Mission (WOK);
 TVH poster;
 Shuttle production shot (TMP);
 TUC poster;
 Armed Klingons (SFS);
 Klingon Battle Cruiser in San Francisco (Bounty in the Bay);
 Kirk in Dilitium Mines (Fight - TUC);
 Kirk - After Battle (SFS);
 USS Enterprise under Fire (WOK);
 United Federation of Planets Logo (TVH);
 Red Alert! (Spock about to leave bridge for the last time in WOK);
 Battle in the Mutara Nebula;
 Kobayashi Maru Scenario;
 Destruction of the Genesis Planet;

Shuttling to USS Enterprise (WOK);
 Khan's Wrath (Khan's chest!);
 Klingon Bird-of-Prey over the Pacific (TVH);
 USS Enterprise Orbiting Shaka-Ri;
 Captain Kruge & Crew;

TFF poster;
 Deadly Alien Probe (TVH);
 Shuttling from Vulcan (Surak - TMP);
 TMP poster;
 Star Trek Generations poster.

☆☆☆☆

REVIEWS - BOOKS/VIDEOS ETC.



FOREIGN FOES by Dave Galander & Greg Brodeur
 Pocket Books \$5.50
 Reviewed by Sheila Clark

The Hidrans and the Klingons have been fighting for 70 years, and Picard has been sent to Velez to mediate a treaty that will end the conflict, for each side has something that the other side desperately needs.

Then the Hidran Ambassador dies in mysterious circumstances, killing one of the Klingons in a last desperate act of vengeance - and Worf is accused of causing the Ambassador's death. Riker and Troi have disappeared, and Data is acting strangely...

I can't say I was terribly impressed with this book. It took me over a week to read it. Maybe I was just being picky, but when I found two or three incidents in this book that reminded me of events in various episodes I felt cheated. In addition, here we have another story in the series "no peace until my enemies are all dead".

The denouement was original enough, but by then I had lost interest in the story. Fans of the Klingons will probably enjoy it, but I don't feel I can give it more than 5 out of 10.

WARCHILD by Esther Friesner DS9 7
 Pocket Books £4.70
 Reviewed by Sheila Clark

Kai Opaka has left a message - somewhere on Bajor is a young girl who will be a great healer. Meanwhile, a plague is killing many children in the camps. Sisko assigns Dax to find the child while Bashir is trying to find a cure for the plague.

This book keeps up the generally high quality of the DS9 books. It moves well, Bashir and Dax are well in character, Ms Friesner's own characters, particularly the Talis children, Cedra and Dejana, are well drawn. I usually come up with a quibble or two in even the best-written books, but I can't think of anything in this one that I would criticise. I haven't come across this writer's name before; I'll be watching out for it in future. 9 out of 10.

CROSSROAD by Barbara Hambly 71
 Pocket Books £4.70
 Reviewed by Sheila Clark

The Nautilus, a badly-battered Starship, emerges from the Crossroad Nebula and heads for the Prime Directive Tau Lyra III. Intercepting it, the Enterprise finds it has a very small - and mixed - crew - an Orion girl, a Klingon woman, a Vulcan boy, two apparent Humans (one with a very low mentality) and a Human/something unknown cross-breed, and three of them have wires attached to their nervous systems. They claim to be revolutionaries from the 25th century, and manage to seize control of the Enterprise.

They are followed by an official starship whose crew claims that these 'revolutionaries' are really renegades, and Kirk has to decide which group is telling the truth. Added to that, according to everyone from the future, the person who was responsible for the future swinging the way it did is one of Kirk's crew.

Barbara Hambly is an excellent writer and I approached this book with high expectations. Certainly it is imaginative and well developed, with good characters, and it

is better than many of the recent classic Trek books. However, I was far from happy with the way the future was depicted - it seemed more in keeping with the Mirror universe than with 'ours'.

I was also not totally happy with the abilities of the 'Masters'. I can accept that they could influence the 'wired' people of their own era; I wasn't quite so sure they should have been able to influence the unwired people of the 'present'. In addition, McCoy came up with a 'solution' to a problem the Nautilus' crew had with the wiring, which seemed a little facile considering that with their advanced technology they themselves hadn't thought of it. Both of these points do come into category 'quibble', I admit, along with one or two other little points I was a little less than happy with. For example, the reader is - I feel unwisely - told who is 'the person responsible'; the clues are there, and I thought it would have been better if we had been left to guess. I'd give this one 7, possibly 8, out of 10.

THE PATRIAN TRANSGRESSION by
Simone Hawke
Reviewed by Maggie Symon

I was deeply disappointed by Simone Hawke's 'The Patrian Transgression', especially as I have read books by him before and found them excellent (and incidentally his ST interest gets hinted at in his fantasy novels). So I was relieved when I saw he had written a ST novel after the decline of them for so long. Not so - I found editing mistakes by page two, which niggled me, and the editing didn't improve from then on. Like Catherine Carter said in N/1 34 - the story wasn't up to much either, and it lacked the humour I had come to expect from him. I almost cringed when they went to the arena - it was so obvious, and honestly I skimmed over the description of the 'games'. I wish the Pocket books would get their act together. I resent paying good money for the books they have been putting out the last few years. No wonder I am finding it an effort to keep up with my ST novels - suddenly cleaning the bathroom takes on a new fascination.

GENE RODDENBERRY: THE LAST CONVERSATION by Yvonne Fern
Reviewed by Valerie Piacentini

This volume in the series 'Portraits of American Genius' by the University of California Press is the perfect complement to the David Alexander biography of Gene I reviewed in the last newsletter. It consists of a series of conversations the writer had with Gene during the last few months of his life, and presents in his own words his thoughts and feelings on a very wide range of topics.

David Alexander showed us the course of a life, with tantalising glimpses into an astonishing mind; Yvonne Fern has taken us inside that mind, and allowed us to hear his words for ourselves - and believe me, there are moments when you almost forget you are reading and listen to the voice in your head. Marion van der Voort mentioned last issue the nasty taste the Engel 'biography' left in her mouth; this book will take that taste away, and if there is any justice, make the detractors hang their heads in shame.

It is very difficult to pick out the highlights, there are so many. One quote that stayed with me was when Gene says, "I happen to be one who likes scripts to be lovely and pleasant and spell a little message that says to you and my son - and a thousand other people - 'It's best that you do something good.' That's my way."

We are also shown a little of the relationship Gene and Majel had, and something of the influence she had on his life and feelings. (Perhaps the most important untold story is Majel's own - I hope that one day she will feel able to write her own account of her life and his.) It is clear from this book just how central she was to his life and work.

It is impossible in a review to make you feel the impact of this book. All I can do is tell you that I will be reading it again and again, since an initial read-through can only give you the basic flavour; this is something to be lingered over and thought about, dipped into and savoured, rather than read at a sitting. I cannot recommend it too highly.

'It's best that you do something good.'
Oh yes - he did.

STAR TREK MEMORIES by William Shatner. Reviewed by John Stubbley

I treated myself to it as soon as I saw it in the book shop window. I suggest that everyone does.

Having not read all there is to know about behind the scenes at Star Trek, I was very interested in those parts of the book. Bill (if I may be so bold as to call him that!) does bring a more personal perspective on those momentous days on the sets at Desilu. He seems to be proud of what he and the rest of the cast did.

His friendship with Leonard and DeForest is evident, and the greatest parts of the book are when Bill goes out of his way to get other people's perspective on events that he recounts.

The last chapter, Captain's Epilogue, is perhaps the most personal. It is here that Bill takes us with him as he tries to find out why ".... the cast, crew and creatives of Star Trek lived happily ever after" is not quite true. Bill seems to want to put the past behind him, and reconcile old friendships. I hope his personal call to Jimmy bore fruit, and that the cast can genuinely re-unite as one.

Overall, this is a book that Bill has written with us, the Trekkers and Trekkies, in mind. It has funny stories and sad stories, but in the end it leaves you with that warm feeling.....

THE STAR TREK ENCYCLOPEDIA by Michael and Denise Okuda & Debbie Mirek
Simon & Schuster £12.99
Reviewed by Edward Woo

One of the most eagerly awaited books to come out of the Star Trek files this year, this book will be without a doubt an unqualified success. It is packed full of facts and figures that any ST fan will find delightful and fascinating and a very useful reference guide - even the ultimate reference on Trek to date. (I await the reprinted

Concordance.) The big format book is based, in layout and appearance, on the ST Chronology that came out last year, and with 396 pages is well priced at £12.99.

It does say there will be mistakes (or even omissions), so I will be looking for them (if I can find them!) to pass on to the authors.

The book is selling well, even to the casual Trek fans - I talked to quite a few in the local bookshops in Liverpool. Well worth buying.

SUPERSTAR FACTS AND PIX NO 31 - PRESENTS THE COMPLETE STAR TREK
£2.95. Reviewed by Stephen Shaw

A while back I reported on issue 28, which had been put together by aboriginal Americans - this issue seems to derive from middle European Americans!

This magazine runs to 76 pages, of which 12 are dedicated to reviewing multimedia home entertainment, with special reference to Star Trek. There are 4 pages of adverts, 3 pages dealing with Highlander and 2 pages of seaQuest. The centre 8 pages unfold into a poster detailing all the TNG episodes and biographies of the TNG characters.

There are nine full page colour photos of cast members ready to photocopy onto that blank T-shirt... Interviews with Nana Visitor, Colm Meaney, Michelle Forbes, John de Lancie, Siddiq el Fadil and Greg Romeo.

Greg Who? Greg 'Creation Con' - "We have had requests to do shows in England and Paris. We just haven't had the chance to sit down and think about it. We're hoping to." All you folks concerned about Creation should read this interview, it may allay a fear or two. Creation do about 100 shows a year!!! (not all Star Trek.)

There are also articles on the Grand Slam Convention; favourite episodes of cast members, William Shatner, Dan Curry (visual effects) and brief mentions of Generations and Voyager.

Complete? Not really - mainly TNG! with brief mention of Classic Original and DS9, and *nothing* on the animated series.

