

THE WRIGHT STUFF



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THE WRIGHT STUFF

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IMAGE - Featured Front Page
Launch of *Freedom 7* on May 5, 1961. Image from NASA image library grin.nasa.gov.

A View From the Catbird Seat

By J.R. Fisher



Spring is upon us and we have had our first cookout. Along with our hotdogs we were entertained by the Pischke brothers. Altogether a fine time had by all.

On the other side, our spring events we usually participate in are not going to occur. Galaxy Fest at the Planetarium in Chapel Hill was dropped because of funding difficulties. The Duke radiothon we were signed up for has moved to September. Check with Amy if you can still participate. It would be right after our September meeting, so we could just drive over to the hospital when we finish here.

Another spring has passed without us going to Charleston, but the fall R-1 conference is in Charleston so maybe we will make it before the year is out. The IC

2003 is in Greensboro this summer and I hope some of you will be interested in going as well as helping out.

This newsletter is early this month because John is moving and needs to disassemble his hardware. I'm sure that the next edition will be on time in July. *[Editor's note: the July issue will be done on a normal schedule.]*

July is also Shore Leave in Hunt Valley, Maryland and surely some of us will make it this year. August is the month we don't meet but also the month for Dragon Con. Maybe a few of us can catch it. Slanted Fedora is reportedly coming to Durham for a one-day con in the fall.

It is already May, and I am still having to remind many of you that your annual ship's dues are due. For full membership it is \$24.00 per year and for newsletter/associate dues, it is \$12.00 per year. Also to remind you that you must

maintain your membership in STARFLEET. If you are not sure when your STARFLEET dues are due, go online and check when your membership expires.

Anyway, it is almost summer with a lot of good movies coming out so I hope we can see some of them together. But whatever you do, please be safe.

Last minute info: UNC-TV just called. They said that they had lost four days of festival because of broadcast scheduled coverage of the Iraq war. Therefore, they were going to make it up with a four-day mini-festival in June on the 4, 5, 7, and 8. Can we help? I will call and say yes to Saturday the 7th in the evening. How many of you will volunteer? We could go after the meeting that afternoon.

Esse Quam Videri

Engineering Report

By Brad McDonald

Another month, another report! Oh boy! This has been a busy month for my family as I finally got the approval for our latest (and last?) home improvement project. With the exception of a few minor items here and there, we will end the "never ending story" with a new kitchen. The cabinets were ordered Saturday, March 29, and will be here Friday, May 9. In between those two dates the wiring, plumbing, insulation, drywall, floor, trim, and just about everything else has to be redone. So far, I'm ahead of schedule. (Knock on wood!) Mr. Murphy has been in my back pocket the whole way, and we're a bit over budget, but it's coming along nicely. Problem is, the more I do, the more I find that needs to be done. J.R. stopped by for a visit and was promptly overwhelmed by dust, noise, mess, and confusion. (That's why his visit didn't last too long.) Maybe we can have a meeting over here as a house warming once it's all done. Right now I'm under the gun, as the work has to be finished before we go on vacation. Oh well, who needs sleep? (Time to engage warp drive, engineer!)

Elsewhere in the world, things in Iraq are winding down and our namesake

ship, the *U.S.S. Kitty Hawk* is leaving the Persian Gulf and heading to home to home port for a bit of R & R. I've been trying to communicate with someone about their possible attendance at the Bicentennial of Flight. Who knows, it might happen. Also, the state seems to be finding all sorts of resources for the Bicentennial and so it should be a big event after all.

In the world of video and film there are some pleasant surprises in the form of DVDs. *Who Framed Roger Rabbit?* is out, as well as the second *Harry Potter* film. While I'm writing this, I'm watching Roger and it's a real treat with loads of extras. In a curious packaging decision, they released it in both wide screen and full screen versions in the same package. This summer is going to be gangbusters for Sci-Fi fans. *X2: X-Men United* is already in the theaters and will be followed by *The Matrix Reloaded*, *The Hulk*, *Terminator 3*, *Lara Croft: Tomb Raider 2*, and *The League*. A brief word about the last entry. If you're not familiar with *The League*, it centers on famous characters in print and puts them together as sort of a Justice League of Literature. So you get the Invisible Man, Captain

Nemo, Allan Quartermain, Dorian Gray, Dr. Jekyll and others helping to defend the British Empire! Sounds great!

