

INSIGHT

Volume 24, Number 3

Barnstable High School, Hyannis, MA 02601

March 1990

Entertainment Shatner's *Tekwar* a Pleasant Surprise

March 1990 — INSIGHT — 8

By Daniel J. Lyons

Have you ever wondered what life will be like in the future? If you have, then I recommend that you go out and pick up a copy of William Shatner's new book, TekWar.

Shatner's new book is set in the near future. TekWar follows the exploits of Jake Cardigan, an ex-Los Angeles cop, who is mysteriously released from a cryogenic sleep prison after serving only four years of a fifteen year sentence.

Jake had been jailed for allegedly dealing Tek, a high tech addictive drug which can allow the user to live out their greatest fantasy. The actual Tek drug is not a drug per se, but it is actually a microchip that sends signals directly to the

human brain. Soon after, Jake learns that he was released from "the freezer" in order to recover a missing scientist, Dr. Leon Kiteridge and his daughter Beth who had been working on a device to fight Tek when they disappeared somewhere in Mexico. Jake ends up getting caught up in a plot that's somehow connected to just about everyone in and out of Mexico.

Eventhough TekWar is short of action, the intertwining of the plot and the characters of Shatner's novel is quite enough to hold a reader's interest.

When I received TekWar as a birthday present from a friend, I expected it to be incredibly average. But, to my surprise, when I read the book I found myself getting caught up

in the characters and their actions. It's an understatement to say that Shatner's skill in portraying his characters was surprising; frankly, I still can't believe it.

For almost a quarter of a century, William Shatner has been known as Captain James T. Kirk of the star ship Enterprise, but recently he has been branching out and trying his hand at other trades. In Star Trek V: The Final Frontier, Shatner not only starred, but also directed and co-wrote the movie. Unfortunately, Star Trek V flopped and, as even Trekkies will admit, was an extremely bad film. With TekWar, however, Shatner is beginning to redeem himself and shows that he is also a skilled author who shows great promise for the future.