

Chesterfield Author Spins Tales Of Espionage

A novel about hackers, information warfare, and the National Security Agency, "Datashark" is a techno-thriller that spins a timely web of suspense, throwing the reader into the world of cyber terrorists.

BY MARCUS EDER

Chesterfield resident Ryan Jones is no stranger to adventure. An aerospace engineer with experience on the Space Shuttle, the B-1B bomber and other classified defense programs, Jones has seen just about everything. With his new book, "Datashark," Ryan has pulled from his colorful background to create a world of intrigue and espionage.

"I've been in the defense industry for about 20 years, a lot of that time inside classified programs. I've been 'behind the curtain,' so that part of my fiction is as realistic as I can legally make it," Jones said. "The premise is strictly fiction, but the facts are real."

A novel about hackers, information warfare, and the National Security Agency, "Datashark" is a techno-thriller that spins a timely web of suspense, throwing the reader into the world of cyber terrorists.

"Next to Al-Qaeda, hackers are some of the most elusive people on earth — and hackers affect your life every day, not just when you're on the computer," Jones said. "A skilled hacker could immobilize our military, shut down the national electrical grid, and drain your bank account, all on the same day. It's a very real threat."

A patented inventor, an instrument-rated pilot and a brown belt in Tae Kwon Do, Jones thrives on keeping active, both physically and mentally. He is very passionate about the research that went into the creation of his novel.

"I love learning about technology and telling a good story. Writing allows me to indulge both interests," Jones said.

Jones made it a point to keep his story as realistic as possible, spending countless hours interviewing computer specialists, reformed hackers, police detectives, military officers and SWAT team members

"Life lends itself to fiction," he said. "Some stories you just don't hear until the doors are closed. I've spent hundreds of hours researching the facts behind this book, and I've tried to interview the people who do the same

job in the real world as every major character in my book"

It was this dedication to detail that has made the story so believable — and so frightening.

In between book signings and guest appearances at book clubs, Jones is working on two new novels. The first, "SPECTERS," is about UFOs, the CIA, and the Aurora spy plane.

"It's the story of a father and son, one dedicated to keeping the government's secret concerning UFOs, and

the other just as determined to expose it," Jones explained.

The other, "Final Security," weaves a tapestry of spies, terrorist organizations and the lengths to which the government will go to keep a secret. With an imagination as active as his life, Ryan Jones will likely be thrilling readers for years to come.

More information on Jones and "Datashark" is available at: www.ryan-jones.biz