Leonard Nimoy is back in Star Trek V

sort of like "Fantastic Voyage."

like "Three Men and a Baby"?

Q. The two "Star Trek" films you

directed were buge box-office hits.

How did they ever let you direct a

completely different kind of movie

Trek" movies made so much money

was that they had a lot of humor. And,

obviously, "Three Men and a Baby"

was also a comedy. After "Star Trek

IV," I was offered a lot of comedies.

Plus, I had worked with the same stu-

dio executives on all three films. They

knew my work, and we had a good

Mother" failed with the critics and

tasteful on a controversial subject. I

thought it would attract good actors. I

think (the star) Diane Keaton would

have been a serious contender for

awards if her character had ended up

more heroic. Anyway, the film did

well in video because, I believe, the

audience feels more comfortable

watching the subject matter in the

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the movie-going public?

privacy of their homes.

"Three Men and a Baby"?

Q. Why do you think "The Good

A. The script was sensitive and

relationship.

A. One of the reasons my "Star

STAR SPEAK



Leonard Nimoy returns as the stoical Mr. Spock in "Star Trek V: The Final Frontier."

After directing and starring in the two previous "Star Trek" films, Nimoy has relinquished part of the workload. His friend and co-star, William Shatner, directed the fifth bigscreen adventure of the Starship Enterprise.

Although Nimoy is best known onscreen as Mr. Spock, the Boston-born actor has found steady work behind the camera as well. In addition to two "Star Trek" films, Nimoy also directed "Three Men and a Baby," the 1987 box-office hit; and "The Good Mother," which starred Diane Keaton in a about alleged drama child molestation.

Unlike some members of the "Star Trek" cast, Nimoy has enjoyed a successful career apart from the voyages of the Starship Enterprise.

After the original TV series finished production in 1969, Nimoy spent two years playing a crime-fighting genius on "Mission: Impossible." He toured in a one-man show about the life of Vincent Van Gogh, which was later televised. And he has appeared in the TV miniseries "Marco Polo"; and "A Woman Called Golda," as Golda Meir's husband.

Q. Since you directed the previous "Star Trek" and Shatner directed this one, was there any rivalry on the set between the two of you?

A. None at all. We've been great friends since the TV series. Directing is such a technical exercise, there's no time for rivalry. You're so worried about setting up the next shot or getting the take before you lose the light, egos just don't have a chance to come into play.



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Q. How would you compare your directing style to Shatner's?

A. I think Bill said it best: "The difference between a Nimoy film and a Shatner film is that Shatner's have a lot more running and jumping." He's much more physical. I'm much more cerebral. I'll duck a fight scene any way I can. During the TV series, whenever there was a way to let him do a fight scene, instead of me, I'd let



Leonard Nimoy

Q. I read that your reluctance to "get physical" led to the famous Vulcan nerve pinch.

A. Right. The script said I was supposed to hit the villain with the butt of a gun. I said, "Why don't I just pinch his neck instead?" From then on, whenever I had to incapacitate somebody, instead of getting all sweaty and bruised, all I did was apply a little pressure to the back of his neck. I think we could end world violence with the Vulcan nerve pinch (laughs).

Q. What's your next project?

A. I'm directing footage for a ride at the new MGM/Disney amusement park in Orlando, Fla. It's called "Body Wars." We tell the audience they've been miniaturized and take them through a tour of the human body. It's

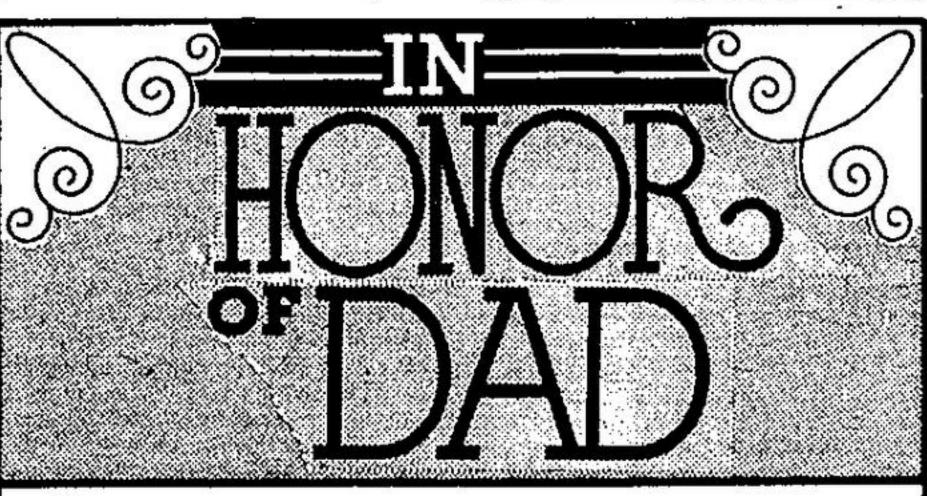


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'I'll keep making "Star Trek" movies as long as they want me.'

— Leonard Nimoy

would be interesting for the audience to see them grow.

Q. Any chance you will direct "Star Trek VI"?

A. I love directing. I love acting. But I don't want to have to do both again at the same time. It's exhausting. I'll keep making "Star Trek" movies as long as they want me, but I won't act and direct them at the same time.

Q. Has Mr. Spock typecast you as an actor?

A. Well, most of the work I get offered is as a director. The acting jobs I'm offered I really don't want. I got an offer to play a French Foreign Legionaire and a movie based on "The Pit and the Pendulum." I said "no, thank you" to both.

Q. What's your favorite episode of the old "Star Trek" TV series?

A. I liked "Amok Time." "The Trouble With Tribbles" was a lot of fun. "This Side of Paradise" — Spock fell in love. "City on the Edge of Forever" with Joan Collins. And the pilot, "The Menagerie," was really good TV science fiction.

Q. Did you ever think there would be five "Star Trek" movies?

A. I thought each film was the last. After the first one, I was sure there wouldn't be any others because nobody liked it. I was also concerned that they'd make them cheaper and cheaper, and run it into the ground, like they did with "Planet of the Apes." Each one of those got tackier and tackier.





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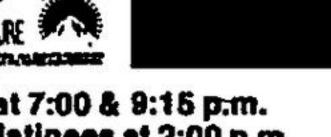
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