💸 the movies Dan

Greenberg

## This trek isn't really worth it, Trekkies

WARNING: All Trekkies prepare for disappointment. The Star Trek crowd is losing its touch.

After years of imaginative film and televist Sarrhing between the cast th

AS THE INTREPID Mr. Spock

earth to talk to humpback whales. By the 23rd century whales are extinct, so the probe gets angry and turns off all Earth power systems, which means the end of hi-tech civi-

which means the end of hi-tech civi-lization.

"Don't mess with Mother Nature" is indeed good advice. It's also true that 20th-century man has overhunted the humpback whale, but that does not support a two-hour film.

Since no humpback whales exist in the 23rd century, it's up to Admiral Kirk to save the day. William Shainer is back with the original cast—a little older, a little heavier and a lot slower but still our favorite intergalactic hero. Once again Leonard Nimoy directs as well as appears as the Vulcan, Mr. Spock.

Admiral Kirk ilme-travets back to the 20th century to get a couple of humpback whales for the allen probe to whistle at.

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Is whale-napping a Federation of-fense?

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Kirk and Crew are in enough trouble without another charge. Remember back in "Star Trek III" when
Kirk disobeyed orders in order to
save Spock? That led to the destruction of the Starship Enterprise.

IF YOU'VE FORGETTEN all
that, the first 10 or so minutes of
"ST-IV"will refresh your memory.
All Kirk and crew have to work with
is an old Klingon ship, which they
proceed to recondition in their Vulcan exile.
"Beam me up, Scotty. There's no

"Beam me up, Scotty. There's no intelligent life in the script depart-

ment."

As a matter of fact, the whole enterprise is flat. In an attempt to

lighten the tone, Director Nimoy and his crowd of scenarist produced a film lacking the sparkle and bright style that characterized previous "Star Treck" pissodes. Notably deficient is the acting, with Catherine Hicks as Dr. Gillian Taylor, a 20th-century marine blandist out to save the whates. Along the way she gives one of the stiffer and more unconvincing performances in recent history.

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It's a shame that such a popular, slick entertainment vehicle without budget restrictions can't do better. Nonetheless, it's still (un, and along with all the Trekkles, I'll be waiting for "Star Trek V."

THE DETROIT Film Theater THE DETROIT Film Theater closes out its 25th season with three superb films. It will screen the 1855 vegoalavian film "When Father Was Away on Business" (R) at 7 and 9:30 m. Friday. Winner of the Grand Prize at Cannes, the film tells a marbelously warm, wise and touching story about human fealously. Jean Renofer's 1939 classic "Rules of the Garme" will be featured at 7 and 9:30 pm. Saturday. Beling shown is a newly struck print of what a 1982 international critics' poli termed one of the 10 greatest films

of all time.

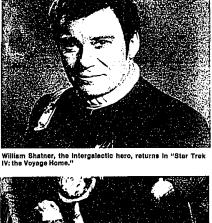
The DFT season completes its retrospective of Kuroxawa films at 7
p.m. Sunday with "Ran," an interpretation of "King Lear." Nominated for a number of Oscars, "Ran"
won for costume design, reflecting
its epic proportions and Kuroxawa's

decade of preparation prior to film-

decade of preparation prior to film-ing.

All DFT screenings are in the au-ditorium of the Detroit Institute of Arts. The 27th season begins early next year and should, 's always, pro-vide a wide range of excellent film programming.













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