

# STAR TREK™

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REMAN WARBIRD  
**SCIMITAR**

TYPE: WARBIRD

ORIGIN: REMAN

LENGTH: 890 METERS

THALARON WEAPON



# REMAN WARBLIRD SCIMITAR

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# SCIMITAR SPECIFICATION



TYPE:	REMAN WARBLIRD
AFFILIATION:	ROMULAN EMPIRE
LAUNCHED:	24th CENTURY
LENGTH:	890 METERS
TOP SPEED:	WARP 9
WEAPONRY:	DISRUPTOR BANKS x 52
	TORPEDO BAYS x 27



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► When the *Scimitar* was ready to deploy the thaloron weapon, the wings folded out, giving it a menacing shape.

## SHINZON'S REMAN FLAGSHIP

# SCIMITAR

The *Scimitar* was a massive, heavily armed ship that carried a devastating thaloron weapon.

The *Scimitar* was a Reman warbird that was built by Shinzon in secret some time before 2379. Shinzon, who became the Romulan Praetor after his Reman rebels wiped out the Romulan government, made the *Scimitar* his flagship and used it in a failed attempt to wipe out life on Earth which he believed would bring the Federation to its knees.

The *Scimitar* was twice the size of a Sovereign-class Federation starship and commiserate with its role as flagship for the rebellion, it was heavily armed. In fact with its 52 disruptor banks and 27 photon torpedoes bays, it outgunned any Romulan Warbird or Federation Starship which came into contact with it.

In addition to its conventional armaments, the *Scimitar* was effectively a massive weapon that

### DATA FEED

Shinzon took power in 2379 supported by the Romulan commanders Suran and Donatra, and Senator Tal'aura.



◀ The *Scimitar* was a Reman ship that was constructed in secret, and was used in the coup that brought Shinzon to power. The Remans were an oppressed race, who mined dilithium on the Romulans's sister planet, Remus, before they rebelled.





◀ Shinzon summoned the *U.S.S. Enterprise* to Romulus to conduct peace talks. When Picard arrived, the *Scimitar* decocked in a show of strength.

▶ The Remans kept the interior of their ships in relative darkness. The *Scimitar's* interior was built on a massive scale. The bridge was on two levels and the corridors were large enough to accommodate a Scorpion fighter.



◀ The *Scimitar* was a massive weapon that could fire a thaloron beam that could wipe out organic life. In order to fire, the wings had to separate into different plates. Energy from the thaloron generator was then channeled to the wingtips.

▶ The tips of the wings were fitted with powerful emitters that were used to focus the thaloron radiation on its target.



▲ The *Scimitar* was eventually destroyed in the Bassen rift. It was powerful enough to overcome both the *Enterprise* and two Romulan warbirds, but Picard rammed the *Enterprise* into her, causing significant damage. At this point, Data fired into the thaloron generator, causing a massive explosion that consumed the Reman ship.

▲ The *Scimitar's* thaloron generator was located off the *Scimitar's* bridge. Shinzon used a smaller version of the generator to wipe out the Romulan senate when he assumed power.

could be used to fire a thaloron beam – a type of radiation capable of destroying any organic material in the vicinity. It was powerful enough to turn living creatures to ash and to destroy whole planets. The thaloron generator was housed just off the *Scimitar's* bridge and was fired through a series of emitters on the tips of the ship's wings. When the thaloron beam was deployed, the wings split into a series of different panels, each of which had a thaloron emitter at its tip. Deploying the weapon took seven minutes but once it was activated, there was no defense against it.

The *Scimitar* was heavily protected thanks to a system of primary and secondary shielding. If the primary shielding failed or was compromised, the vessel could immediately switch to its secondary shielding thus making it more difficult for an enemy

starship, to inflict serious damage. The *Scimitar* was also fitted with warp engines that could outstrip even a *Sovereign*-class Federation starship.

Like conventional Romulan warships, the *Scimitar* sported a cloaking device, however, the *Scimitar's* cloaking technology was far more sophisticated than anything else available at the time: its cloak emitted no tachyon beams or anti protons. This rendered the *Scimitar* completely undetectable to Federation scans. On top of that, the ship could activate its shields and travel at warp speed while remaining cloaked, something that had previously been impossible.

The *Scimitar* carried a complement of Scorpion-class attack fighters, which were housed in its shuttle bay. The fighters were armed with disruptors and large enough to accommodate

two crewmembers while at the same time small enough to navigate through the *Scimitar's* corridors.

After Shinzon assumed power, the *U.S.S. Enterprise* NCC-1701-E was sent on a mission to promote peace with the Romulans. Picard's crew encountered the *Scimitar* in orbit around Romulus. When it became clear that Shinzon had no interest in peace, the *Scimitar* and the *Enterprise* engaged in battle in the Bassen Rift. The *Scimitar* inflicted significant damage on the *Enterprise* and two Romulan warbirds before Picard rammed the *Enterprise* into its hull. The *Scimitar* was compromised but not destroyed. It fell to Commander Data to fire a phaser into the thaloron generator, resulting in the complete destruction of the ship and all hands.

## DATA FEED

Shinzon was a clone of the Starfleet captain Jean-Luc Picard. The Romulans originally planned to use him to replace Picard, but the plan was abandoned and Shinzon was sent to the mines on Remus. He fought in the Dominion War before assembling an army and seizing power on Romulus. The genetic engineering that created him led to his death, when his DNA started to collapse.









◀ This sketch shows John Eaves' final concept for the *Scimitar*. The design was also worked on by another concept artist, David J. Negron, jr and the man who made the 3D model, Rory McLeish.

DESIGNING THE

# SCIMITAR

Shinzon's ship was described as being a breathtaking vessel that was like an enormous spider and dwarfed the *U.S.S. Enterprise*.

