

Science fiction mastermind philosophizes with Trekkies

By **KELLY RHODES**
Staff Writer

Gene Roddenberry, creative genius and creator of "Star Trek," answered questions from an enthusiastic group of science fiction fans Tuesday night at a forum in Hanes Art Center sponsored by the Department of Radio, Television and Motion Pictures.

"I'm not the same Gene Roddenberry I was 22 years ago," he said, after the audience had viewed a 1966 "Star Trek" episode and a 1987 "Star Trek: The Next Generation" episode. "The reason I started 'Star Trek' was, when I was a young scriptwriter, the networks always said, you can't do this, you can't do that," he said, adding that he created a show that

could communicate serious messages with a science fiction veil. "While the audience's guard is down, zing them with ideas." Roddenberry said television in the '60s was heavily censored for anti-war material. "Old 'Star Trek' episodes came out against the war in Vietnam," he said, "even though no television character could come out against the war."

Censorship, he added, is a form of insanity. "It tries to protect the community against evil in its every form . . . but the audience receives our messages. It's the reason for our fandom."

Roddenberry also said the new series is much on the same track as the original series. "We are de-emphasizing weaponry," he stressed. "There's too much weaponry in the world."

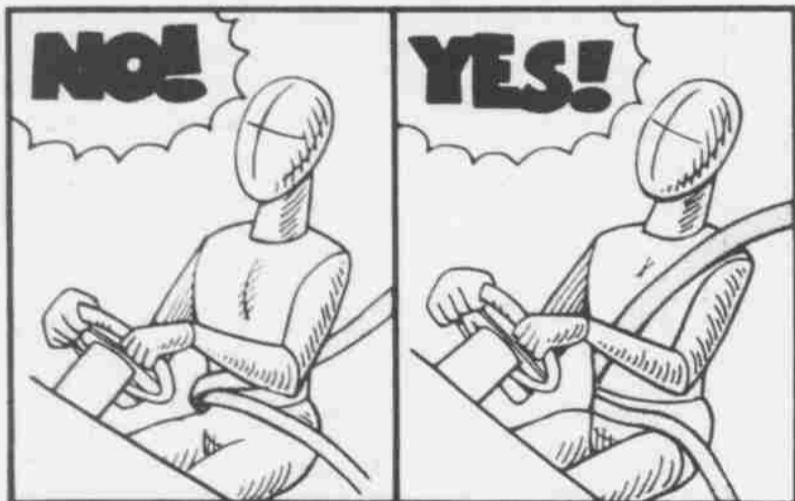
The audience asked many more questions about the new series than a usual group of die-hard Trekkies would. Roddenberry said that he welcomed ideas and changes about the series that he could take back to the scriptwriters.

Many people questioned the significance of certain characters in the new series, which has a large cast of



Gene Roddenberry, the creator of "Star Trek," answered questions from fans Tuesday night in Hanes Art Center

To be most effective, **SHOULDER BELTS** should be snug . . .