Elsewhere in this newsletter, is the latest installment of my "Paramount Rejects." Please read it and let me know what you think. So far, feedback has been limited, so the series may end. In any case, long live and prosper!

Comp Ops Report

By John Troan

My report will be shorter than normal this issue. I've closed on the new townhouse and have been busy getting it ready for my needs -- especially a properly-outfitted computer room.

This month's feature photo is the first American space flight, launching on May 5, 1961. Alan Shepard's flight lasted only fifteen and a half minutes, putting him down in the Atlantic Ocean just over 300 statute miles from Cape Canaveral.

Turning to current *Trek* events, the *TV Guide* issue for May 10-16 has an article on the turn *Enterprise* is going to take in the season finale and into at least part of next season. Also, the DVD release of *Nemesis* is May 20.

Deep Space Nine - "Long Road Home"

By Brad McDonald

This is the final part of *Long Road Home*. Brad's introduction, the teaser, and the first three acts were in the January and March issues.

(continued from last issue)

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. DEEP SPACE NINE -ODO'S DUTY OFFICE

ODO is busy at his duty desk, when Quark makes a noisy appearance. QUARK is very agitated and animated.

QUARK

Odo! You have to do something about the Romulans!

ODO

We're watching them. So far, all they are guilty of is celebrating. Besides, there's only a few of them and they're not in the best of shape.

QUARK

But nobody will enter my bar while they are there! They're obnoxious!

ODO

Then you should feel at home, Quark. Besides, Captain Sisko wants them somewhere other than their ship.

Quark is about to launch into another protest when Odo cuts him off. In order to get rid of the irritation, Odo gives Quark a bit of hope.

ODO

(continuing)

If it's any consolation, a Romulan ship is on the way to remove our guests. They are a problem for Captain Sisko as well.

Quark is not happy with the arrangement.

QUARK

By then I could be ruined!

ODO

What a shame.

Exasperated, Quark leaves, Odo watches, amused.

EXT. SPACE -DEEP SPACE NINE AND RELIC SHIP (OPTICAL)

The old Romulan ship remains docked to the station.

INT. DEEP SPACE NINE - SISKO'S OFFICE

Sisko is at his desk with Targ and Kordek seated opposite. Sisko is in the process of greeting them.

SISKO

Welcome, Targ, Lieutenant Kordek. Kordek, your journey is fascinating, I would very much like to discuss your adventure.

KORDEK

It would give me great pleasure to do so, Captain. But for now, we are here to discuss another matter.

Sisko prepares himself and leans forward, continuing his friendly manner.

SISKO

Indeed? What can I do for you?

TARG

We wish to officially notify Starfleet of our claim on the Firestorm.

SISKO

You personally or the Empire?

TARG

The Empire! Kanar, senior council member, makes the claim. He is en route. Will you

Science Report

By Elaine Pischke

The SETI@home program, which has been running now for about 3 years, recently announced that they have identified hundreds of radio signals that might have come from extraterrestrial civilizations. They will be taking a closer look at about 150 of the most promising ones over the next few months. They warn that it is still highly likely that all of these will prove to be false alarms, however. They estimate the chances that any of these are really signals from alien civilizations at about 1 in 10,000.

Everyone who has ever had a plant wither and die from lack of water or too much fertilizer knows that plants are sensitive to their environments. Scientists are now trying to use that fact to make changes in fields as diverse as agriculture and the art of warfare. Plants respond to chemicals, hormones, microbes and

insects, among other things. By painstakingly mapping certain plants' response to various agents, it may one day soon be possible to strategically locate specific plants, then 'scan' them to detect the presence of specific agents. For example, plants sensitive to pesticides would be planted in fields where sensors attached to farm equipment could determine if more or less pesticide was needed in an area. On the battlefield, plants could be scanned for the presence of biological or chemical weapons. Plants could be located around any building that could be a target for bioterrorists. These plants could be regularly scanned as an early warning sign - a more sophisticated version of the canary in a coal mine. Plants could also be made to detect landmines in the soil. The possibilities are endless.

