Trek creator draws fans

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enormous success of the 70's...series to the creativity of the show. "The show must have believability. Characters have to be properly motivated, or the audience won't believe them. A monster can't go around killing people simply because he's a monster," Roddenberry emphasized that, although script quality is more important than anything, the show must sometimes exceed the limits of believability and technology if the show is to retain the 18 million viewers necessary to stay profitable.

The series was finally canceled, because of bad scheduling, Roddenberry explained. "The time slot killed us," he asserted bluntly. "Star Trek was scheduled for Friday nights, when our young audience was either out on dates, at a basketball game, or some other place away from a television set.

The Star Trek creator took time to thank those MIT students who went down to network offices in the Rockefeller Center in New York to protest the cancellation of the show during its second season. "I don't know how they did it," he said with a smile, "but some MIT students got into the security-tight executive parking garage, and put 'Save Star Trek' bumper stickers on all the executive cars.

The Star Trek series was slow-moving in its early days before it received popular acceptance. Roddenberry noted there were questions over casting, he said, and Lloyd Bridges was considered for the part of Captain Kirk. "Our original cast," Roddenberry explained, "consisted of 30% females, but the networks didn't like that. They figured if we were going to have a woman, she must be some 'banky-panky' going on, so we finally agreed on 30% females.

Also, the pilot film caused a woman in the second in command (which the networks didn't like either) so we was eliminated, and Mr. Spock moved up from his number-three position.

Before closing his lecture and showing the old pilot film, Roddenberry voiced his optimism for mankind and technology in the future. "The future is going to depend on the power and influence of television in modern society, he hoped that someday, "every human will have total and immediate access to all knowledge known to him in humanity." He also predicted that small electronic devices would one day be installed in the body to increase man's functional capabilities.

The MIT Campus Players present

Planners aim for 'personal' R/O

By Jeanne Brady

Freshmen feel Residence Orientation Week was too mechanized and desire more personal contact according to a questionnaire distributed by last year's R/O Committee.

Establishing more personal contact between freshmen and upperclassmen is one of the major facets of planning for R/O Week '76.

New R/O Coordinator Allan Mink '79 told The Tech that small groups of freshmen will be assigned to volunteer dormitory residents who will introduce themselves to the new students they are to help, hold informal meetings when convenient, and be available to answer questions.

Mink said that the effort is aimed at providing freshmen with support during an important work in their lives. In his proposal for R/O Week, Mink wrote, "R/O's theme for the past years has been one of intellectual decision making. In other words, instigate the individual with facts and let him form his ideas from them. This theme is not wrong. However, it must be supported with a means for the new student to adjust emotionally to the new environment."

"R/O's theme for the past years has been one of intellectual decision making," Roddenberry said, "will be interviewing here for engineering opportunities. Motorola Communications Group, the industry leader in mobile, personal, and RF digital communications, is hiring engineers to design tomorrow's communication systems.

These systems will use digital techniques, computers, and microprocessors combined with RF circuits to provide communications capabilities unheard of today. Motorola knows—our engineers are busy working on them.

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Motorola will be interviewing here

February 25, 1976

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