**S**TAR TREK: NEMESIS was built around the conflict between Captain Picard and his clone, Shinzon and introduced us to one of the darker corners of the *STAR TREK* universe – Romulus's sister planet Remus. Shinzon had been brought up in the darkness of the Reman dilithium mines before rising

to power, taking control of the Romulan senate and making peace overtures to the Federation. As concept artist, John Eaves explains, Shinzon's flagship, the *Scimitar*, was designed to reflect his personality. "The *Scimitar* has a very aggressive shape. It was an extension of Shinzon's personality. That was the

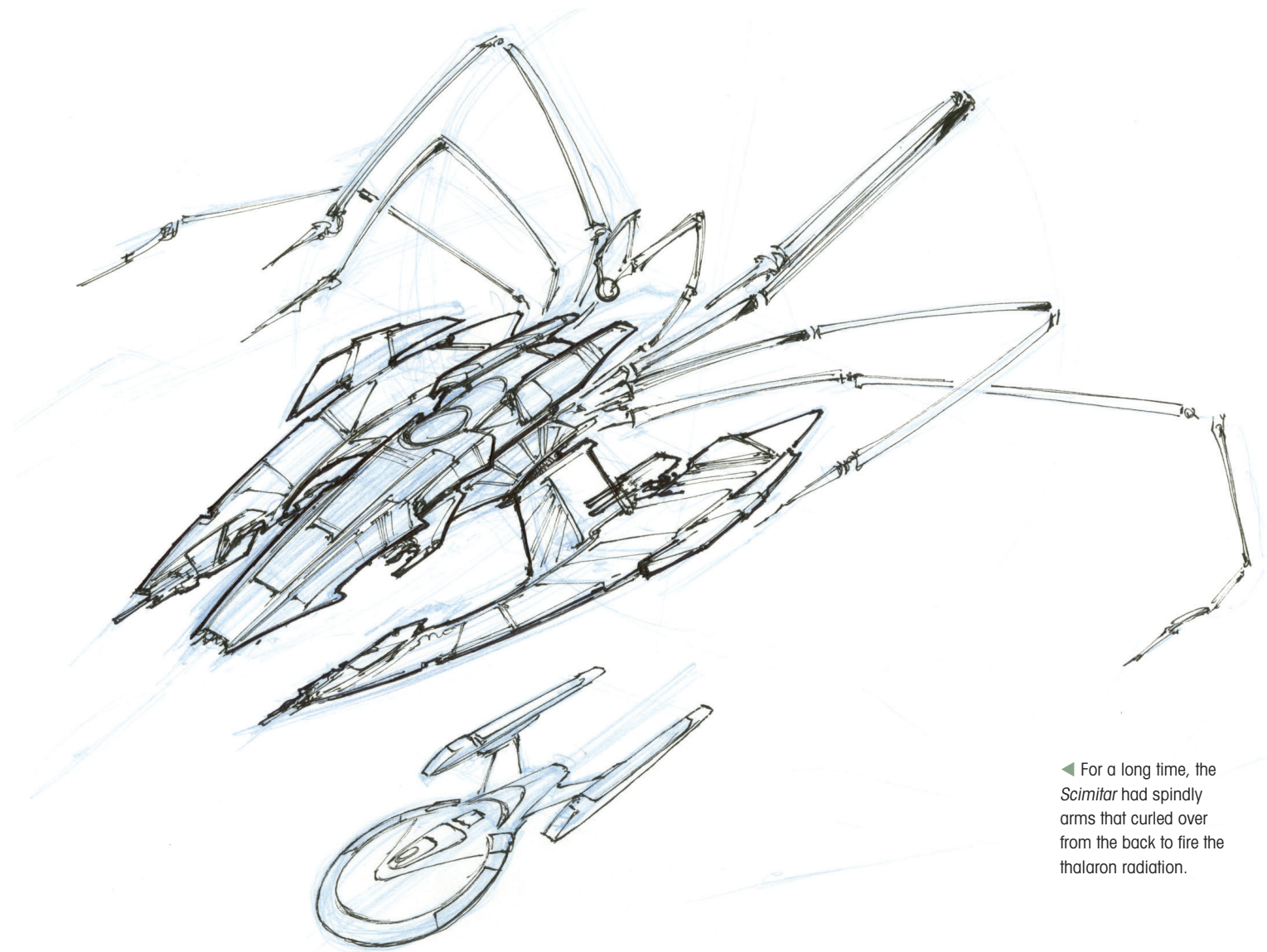
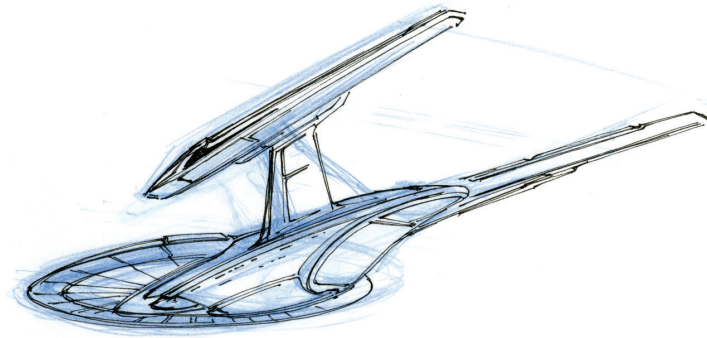
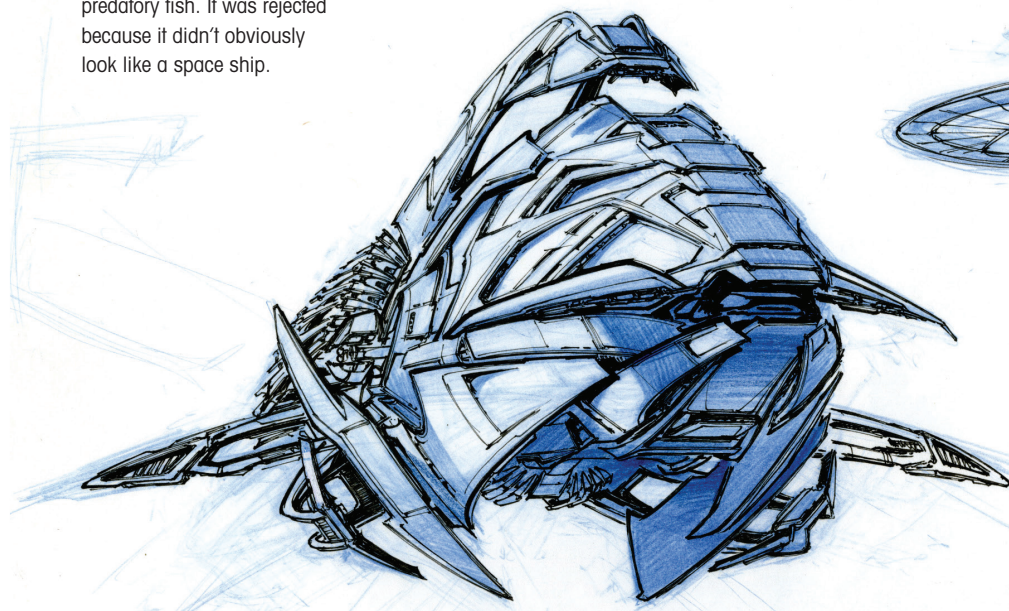
attitude that inspired the design. That's where all the sharp angles, the very, very deep color and the dark shadowed areas came from. It was who he was. Their whole planet was dark and based in shadows."