This May and June, two Mars Exploration Rovers are scheduled to take off on a Delta II rocket. These rovers weigh about 400 lbs. each and are the size of golf carts. They will travel at a zippy 100 yards per day, and will be collecting and analyzing soil samples.

And finally, in space news, Europe's first mission to the Moon is scheduled to launch in July, provided the Smart 1 rocket is ready to launch. The original launch date set for March was pushed back due the loss of an Arianespace rocket over the Atlantic in December. The Smart 1's mission is to test new technologies designed to engage in planetary exploration. Information will be gathered which will help confirm theories about the formation of the Moon. If successful, the technology will be used in a mission to Mercury later this decade.

accept the claim as Starfleet's representative?

ON SISKO

Sisko feels a bit trapped, Kanar's presence changes the situation. He becomes more forceful.

SISKO

I can forward the claim to Starfleet Command, but I'm not in a position to make such a decision.

KORDEK'S VOICE

(o.c., agitated)

You refuse our claim?!

SISKO

Not at all, it's just beyond my scope of duty. I will forward the claim --

TWO SHOT -KARG AND KORDEK

TARG

(interrupting)

Never mind. When Kanar arrives, he can decide what is best! Meanwhile, what progress have your people made with repairs?

SISKO'S VOICE

(o.c.)

Slow going I'm afraid.

KORDEK

Will it be ready by tomorrow?

ON SISKO

Sisko sees where the conversation is headed and changes its direction.

SISKO

Difficult to say, but perhaps we should concentrate on making arrangements for Kanar's arrival.

Targ is pulled in by the diversion, easily.

TARG'S VOICE

(o.c.)

Such as?

SISKO

Security arrangements, considering he's senior council member.

KORDEK'S VOICE

(o.c., excited)

Kanar will have his own people!

Sisko continues on Kordek's train of thought.

SISKO

Then I suggest we conduct business on Kanar's ship.

SISKO'S OFFICE - WIDE ANGLE

TARG

I look forward to it.

Targ rises to leave and Kordek follows suit.

TARG

(continuing)

Until Kanar arrives then.

The Klingon's exit quickly, leaving a very bewildered Sisko behind. He taps his comm badge.

SISKO

Major Kira, Commander Worf, report to my office.

KIRA'S VOICE

On my way!

WORF'S VOICE

Understood.

In the few beats it takes for them to arrive, Sisko stands and begins to pace nervously. Kira and Worf enter at a clip.

KIRA

What did the Klingons want?

SISKO

(pacing)

Before I tell you what they wanted, you tell me what you wanted. You were about to tell me something before they 'demanded' to see me...

Kira becomes uncomfortable.

KIRA

General Nevik has asked me to get the data from the old ship's computers, authorized or not.

Sisko is visibly affected by the revelation.

KIRA

(continuing)

I think Nevik would prefer that no one else gets the information. The plot thickens...

WORF

How's that?

THREE SHOT -KIRA, SISKO AND WORF

SISKO

(pacing)

Starfleet Command wants it, the Klingons want it and now Bajor wants it too!

Worf is surprised by Sisko's revelation about Starfleet, his assistance to the Klingons may now interfere with Starfleet orders.

WORF

This complicates the situation, considerably.

SISKO

(pacing)

I've told Odo to increase security.

(to Kira)

See if you can use your influence on Bajor to provide additional security forces, we may need them.

(to Worf)

I can use your help with the Klingons.

KIRA

Yes Sir! And I may achieve a breakthrough on the relic's computer.

Worf looks as if he wants to say something, but is interrupted by Sisko's comm badge.

ENDICOTT'S VOICE

Incoming communication, Sir. Audio only, Starfleet Command.

Sisko looks at Kira and Worf and rolls his eyes.

SISKO

Put it through, Ensign.

ENDICOTT'S VOICE

Aye, Sir.

NECHAYEV'S VOICE

Captain Sisko. I have new orders for you. This is straight from Federation Council. As of this moment, seize the Romulan ship in the name of the Federation. Until the issue of rightful ownership can be determined, it's ours.

Sisko is horrified. Temporarily forgetting rank, he speaks his mind.

SISKO

You can't be serious.

