

# South Carolina News

July 2003

## Ten Rules for Life from I. King Jordan

*Reprinted from the May 21, 2003 Edition of the Spartanburg Herald-Journal*

Dr. I. King Jordan, president of Gallaudet University, on Tuesday, May 20, 2003 gave SCSDB graduates 10 rules to help them guide their lives after graduation.

Dr. I King Jordan had 10 things to tell the graduates at the S.C. School for the Deaf and the Blind during Tuesday's commencement ceremonies. He wouldn't call them "lessons" or "rules," just things he has learned in his life.

"I have 59 years of experience," Jordan said. "I love life. I'm a very, very happy person. Maybe one or two of these things will help you

have a happy life." Jordan is the first deaf president of Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C., the nation's only college for deaf and hard-of-hearing students. He was one of three finalists for the job in 1988, but the sole hearing candidate was originally selected. Students protested the decision, effectively shutting down the campus, and university officials reconsidered.

Jordan's message to the 31 graduates drew on the experiences that led him to the top post at Gallaudet. Jordan simultaneously spoke and used sign language during his speech. First, he told the graduates, "Don't sit today and plan your whole future. Don't try to plan the next 60 or 70 years. Just embrace what happens to you." Jordan's own life did not follow his original plans. He was born with the ability to hear, and grew up near Philadelphia. He did not take his studies seriously in high school, and he continued the trend during his four years in the Navy.

When he was 21 years old, Jordan was in a motorcycle accident that left him deaf. "I'm very lucky I became deaf because I found myself," Jordan said. "I found out in college I really loved learning. I

love to read books. I love to find answers to difficult questions." Jordan earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Gallaudet, then earned master's and doctorate degrees in psychology from the University of Tennessee. He joined the faculty of Gallaudet in 1983 and was named dean of the College of Arts and Science three years later. He also became an advocate for people who are deaf or have other disabilities.

His zeal is the basis for his second message to the graduates: "Follow what you love. Follow your passion." Jordan told the graduates that he was good at learning, teaching and advocating for the disabled because he loved the work.

His third and fourth pieces of advice to the graduates were to accept change and to never stop learning. "We learn something new every day," he said. "Don't think graduation is the end of learning. It's only the beginning."

The fifth message: Dream. "Don't be shy about ideas. Dare to challenge the dream and make it come true," he said. "And let your dreams change. What you dream

*Continued on page 3*

### Inside this issue:

President's Report	2
Conference Experience	2
Note from Secretary	3
Sign Language Professor at Clemson	4
SCSDB Students Receive Awards	4, 5
Fishing News by Bassin' Bob	5
Obituary: Mary Naomi Milligan Cathey	5
Article from The Past—Nov-Dec 1973	6
Schedule of Events	7
2003-2005 SCAD Officers	7

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## President's Report

**By Anita Steichen**

The SCAD Conference is OVER already!! I want to thank you all for coming and supporting the Conference. It really means a LOT to SCAD.

I also want to thank the chairlady, Debbie West and her committee for their hard work to make the Conference a success. The next Conference in 2005 will be in Charleston, SC.

I also want to say get yourselves ready for the NAD Region III conference which will be held in

Columbia, SC from October 3 to 5, 2003.

I'm sure most of you already know I'm now re-elected President for the next two years. I am honored to have won your support, and I will continue to ensure that SCAD stays as strong as ever.

I want to thank my past Board of Directors for their support and hard work, and I look forward to working closely with the new Board of Directors.

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## Conference Experience

Hello Everyone!! If you haven't already met me, my name is Lee Anne Glover. I am the Administrative Assistant for the SCAD Home Office. I would like to start by saying "Thank You" so much for helping me feel so welcome at the 2003 SC Association of the Deaf Convention. It was a heartfelt experience. It really got me thinking about how it must feel, what it must be like to live in a world where the primary mode of communication was not my own. Have you ever been in a group where you knew you belonged, but felt still, somehow, as if you didn't quite fit in? Perceiving the world differently, I am here to say; you made me feel very much a part of the activities. I appreciate your patience in my lack of

the ability yet to communicate through sign language. I am very anxious to learn the history, language, literature, values and beliefs. I look forward to assisting all of you.

  
  


## Ten Rules from I. King Jordan (Continued from page 1)

in 2003 may be different in 2010."

The sixth message: Be positive.

The seventh message: Be proud of who you are. Jordan told the students to acknowledge their limits, but don't be ashamed of them. He is deaf and can't read lips very well, but "So what?" he said. "I know that's who I am, but I don't try to be someone else," he said. "I'm happy with who I am."

The eighth message: Know that you make a difference. You don't need to cure cancer to make a difference, Jordan told the graduates. He gave the example of Rosa Parks, whose small act made a big difference. You can make a difference by being a teacher or a mechanic.

The ninth message: Be generous. "Give back to the community," he urged the graduates. "Give to people who have less than you. You don't have to give money. Give time; give energy."