John Logan's script described the *Scimitar* as a massive vessel that would

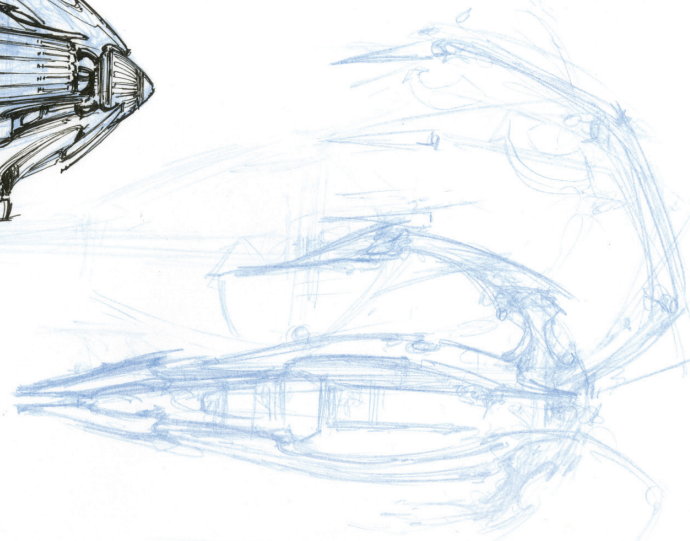
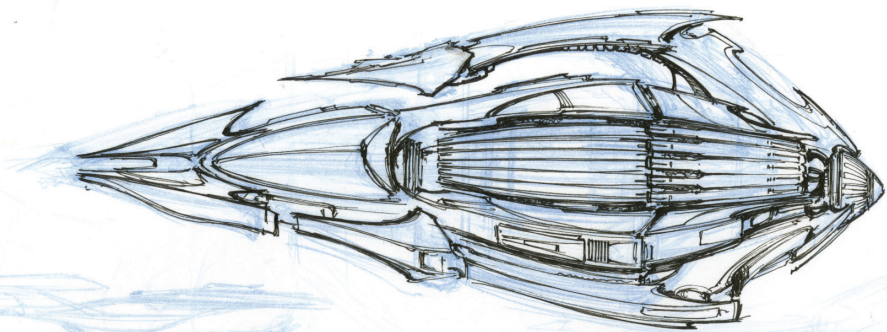
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► Eaves' first design for the *Scimitar* was inspired by the work of John Berkey. Eaves describes it as looking like a predatory fish. It was rejected because it didn't obviously look like a space ship.



◄ For a long time, the *Scimitar* had spindly arms that curled over from the back to fire the thalaron radiation.



▲ From the beginning the brief described the *Scimitar* as unfurling like a spider to menace the *Enterprise-E*.

take on the form of a spider when it was poised for attack. To Eaves's amusement, Logan described the *Scimitar* as "unlike anything we have ever seen before," an instruction that was frequently given to the art department.

Eaves and another concept artist David Neron Jnr both began work on the design process. The two men worked in different buildings but would talk to one another and ultimately collaborated on the look of the ship. They were also responsible for the design of the new Romulan warbird, the *Valdore*.

Eaves' first design was inspired by the art of John Berkey, an artist who was famous for his work on sci-fi book

covers, and on the movies '2001: A Space Odyssey,' 'Star Wars' and 'Dune.' Several of Berkey's ship designs were based on predatory fish, and Eaves used this as a starting point. However, the producers felt that the shape he came up with was too "ambiguous" so he returned to the classic Romulan bird-of-prey for inspiration.

"Since Romulus and Remus were sister planets," Eaves explains, "I was trying to morph the design of the bird-of-prey into something new rather than develop a whole different type of architecture. I figured the Remans took Romulan design and made it more angry."

Eaves next drawing was rejected on the grounds that it was too literally like a hawk. Eventually, everyone settled on

a heavily faceted design that Eaves felt owed a lot to the Klingon bird-of-prey.