Nechayev ignores the breach in protocol and explains.

NECHAYEV'S VOICE

The Klingon and Romulan Empires have both placed a claim on it. Our action will ensure a fair arbitration.

Sisko can see through the plan and responds accordingly.

SISKO
And nothing more?
Nechayev now becomes very firm.
NECHAYEV'S VOICE
All Starfleet wants is an impartial judgement. You have your orders. Nechayev, out!
Sisko throws his hand up in frustration. He suddenly notices another person standing in the doorway, Quark!

SISKO'S OFFICE -WIDE ANGLE
Sisko is not happy with Quark's appearance.

SISKO
What do you want?
QUARK
Well, I was having trouble with the Romulans, since Odo wouldn't help...
Sisko is losing his patience, rapidly.

SISKO
Not now Quark! I'm up to my neck in problems and right now yours are not a priority! Now, go! And next time, knock!
Quark looks to Kira and Worf for sympathy, seeing none he leaves before suffering another 'attack' by Sisko.

THREE SHOT -KIRA, SISKO AND WORF

KIRA
What is Starfleet thinking? This could lead to an open conflict.
Sisko is openly disgusted by the turn of events.

SISKO
It's easy, Major. If the issue goes into arbitration, we'll have time to repair the computers and extract the information. After that...

Now Kira understands
KIRA
Pretty obvious after all.
(beat)
So what do we do?

SISKO
(to Kira)
First, get those extra personnel, then finish with that computer.
(to Worf)
Worf, help Odo to isolate the Romulans. Use any excuse you can. Then, we play at as it goes.

Kira exits, but Worf remains. He is uneasy

WORF
Perhaps we could let the Klingons have their ship. It would solve a lot of problems.
Sisko is very surprised by Worf's suggestion and 'chews him out'.

SISKO
Mister Worf, we're both operating under Starfleet orders, understood?!

WORF
Understood, but the Romulans are not worth the effort. We should let the Romulans and Klingons settle the matter and stay out of it.

Sisko studies Worf carefully. He is about to continue the 'dressing out' when he decides against it.

SISKO
This is not the time or place to settle personal scores. Dismissed!

INT. RELIC SHIP -BRIDGE
The bridge is deserted except for Kira, who is working hard. Weary, each setback is a major irritation.

KIRA
(to self, working)
Come on! You should have been inside this old computer by now!
O'Brien enters in the B.G. and observes quietly.

KIRA
Damn!
O'BRIEN
That's not very lady-like.

Startled, Kira turns to face O'Brien.
KIRA
Miles! How long have you been there?

O'Brien moves closer to his friend, Kira returns her attention to the computer.

TWO SHOT - KIRA AND O'BRIEN
O'BRIEN
Not long, but I could sense your frustration all the way down in engineering.

KIRA
Just when I think I'm getting closer, wham! Another setback!
O'Brien looks over her shoulder, interested in the work

O'BRIEN
Tried stepped power applications?
KIRA
(working)
Yes. Cascaded too, same results. I'm beginning to think we'll never retrieve the information.

O'BRIEN
If that's the case, let's get lunch.
Kira checks her chrono and smiles.

KIRA
Miles, It's sixteen hundred hours Care to make it dinner?
O'BRIEN
(mock surprise)
No wonder I'm so hungry!

KIRA
And grumpy.
Kira stands and the two head for the bridge exit.

O'BRIEN
(moving)
I sent the rest of the repair crews to take a break. I figured we could all use a rest --

Suddenly, there's a loud mechanical sound on board. The pair stop in their tracks and look at each other.

KIRA
What was that?
O'BRIEN
It sounded like the docking clamps.

Kira taps her comm badge.
KIRA
Kira to Ops... Kira to Odo...
The two look at each other in shock.

CUT TO:
INT. DEEP SPACE NINE - OPS - WIDE ANGLE

Worf is at his station when an alarm sounds. His face registers surprise, then he taps his comm badge.

WORF
Sisko to Ops, on the double.
(to Endicott)
Go to red alert, power up weapons!

ENDICOTT
Aye, Sir!
Sisko enters in a hurry, stopping at Worf's position.

TWO SHOT - WORF AND SSKO

Lighting has changed to reflect the alert status and there is increased activity in Ops.