But still a heck of a magazine for the money, very readable, good colour - but not on heavy high gloss paper, which may be why it is so inexpensive.

I note from an ad that Issue 30 was also ST based, entitled The Universe of Star Trek 1966 to 1994.

All three ST issues are available direct by mail for USS11 (mailed to UK) from Sterling/McFadden, Dept 646 A, 35 Wilbur St, Lynbrook, NY 11563, USA. (Money order only - no credit cards.)

D.C. COMICS SPECIAL No 1 (1993) STAR TREK THE NEXT GENERATION UK £2.50 cover price.

Reviewed by Stephen Shaw

There has been some discussion in IDIC about illustrated Star Trek material. I am not a Comic buyer or collector, but I do like the animated series!

Most of the comic issues have those irritating words 'to be continued' every so often. This special issue has three complete stories as detailed below.

Good Listener written by Tony Isabella & Bob Ingersoll, pencilled by Deryl Skelton & Steve Carr. This is a complex story with a main theme based on the Prime Directive and a question of ecology. Main star is Guinan. There is also a troubled marriage and a repressed telepath... lots going on. Whatever happened to the quality of planetary surveys? The characters are reasonably sketched. The weakest point is a departure from Paramount rules whereby 'we' (the readers) hear the thoughts of the aliens whereas our heroes do not. Quite a reasonable read.

A True Son of Kahless is written by Anne Wokanovicz & Kenneth Penders, and pencilled by Kenneth Penders. Now you can know how Beverly Crusher looks in your worst nightmare - characters are not drawn

very close to real life in this one. A cutesy kid story in which Worf takes Alexander planet visiting to show him what being a Klingon is all about, and (maybe) has his life saved by Alexander. I could live without this one, plenty distant from the TV show!

Spot's Day written by Diane Duane and pencilled by Rod Whighan. I should here comment that Diane Duane is the only commercially published ST author who has caused me to throw a book away halfway into the first chapter! As a result, I have not read any of her books. However... does that title sound familiar? This little story is about a little featured ST character, who does not even have a fan club! The artist has not quite got the hang of how a cat stands on its back legs, but otherwise the drawing is quite neat and the story is a *must* for a cat-owning ST lover, as we see Spot enjoy a day on his ship. (Hamlet got it wrong, but is quoted anyway, from Act V, sc I - can you spot the quote...)

On balance, not a bad buy at £2.50, and Spot's Day surely makes it all worthwhile.

Comics, like the animated series, allow a much greater use of alien creatures and scenery than live action can really allow, but in this issue at least the aliens remain true to rule, humanoid!

STAR TREK THE NEXT GENERATION SPECIAL NO. 2 Pub DC Comics £2.30

Reviewed by Alan Stephen

This has to be one of the best bargains in ST comics. First off, a beautiful cover by Sonia R Hillios, who did the cover for the All Good Things adaptation, featuring Ensign Ro, Georgi and Riker and refers to the first story, The Choice, where we learn why Ensign Ro got herself court-martialled and served time in a Federation penal facility. The art is by Gordon Purcell and Terry Pallot, who do the art for Malibu's DS9 comic and do a fine job. The writer is Michael Jan Friedman who once again does an enjoyable story.

The second story, Cry Vengeance, is written by Chris Claremont, who wrote the graphic novel Debt of Honor. Here he uses

one of the characters introduced in that novel, Jamie Finney, who at the end of the novel in Jim Kirk's century left with Kor to study the Klingons. The artwork is by Chris Wozniak and Jerome Moore and is just superb. This story is worth the cost of the comic alone, but there is more.

A third story called Out of Time, where Captain Bateson of the Bozeman (who you may remember from the episode called Cause and Effect) is introduced to another person from another time to help him get over the feeling of being a round peg in a square hole after being stuck in a time loop for eighty years. The writer is once again Michael Jan Friedman, with art by Steve Erwin and Charles Barnett.

So there you have it. A great cover, three good stories with art to match. Go and buy it *now*.

MAGAZINES

Cracked Spaced Out: The SciFi Humour Magazine "The continuing adventures of spoofing our favourite show . . ." Reviewed by Brenda Allan.

No. 2 Fall 1993

Contents include:

The SciFi Yellow Pages - Zenlike Philosophy - Call 1600LOGIC and for \$3.99/min. Spock will give you your daily dose of logic and theory (must be 18 or a Trekkie).

Didja Notice on Star Trek . . .? - we never saw anyone head for a bathroom in 3 years?; special effects explosions were created by the cast leaning left . . and then right?; Chekov's Russian accent was created by replacing the "v" with a "w" (say "It's virtually very vital if you're available, Victor" this way!)

Lost & Found - Lost 1 microchip. It may have popped out of my ear while walking on C Deck. Please contact Data.; Found: Screenplay for Star Trek 7. Should I hold it or just destroy it?; Lost the will to live! I'm trapped on a starship with crew members who always wear the same clothes. Argh!

No. 4 Summer 1994

Cover shows a NASA space shuttle imbedded in the Enterprise hull and Picard and an astronaut having it out!
Contents include:

Star Trek Untechnical Manual (The Lost Pages)

Mission of a Galaxy Class Starship

- 1) Explore strange new worlds;
- 2) Seek out new life and new civilizations;
- 3) Score big during sweep periods and with little brats at holiday toy shopping season.

Command Console - includes controls to make ship tilt back and forth for cool action scenes and music to accompany said scenes.

Ship's Weaponry - "Please keep in mind that the Enterprise is a vehicle of science, not destruction. (But if we wanted to, we could kick some serious butt!)"

The SF Convention - Where do you find people who have lost all touch with reality and will pay lots of money to stay that way? SF Convention, profiles of the various characters you may meet at a SF Con!

Interview

The Trekkie King, Captain William Scotty Sulu McNimoy answers the all important question:

"What's the difference between a Trekker and a Trekkie?"

Trekkers: serious fans who ask important questions at cons like, "What is the PH balance of the soil on Vulcan?"

Trekkies: groupies who like to climb all over any celebrity connected with the show such as the cleaning lady who used to dust off the sets!

NCC1701D Today Newsletter

Give Captain Picard a New Hairstyle contest winners

Odo's Most Wanted List

Q's Tips

Ferengi Classifieds

These magazines certainly cracked me up! I give them both 10/10!

MODELS

KLINGON BATTLECRUISER AMT ERTL -
£8.15 from Feature Films
Reviewed by Rory Smith

When I received this model from Sheffield Space Centre it was actually called the Star Trek VI Klingon battlecruiser, which seems very similar to the Star Trek VI Cruiser for £9.99. Perhaps Sheffield Space Centre sent me the wrong cruiser? Can anyone tell me if this is right, from my description?

It seems very similar in basic shape to the OT Klingon cruiser model, but after closer inspection it is actually quite different. For a start, the hull is much more detailed, with many blocks and plates standing out from the hull. The impulse engine is totally different and the boom is a little stronger. Its main colours are dark grey, light grey and something like seagull grey. It has gold bars down the boom and engine ends are red (flat red).

Unfortunately I managed to get the painting wrong, but it still came out well. This model is a good one for amateurs, but not beginners because some of the painting is difficult. The boom is still a little bit weak to hold the weight of the fore deck, so use a strong glue. There are very few stickers, though this is realistic to the movie-Klingon ships. 8 out of 10.

GALILEO II - OT SHUTTLECRAFT AMT ERTL £9.99 Reviewed by Rory Smith

This model was a special for the 25th Anniversary. Unfortunately its price is well over the top, though it can be bought slightly cheaper (£9.15) from Sheffield Space Centre. The model is recommended for definite beginners who don't care how it comes out, or people with the Starfleet Technical Manual.

It is extremely simple to put together, apart from all the seats, which have to be balanced precariously on short poles until they've set, though thick glue should hold them.

My two major criticisms of this model are 1) its size. It is only about 5" - 6" long. It has very few parts and most are very large. At £9.99 it is too expensive. 2) Its terrible decal page. Basically there are 8 stickers in total. Though this may be accurate, there are absolutely no guides to painting. At the time, I was a beginner to modelling so I just followed their rules and the result was a mess and embarrassment. Later I bought the Starfleet Technical Manual, which gives details on painting and stickers, and I realised what I'd missed. It should have been a maze of simple colours - instead it was simply white. In conclusion, the model was a disappointment, and deserves only 5/6 out of 10.

COMPUTER SOFTWARE

Game Reviewed: Star Trek Judgement Rites

Computer for: IBMPC & Compatibles.

Requires: 386sx or above.

VGA.

2Mb Ram, & about 20Mb

Hard Disk.

Dos 3.1 or higher.

Recommended: Mouse.

Soundcard (SoundBlaster compatible for speech).

Reviewed by Damian Griffiths.

Star Trek: Judgement Rites, is the Sequel to Star Trek: 25th Anniversary, and if your familiar with that game, you'll instantly be at home with this game. But for everyone else, here's a brief run through of it.

The game is basically a graphic adventure, with a bit of space combat thrown in for good measure! The games structure follows the TV series' episodic form. In other words, is split into a number of sections, or 'episodes'. And as with the TV episodes, each section usually begins with you setting a course for some star system, sometimes followed by a bit of space combat (although you can skip this bit if you want), and then the 'adventure' game part starts.

The combat sections are well done, and involve you, controlling the various aspects

of the ship while engaging another craft in battle. As in most such games, you steer the Enterprise, and control the phasers and photon torpedoes. You also, via the other crew members, can raise the shields, alter speed, and get Scotty to repair the shields, sensors, etc.

The main part of the game is the adventure part. It starts with you, and a landing party (which varies on each mission) beaming down to the planet/ship, etc. The plot then gradually unfolds as you explore the surroundings, interacting with people and objects, and trying to solve the various problems. The missions themselves vary and contain many well known characters from the series such as; Harry Mudd, and Trelane. The graphics are good and perfectly capture the look of the original show. Sound is also good with plenty of digitised sound effects and tunes as long as you have a suitable soundcard.