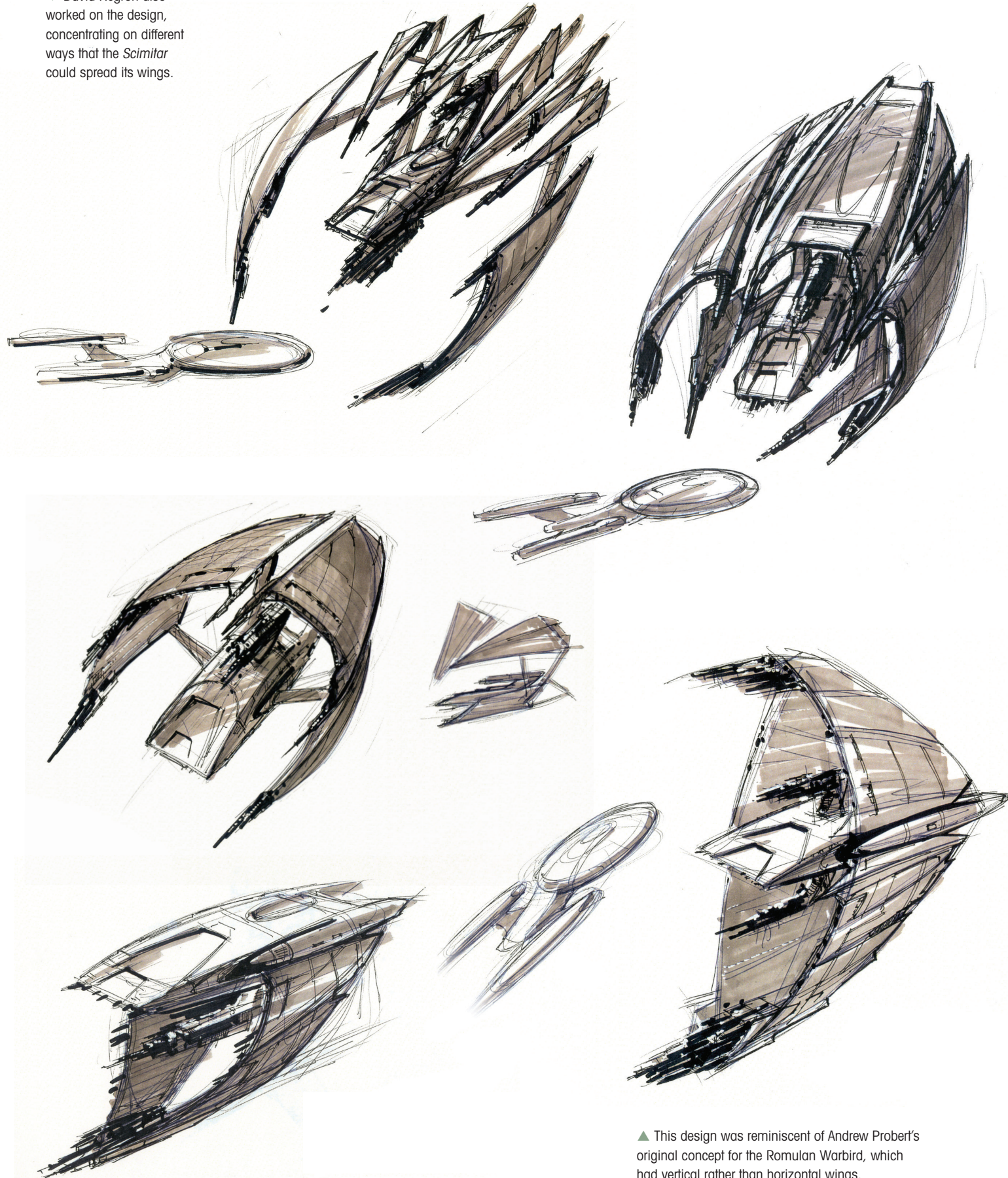
#### SPIDER LEGS

From the beginning, Logan's story involved the *Scimitar* unfolding its wings as it deployed a deadly weapon. "The script said the wings opened up like a spider," Eaves remembers. "so at first we had this idea that the *Scimitar* was going to house these rods that would come out from the back of the ship. Very thin, spider legs would come together and hold this weapon at the front."

Neron spent some time working out how the wings could articulate as the ship attacked. He turned out a variety of sketches that were very obviously spider-like, including one variation that