SISKO

What's wrong, Commander?

WORF

Someone's taking the Romulan ship! They're free and moving on thrusters.

ENDICOTT'S VOICE

(o.c.)

All weapons on line, Sir.

Preoccupied, Sisko does not notice Odo enter ops.

SISKO

Are the repair crews still aboard?

WORF

Unknown, they're supposed to be on a break...

SISKO

Put a tractor beam on them. Hold --

Odo steps forward and interrupts Sisko.

ODO

Not advisable, Sir. Chief O'Brien reported damage from the last time we used it, it might break up...

WORF

Captain, I'm not getting a response from Kira or O'Brien, signals are being jammed on the relic.

The senior officers exchange looks of concern

ODO

If they're not responding, they must still be aboard.

ON SISKO

SISKO

Prepare the Defiant. Maybe we can come up with some ideas on the way.

OPS -WIDE ANGLE

Everyone begins to move to the lift when Endicott calls to Sisko.

ENDICOTT

Captain, I have ships arriving on long range scanners, Romulan!

All of the senior officers exchange looks of dread.

Off their reactions...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE - RELIC SHIP (OPTICAL)

The old ship is traveling at warp speed.

SPACE -THE DEFIANT (OPTICAL)

Defiant is pursuing the relic at warp speed

INT. DEFIANT - BRIDGE

Worf is in the command chair, Endicott and Odo are visible in the B.G. at their duty stations. There is moderate activity on the bridge and remaining duty stations are filled with N.D. crew persons.

SISKO'S VOICE

Mister Worf, I'm trying to resolve this through diplomatic channels, pursue and track the ship. You're in command, I'm counting on your ability to deal with the Klingons. Good luck; Sisko out.

ENDICOTT

Course, oh-nine-five, mark five. Still headed for Klingon space.

WORF

(to Odo)

Have you contacted O'Brien and Kira?

ODO

No, Sir. All signals to that ship are being jammed, but we are receiving a hail.

Worf becomes hopeful.

WORF

From the relic?

ODO

No, Sir. From a Romulan warbird, in pursuit!

WORF

Main viewer.

ANGLE ON MAIN VIEWER (OPTICAL)

The viewer changes from a space warp field to the face of a Romulan, RABOK, he is distrustful an angry.

RABOK

I am Commander Rabok! Explain! We come in peace to claim our ship to return our fellow citizens to their home. Instead, I find our ship is headed for Klingon space!

ON WORF

Worf tries to use a diplomatic manner, but with force.

WORF

Rabok, I am Commander Worf, someone has stolen your ship. Presumably, it was the Klingon officer from the Certryx. As a Klingon, I believe I have a better chance sorting this out, given enough time.

ON RABOK'S IMAGE (OPTICAL)

Rabok is very skeptical and he's not diplomatic.

RABOK

Just how much time should I allow?

ON WORF

He considers his options, then keeps up the pressure

WORF

I'm not sure, but consider this, Kanar is on the way. If he sees you attempting to take the old ship, it could lead to war and since the Federation is allied to the to the Klingon Empire, the Federation would be obligated to assist them.

TWO SHOT - WORF AND RABOK'S IMAGE (OPTICAL)

Rabok thinks a moment, then reluctantly, concedes.

RABOK

Very well, for the time being anyway. I shall pace you at a distance. But if I decide you're not making satisfactory progress...

WORF

Understood. Worf out.

Worf turns to face Odo.

INT- SHOT -WORF AND ODO

WORF

Odo! Open a channel to the relic!

ODO

I'll try, Commander

RELIC SHIP - SERVICE CORRIDOR

O'Brien and Kira are making their way down a service way.

KIRA

How much further, Miles?

Q'Brien consults a tricorder then responds.

O'BRIEN
(reading)

Next junction, just ahead.

The two move a bit further, panel cover and removes it. then O'Brien indicates a panel cover and removes it.

O'BRIEN
(working)

If we interrupt the power here, then they loose warp drive, permanently.

KIRA

As bad as the ship's diagnostics are, it will take a month to isolate any problem.

O'Brien finishes his work. then turns to Kira.

O'BRIEN

Now. the shields!

