

Mr. Nicholson: (laughing) No, but I can imagine what happened!

Mr. Shatner: Yeah! And I'm looking--I'm lying on my back--and they say, "Are you looking?" and I say, "I'm looking," and across the screen flies the Enterprise!!

(general hearty laughter)

The idiots--on my tax money--(more laughter) had spent four hours making this model to televise it. And when I got out of the Apollo ship--I had to climb down some stairs--there were two or three hundred engineers laughing! They had played a practical joke on me! Oh, it was hysterical; it was the funniest thing that had ever happened! And they handed me the model to autograph and I wrote down on it: "When you get to the moon, I'll see ya!" (laughing)

James: Approximately how much fan mail do you get?

Mr. Shatner: It's varied a great deal. In the early days of the show, we were getting many thousands of letters a week. It's slakened off since then and I don't know what it is now.

James: Have you ever received any marriage proposals from your fans?

Mr. Shatner: (laughing) Yes! I've received a number of marriage proposals--and other kinds! (general laughter) And I don't read too much of the mail. There's so much coming in and there's so much to do that I see very little of it.

Mr. Baker: How is that mail handled?

Mr. Shatner: It's handled in two manners. If the person writing in says, "I'd like a picture," that's automatically handled. If there's a more extensive letter, there's a service which tries to answer in as brief a manner as possible.

Karen: Do you think it will be easy for you to shake the character of Captain Kirk?

Mr. Shatner: To shake it? Yes. I made quite a good living before I went into

\*\* "Star Trek" and I hope I'll be able to  
\* make a good living by playing other parts  
\* after "Star Trek." Actually, the char-  
\* acter of Captain Kirk is merely a Greek  
\* hero in futuristic terms.

\* Karen: I saw you in "Alexander the  
\* Great."

\* Mr. Shatner: That's right. It's "Alex-  
\* ander the Great." The same company that  
\* produced "Combat" wanted to produce  
\* "Alexander the Great." I did a pilot  
\* film on it. And I call "Alexander the  
\* Great" "Combat in Drag!" (laughing)  
\* And he, too, was a hero, of course.  
\* Captain Kirk is a hero in the same  
\* classical terms as Alexander was.

\* Karen: I've been in the military all  
\* my life, so I sort of relate to orders,  
\* etcetera. I've often wondered what  
\* would happen if the Enterprise (laughing)  
\* didn't pass inspection.

\* Mr. Shatner: (hearty laugh) That'd be  
\* funny!! That's a good idea for a story!

\* James: Do you play a musical instrument?

\* Mr. Shatner: I have a guitar that I can  
\* strum, but I don't play it very well,  
\* so in effect, I don't play a musical  
\* instrument.

\* James: What's your favorite pop hit?

\* Mr. Shatner: Pop hit? (sigh) Well....  
\* there's so many great songs that have  
\* been written in the last few years.  
\* Jimmy Webb is, you know, the new sensa-  
\* tion. The Beatles are simply great.  
\* And Simon and Garfunkle are, perhaps,  
\* the minstrels of today. Those three  
\* are the great artists in the modern  
\* music.

\* Karen: Which were your favorite episodes  
\* of "Star Trek?"

\* Mr. Shatner: Well, I liked two of them.  
\* I liked performing them--that which I  
\* can remember, 'cause they all begin to  
\* fade into (laughing) one giant "Star  
\* Trek!" But, there was one in the early  
\* season that I played where I played the