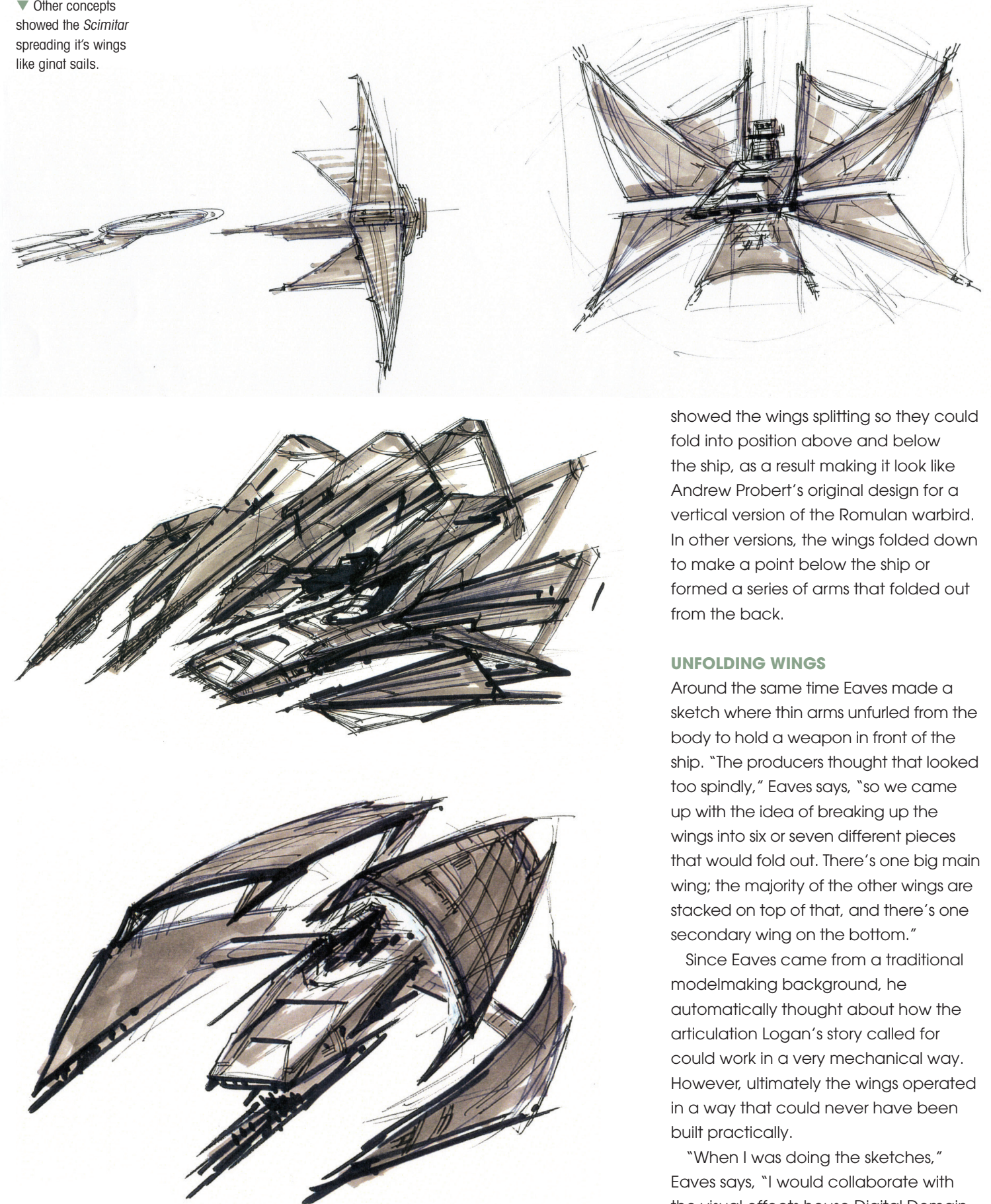


▼ David Negrón also worked on the design, concentrating on different ways that the *Scimitar* could spread its wings.



▲ This design was reminiscent of Andrew Probert's original concept for the Romulan Warbird, which had vertical rather than horizontal wings.

▼ Other concepts showed the *Scimitar* spreading its wings like gnat sails.



showed the wings splitting so they could fold into position above and below the ship, as a result making it look like Andrew Probert's original design for a vertical version of the Romulan warbird. In other versions, the wings folded down to make a point below the ship or formed a series of arms that folded out from the back.

#### UNFOLDING WINGS

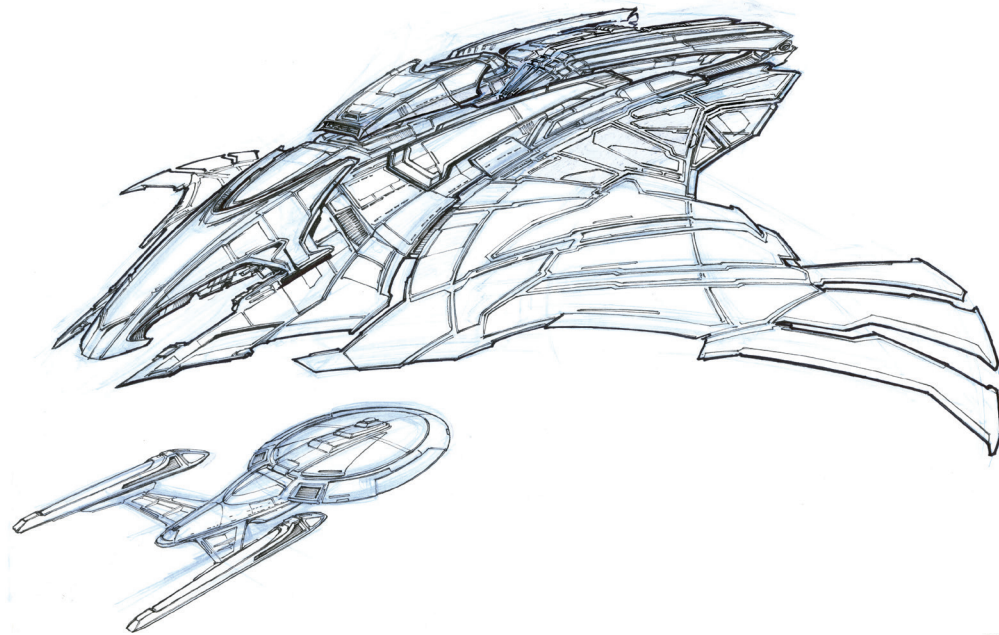
Around the same time Eaves made a sketch where thin arms unfurled from the body to hold a weapon in front of the ship. "The producers thought that looked too spindly," Eaves says, "so we came up with the idea of breaking up the wings into six or seven different pieces that would fold out. There's one big main wing; the majority of the other wings are stacked on top of that, and there's one secondary wing on the bottom."

Since Eaves came from a traditional modelmaking background, he automatically thought about how the articulation Logan's story called for could work in a very mechanical way. However, ultimately the wings operated in a way that could never have been built practically.

"When I was doing the sketches," Eaves says, "I would collaborate with the visual effects house Digital Domain.