The two then move further down the service corridor.

INT. DEFIANT BRIDGE - WIDE ANGLE

The crew is going about their business when Endicott becomes excited.

ENDICOTT

Commander! They're dropping out of warp! Now at warp four and slowing.

WORF

Match speed!

ENDICOTT

I can't believe they'd try to fight, they wouldn't stand a chance.

ODO

More likely, they are having technical difficulties.

ON WORF

Worf thinks about the possibility for a beat, then offers an alternative with a knowing smile.

WORF

Or Chief O'Brien and Major Kira are having a bit of fun. If so, the shields will be next.

(to Endicott)

Standby on the transporters, just in case. If you get a fix, don't wait, bring them back.

ENDICOTT'S VOICE

(o.c.)

Understood!

WORF

Odo! Have you established a channel to that ship yet?

BRIDGE - WIDE ANGLE

Odo is obviously frustrated, but still working at it.

ODO

They're refusing our hails.

Worf is angry and does not attempt to hide it.

WORF

Refusal or not, open a channel!

ODO

Aye, Sir.

Odo works the controls, then nods his readiness to Worf, who is waiting impatiently.

WORF

Defiant to Firestorm! Targ! Kordek! Lower your shields and prepare to be boarded!

There is no reply and Worf can't fire on the ship for fear of injuring his friends and loosing the database.

TWO SHOT - ODO AND WORF

ODO

Perhaps we should just let O'Brien work his magic. Eventually he will get the shields down. Then I can beam a security team over and retake the ship.

WORF

I don't like waiting for things to happen. Besides, I'm not sure how long the Romulans will wait.

BRIDGE - AS BEFORE

ENDICOTT

Probably not much longer! I've got incoming ships! Klingon battle cruisers, four of them, at extreme range, closing fast.

Worf is tense, he's sitting on the brink of war.

WORF

Hail them, Odo.

ODO

Yes, Sir!

WORF

(to self)

Caught between a rock and a hard place, again.

ENDICOTT

How's that?

WORF

Just thinking out loud, Ensign.

ODO

Klingon commander on main viewer.

ANGLE ON MAIN VIEWER (OPTICAL)

Kanar's face fills the screen. He is very arrogant and only superficially friendly and contemptuous of Worf.

KANAR

May I be of assistance?

Worf is very firm and decidedly unfriendly.

WORF

Order your people to return the ship they stole! You're in Bajoran space and subject to Federation law. The Romulans may not --

KANAR

(interrupting)

I'm not interested in Romulans --

Worf asserts himself against the Klingon leader cutting him off. There is no love loss between the two. Worf is enjoying putting Kanar on the spot and now runs a bluff to strengthen his position.

WORF

(interrupting)

What about Starfleet? Either the relic stops now or I will be forced to fire on them as common thieves!

Kanar knows the information will be lost forever, he becomes visibly concerned, then brightens to cover.

KANAR

In the interest of 'cooperation', I will contact them.

BRIDGE -WIDE ANGLE

The transmission is terminated and Worf is relieved. The others are admiring his ability to handle [Kanar].

WORF

Evidently my bluff worked. How long before Kanar's ship is in transporter range?

ODO

At warp nine? A matter of minutes

WORF

Obviously in a hurry.

ODO

This could get out of hand quickly.

Endicott becomes excited again and begins to report but Worf picks up on it with dread, as it he already knows what Endicott is about to say.

WORF

The Romulans?

ENDICOTT

No Sir. The shields are down on the relic ship.

WORF

Get them out of there, now!

ODO

I already have them!

NEW ANGLE (OPTICAL)

[Kira] and O'Brien materialize just behind Worf. After transport is complete, the two go to Worf's side.

O'BRIEN

What's our status?

ODO

Klingons on the right, Romulans on left and we're in the middle.

KIRA

(mock surprise)

What? Aqain?

EXT. SPACE - RELIC SHIP, DEFIANT, KLINGON CRUISER AND ROMULAN WARBIRD (OPTICAL)

The small group of ships are all stopped in space.

INT. DEFIANT - BRIDGE - ANGLE ON VIEWER (OPTICAL)

There is a split screen image with [Kinar] on one side and Rodek on the other. Worf is attempting to sort out the situation, although patience on all sides are wearing thin.