I wholly enjoyed the game, and expect most Star Trek/Adventure game fans will too. It took me quite a while to finish it, but it has multiple difficulty levels, and I can honestly say that the stories kept me gripped, and the episodic format meant that I always felt as if I was working towards something (and when I did complete an episode there was a true sense of achievement). Another very good aspect of the game is the interaction between your landing party - the constant bickering between Spock and McCoy was there, as was Spock's dry humour. For example, try shooting Spock with a phaser and he'll reply 'Captain, I do not believe that shooting me will aid the mission in any way!', or McCoy might reply 'Dammit Jim, that's a phaser, not a flashlight!'

Review: Star Trek Font Pack
For: IBM PC, with Windows 3.1.
Price: Around £25

Reviewed by Damian Griffiths.

The Star Trek Font pack is a collection of True Type fonts for the IBMPC. (Basically, this means anyone with Windows 3.1 can use them). For anyone who doesn't know, Fonts

are the style of print (so in a typical IDIC newsletter, the IDIC logo on the front cover would be one font, the main text another, and titles a third.

Anyway, 'What do you get in this pack? I hear you ask. Well...you get about five different fonts. The first, called 'Bold Extended' is the same as the registration numbers found on the Enterprise and other ships (it also looks suspiciously like the IDIC logo on the front cover, i.e. Bold Capitals, surrounded by a white border). You also get the Next Generation font (you know, the one you see at the beginning of every episode, and indeed looking through IDIC I see it's used occasionally as headings.

The third font you get is the Classic Trek font, as seen at the start of each episode, (you know, the slanted yellow one!). Finally, you get a 'dingbats' type font of various Trek symbols; including some Klingon symbols, Trek communicator badges, and so on.

'Is it worth it?' I hear you ask. That depends really; Obviously, if you don't have a PC, as well as a word processor to use the fonts with, then NO. But if you're as mad about Trek as I am and write quite a lot, then maybe it is, though you may have difficulty buying it, since the only places I've seen it are in mail order companies.

Review: Star Trek 'The Screen Saver'
For: IBM PC with Windows 3.1, or Apple Mac
Price: Around £35-40.

Reviewed by Damian Griffiths.

The Star Trek screen saver is a collection of 17 different Star Trek-related (Classic Trek), modules or animations, run under Windows, the point of which is that after a period of inactivity, the animations kick in, hence protecting your monitor from screen burn. (Although let's be honest here, today this isn't really a problem, and besides Windows comes with some (albeit rudimentary) screen savers). No, probably the real reasons most of you would buy it would be because it's 'Star Trek' (as I did!).

Anyway, the modules vary considerably, and I'll just describe some of them to you. One of my favourites is simply entitled 'Spock', and involves the aforementioned wandering around on your screen interacting with various things. At one point he takes out a phaser and proceeds to burn holes in your monitor; another time he gets out his tricorder and starts analysing various things including Nomad. But my favourite moment has to be when Spock gets out his Vulcan lyre and starts to sing! (I thoroughly recommend having a SoundBlaster compatible soundcard since his singing is hysterical. Indeed the program is full of samples from the episodes, and unless you've got such a device you'll be missing out on a lot).

Another module involves Tribbles falling down the screen, another entitled 'The

Mission' has the Enterprise going on various random missions, and yet another has Security men being chased by Hortas. There are also more informative modules, entitled 'Scotty's Panels', which displays diagrams of various Trek devices, including communicators and bridge panels; then there's the 'Planetary Atlas' that shows data of the various planets in the Trek universe.

You can customise most of the modules considerably, for example, changing the number of Hortas on screen, or the rate the Tribbles multiply. You can also set the delay before the screen saver kicks in, as well as which modules it displays. While there is no real necessity for a screen saver such as this, it is certainly enjoyable to any Star Trek fan. Next Generation fans might like to know that a ST:TNG Screen Saver is currently in the works, due for release in a few months.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★



ZINE REVIEWS

IDIC LOG 16 reviewed by Jean Sloan

There is an interesting variety of items in this zine. The longest story (65 pages) is *The Spectres of the Past* by Lorna Elliott. The story is set in the time period between ST 4 & 5. The Enterprise in once more captained by James T Kirk, but both ship and Captain have their problems. After a trial run, the Enterprise NCC 1701-A is forced to put in to SB11 for repairs. Meanwhile, Kruge's niece Kalenth has been given the task of avenging Kruge's death.

The story is well-plotted and written. The revenge plot is counterpointed by an exploration of Kirk's feelings as he is claimed by exhaustion and depression after the events of ST 3 & 4. The story links in to the beginning of ST5, and into the themes of that film.

Nina Lynch & Tracy Beadle have two short stories in the zine - *All Ashore* Who's Going Ashore, and *Get Him to the Medical on Time*. These stories both explore, with

humour, the relationship between Spock and McCoy. Another short is the reflective *Postscript: Let That Be Your Last Battlefield* by Teresa Abbott, who is one of my favourite writers. It explores Kirk's feelings about ordering the destruct sequence which is only just aborted in time. David Gallagher has a short with a twist in the tail (pardon the pun, David) which is hilarious nonsense - very enjoyable.

There are poems too; Gillian Fry offers limericks and Christine Jones, Love, Honour, Duty - again, Christine is one of my favourite writers.

The second longer story in the zine is *Written by the Winners* by Jeremy Broadribb. This is a story about the Guardian; a group of historians is given permission to go back in time to the period of the Eugenics wars with the object of gathering fuller information about this poorly documented period. Of course they blunder into an era they know little about and are soon in time-trouble. The story is well written and the events

chronicled about the Eugenics period are a believable extension of the ST universe.

There is something for everyone in this Classic Trek zine - it is nicely balanced between humour and seriousness, and between short and long stories, and poetry.

IDIC LOG 16 - published by IDIC. See zine ads for ordering details.

NAKED NOW 3

Reviewed by Anne-Marie Flowers

This is the third in a series of zines from Hummers Ink, a small group of South African fans who got together to write down their Picard/Crusher fantasies. These stories are primarily romances and, although you will find the characters doing things Paramount would never allow, it is all 'in the best possible taste' and should probably be rated PG.

In the 100 A4 pages there are 19 P/C stories, 1 poem and 1 Quantum Leap crossover (which I could happily live without). Here is a quick resume of the contents:-

Somewhere Out There - A young Beverly dreams of meeting her 'Prince'.

Birthday Blues - Deanna sets Beverly up with a 'date' on the holodeck.

Where None Have Gone Before - Bev gets her own back on Vash.

The Power of Love - Jean-Luc has a nightmare about Lwaxana Troi.

Just a little Naughty - Bev in satin, lace and suspenders!

Betrayed - This is a longer and more serious story. Has Bev betrayed the Enterprise, and is Jack still alive?

It's Now or Never - Jean-Luc wakes up in Bev's bed but can't remember how he got there.

Passion and Soul - Seeing Bev in Data's arms P decides he has to act.

For the Romantics:

Something to Believe In - P & C share a quiet moment on the holodeck.

Then, Now, Forever and Eternity - P & C relax in a cafe and Odan watches.

Doctor's Holiday - P & C end up sharing a holiday cottage on Pacifica.

Inspired by Classic Trek (my favourite section):

Mirror Image - Bev, Riker and O'Brien experience a mirror universe and one of them isn't all that keen to come back.

Curable Conditions - A young Vulcan scientist transfers his pon farr to Picard, who must then mate or die!

Illusions of Reality - This is The Cage revisited. Beverly and Picard have to participate in a number of illusions.

Love Will Turn You Around - P & C are switched, the crew doesn't know and Bev's old flame is on board.

Inspired by TNG (or sequelitis):

Stepping Stone - Bev wrestles with her guilt after leaving Picard on Seltrus III

Memories and Appearances - Consequences of The Host.

A New Life - Bev's in trouble after her 'interesting evening' with the impostor Picard.

Innocent Heart - Kamala is back on the Enterprise.

There's nothing here for the hard-core SF fan, but if you're looking for a well-written story with a little bit of conflict or humour and a happy ending, then this is the zine for you. 10 out of 10.

Naked Now series available from Bill Hupe & Peg Kennedy \$8.50.

MAKE IT SO 22 (ScoTpress)

Reviewed by Neil J Barrett

I don't read a lot of fan fiction but when a fellow IDIC member lent me a couple of issues of 'Make It So' I thought I'd give them a try. This issue was an interesting mixture even though three quarters of it was taken up by one story.

We open with 'Holodeck Homicide' by Christine Carr. I quite enjoyed this story since it showed us something we see all too rarely in TNG - Troi being useful. Most Troi episodes seem to involve her being exceedingly wet and helpless with a few

going to the opposite extreme (e.g. 'Face of the Enemy'). In this story, we actually see Troi making use of her abilities in the investigation of an attempt on Data's life. The interplay between the Starbase Security Chief and Troi is a variation on the well-worn theme of a mis-matched pairing who initially clash before coming to respect each other. However, it was entertaining and so I'll forgive them for taking 16 pages to spot a connection that I saw in the opening scene. Scores 7.5 out of 10.

'One of Those Days' by Carol Sterenberg is a bit of a letdown. Basically it's one joke extended to 2 1/2 pages by which time it loses the impact. I'm pretty sure I've seen it before in a Classic Trek setting and I didn't find it that funny there either. Scores a grudging 4 out of 10.

'Elegy for Lal' by Lyn Muir offers us more - a deeper view of Data's relationship to Lal with a quietly poignant tone. It's short but it achieves its end and the style and tone are reminiscent of how Data would express the emotion if he were a better poet than he seems to be. Scores 7 out of 10.

Finally, and most lengthily, we have 'Space Trial' by Debbie Lee. This fully deserves to take up most of the 'zine. I felt as if I was reading an episode, the plot and the behaviour of the characters felt right, the links to earlier episodes fitted and the pace was smooth. Tension is kept up on a number of fronts although this does require a little suspension of disbelief when it comes to the process by which Starfleet conducts the space-going trials of a new design of warp drive. I don't always see the excitement value in academic rivalry (although it crops

up a fair few times in the Trek universe) but thankfully Debbie brings in other ideas to keep us on edge. I would have awarded 8.5 but I have to dock a quarter point for the opening scene. We are at Starfleet Academy, premier educational establishment of the Federation and the lecturer is still using flipcharts! Scores 8.25 out of 10.