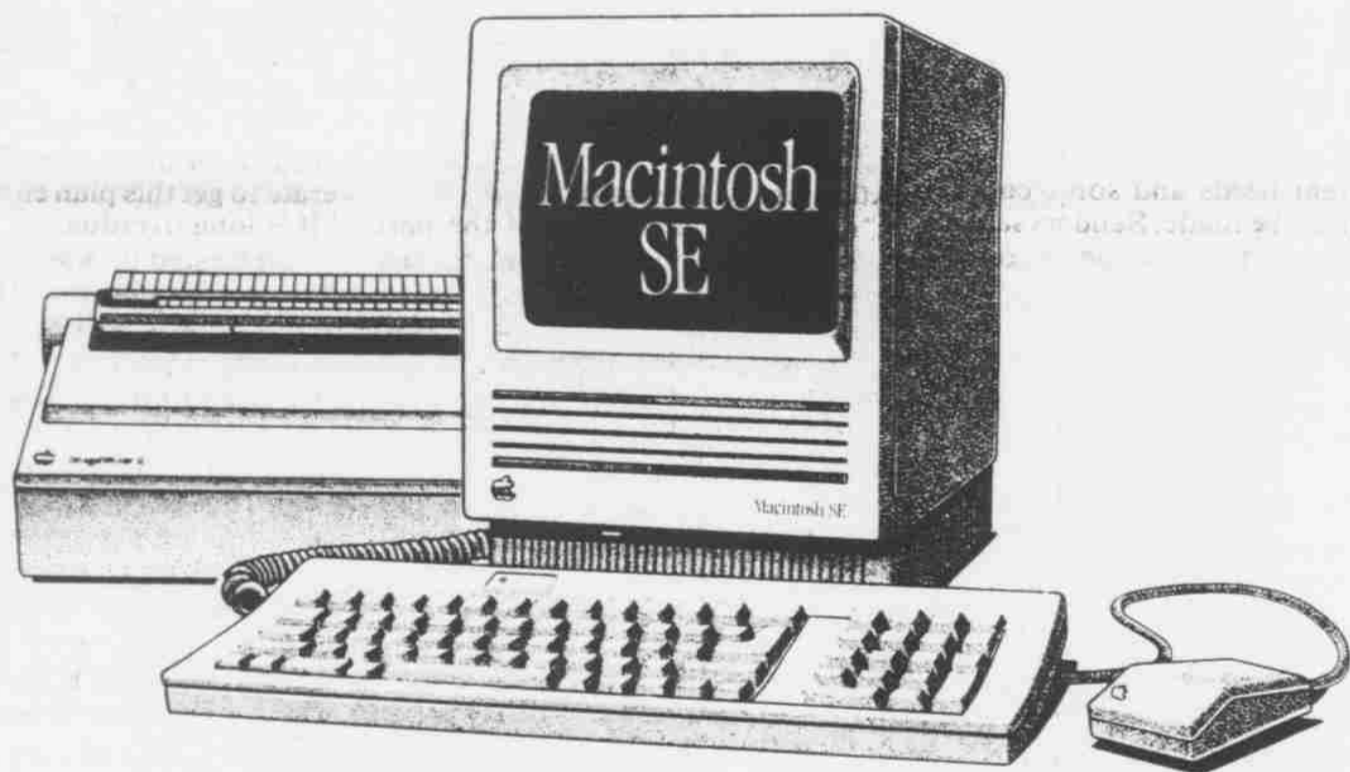


Not under the arm and over the abdomen. It could cause injuries. Over the shoulder and across the chest is the correct position.

Source: AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety Seat Belt Comic Book



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nine regulars. Roddenberry revealed that one character will be killed off soon. "We may have had a few more than we needed; with one leaving, it may help."

The two episodes that were shown were "The Naked Time" from 1966 and "The Naked Now" from 1987. The two had nearly identical plot-lines, centering on a disease that was transmitted by touch and acted on the system like alcohol, causing underlying emotions and personality traits to surface. In the separate episodes, William Shatner as Capt. Kirk bemoaned his marriage to the first USS Enterprise, and Patrick Stewart as Capt. Jean-Luc Picard of the fourth USS Enterprise chased after the ship's doctor.

When the audience questioned Roddenberry about the similarities, he responded, "We wanted to delineate the character very much," adding that the plot was one that could both introduce and characterize the new cast and also establish ties to the old series.

Worf, one of the new regulars, is a Klingon, which even the mildest of Trekkies recognizes as an enemy to the Federation. "I was unhappy with the Klingons and how they were presented," Roddenberry said. "It was like 'Why do they do what they do? Because they're evil.' I cannot believe that humanity is divided up like that, between good and evil."

He also promised that Vulcans and Romulans would appear in the

second season of the new series.

Another interesting character is Data, a superhuman robot programmed to be a helmsman, among other things. Comparisons cannot help but be drawn between Data and Mr. Spock. "Data is based on Pinocchio, who wanted to be human more than anything," Roddenberry said.

The series recently won the George Foster Peabody Award for excellence in television, and Roddenberry was justly proud. "You have to have done something significant."

Roddenberry genuinely enjoys making the series: "I never enjoyed working 12 hours a day to a script as I do now. I think it's going to be a long series."

Alternative to the Pill?

IUD may regain popularity with younger women

By **SUSAN SHINN**
Staff Writer

The majority of UNC women students choose the Pill as their method of birth control, but the Intra-Uterine Device (IUD) may still be a viable choice even though it has had its problems.

Some college-aged women patients do use IUDs, according to Student Health Service representatives. About 7 percent of all contraceptive users are IUD users, making it the fifth most popular method. The device is a small plastic object, sometimes containing copper or a hormone, which is inserted into the uterus to prevent pregnancy. No one is exactly sure how the device works, but it is 95 percent effective.

But IUDs cause side-effects that may prevent some women from choosing this form of birth control. Less serious effects include increased cramping and menstrual flow. More dangerous is a woman is at three to five times greater risk of developing a pelvic infection, which can lead to sterility.

With each pelvic infection, the risk of sterility increases about 20 percent, said Dr. John Thorpe, an

OB-GYN at North Carolina Memorial Hospital.

All of these factors make the IUD "not all it's cracked up to be," Thorpe said. Because of these risks, the device is not in great demand by college-aged women. The typical IUD user is a woman in her 30s, who has completed her family and is in a stable, monogamous relationship.

Women must consider another issue when deciding upon an IUD; the device is an abortifacient, which means that conception occurs, but fails to implant. This concept is unacceptable to some women, Thorpe said.

IUDs have been used and studied for more than 20 years, but much controversy has arisen since 1983. That year, as a result of pressure from the National Women's Health Network, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued a warning that women using the Dalkon Shield IUD should have it removed immediately. The problem was in its design. The device had a nylon string which deteriorated easily, causing bacteria to travel into the uterus and create infection.