WORF

Kanar, your people must get off now! Rabok has been patient long enough. Return the ship to the station and Starfleet will see that the matter is settled in a fair manner. If not, your lack of cooperation will be considered a breach of our governments' alliance and perhaps an act of war.

Kanar is caught visibly by Worf's statement.

WORF

(continuing)

Rabok, so far you've shown admirable restraint, please

power down your weapons and allow us to settle this peacefully.

Rabok considers the point, impressed by Worf's manner. As he does, Kanar makes a concession, reluctantly.

KANAR

We will transport our people off, but if the Romulans attempt to board it...

He leaves the implied threat stand on its own.

RABOK

We will power down our weapons, but reserve the right to escort our ship back to the station.

KANAR

Agreed. We are transporting, now!

DEFIANT BRIDGE - NEW ANGLE

Worf is satisfied, the situation has been diffused.

KIRA

Not a bad days work Worf. Shall I form a boarding party?

ODO

Uh-oh! Another problem, Commander. Bajoran Defense Forces, I read twenty ships.

KIRA

Klingon and Romulan ships powering up weapons.

WORF

Red alert! Shields and screens, I don't want to be hit by design or accident.

Altered lighting and activity levels reflect the change in status.

O'BRIEN

Defense systems up!

ODO

Weapons?

WORF

Affirmative! Let's contact --

KIRA

Communication from the Bajorans!

ANGLE ON MAIN VIEWER (OPTICAL)

General Nevik appears, he is agitated and suspicious.

NEVIK

Defiant! You are making a deal without Bajoran approval, with the Romulans and the Klingons!

Worf ignores the obvious insult.

WORF

I had a peaceful solution! Now, thanks to you, I have nothing.

KIRA'S VOICE

(o.c.)

Klingons and Romulans maneuvering for tactical positions!

O'BRIEN

We're going to have a real donnybrook here...

KIRA

Romulans and Klingons exchanging fire!

Worf rises and moves into action. He activates several controls on the weapons console and fires!

EXT. SPACE - RELIC SPACE SHIP (OPTICAL)

The relic ship explodes into dust.

DEFIANT BRIDGE

Everyone is shocked by the action. Kira turns to Worf.

KIRA

Mister Worf! Was your action to preserve the peace or merely to deny the Romulans possession?

When Worf does not answer right away, Kira turns to tend to other matters. Worf's look suggests that she may have struck a nerve.

EXT. DEEP SPACE NINE (OPTICAL)

A Romulan warbird is docked to one of the pylons.

DEEP SPACE NINE - MEDICAL DUTY OFFICE

Durek is seated opposite Sisko. The two are engaged in conversation, Durek is distant and quiet.

DUREK

So my ship is gone. Over ninety years of facing untold new enemies, and it's destroyed by an old one.

He eyes Sisko, tired and defeated.

SISKO

My apologies. I know what it's like to loose a ship. However, the Preator should approve, this way no one gets the information.

DUREK
(thoughtfully)

I suppose it's acceptable. Still, I will have to file a record of my journey...

Sisko senses an opportunity makes a suggestion.

SISKO

Sub commander, in our earlier conversation I sensed a difference in you... you're not like your 'contemporaries'.

Durek becomes philosophical

DUREK

They have not seen what I have.

SISKO

You said before you were grateful for our assistance...

DUREK

Of course, you helped an enemy. Not always wise, but admirable.

SISKO

I'd like to ask a favor.

DUREK

Which is why you asked me here before I left. What is it?

SISKO

When you file your report, leave out the 'worlds ripe for conquest' part.

Durek studies Sisko for a moment. The two men have made a connection.

DUREK

I could not disobey a direct order to report such conditions...

(beat, smiling)

But I see no need to volunteer information which would prove 'harmful to the Empire'.

The two seem comfortable with the arrangement. They continue a polite conversation.

QUARK'S BAR

Odo is making his rounds when Quark spots him and confronts him, waving a data padd.

QUARK

Odo! Just who I was looking for! Since you know the law, maybe you can answer a question for me.

(indicating padd)

This Romulan bar tab, should I submit it to the Bajoran Government or to the Federation?