THE CRACK IN THE MIRROR by Sheila Clark (ScoTpress)

Reviewed by Marion van der Voort



NEW ZINES

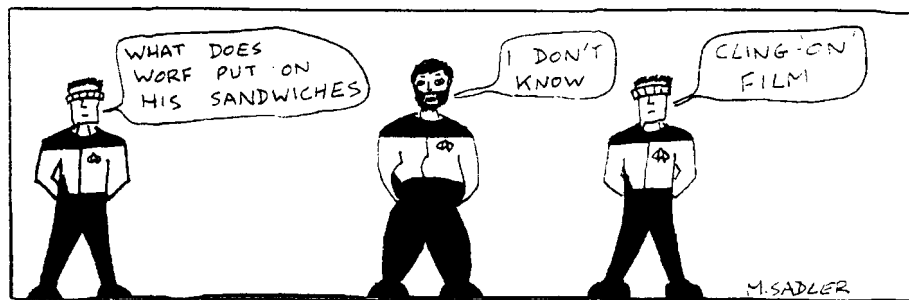
At last another story by Sheila Clark, one of the best Star Trek writers, when she gets time off from editing ScoTpress zines.

This one is an alternate alternate universe again - the Mirror Mirror universe before and after the exchange with our universe, but a different style, and all based on one line in the TV episodes.

An excellent read, printed in A5 size, double columns by ScoTpress, 107 pages. See zine ads for ordering details.

ScoTpress

THE CRACK IN THE MIRROR by Sheila Clark - Set in the Mirror, Mirror universe, the story follows James Kirk's career from when he joins the Enterprise as First Officer to Captain Pike, through his assassination of Pike to a little after his return from 'our' universe. UK £2.50





ZINE ADS

You can send your Zine Ads to either Janet or Sheila. We reserve the right to edit for length. We will print these ads in two consecutive newsletters only unless we receive an update. Each advert has the date of the newsletter it was last updated with.

IDIC/ScoTpress (10/94) @ = new title

IDIC LOG 16 - Kruge's family seeks revenge for his death on Genesis, and Kirk is their target; three historians travel through the Guardian of Forever to the time of the Eugenics Wars £2.50

IDIC LOG 15 - The Daystrom labs appear to be haunted; Chekov begins to behave out of character; and others U.K. £4.00

IDIC LOG 14 - A SPECIAL NEXT GENERATION ISSUE. A crewwoman with a marriage planned for her seeks Barclay's help; a follow-up mission to Travaï has problems; and others. U.K. £4.00

@THE CRACK IN THE MIRROR by Sheila Clark - Set in the Mirror, Mirror universe, the story follows James Kirk's career from when he joins the Enterprise as First Officer to Captain Pike to a little after his return from 'our' universe. UK £2.50

ENTERPRISE INCIDENTS 11 - Stories by Jay Stevensen. An alien entity takes control of the crew - but do they know it?; Kirk and Spock encounter a teacher... with a difference. A5 U.K. price, £2.50

SODDE'S GAMBIT - a novel by Brenda Kelsey. Sequel to Fifty Ways, but does stand on its own. T'Pring has changed her mind and now wants Spock after all... A5 U.K. price, £2.50

BLOW BACK by Nicole Comtet. A5. A sequel to Return to the Source. T'Pring's hatred of Spock continues. U.K. £2.50, rest of Europe £3

ENTERPRISE - LOG ENTRIES 91 A5. McCoy decides to leave the Enterprise and join an emergency medical team; Kirk goes missing; Spock takes some cadets on a survival exercise; and other stories. U.K. £2.50, rest of Europe £3

MAKE IT SO 22 - A holodeck programme

goes wrong, and Data is left for dead; Picard has a problem; Leah Brahms calls on Geordi and others to help run a space trial of an experimental propulsion A5 U.K. price £2.50 inc P & P.

MAKE IT SO 21 - Picard, Riker & Data are kidnapped by Romulans; The Enterprise picks up a 20th century man in cryogenic sleep; and others. A5 U.K. price £2.50 inc P&P

MAKE IT SO 15, 17, 18, 19, 20 - A5 format. U.K. £2.50 each inc. p&p. No. 16 sold out.

Other issues of E-Log Entries, IDIC Log and Make It So available, also a number of novels. SAE for full list.

SALE

UK Price includes postage. Rest of Europe add £1 per zine

E-LOG ENTRIES 81, 82, 83, 84, 85 U.K. £2.50 each.

ATTUCLAC by David Gomm - Why have ships - Federation, Klingon and Romulan - been disappearing in one area? U.K. £2.50

A CITY WITHOUT WALLS - by Alinda Alain. Although he has already been defeated, Mitchell's jealousy of Kirk and Spock forces him to keep on trying to destroy them. U.K. £2.00

GZAZARA by Alinda Alain - A strange woman helps the Enterprise crew. U.K. £2.00

IDIC LOG 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 £2.50 each

ORCADIA by Joyce Devlin - Kirk as a naval Captain circa 1939 investigates the loss of the Royal Oak in Scapa Flow. Has there been interference from the future? U.K. £2.50

STAR TREK CREDITS - the complete credit listing from the original series, compiled by Janet Quarton. A very useful reference manual. U.K. £1.50

Order from Sheila Clark, 6 Craigmill Cottages, Strathmartine, by Dundee DD3 0PH. Please make cheques/POs payable to Scotpress. Visa/Access/Mastercard accepted. Foreign prices: Europe, add 50p per zine for A5 titles, £1 per zine for the others; Australia/Japan write to Sheila for prices, enclosing an SAE + IRC. We have authorised Bill Hupe to reprint and sell IDIC & Scotpress zines in America, Canada and APO/FPO outside Britain; send to him for prices, enclosing a SAE.

Send submissions of TNG & DS9 material to Sheila Clark, (address above) and Classic Trek material to Valerie Piacentini, 20 Ardrossan Rd, Saltcoats, Ayrshire, Scotland.

BILL HUPE & PEG KENNEDY (8/94)

For postage, add up the weight of the zines you want then check the postage table.

Weight	Air	Surface
Up to 2 lbs	\$16.35	\$8.60
Up to 3 lbs	\$22.40	\$11.40
Up to 4 lbs	\$27.40	\$13.90
Up to 5 lbs	\$33.75	\$17.25

For higher weights, add \$4.50/lb air, \$2.25 surface.

EMPTY SPACES by Marcia Pecor. Kirk is being chased... 150 pages, \$11.50 + 1 lb postage; **WHISPER OF THE WIND** (second edition) by Betsy Fisher. A love story within a love story. 100 pages, \$8.50 + 10 oz; **AGAINST ALL ODDS** - tales of triumph in the K/S universe. 160 pages. \$20 + 1 lb; **COVERT ACTION** - Kirk and Spock are sent under cover into the Romulan Empire to steal a long-range transporter prototype \$20 + 1 lb; **IMAGINARY LINES** - Kirk receives death threats and goes into hiding on Vulcan; \$20 + 1 lb; **FEDERATION STANDARD** - TNG - No 1, \$8.50, No 2, \$10, No 3 (new) \$9, 1 lb postage each; **LESSONS LEARNED** by Anne Davenport - The crew of the Enterprise-D discover the survivors of the Minaran nova and their Vian benefactors. 104 pages, \$10.50 + 12 oz; **THE HEIGHT OF HUBRIS** by Linda Knights - Riker is having nightmares. 100 pages, \$11.50 + 12 oz; **QUISINE No 3** - includes a TNG portfolio \$11 + 8 oz, No 4 all fiction \$14.50 + 1 lb; **THE BAWDY ELECTRIC** adult fiction centering on data and Lore, 100 pages \$9.50 + 8 oz; **SIDE-TREKKED** - ST/TNG, Quantum

Leap/ST, TNG/Brady Bunch, TNG/Aliens, TNG/Back to the Future, TNG/Red Dwarf, TNG/Planet of the Apes. \$13 + 1 lb.

Many other zines available. We are authorised to reprint the following zines; out of print ScoTpress zines; Stardate Unknown 1 - 5; R & R; Archives; Showcase; Masiform D; Quartet + 2; all T'Kughtian Press titles (Warped Space, Obsc'zine) and many other classic out of print fanzines; many other titles available. SASE + 4 IRCs for a full list. We can accept personal cheques from the U.K. Please add 1.5% for bank charges. Bill Hupe & Peg Kennedy - Footrot Flats, 916 Lamb Rd, Mason, MI 48854-9554 USA. Authorised US agent for ScoTpress, IDIC, BSFR, Kay Staggs, Pat Mitchell, Gloria Fry, Linda Wood, Janet Ellicott, Airwaves Special Editions, Naked Now (South Africa). Our British agents are Lynne Buckley, 160 Fairway Rd. Shepshed, Loughborough, Leics, LE12 9HG and Janet Ellicott (see below) - SAE to either for British prices.

Greycloud Services (10/94)

"Star Trek" and many other zines always available from Janet Ellicott, 43 Brooksbank House, Retreat Place, Morning Lane, Homerton, London E9 6RN. I agent for Bill Hupe and Peg Kennedy, Bjo Trimble and Bernice Russell, and publish my own zines as well as dealing in secondhand zines. Send me a large (at least A5) SAE for a copy of my list.

Sue Embury (10/94)

OFF THE BEATEN TREK Classic Trek short stories, both serious and spoof with just a hint of TNG, plus a bonus of non-Trek tales, from Joan Cullen and Sue Embury. 112 pages in A5 format. UK price £2.95 inc p&p.

ALEXANDER - A time travel story in which Kirk and Spock find themselves trapped in Ancient Babylon during the last months of Alexander the Great's reign. UK price £4.00 including p&p.

Both available from Sue Embury, Lower Bailea, Tregare, Monmouth, Gwent NP5 4JL

Merry Men Press (8/94)

FIRST TIME zines contain K/S stories, art and poetry. Age statement required.