By December 1983, A.H. Robbins, the manufacturer of the Dalkon Shield, had paid \$130 million in about 5,100 claims, with approximately 3,300 claims pending from women injured by that device.

Since that year, two manufacturers, Ortho and Searle, withdrew their IUDs, not because of FDA pressure, but for economic reasons. They decided that the financial risks overrode the profit possibilities.

The two types of IUDs now available, Progestasert and TCU380A, are not "new and improved" or any more popular, Thorpe said. They are harder to obtain because fewer are being made, he said. IUDs cost about \$150, and should be replaced about every three years, he said.

With the production of the TCU380A IUD will come a surge of articles about the device, Thorpe said. "But don't be taken in by them trying to sell their product."

Thorpe says he urges patients to look at all sides of every birth control method before making a choice. The IUD is not "the beginning and end of contraception," he said. "It works, but it has its price."

Campus Calendar

The DTH Campus Calendar is a daily listing of University-related activities sponsored by academic departments, student services and student organizations officially recognized by the Division of Student Affairs. To appear in Campus Calendar, announcements must be submitted on the Campus Calendar form by NOON one business day before the announcement is to run. Saturday and Sunday events are printed in Friday's calendar and must be submitted on the Wednesday before the announcement is to run. Forms and a drop box are located outside the DTH office, Union 104. Items of interest lists ongoing events from the same campus organizations and follows the same deadline schedule as Campus Calendar. Please use the same form.

Thursday

- 12:30 p.m. The Institute of Latin American Studies** presents Eugenio Suarez-Galban, visiting professor from the Madrid Center for International Studies, speaking on "La Autobiografia en Cuba" (in Spanish) in Room 210 Union.
- 3 p.m. Physical Education 41 and The Wellness Resource Center** are sponsoring a 5 km Fun Run. Sign up in the Pit. Free refreshments and prizes will be given.
- 5 p.m. The Association of International Students** will meet in Room 211 Union. Officer elections will be held.
- 6 p.m. Industrial Relations Seminars** present Richard Freeman of Harvard University, speaking on "Are Unions Extinct in America?" in Room 211

Gardner Hall.

The Presbyterian Campus Ministry will hold its undergraduate dinner at the Student Center, 110 Henderson St.

The UNC Investments Club will hold its last meeting of the semester in T-7 Carroll. Charles Marin of Baird Securities will speak. Free food.

Campus Crusade for Christ will hold its weekly meeting in Room 205-206 Union. "Cults: A Critical But Compassionate Analysis" will be the topic of the meeting. Everyone welcome!

The Campus Y Prison and Justice Project and the **NCCLJ Criminal and Justice Program** present Joseph B. Ingle, 1988 Nobel Peace Prize Nominee, speaking on "Inhumane Punishment" in the Hanes Art Center.

The Freshmen Class Committee invites everyone to its annual Talent Show in Room 209 Manning Hall. Come and have a great time!

The UNC Outing Club will meet in the Union.

7:30 p.m. The Foreign Policy and Security Club presents professor Carlos Portales speaking on "U.S. Interests in Central America" in the Union's South Gallery Meeting Room.

The Carolina Asso-

tion For Palestinian Human Rights is sponsoring a panel discussion, "The Palestinian Uprising" with Hatem Hussaini, Hilda Silverman, Tomis Kapitan and Wesley Brown.

Open discussion will follow in Room 111 Murphy.

The Carolina Comic Book Club will hold its last meeting of the semester in the Union. All members should attend.

8 p.m. The Department of History presents the John Snell Memorial Lecture in Toy Lounge of Dey Hall. Professor Henry A. Turner will speak on "Hitler: A Man Who Changed the World."

The UNC Clef Hangars presents "Words and Music By Howie Holloway" — an original musical comedy by Chapel Hill resident Dave Bates — in Playmakers Theatre, Cameron Avenue. Admission is \$5, \$4 for Playmakers Partners.

The Program for the Arts and Humanities presents the film "The Beggar's Opera" with Laurence Olivier in the Carolina Union Film Auditorium. Free Admission.

Department of Radio, Television and Motion Pictures is sponsoring the 1988 Spooner Award for film making with St. Anthony Hall. The submission deadline for competition in this event is April 22. The competition is a jury showing. Guidelines are posted in the Union and RTVMP.

The Campus Y is helping UNICEF collect donations in the Pit. Come by and support UNICEF!

RACIAL, the student race-relations group, will sponsor a student leaders' forum concerning campus racial issues. The forum will be in the Pit from 7-9 p.m.

The Carolina Union Cabaret performance of the "Transactors" which was scheduled for Saturday night, April 16, has been cancelled due to an emergency with the cast.

The Program for the Arts and Humanities presents four internationally known speakers discussing "Art, Politics, and History: Aspects of 'The Beggar's Opera'". Saturday, April 15, 10-4 p.m., in Hanes Art Center Auditorium. Free Admission.

Items of Interest

Student Part-Time Employment Service will host the Employment Securities Commis-