Odo is amused by the Ferengi's attempt to make a profit.

ODO

You must be joking. I can't imagine either one would pay it.

Quark is now visibly agitated by the situation.

QUARK

But the tab is two thousand credits!

ODO

Consider it your contribution to interstellar cooperation and peace.

QUARK

(to self)

That's the thanks I get for telling them about Starfleet's plans --

ODO

(interrupting)

You did what?

SISKO'S OFFICE

Sisko is seated with Worf standing before him. Sisko is obviously not happy and Worf is uncomfortable.

SISKO

Mister Worf, in five minutes I will have to explain recent events to Starfleet Command.

Sisko stands and begins to pace, rotating his baseball absently in his hand.

SISKO

(continuing)

I placed you in command of the Defiant because, as a Klingon, you were better suited to deal with the two who stole the ship and Kanar.

SISKO'S OFFICE -NEW ANGLE

Odo is waiting at the door and Sisko motions him in.

ODO

Thought you'd like to know that Quark was responsible for recent events. He told the Romulans and Klingons about your plan to take the relic's database.

WORF

That's not entirely true. I told Karg and Kordek to contact their home world to retake the Firestorm. It was before I knew the Federation had plans of their own. I did not want the Romulans to get the ship. I am sorry sir.

SISKO

I'll deal with this later, as of now, you are on report Worf. Odo, put Quark in a holding cell and give him some time to think about what he did.

Odo is delighted at the prospect and hurries off, Worf follows, quietly.

SISKO'S OFFICE - ANGLE ON VIEWER (OPTICAL)

Sisko is engaged in conversation with Admiral Nechayev, she is not happy. Sisko is on the defensive.

NECHAYEV

You were supposed to recover the data for the Federation! You should have commanded the Defiant.

SISKO

I was attempting to resolve the crisis by direct contact with the governments in question, while Mister Worf tracked the ship. Given the circumstances --

NECHAYEV

Circumstances you could have prevented! You've simply delayed the inevitable. Durek will file a report and since everyone was so intent on getting the information, they'll be forced to accept the report.

SISKO

Possibly, but I don't think he will.

She hesitates, but she's not fully convinced.

NECHAYEV

How did the others respond?

SISKO

They all believe we acted in their best interest.

NECHAYEV

Very well, captain. But there will be an entry in your service record.

SISKO

I can live with that.

NECHAYEV

I hope for your sake, you're right. Nechayev out.

Sisko sighs, has he dealt with an honorable man?

END OF ACT FIVE

THE END

Upcoming *Enterprise*s

From StarTrek.com

Episode & Air Date

First Flight

May 14 (8 p.m. EDT)

Synopsis

While *Enterprise* is investigating what appears to be a dark matter nebula, Archer receives news that A.G. Robinson, his old rival in the early days of the NX test program, has died. During a shuttlepod mission into the dark matter phenomenon, Archer reminisces to T'Pol about the time he and Robinson were pilots competing for the honor of being the first to break the Warp 2 barrier.

Bounty

May 14 (8 p.m. EDT)

A Tellarite bounty hunter captures Archer intending to turn him over to the Klingons for a substantial reward. Meanwhile, T'Pol is infected with an alien pathogen that unleashes her primal Vulcan urges.

The Expanse

May 21

A probe from an unknown alien source unleashes a devastating assault upon Earth. *Enterprise* is recalled, and along the way home Captain Archer acquires information that the perpetrators come from a region of space known as the Delphic Expanse — a place where very bizarre things happen, and from which few ships that enter ever return. Starfleet must now decide whether to risk sending the NX-01 into the Delphic Expanse to prevent a possible second attack



The *Kitty Hawk* volunteers at UNC-TV Festival 2003.

Upcoming Events

May	20	<i>Star Trek: Nemesis</i> Released (VHS & DVD)
Jun.	3	<i>Deep Space Nine</i> (Season 3) DVDs Released
	7	4 p.m. Ship Meeting, Fisher Home
		UNC-TV -- Mini-Festival (times TBA)
Jul.	TBD	4 p.m. Ship Meeting, Fisher Home
Aug.	5	<i>Deep Space Nine</i> (Season 4) DVDs Released

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