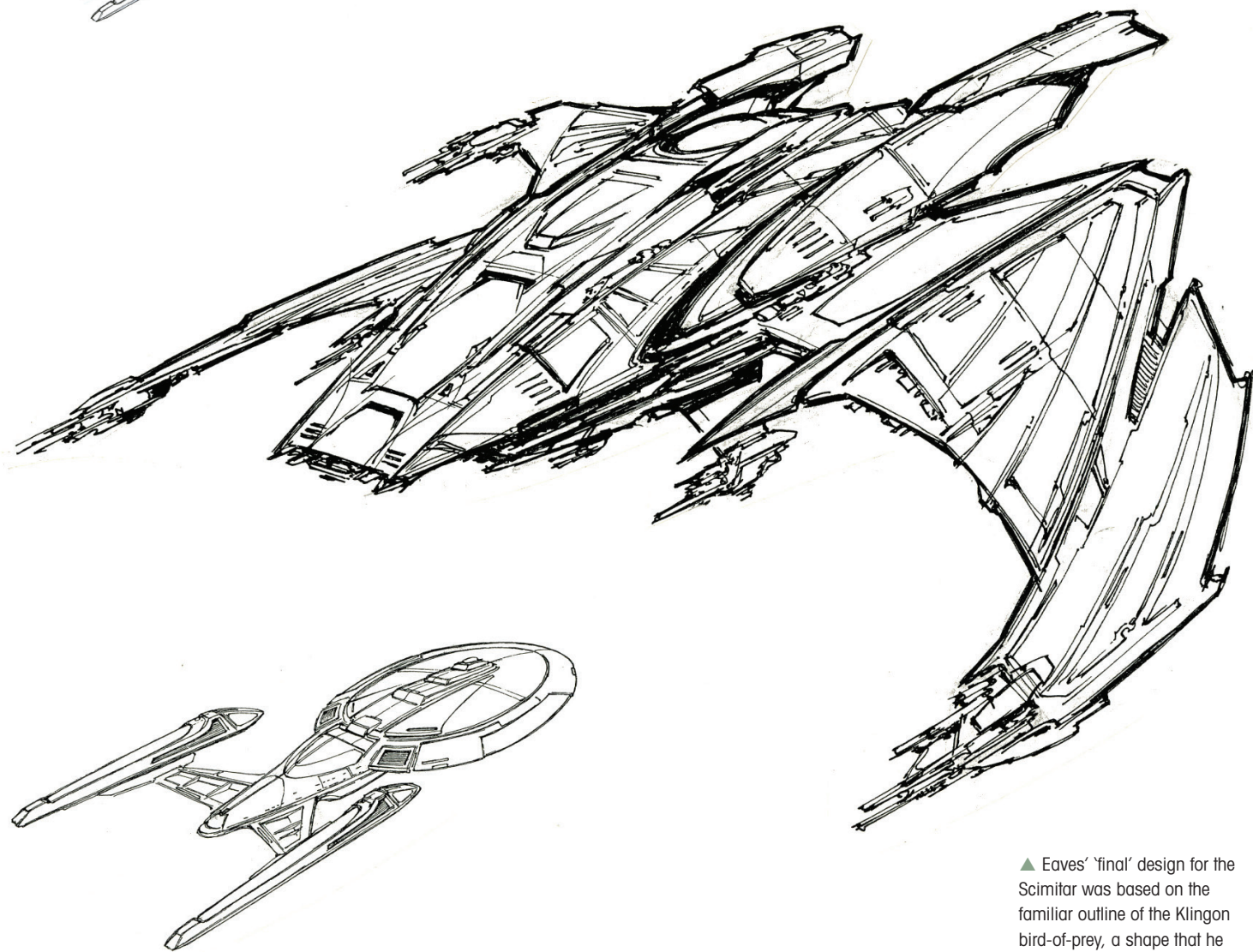


▼ This design was rejected on the grounds that it was too literally birdlike.



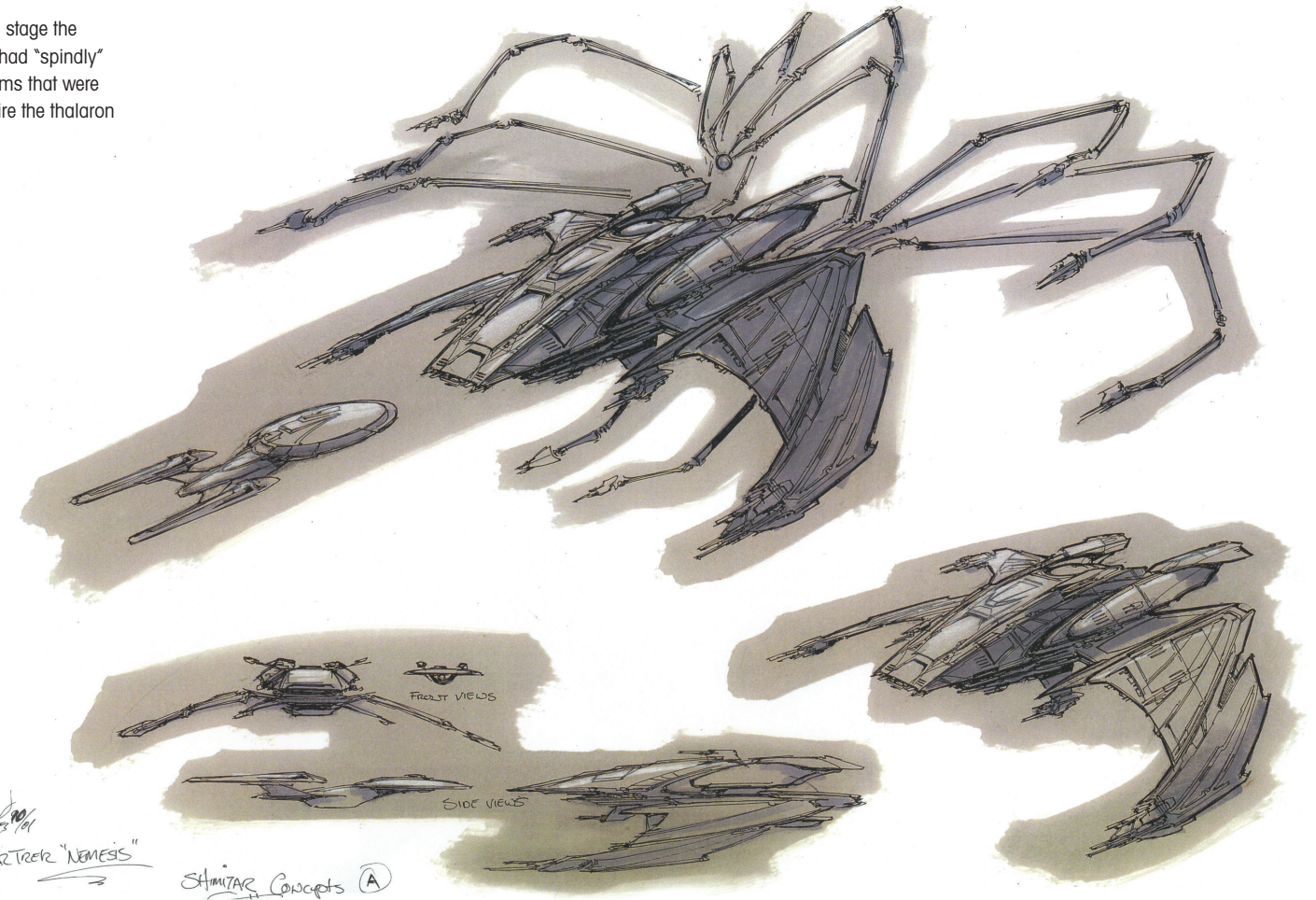
A guy named Rory McLeish was doing the *Scimitar*. We made a real quick study model to show them in an open position. Domain did all the modeling showing how the wings would hinge out. This is one of those things they would never be able to do in a practical model because there are multiple hinge points on each wing; they don't just fold at one point, they're multifaceted. They all had unique start and finish points."