FIRST TIME is always on time. All inquiries

and orders are promptly filled, no-one's left to hang on the line. SAE (addressed envelope and 2 IRCs) for more info. Please send for flyers if you want to order older zines as not all of them have the interior art reproduced. **FIRST TIME 1 - 39** available. **WITHIN THE MIRROR 1 - 9** - an all mirror-related K/S zine, series and movie. Full of first time stories, and on time. **BESIDE MYSELF 1-3** - well-illustrated K/S zines exclusively written by Robin Hood and her assorted pen names. **SCATTERED STARS 1 - 6** - an alternate universe K/S fanzine where wild imagination and first time plots collide. **PLAYFELLOWS 1 - 6 - MULTIMEDIA '/'** If you know what slash is, you don't need any more words. **HEARTS OF FIRE** a K/S novel by Elizabeth Scott - an intriguing mystery, and lots and lots of love. **SHARING THE SUNLIGHT** - K/S novel by Jenna Sinclair. 200 pages. Plot, love and Trek. What else can you ask for? **GAMBIT**, a Mirror/'our' universe K/S novel by Kay Wells. **FETISH** - a K/S novel by Jenny Starr. Winner of 1988 Best Novel. **PORTRAITS** - A K/S novel by Charlotte Frost. Prices for all zines are \$20.00 US, \$22.00 Canada, \$26.00 foreign. US currency only please. We are also looking for quality submissions of prose and art. Merry Men Press, 274 Roanoke Rd, El Cajon, CA 92020, USA.

MULTI-SPECIES MEDICINE (10/94) is a newsletter for DS9/Bashir fans, with information and analysis. \$9/6 issues North America; \$12/6 issues elsewhere (U.S. funds, please). FTL Publications, P.O. Box 1363, Minnetonka, MN 55345, U.S.A.

Gloria Fry (8/94)

NEW: SLAVEWORLD - A NOVEL. On an alien planet, where the humanoid population are subjugated by vulcanoids. Kirk is captured by slave-traders and sold to a brutal owner. Spock disguises himself as one of the ruling class in an attempt to rescue his Captain. *Warning - although this zine is not explicit, it does contain adult themes. It is only suitable for readers over 16.* Illustrated by Maggie Symon and Raymond Sless. A4 format. Price (sterling only) U.K - £5. (incl P & P) Europe - £5 plus 3 IRC'S.

SHILDBEARER (and other stories) - Shildbearer - an A.U. variation of "Where

No Man Has Gone Before." Strikeforce -The servo-drones go on strike.(Prize-winner) Like Steel to a Magnet - Klingons abduct the Bridge crew.(prize-winner) Time Trek - A ST/Time Tunnel crossover. Price - as 'Slaveworld.' A4 format. Both zines available from: Gloria Fry, 16 Frankfort Street, GLASGOW, G41 3XG SCOTLAND. Note I have authorised Bill Hupe to sell these zines in the U.S.

VILLAGE PRESS (10/94)

IN THE WILDERNESS 4 - Risk, danger, humour and passion! Why do the alien Susurra people demand a life, and why does Kirk grant it? Why does the arrival of the youth David and his mentor Dr. Moss raise such a storm of feeling? How does Vulcan fidelity cope when faced with Vulcan duty? Plus "There are Always Alternatives", the Ultimate in Multiple Choice; and "Not Passion's Slave", McCoy and Spock are again in the tense world of "Choice and Chance and Change" (Sequel to ITW2). High quality stories by Daniels, Stuart, Carnall, Roe and Sarne. Beautiful art by Graves, Parnes (full colour) and Ann. Price: UK £7.00, USA \$23.00, Canada £10.00, Australia £10.50, Europe £9.00. (inc overseas airmail and p&p). Please make cheques payable to Rosemary Wild (not Village Press, new bank regs.) Dollar cheques accepted.

IN THE WILDERNESS 3 is temporarily out of print.

IN THE WILDERNESS 2 - Sock falls foul of xenophobic Dr. Quail; Lt. Spock faces Command Training; Strange desert encounters on Vulcan; Sarek loses control! A densely packed read! Quality writing by Rowes, Stuart, Daniels, Carnall and Forrest. Price as ITW4.

IN THE WILDERNESS 1 - Highly original writing from some of fandom's best talents. Stories by Resch, Daniels, Stuart, Stallings and Ferris, Gates, Rowes and others. Prices as ITW4.

THE EXTREMISTS a novel by Eva Stuart. The Klingon Peace has been signed. The Enterprise and Ahrax must prove that they can work together. Follow their crews through danger, deception, dinosaurs and the conga as they battle to keep the peace. Prices as ITW4.

All zines contain the K/S premise. For new

readers; an age statement please plus a note that you understand the premise.

ITW 5 is now looking for stories. No restrictions. I'm looking for: Risk, danger, humour and passion! Very gentle ed. Please say whether you wish comments or a yes/no decision without comment.

Mrs. Rosemary Wild, 'Cwm Croesor', Stuckton, Fordingbridge, Hants.

10/94

LET'S SEE WHAT'S OUT THERE Issue 2 - a multi series zine. A4 size. Picard has a lot of trouble on his hands; Trelaine pays the Enterprise D a visit; Dr Bashir has women trouble; Kirk and his crew encounter a ghostly wreck, plus many more. UK £4.95, overseas add 2 IRCs. Available from K Heintz, 23 Birniehill Avenue, Bathgate, West Lothian, Scotland EH48 2RR.

10/94

GROPE - In the 70s and early 80s the GROPE series was probably the best known adult Trekzine in the UK and also enjoyed a strong following in the USA. The following issues are available.

GROPE FLASHBACK (reprints from GROPE & MORE GROPE) £1.50

DEEP GROPE (1977) £1.50

BEDSIDE GROPE (1981) Free for postage (75p in UK stamps)

GRAVESIDE GROPE (1983) £2.00

Also, a few copies of **SON of GROPE** (1977) £1.50, **THE GROPEs of ROTH** (1978) £2.

From: Ann Looker, 12 Russell St., Swansea W. Glamorgan SA1 4HR. (Not for under 18s. Age statement please when ordering)

10/94

FREE ALNITAH - Another golden oldie and winner of "Best UK Trek Fanzine" award on several occasions in the 70s and early 80s. ALNITAH is a general Trek fiction zine with high quality printing and good illustrations. It is available for postage only (75p in UK stamps) from: Joyce Cluett, "Antilath", 40 Lordsfield Gardens, Overton, Basingstoke, Hants RG25 3EW. Availability of any particular issue cannot be guaranteed as early ALNITAHs are long out of print (NB The house name is not a misprint - just a private joke!) Send SAE to Joyce for full info on availability and prices.

SPACE-TIME CONTINUUM (10/94)

A bi-monthly Visual Media newsletter edited by Bjo Trimble. It is full of news and well worth having. Subscription Rates for 6 issues: USA \$10 Bulk mail, \$15 First Class. Make cheques/money orders payable to: Bjo Trimble. Bjo Trimble, P.O. Box 6858, Kingswood, TX 77325-6858 USA.

Foreign subscriptions: Contact the Subscription Agent nearest to you for local rates before writing to the U.S. address.

Canada: Star Trek Association of Regina, POB 36007, Regina, Sask, S4S 7H8 Canada.

United Kingdom £8/6 issues. Janet Ellicott, 43 Brooksbank House, Retreat Place, Morning Lane, Homerton, London E9 6RN.

Europe: Antje Freudenberg, Scharnebecker Weg 5, 2126 Adendorf, Germany

Australia: Shayne McCormack 49 Orchard Road, Bass Hill, NSW 2197, Australia.

Orient Masako Noguchi, 1-9-1 1006 Chikko Minato-ku, Osaka 552, Japan.

Brenda Callagher (8/94)

AIRWAVES: a computer printed multimedia zine, over 32 issues available. Submissions wanted for future issues, no limits to length. Cross-overs and/or spoofs especially welcome. PCW (3" - 180k or 3.5" 720k) users can submit their work on disk to save postage. Compatible with PC's using MSDOS on 3.5" (720K) but please use ASCII for documents. Disks will be sent back by return of post, manuscripts if requested. SAE (2 IRC's) 10 page comprehensive flyer to: Miss B Callagher, 195 Radipole Lane, Weymouth, Dorset, DT4 0TQ.

10/94

K/S Zines - various. Including Kismet I, an anthology of K/S stories. £16. Also - slash Hooker/Corrigan stories. A Touch of Blue £7, Blue Heat £7. All prices include p/p. Make cheques payable to Mrs Barbara Grainger. SAE for lists. Mrs Babs Grainger, 268A High Street, Beckenham, Kent BR3 1OZ.

Galactic Friendship 8/94

Star Trek magazine on floppy disks (only Amiga 500-4000). We bring Star Trek to your Commodore Computers: Stories, games, news, animations, samples, art-shows and much more... Price: First issue (2 floppies) £3

including postage. Contact Galactic Schmalzhofgasse 20/12, A-1060 Vienna,
 Friendship, c/o Maria Nausch, Austria.

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CONVENTIONS/ADVERTS/CLUBS/GROUPS



Conventions



STARFLEET ACADEMY WEEKEND 21st-23rd October, 1994. Grosvenor Hotel, Morecambe. Registration £15. Room £25 pppn inc. full English breakfast. No single room supplement. 4 video rooms (plus Trek channel on your room TV) - 24hr video, 4 bars - 24hr opening. Gambling at Quark's (winnings redeemable at dealers' tables). Academy training with guest Instructors and Speakers, includes Starfleet Medical, Unarmed Combat, Laser Combat, Klingon Language, Astrogration, Starfleet Command, Fencing, Shipbuilding, Video Workshop, Starfleet History, Alien Make-Overs, Model Workshop, Klingon Cookery Class, Order of Battle, Zefram Cochran Warp Theory Lecture and lots more! Plus Dealer Room, Debate Panels, Discos, Fancy Dress etc. SAE to Bolian Events, c/o 43 Lodore Road, South Shore, Blackpool FY4 2JL.

