Spy Peter James intrigues audience with slide show

By ROD CARDEN
Chanticleer Staff Writer
Peter James, a former U.S. spy, addressed students and faculty last Thursday evening in the Montgomery Building. James served as a spy for ten years after he graduated from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. Presently, James works independently as a writer and speaker.

James told the audience his reason for writing and speaking is because the American people know little of what is happening in the secret world. "Ten years ago the stars wars debate began," he said. Most people think this is a new issue, he added.

James then presented an hour long slide show. Included in this show was a humorous story of how he tricked several male Soviet officials to pose individually for a picture with an American lady. Another group of slides showed how James helped a Soviet official defect from a Communist nation.

Toward the end of the presentation, he showed a picture of a Soviet airstrip in Central America. James favors an aggressive role in Central America for fear that Communist establishments in this area could result in the United States becoming more vulnerable to terrorist attacks in the future.

After the slide show, James allowed the audience to ask him questions. Some of the questions asked included:

What is the Soviet Union's general opinion of the United States?

"I mainly deal with the Soviet leaders. Many of them think the United States is an imperialist nation embarked on a course to destroy the world."

What is your opinion of Mikhail Gorbachev (Soviet Premier)?

"He is a shrewd fox that has learned the skill of public relations. I do want to give the man a chance, though, because he is better than any of the Soviets' previous leaders."

Should we use armed forces on our borders?

"Yes; both the Canadian and Mexican borders are too easy for Soviet spies to enter into."

When asked for a closing remark, he emphasized he does not trust Gorbachev. James said the results of a recent poll showed that Western Europeans trust Gorbachev more than they do President Reagan. James finds these results disturbing.

Holocaust service slated April 12

By CYNDI OWENS
Chanticleer Senior Editor
As a part of the national commemoration of the World War II Holocaust, the Student Government Association and the JSU Holocaust Committee will present a memorial service on April 12 for the victims of Hitler's concentration camps.

The service will consist of music, readings, and a movie, followed by a discussion period.

"This is a national memorial. Our service is just one part of it. Many schools and civic organizations help sponsor it," said Linda Cain, committee chairperson.

"This program is particularly important now that so many people are getting older that know about it. This is an important part of our history, and we have to learn about it so as not to repeat it," she said.

That "part of our history" is the systematic destruction of six million Jews by the Nazis between June, 1941, and May, 1946. Hitler called it "The Final Solution of the Jewish Problem." In all, estimates put the total number of deaths, including Jews, Gypsies, homosexuals, and the mentally retarded, somewhere between 18 and 26 million.

The committee members, including Cain, Dr. Steve Whitting, Teresita Sucu, Mary Hannah, Kelly Mccreless, and Rev. Dale Clem, have put together a program of readings and music designed to remind people of what went on in that period that allowed the Holocaust to take place.

"It was just a matter of indifference. People were indifferent to each other in that situation, and that is what this program is all about," said Cain.

The program includes:

- "Hear My Prayer, O Lord," by Dvorak, Op. 99: Dr. Samuel Brown, Music Department Faculty, accompanied by Mrs. Mary Catherine Brown
- "A Testimony in Many Tongues," four readings by an unknown author: Koen Jansen, Alpha Psi Omega Drama Fraternity member
- "To Bear Witness" (film) by Dvorak, Op. 99: Dr. Brown, Mrs. Brown
- "Terezin Poems: Laurel Read, Alpha Psi Omega Drama Fraternity member
- Kaddish: Mr. Hyman Gordan, Temple Beth El (Annishton).

The Kaddish is traditionally recited by mourners at public services after the death of close relatives. It is offered in remembrance of those who were systematically exterminated during World War II.

In conjunction with the service, a display of books on the Holocaust will be set up. Some of the titles displayed are: The Holocaust, Martin Gilbert; The Holocaust and the Historian, Lucy S. Davowitz; Accounting for Genocide, Helen Fein; Never to Forget the Jews, Milton Melzer; and Teaching the Holocaust to Children, Diane Rosakis.

The commemoration is set to begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Wallace Auditorium. Everyone is invited to attend, and a reception will follow.

School will change to four point scale

Students returning to Jax State next fall will find their grade point averages changed by one point.

"Don't get your hopes up yet," though.

The university has decided to go from a three-point grading scale to a four-point scale. The new numerical scale will not change the letter grade of a student.

According to Dr. Jerry Smith, University Registrar, the three-point grading scale has been a "detriment" to former students. He said when the students try to get jobs or apply for admission to graduate schools they often encounter problems explaining that their grade was based on a three-point scale. Smith added some people have never heard of a three-point grading scale.

On the four-point scale students will receive four points per semester hour for each A received in a course, three points for each B, two points for each C and one point for each D.

Smith said grades for returning students will be converted to the four-point scale at the end of the Summer II term.

According to Smith's estimates 98 to 99 percent of all colleges around the country are using the four-point scale.

Poly-Sci offers LSAT prep

The political science department now has a computer Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) preparation package available for use by students to help them prepare to take the test.

Dr. H. P. Davis, professor of political science, said the instructional package is "fairly easy to use" and is free to students. He said it takes several hours to work through the package, but it is well worth the effort.

Davis said the department saw a need for the program and added that other LSAT preparatory programs could cost a student as much as $500.

Any interested student should contact Dr. Davis at ext. 4651 or 4650.