When Eaves looked at the finished design, the shape reminded him of Picard's lionfish Livingston, which hadn't been seen since *FIRST CONTACT* "Ironically from the front when you look at it, it looks like Livingston," he laughs.

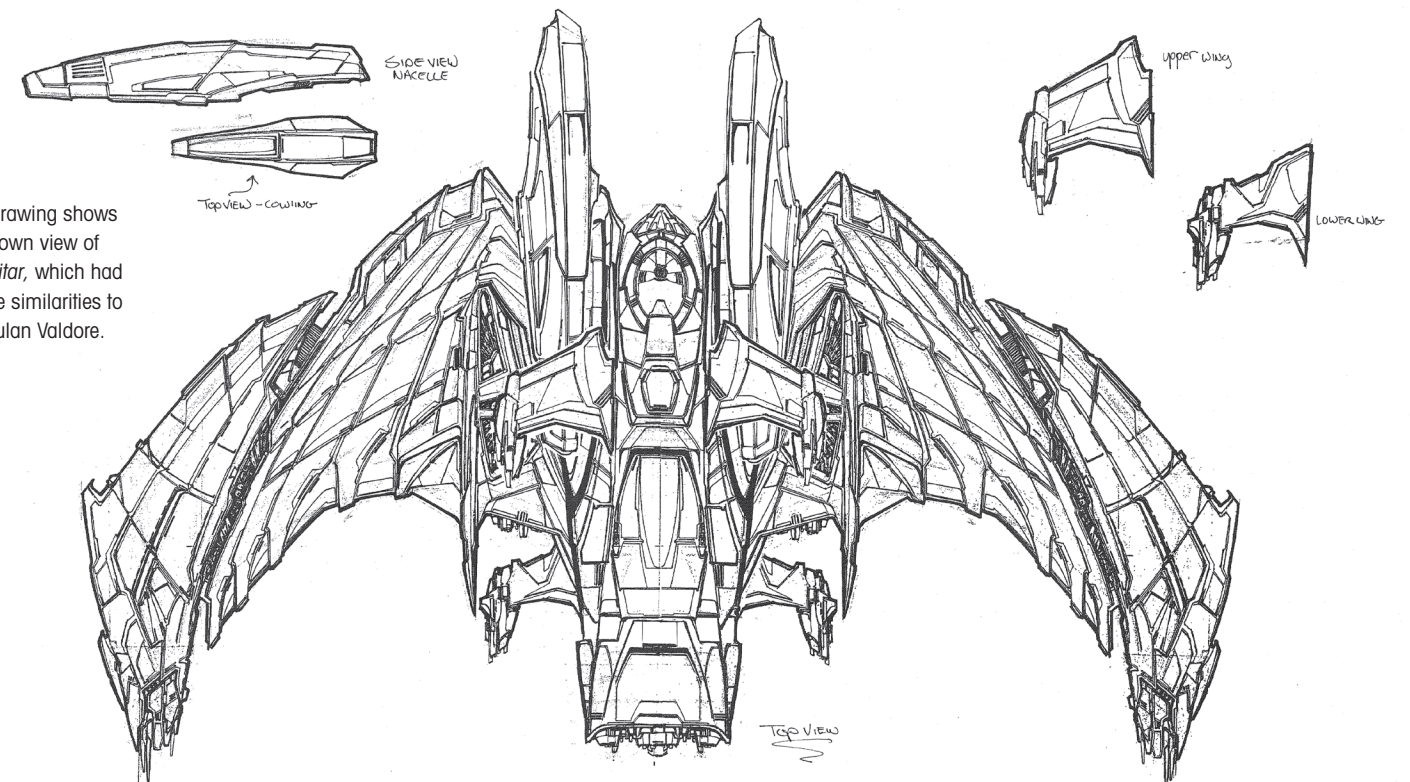


▲ Eaves' "final" design for the *Scimitar* was based on the familiar outline of the Klingon bird-of-prey, a shape that he knew appealed to the producers.