WOLF 359 in association with 1701 A-D 28th - 31st October 1994. Holiday Inn Leicester. Registration £30 (till Dec 93), children under 16 years half price, under 7 years FREE. Payments by instalments accepted. Accommodation: All rooms include B&B. Triple £25.00, Twin/Double £30.00, Single £41.00. Enquire about the QUAD at £22.50. Young adults under 19 years are free when sharing with a parent, (breakfast will be charged additionally). All enquiries to Margo White, 37 Branksome Road, Southend on Sea, Essex SS2 4HG. Please enclose a SAE.

LATCon University of London Union WC1 Saturday 19th November 1994. London's one day Star Trek Convention. Even bigger, even better than last year! SAE for details to LATCon 94, 9 Upper Flat, Mulgrave Road, Croydon, CR0 1BL.

GENERATIONS 4th & 5th February 1995. Professional convention organised by Horizon Conventions International. Guests: Patrick Stewart, Jonathan Frakes, LeVar Burton, Michael Dorn, Gates McFadden, Marina Sirtis and Brent Spiner, plus Rick Berman, Ronald D. Moore and Brannon Braga. **Note:** The actors may be appearing on stage only once each over the weekend and are subject to filming commitments. The event runs from 9.45am to 7.00pm each day and includes a dealers' room, charity auction and fancy dress. Tickets start from £8 for students to £30 for privileged seating per day. Tickets will be on sale at The Royal Albert Hall Ticket Shop, London SW7 2AP or call the 'Generations' Ticket Lines and reserve your ticket now on 0905 613005 or 071 838 3100. There will also be a 2hr Star Trek Writers' Workshop on the Sunday for an extra £35 per student. There are limited seats. SAE for info to Horizon Conventions International, 22 Reindeer Court, Worcester WR1 2DS.

KONMOREX KLINGON Star Trek Convention emphasising Klingons. The Hobbit, Halifax 4-5 March 1995. Guest Klingon specialist from the USA. Also demonstrations, panels, Klingon ceremonies, good food, good music, horror waxwork tour, two video programmes. Places strictly limited so book as soon as possible. SAE for details to Something Else, P.O. Box 16, Consett, Co. Durham DH8 8YZ.

THE NEUTRAL ZONE March 10 - 12 1995 Forte Crest Hotel, Newcastle. Guests include Richard Arnold & Robert Llewellyn. Full Registration £35. Room rates £35 single, £27.50 twin/double pppn. SAE for info to The Neutral Zone, 16 Annandale, Darlington, Co. Durham DL1 3QX

TREKKERS WEEKEND April 1995 Sponsored by Blackpool Pleasure Beach.

Events include: video rooms, debate sessions, guest talks, dealers' room, Saturday night live entertainment and disco, fancy dress, quizzes, games etc. and half-price tickets on all rides. Registration £10. Send SAE for details to Tina Lukacs and Simon Hage, Voyager Enterprises, 43 Lodore Road, South Shore, Blackpool FY4 2JL.

SOL III '95 - the 39th British Star Trek Convention. 26-29 May 1995. Norbreck Castle Hotel, Blackpool. Charities: Shelter, Redwings Horse Sanctuary. Registration Fee: £30 Adult; £15 5-14 yrs; under 5's free. For further information and registration forms, write to Sol III, c/o Jean Barron, 39 Dersingham Avenue, Manor Park, London E12 5QF.

CONUNDRUM - The fifth Scottish Star Trek Convention, 15 - 17th July 1995, Hospitality Inn, Glasgow. Guests to be announced. Registration rates until 31/12/94 - adult (15+ years) £30, child 10 - 14 £15; from 1/5/95 - 8/7/95, adult £35, child £18. Hotel rates available on request. For registration form, send to Conundrum, PO Box 1598, Rutherglen, Glasgow G73 4HR.

D.E.S. O'CONN - A 25th-28th August 1995. Full registration £19.98. SAE for info from Tina Lukacs and Simon Hage, Voyager Enterprises, 43 Lodore Road, South Shore, Blackpool FY4 2JL.

LIGHTSPEED '95 ST:TNG AND BEYOND CONVENTION. 1st-3rd September 1995. The Hilton International Hotel, Leeds. Charity R.N.L.I. Full Registration £35. Confirmed guest, subject to work commitments, Mr Dennis Ashton, Space expert and lecturer. Other guests are under negotiation. SAE for registration form to Lightspeed Conventions, 16 Bramwell Street, Eastwood, Rotherham, South Yorkshire S65 1RZ.

IRECON 5 UCG 16th & 17th Sept, 1995. Conference Centre, Galway. Guests include: Peter David, Shelley Jarvis and Finnualla Flannagan (to be confirmed). SAE to Malread King, Irecon 5, 4 Lisin, Tullyglass, Shannon, Co. Clare, Eire.

CAMP KHITOMER '96 24th - 27th May 1996. Southport Pontins Holiday Camp. Camp Khitomer, 14 Norwood Avenue, Southport PR9 8DT.

OTHER EVENTS

ALBACON 94 Scotland's Premier Science Fiction Convention. 21-24 October, 1994. Guest of Honour Robert Asprin. Attending membership £30. SAE for info to M Drayton, 10 Atlas Road, Springburn, Glasgow G21 4TE. Tel: 041 558 2862.

TRANSYLVANIA '94 29th October, 1994. Novotel, Hammersmith, London. Rocky Horror Convention. Reg: £25 plus 3 SAEs until 31/5/94, £30 plus 3 SAEs until 20/10/94. Meet the Guests, a chance to dress up and win some great prizes, and your chance to win a meal on us at the real Frankenstein's Place! SAE for registration forms to: Transylvania '94, 1 Elm Grove, Hildenborough, Tonbridge, Kents TN11 9HE. Overseas - please enclose IRCs.

ARMADACON 6 Convention. Astor Hotel, Plymouth. 5th-6th November, 1994. Guests so far include stuntman John Carrigan, modelmaker Martin Bower (Space 1999, Red Dwarf), author Mary Gentle. Full registration £20. Accommodation £29 pppn - single/double/twin and triple available. Events to include guest panels, quizzes, masquerade, turkey reading, Golden Drake awards, auction. Unseen University Challenge, Klingon Soap Opera, the latest Star Trek and Babylon 5 episodes. Charity RNIB talking books for the blind. For further details write to Marion Pritchard, 4 Gleneagle Avenue, Mannamead, Plymouth, Devon PL3 5HL. Please enclose an SAE. Tel (0752) 267873.

CULT TV an Appreciation Weekend 11th-14th November, Pontin's Seacroft Holiday Village, Hemsby, Norfolk. Full registration £35. SAE (9"x6") for info to Cult TV Weekend, P.O. Box 1701, Peterborough PE1 1EX.

THE FOURTEENTH LEONARD NIMOY CONVENTION: November 18-20th, 1994, at the Stakis Victoria Hotel, Nottingham. A

programme of films spanning the career of Leonard Nimoy and including many rarely, if ever, seen in Britain. Registration Fee: £20.00. For form and full details, please send SAE to Carol Davies, 43 Lawrence Road, Haves, Middlesex UB4 8QB.

NEW YEARS PARTY in Swanage, Dorset. SAE for details to Something Else, P.O. Box 16, Consett, Co. Durham DH8 8YZ.

ROBOCON Half Man - Half Machine All Fun! 17th-19th February 1995. The Tollgate Hotel, Watling Street, Gravesend, Kent. A convention based on Robots, Androids and Replicants in media and books. Full registration until 31/8/94 £25, then £30. Other rates available. SAE for info to Robocon, 26 Northampton Road, Croydon.

STARSHIP VOYAGES presents a 7 night Star Trek cruise to Venice and the Greek Islands from 3rd -11th June 1995. Guests Colm Meaney, John de Lancie, Jonathan del Arco, George Takei, others TBA. For more information please send a stamped SAE to Starship Voyages (41), 5 Plough Rise, Cranham, Upminster, Essex RM14 1XR, England. (This cruise is organised for fans by fans.)

INTERSECTION The 53rd World Science Fiction Convention 24-28 Aug 1995. Scottish Exhibition Centre, Glasgow. Guests of Honour Gerry Anderson & Samuel R Delany. Registration £60 until September 1994 when it will increase. Events include 3 video programmes, a 16mm film programme, 6 programme streams featuring everything from serious SF to filk, roleplaying games, comics etc. There will be a media stream and a huge Dealers' Room. Write asking for details to Intersection, Admail 336, Glasgow G2 1BR.

AWAYTEAM '95 Yes, folks, we are doing it again. Next time will be in September 1995. Join us for a terrific Trek and Space Travel theme holiday, taking in a visit to the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, the Star Trek Adventure, Yosemite, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Paramount Studios, to name but a few of the many exciting places we will be visiting. For further details, please contact

Sadie Mason & Paul Anson, 63 Woodstock Ave, Bobbers Mill, Nottingham NG7 5QP. (Once again we want to point out that we have NO CONNECTION with the Glasgow Away Team.)

OVERSEAS CONVENTIONS

VIENNA-CON 17th - 19th February 1995. Austrotel in 1150 Vienna, Felbergrasse 4. Guests to be announced. Activities include; videos, dealers' room, guest talks and autograph sessions, games, discussion panels, fancy dress etc. Send an SAE + IRC for details to Galactic Friendship, c/o Maria Nausch, Schmalzhofgasse 20/12, A-1060 Vienna, Austria.

CON-COURSE 4, 12th - 14th May 1995, Rieckhof Hamburg-Harburg. Guests confirmed: **Rene Auberjonois**, Bjo Trimble and Richard Arnold.. Registration 140 - 160 German marks. For more info send SAE plus IRC to CON-COURSE, c/o Antje Freudenberg, Scharnebecker Weg 5, 21365 Adendorf, Germany.

