

# Star Trek's 'Mr. Scott' materializes in Gym



James Doohan, perhaps better known as Chief Engineer Scott of the USS Enterprise, is delighted with the opportunities he's had the last few years to bring Star Trek to fans at colleges and universities throughout the country.

"I won't do game shows or TV commercials because I don't need the money," said Doohan. I told my manager to get me something where I can get out and meet people. I'm delighted with all the people I meet at colleges and I'm delighted because I have a ball doing this sort of thing."

He also enjoyed his role on Star Trek as the intrepid Scotsman who kept his cool in the face of danger and held on until the captain could return to handle the situation.

His love for the Starship Enterprise and especially her engines and internal mechanisms is legendary as are his warnings that, "She'll noo hold warp 10 foor loong, Capn." "The dilithium crystals will n'er stand the strain."

"When the show was only about six weeks old I sat down and wrote out how everything on the Enterprise worked, the transporter system, the engines, everything," said Doohan. "Later I showed my ideas to a bunch of scientists who worked with things like jet propulsion and they all accepted my ideas 'it could very well work like that,' they said."

Unlike Leonard Nimoy, who played Science Officer Spock on the TV series, Doohan feels that he has not been harmed by the stereotyping that goes along with being a major figure on a popular show.

"It bothers me in some ways," he said, "but face it, if it wasn't for Star Trek I wouldn't be so well-known. I've had several jobs that I got because of Star Trek even though I didn't play a Scotsman."

He also explained the presence of several dialects and ethnic characteristics on a show

that supposedly takes place hundreds of years into the future, far removed from the days of national boundaries.

"My theory is that in 300 years everyone will talk the same," said Doohan, "and they'll be so bored with listening to each other that they'll go back and learn how to talk like their ancestors did."

Doohan himself is a master of dialects and did most of the voices for the animated version of Star Trek that appeared a couple of years ago.

"I've been interested in dialects since I was a small boy," he said. "In fact I remember once when I was about 10 and my father turned to my mother and wanted to know where an Irish-Canadian learned to talk with a Cockney accent. I guess I picked it up from some television show."

Doohan will be back on Star Trek this fall when the series returns to television. Shooting is scheduled to begin Nov. 15, with completely revamped sets and many of the familiar characters returning.

"William Shatner (who played Captain Kirk) has already signed his contract, as have I. Lieutenant Sulu will return as Chief of Security. It is still rather up in the air as to whether Leonard (Nimoy) will return," Doohan said.

"We had no idea it (Star Trek) would evolve into what it has evolved into but there's no doubt that when we were working on it we knew it was a fantastic show," he said. "After six shows people would have the next script and the next one after that and we would look at them and say, "Wow, another good script."

"Only about one per cent of our work is satisfying and Star Trek certainly was. Even if you were playing a character that wasn't satisfying, it was good to be working with quality material."

One final note: "Scotty" does like his Scotch.

## Day with 'Scotty'

Brown  
Print  
crowd saw him as Mr. Scott from  
I was lucky enough to meet him  
Doohan, the actor who played Mr.

ation is warm, friendly and immediately  
eases. My respectful "Mr. Doohan"  
changed to Jimmy.

requently answered my questions of  
Will the movie of Star Trek come  
Will the Enterprise be updated on  
and "When will the series be  
Later he answered the same ques-  
reporters.

Roberts, Director of Student Activi-  
St. Mary, Publicity Director of  
Government; and I took Doohan to  
at the Edgewater Inn. Dinner con-  
included horses, dogs and children.  
accents were performed for us—gay  
man, a Russian, and of course, the  
Scotty accent from Star Trek.

There is no accent I can't do as long as I  
hear it. But I have to like the accent be-  
cause I can do it," Doohan said.

11 years experience in the business  
before the performance. Waiting  
in the Harold Daniels room, I nervously  
thought about standing on stage to intro-  
duce him. He was calmly sitting in a chair  
and he enjoyed the audience, and  
I walked away with the question and an-  
swer period because of the response of the  
audience.

After the show a group of CCC people  
took Doohan to Magellan's, a nightclub  
in downtown  
Chicago.

Doohan had his favorite drink, Scotch and  
I bought everyone two rounds of  
scotch on his Bank Americard. Showing a  
picture of his newest  
pride, he got a picture of his newest  
son out of his wallet, 13-month old Eric.  
After 1:30 a.m., Doohan enjoyed  
the party at Magellan's. He said he would  
spend some time touring the North-  
west on his Vogue motorhome.

Doohan won't remember Saturday,  
Oct. 15, as anything more than another per-  
formance, but it will be remembered as a  
great day for many.



"Scotty" walks among the crowd in Randall Gym on Oct. 15. photos by Lorraine Stratton