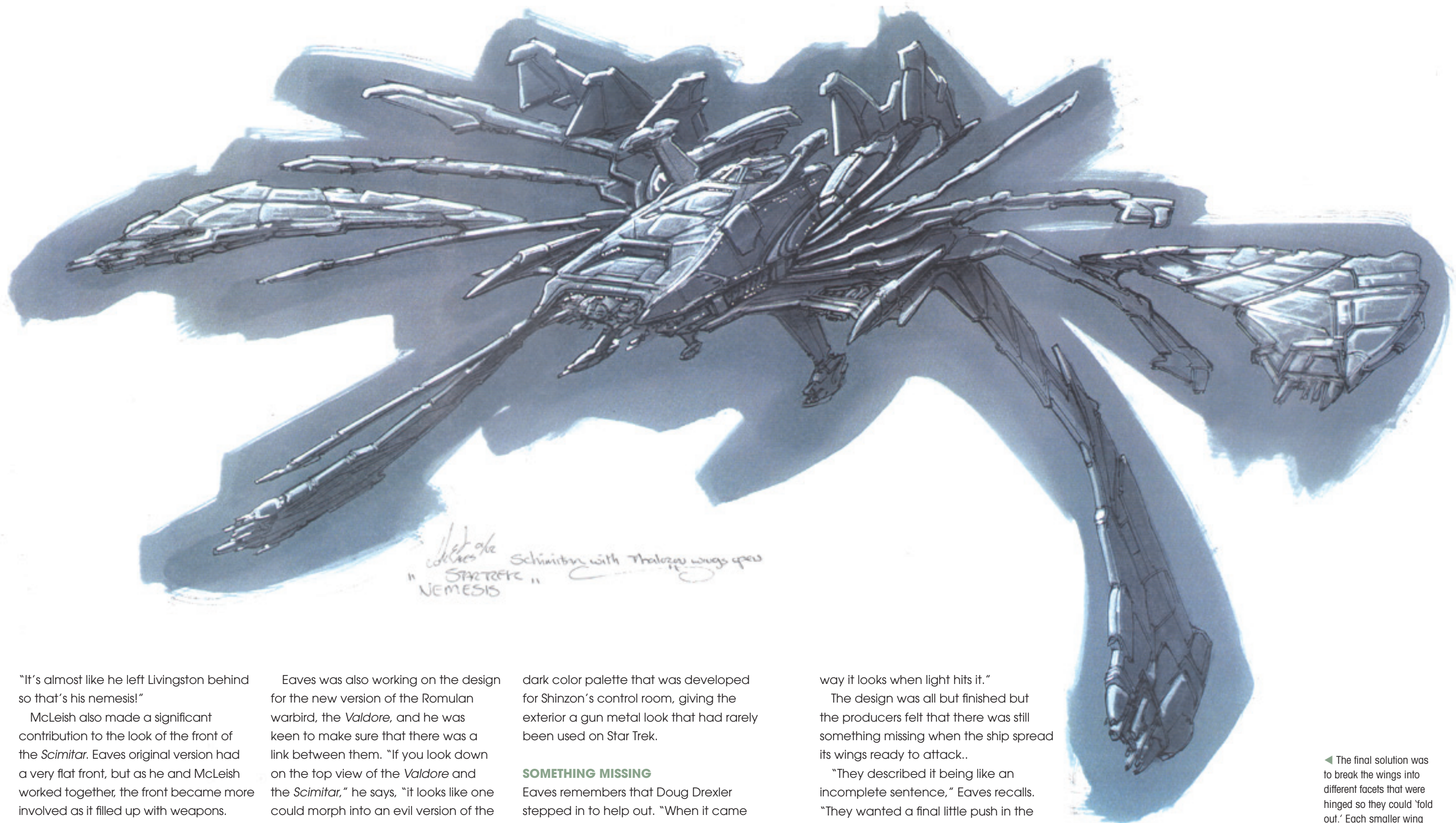
► At this stage the *Scimitar* had "spindly" spider arms that were used to fire the thaloron weapon.



► This drawing shows the top down view of the *Scimitar*, which had deliberate similarities to the Romulan Valdore.







"It's almost like he left Livingston behind so that's his nemesis!"

McLeish also made a significant contribution to the look of the front of the *Scimitar*. Eaves' original version had a very flat front, but as he and McLeish worked together, the front became more involved as it filled up with weapons.

"Rory did his own version of what that front end would look like. It's a very organic, almost gothic look, with all these bristling weapons. It's almost like looking down on an evil cathedral."

Eaves was also working on the design for the new version of the Romulan warbird, the *Valdore*, and he was keen to make sure that there was a link between them. "If you look down on the top view of the *Valdore* and the *Scimitar*," he says, "it looks like one could morph into an evil version of the other. That was the thinking behind it."

Other aspects of the design were influenced by the work that the art department was doing on the interior sets. Eaves and Domain keyed into the

dark color palette that was developed for Shinzon's control room, giving the exterior a gun metal look that had rarely been used on *Star Trek*.

#### SOMETHING MISSING

Eaves remembers that Doug Drexler stepped in to help out. "When it came to the texturing, Doug came on and he worked out how the panels were going to look. He did a matte/gloss variation for them so even though the color is the same the surface finish determines the

way it looks when light hits it."

The design was all but finished but the producers felt that there was still something missing when the ship spread its wings ready to attack..

"They described it being like an incomplete sentence," Eaves recalls. "They wanted a final little push in the effect so when it's in the final open position with the wings split open and these focusing devices come out, almost like a cat whipping out its claws before it attacks."

◀ The final solution was to break the wings into different facets that were hinged so they could 'fold out.' Each smaller wing had a unique design.



# STAR TREK™