PERSONAL COLUMN

Hi, IDIC members, I'm an almost 17 year-old girl from a small town in Bavaria, Germany. I love everything that has to do with space, especially the series Star Trek/TNG/DS9, of course. I'm a fan of these actors: Jonathan Frakes, Brent Spiner, Patrick Stewart, Leonard Nimoy, LeVar Burton, Whoopi Goldberg, John de Lancie and Siddig El Fadil. I like reading (Star Trek books - all series, Adams, Shatner, Wilde, Zimmer-Bradley), too and I am an enthusiastic letter writer. This message is for Trekkers all over the world - please write to me! I write to everybody, no matter which planet you are from. But I only speak English and German. Live Long & Prosper. Jessica Lemmer, Altweiherstrasse 58, D-91320 Ebermannstadt, Germany.

If anyone who I met at Contagion 94 would like to contact me I have extra copies of photos I took at Contagion. Leslie Moyes, 22 Carleton Crescent, Woodside, Glenrothes, Fife KY7 5AN.

Pen pal wanted - American member of IDIC

seeking penfriends who share her love of Star Trek! I'm 44, so am an original Trek fiend and I love all the various ST incarnations! In addition to ST, I'm devoted to Star Wars too, and other genre interests include Babylon 5, Battlestar Galactica, Beauty and the Beast and V. I enjoy fantasy books by Hambly, Lackey, Rawn, Robinson and McKinley. Some of my non-genre interests include horses, cats, the life and times of Richard III, rubber stamps, dragons, and all Beauty & The Beast fairy-tale(s) including Phantom of the Opera. If you share any of my interests I would love to hear from you! Stella Zear, Zeararesque Arabians, 4132 South Cedar Circle Drive, Dallas, Texas 75237, U.S.A.

I am very interested in battleships, eg Enterprise, Klingon vessels, Romulans, also shuttlecraft; the technology of tomorrow (or yesterday). Is there anyone with the same interests who maybe has more information on these? Alberto Gorin, de Bruynlaan 5, 6816 PW Arnhem, Holland.



SMALL ADS

Please note: All adverts are printed as a service to members and IDIC cannot accept any liability. Adverts should be a maximum of 10 lines - will be printed in one newsletter only.

Please only offer original items for sale - adverts will be edited if necessary. We will not knowingly print adverts for copied material which breaks copyright.

FOR SALE - Books, zines, records, signed photos of William Shatner, Jimmy Doohan, George Takei, Nichelle Nichols, Walter Koenig, Marina Sirtis and others. Please send SAE for lists to: Samantha Tuley, 11 Heys Close, Blackburn, Lancashire BB2 4PF.

FOR SALE - Classic Crew 25th Anniversary commemorative plate from the Hamilton collection with certificate £50; TNG 'dress' mustard uniform size 12 £25; comm. pin +

rank pips £5; TNG wine 'skant' uniform incl comm. pin + rank pips size 12 £50. Donna Macey, 66 Albert Road, Worcester WR5 1EB.

FOR SALE - Data Entries, TV Zones, books etc. SAE for list to Jennifer Blanchard, 14 Eashing Lane, Godalming, Surrey GU7 2JZ.

FOR SALE - A collection of 8 High Density disks for IBM-PC, containing a mixture of animations, quizzes, information, shareware games, many pictures (including digitised pictures from Star Trek films and episodes). Only £14 including disks and p&p. Alternatively, if you supply the discs and an SASE you can have it free. Write to me at Damian Griffiths, 55 Rickmansworth Road, Watford, Herts WD1 7HS.

FOR SALE - TNG & DS9 artwork made by charcoal each £0.25 + p&p. Say which character you want (even from which TNG episode) and you got it. And if it is possible, please order at least four portraits at once. I also have special 'All Good Things' portraits. For more information or orders contact Dejan Ladika, Bocka 10, 68330 Metlika, Slovenia.

FOR SALE - Star Trek the Next Generation pre-recorded video tapes. Seasons 4, 5 and first half of season 6, nos 38-69 (32 tapes). £5 each or £110 the lot. Buyer collects or pays postage. If interested please contact G P Harrison, 40 Almondbank Terrace, Edinburgh EH11 1SR. Tel 031 538 6323.

FOR SALE - Zines, books, graphic novels etc. Mostly Star Trek, plus some others. Send SAE for list to: Therese Holmes, 28 Braemar, Kersfield Road, Putney, London SW15 3HG. I may be selling, but I'm also buying, so your lists are welcome!

MARRIAGE FORCES SALE - For sale to a good home, the complete original series on CIC video of Star Trek incl. The Cage in colour. Eps 1 - 79. Offers are invited. Also, I have a huge selection of Star Trek novels/mags and also Shatner novels, some hardback and a few signed. Enquiries to Miss Melloney Daines, 28 Brynhewog, Tywyn, Gwynedd, West Wales LL36 9DY.

FOR SALE - TNG zines & paperbacks. Send SAE for list to: A.M. Flowers, 9 Grantley Gardens, Glasgow G41 3PY.

FOR SALE - Trading card singles for the following sets; TNG Inaugural, TNG episode collection, Masterpieces, DS9, 25th Anniversary series 1 & 2. Also available TNG Panini stickers. Most numbers available of all sets. Will sell or trade. SAE for list of numbers available to: Alexis Stokes, 26 Becketts, Hertford, Herts SG14 2AN.

FOR SALE: Books, audio novels, magazines, photos, post cards, patches and pins, Hamilton plates and mugs, Original Enterprise talking alarm clock plus Dr Who and Battlestar Galactica videos. For list send SAE to Mrs S Irons, 47 Halsbury Road West, Northolt, Middlesex UB5 4PN.

FOR SALE - ST K/S and gen zines (Nome, Icefire, Cheap Thrills, Mirrors of Mind & Flesh, and lots more.) B7, scripts (WG, Hulk & NG) ST calendars, and some books. SAE and IRC or \$1 for list. A. Maether, Parkstr. 15, 32105 Bad Salzflun, Germany.

FOR SALE - Approx 150 photos from the original series, mainly Kirk. Unopened, in original box, Aurora plastic model kit no. 922 of Mr Spock of Star Trek facing 3-headed serpent. Offers to: C Maybank, 53 Reigate Road, Bromley, Kent BR1 5JJ.

FOR SALE - New List! Zines - gen & K/S. Send SAE. Also NOCTURNE, very good condition K/S zine. Will accept offers over £10.00. Successful bidder will be notified by 31/10/94. All bids must include p+p, especially if outside UK. Send bids to Christine Jones, The Bungalow, Leeholme Recreation Ground, Leeholme, Bishop Auckland, County Durham DL14 8HN.

WANTED - 'First Time' zines early numbers - to buy or will give other zines in exchange. No photocopies please. Contact Angela Brockett, 18 Hertford Avenue, East Sheen, London SW14 8EE.

WANTED - Next Gen Pizza Hut Cup Set wanted to buy. Will pay reasonable price and postage. Tel. 0425 652410.

WANTED - ST Starship tactical combat game from FASA or similar combat games involving ST. Any ST miniatures - particularly starships. ST Blooper tape - CT or TNG. Klingon stuff, tricorders, weapons, communicators. Mik Perris, 61 Hillfield Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham B11 3LH.

WANTED - I am compiling a list of all Star Trek trading/collector card sets ever issued as an aid to collectors, which I will submit for publication in a future copy of the newsletter. If you have any information that might help, or cards you wish to sell, please drop me a line (with prices). If you would like a reply/copy of the finished list please enclose an SAE. Wayne Burman, 73 Cornbrook Rd, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP21 8QY.

WANTED - Starlog 127. Can only afford to pay £5 plus P & P. Please write. Dallas Hadaway, Bank Villa, Bank Rd, Maud, Peterhead, AB42 8NQ.

WANTED - Biographical details on *all* Classic and TNG actors for ongoing personal project (ie film info, credits, dates, appearances etc.). Also wanted - signed/unsigned Classic and TNG Trek photos, both B&W and colour considered. Write to Chris Bailey, "Actor Profiles", 7 Balliol Dr, Didcot, Oxfordshire OX11 9RH.

WANTED - K/S zine T'Zadu 1 & 2, also The Bloodstone. I am also looking for 2 plates, one of Spock with arms folded and the Enterprise behind him, and the 25th Anniversary plate. Will pay any reasonable price for these items, or willing to swap following zines - First Time novella (Time Enough), Alexander, Within Reach, Candlelight & Flames. Contact J Turner, 46 Chinnbrook Rd, Billesley, Birmingham B13 0LX.

WANTED - 1992 ST:TNG inaugural album; 1990 German Star Trek bubblegun stickers; 1976 Topps Star Trek cards; 1983 ST:TWO card set (30); 1969 AB&C set Nos 8, 35, 45, 46; bubblegun wrappers, cards and spacecaps from Playmate figures, cards from American OT videos, Panini 1992 stickers. Will pay good prices or exchange for items needed. Contact Stephen Rothwell, 20 Baxter Park

Tce, Dundee DD4 6NP.

WANTED - Could anybody help me in getting information on and videotapes (in English) of the Canadian series: Forever Knight (German title of the series: Nick Knight shown on RTL2) and its star Geraint Wyn-Davies? Annette Bannasch, Schutzenwaldweg 14, D-79540 Lorrach, Germany.

WANTED - Gates McFadden's talk at Irecon 4. Harry, 18 East Greenlees Cres., Cambuslang, Glasgow G72 8TX.

WANTED - Does any one out there have TekWar on tape? I desperately want to see it and will pay the postage. Also can anyone help, in the PC version of Monkey Island 2, in the hard game, how do you get the hammer and nails to nail Stan the second hand coffin seller into a coffin? PLEASE help we are stuck in a big way. Please write. J Taylor 70 Leadale road, Leyland, Lancs, PR5 1QR.

WANTED - K/S zines, Would particularly like Shades of Grey 2 & 3 and Nor No Man Ever Loved. Willing to pay reasonable price for good condition zines. Would prefer originals to photocopies. Christine Jones, The Bungalow, Leeholme Recreation Ground, Leeholme, Bishop Auckland, County Durham DL14 8HN.

WANTED: Star Trek trading cards, bubblegum cards - anything from Classic Trek TV show and films, TNG and Classic promotional or sample cards/artwork. TNG cards from Playmates figures, ST 25th Anniversary Albums; ST TNG Inaugural Album; Episode cards from US videos. Name your price - or will swap. Dot Wallace, 68 Overmills Road, Ayr KA7 3LQ.

WANTED - to buy on VHS video, William Shatner on ITV's This is Your Life, and any T J Hooker episodes (first season). Also wanted, any Dallas merchandise, eg books, the Dallas Board Game and the Giant History Book of Dallas. If you can help please contact Sean Patton, 75 Padstow Walk, Scunthorpe, South Humberside DN17 1UH.

WANTED - Any films or videos starring

Leonard Nimoy or William Shatner - not Star Trek. Please contact Angela Brockett, 18 Hertford Avenue, East Sheen, London SW14 8EE.

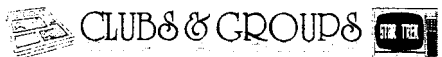
BUSINESS SMALL ADS

THE OFFICIAL STAR TREK FAN CLUB OF THE UK, PO Box 355, Bushey, Watford WD2 2NA. £14.99 for 4 magazines.

S.P.O.C.K 'FIVE YEAR MISSION' This CD album from SPOCK features 10 classic tracks like Mr Spock's Brain, Charlie X, Neutral Zone, Edge of Forever and an album version of the hit single Never Trust a Klingon. £10.50. Also NEVER TRUST A KLINGON, CD single, hit of last year (in 4 charts in Germany alone) now reissued for 1994 - the Captain's LOG 2294AD mix. £3.30. P&P UK 50p (+ 30p additional); Europe £1.00 (+ £80p additional) Please allow 28 days for delivery. Cold Spring Distribution, 87 Gloucester Avenue, Delapre, Northampton NN4 9PT. Tel/Fax 0604 859 142.

MISC

STAR TREK FOR TREKKERS Saturdays 5pm - 11pm. No door charge. Large screen viewing and quiz. **PAGES BAR** London's Star Trek Bar, 75 Page Street, London SW1P 4LT (near Horseferry Road Courts). Information line 071 630 0911.



UPDATE

We have available a set of information sheets giving the addresses and brief details of all the British Star Trek clubs and local groups we know about, plus Star Trek related actor clubs in the UK and abroad. If you would like a copy write and ask Janet; enclose at least a 9" x 6" SAE plus an extra loose 25p stamp. (Note: new members receive a copy of this when they join IDIC, although we update it with the following info from each newsletter.)

Please enclose a SASE when writing to clubs for information.

BRITISH STARFLEET CONFEDERACY
Dues UK £6, Europe £9. Bi-monthly newsletter. SAE to Lisa Dearnley-Davison, 58 Rose Crrescent, Woodvale, Southport, Merseyside PR8 3SA.

QUARK'S BAR Friends! I have a great opportunity for you. Become an exclusive member of Quark's Bar. For the meagre sum of 2 bars of gold pressed latinum (translated into your currency as £7.00), you will receive 4 newsletters a year. Please write to my assisant below, enclosing an SASE (or 2 IRC's if outside U.K), for more details. Miss Maria Woodward, 'Ashcroft', East Street, Westbourne, Nr. Emsworth, Hampshire PO10 8SH.

QUARK'S NEWS 14 Norwood Avenue, Southport, Merseyside PR9 7DT.

FEDERATION Star Trek Fan Association in EUROPE (Irish Star Trek Federation within Ireland). Support club and members throughout Europe and beyond. A4 SAE/2 IRCs: Damon Matthew Wise, 4 Fabis Apts, High Road, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, Republic of Ireland. Tel: INT-353-74-25995.

U.S.S. DESTINY, Global Star Trek Society. 4 newsletters per year, local meetings (so far in Belfast, Craigavon, Armagh, others to follow). Dues: Adults £5 UK, £7.50 EEC, \$20 US. Under 16's £3.50 UK only. David Murphy, 12 Lagmore Downs, Dunmurray, Belfast BT17 0XX.

DATELINE: STARFLEET is an online newsletter that originates from the America Online "Star Trek: TheClub" forum. There is no charge - it is distributed EXCLUSIVELY via E-mail. If you would like to be added to the "Dateline: Starfleet" Mailing List, E-mail datelined@aol.com requesting that you receive it. The newsletter is mailed on the 15th of each month.

TERRY FARRELL'S INTERNET FAN CLUB Joining is free, and all you have to do is write a little note to: ukoga@mcl.ucsb.edu (Jeff Koga)

HIGHLANDER FANS (there can be only one) prove me wrong! I've found two UK fan clubs for Highlander, both cater for the movie & TV series. Send SAE to: Elaine Nicol, 107 Cairnswell Avenue, Halfway, Cambuslang, Glasgow G72 8SP. Try also: Joe O'Callaghan, 2 Caswell Close, Leicester LE4 2GH. Remember; don't lose your head ('cos its quite an important piece of anatomy really). - Neil Safi

MISC

OPEN HOUSE First weekend of every month but please phone first to check (081 985 0426). Zines for sale, tapes to watch, other fans to chat to. Janet Ellicott, 43 Brooksbank House, Retreat Place, Morning Lane, Hackney E9.

LOCAL GROUPS

Most of these groups have monthly meetings. Please enclose an SAE when writing to them for details.

To any IDIC members in the Enfield/N. London/Hertford areas interested in meeting up once a month or so, attending cons and other Trek stuff. Send your subpace transmissions to: Paul Jennings, 55 Aylands Road, Enfield, Middex EN3 6PW, or phone 0992 764 140.

Any IDIC members in Wolverhampton/Walsall area interested in getting together for chats or evenings out about Trek please contact Mrs Glyn Holland, 53 Honeybourne Way, Willenhall, WV13 1HN.

Aberdeen - Starbase Apollo Captain Scott McMillan, c/o Starbase Apollo, 73 Thistle Drive, Portlethan.

Airdrie - Warp Nine Tudor Hotel.

Ayr Trek - Regular meetings every 2 months in the Elms Court Hotel, Ayr. Latest episodes and dealers' room. Contact Ayr Trek, 75 Caledonia Road, Saltcoats KA21 5AN. for further details. Forthcoming meetings; 9th Oct, 4th Dec

Ashford - Energize Weekly meetings. Tel.

Dave & Tina Styles on 0233 642687 any time.

Bournemouth - USS Excalibur, Anne Lindup, Holtwood, Nr. Wimbourne, Dorset BH21 7DT. Monthly meetings.

Brighton - The Outer Zone: Ms. Sue Parker, The Outer Zone, 42 Victoria Street, BRIGHTON, East Sussex, BN1 3FQ.

Bury St Edmunds - Dreamweavers (Doctor Who, Star Trek and other cult Sci-fi). Ursula Clarke, 10 Bunbury Road, Bury St. Edmunds, IP32 6HT.

Coventry - Something Else Group Phone Maggy Tel: 0203 503113

East Scotland - The Bridge Crew, Wester Auchinricoch Farm, Banton, Near Kilsyth G65 0QZ.

Glasgow - The Away Team: Contagion (Away Team), PO Box 867, Rutherglen, Glasgow G73 4HR. Next meeting 16th October, Hospitality Inn.

Hull Starfleet 7 Lynwood Grove, Goddard Avenue, Hull HU5 2BE, or phone Karen on 0482 875 208.

Ipswich Starfleet Chris Wileman, 15 Parkeston Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk, IP11 8NF.

Leeds Starfleet: Mike Mullen, 19 Manor Avenue, Headingley, Leeds LS6 1BY or ring (0532) 742977.

London Star Trek Group Kim Knight, 38 Rochford Avenue, Loughton, Essex IG10 2BS.

Kirkcaldy - U.S.S. Tianamen, Paul Cummings, 158 Dunniken Road, Kirkcaldy KY2 5BA.

Manchester Starfleet PO Box 35, Levenshulme, Manchester M19 3GZ.

Merseyside - U.S.S. Discovery. Sharon Rowe, 93 Juddfield Street, Haydock, St Helens, Merseyside WA11 0BD.

Merseyside - Sentinel One SF/ST club.

Sheri, 17 Bridge Street, Earlstown, N - LE - W. WA12 9BE.

North Wales Local Group. Martin Hodgkins, 69 Fairways, Llandudno, Gwynedd.

Nottingham - Prime Directive Michael Butcher, 501 Beechdale Road, Aspley, Nottingham NG8 3LF.

Plymouth - Drake Science Fiction & Fantasy Association, Tony Durks, 125 Grenville Road, St Judes, Plymouth PL4 9QA. Tel (0752) 666591

West Midlands - Space Central Lee Owers Sansome, 15 Foxglove, Amington, Tamworth, Staffs B77 4HY.

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Send to:-

Janet - Subscriptions, renewals, all newsletter submissions on disc; all news, cuttings, adverts, merchandise info etc. for the newsletter; used stamps for the Guide Dogs.

Sheila - All Zine orders; postbag, articles & reviews for the newsletter; TNG submissions for zines (stories, poetry and artwork); used stamps.

Valerie - Classic Trek submissions for zines (stories, poetry and artwork).

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The opinions stated in this newsletter are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the committee.

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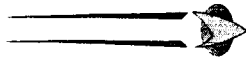
Packed by Sheila's Chain Gang

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LATE NEWS

• STAR TREK: GENERATIONS

Due to negative audience reactions at this past week's ST7 test screenings, Paramount has decided to reshoot chunks of the film's ending. Sets are having to be rebuilt, actors recalled (difficult for those now doing other films) and some location work will have to be redone. (info - a friend 20/9/94)

• HORIZONS CONVENTION

Current plans are as follows with regard to guest appearances:

Saturday, February 4th: Ron Moore & Brannon Braga, Michael Dorn, Marina Sirtis, Jonathan Frakes & Brent Spiner.

Sunday, February 5th: Rick Berman, Gates McFadden, LeVar Burton & Patrick Stewart.

From Eric A. Stillwell via Mike Mullen.

[Ed - This is a guide only - remember that these plans could change before February.]