And the final message: Keep your sense of humor. "Sometimes life is tough and it's hard to smile," Jordan said. "But if you smile, it makes life easier. If you smile at people, they will smile back."

There was no shortage of smiles inside the gymnasium at SCSDB. Proud relatives waved to the graduates during their entrance. One graduate turned and said "I love you" in sign language to a relative sitting high in the bleachers.

Four graduates received special recognition during the ceremony. Spartanburg native Frances Denise Gentry was named outstanding graduate of the post-secondary program. A 1996 graduate of Dorman High School, Gentry has attended Gallaudet and Spartanburg Technical College. She plans to attend the University of South Carolina Spartanburg in the fall and wants to teach deaf children. She is the single mother of a 5-year-old son.

Corey Howard List of Boiling Springs was named outstanding senior from the School for the Multihandicapped. List was a founding member of the school's Perpetual Motion performance group and was this year's Prom Prince.

Callie Elaine Fralix of Lexington was named outstanding senior from the School for the Blind. Fralix had the highest grade-point

average among the Class of 2003, after receiving nearly straight A's for four years. She worked as a residential life assistant in an elementary school girls' dorm. Fralix also won a number of academic, athletic and citizenship awards during her years at the school.

Rodney Lydell Carson of Winnsboro was named outstanding senior for the School for the Deaf. The award was based on his leadership skills, academics, school spirit, attitude, behavior and other recognitions. Carson, who came to the school as a ninth-grader who didn't know any sign language, credited his teachers and friends at the school for his success in the ceremony's closing address.

"There is so much love and support from our friends and the faculty," he said in sign language with an interpreter. "You welcomed me and brought me to this point in my life. I realize this has made me better, and I am more involved in both worlds -- the deaf world and the hearing world."

By Bridget B. Winston Staff  
Writer [bridget.winston@shj.com](mailto:bridget.winston@shj.com)

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## Note from Secretary

Hello Everyone!

I want to say to every chapters and Board members for voting me for three awards in SCAD Conference. I was stunned and surprised

to receive three awards. I was so shy to make a comment to everyone. I want to say that I thank President Anita Steichen, Board members & SCAD Home Office Staff for support me since 2 years. I also want to say thanks my hus-

band, Chris Johnson to be on my side since 2 years that I attended SCAD Board meeting. Thanks again.

Andrea Johnson  
SCAD Secretary/Treasurer

## Students Select Sign-Language Professor as Alumni Master Teacher

Clemson University's Alumni Master Teacher for 2003 is a man who learned American Sign Language as his first language. W. Alton Brant, an associate professor of American Sign Language in the language department since fall 2000, was selected from more than 100 nominees. The Alumni Master Teacher receives a \$2,500 stipend and a bronze plaque. The Clemson Alumni Association makes the award possible, and the Clemson Student Alumni Council selects each year's recipient from student nominations.

Students describe Brant as an enthusiastic, knowledgeable professor who cares about his students. One student nominator wrote that Brant "goes above and beyond his teaching responsibilities to ensure every one of us comes away from his class

with not only the ability to sign, but an understanding and appreciation of deaf culture." "He loves what he does, and it shows in the classroom," another said.



Raised by deaf parents, Mollie and Francis Brant of Columbia, Brant learned sign language before he learned to express himself orally. "I never dreamed that a visual language shared by my parents would one day be shared in a university setting," Brant said. "Clemson had the vision to bring ASL to the language department, and the students have been exceptional. I feel blessed and humbled by this experience. I'm still pinching myself orange and purple."

Trained as an educator, Brant completed his doctorate in special education administration in

1986 at the University of South Carolina. He has been a teacher, administrator and adviser to numerous institutions and agencies serving the deaf. He has worked as an adjunct professor at the University of South Carolina, Spartanburg Methodist College and Converse College.

He currently teaches four courses in ASL and one course in deaf studies. He has been a guest lecturer in the Czech Republic, Gaza (Palestine) and Russia. Brant established the ASL Club at Clemson University in spring 2001. The club organizes ways for students to interact with the Upstate deaf community through activities such as silent dinners, Deaf Awareness Night and the selection of films for the Cultural Film Series.

Written by Christopher Land from Clemson University

## SCSDB Teens' Composition Wins Award

SPARTANBURG – Several of the SCSDB students won awards in the Breakfast Optimist Club contest. Columbia's teen-ager, Rico Washington, 18, won the Breakfast Optimist Club scholarship on his composition, "Uniting to Decrease or Stop the Use of Marijuana". He was the recipient of the \$1500 scholarship. Eloree's teen-ager, Crystal Imig, 18, and Greer's teen-ager, Amy Penfield, 13, received an Honorable Mention on their composition. Imig's compo-

sition was titled "Improving the U. S. Economy." Cleveland's teen-ager, Justin Gilreath, 17, won Second place on his composition, "Reckless Driving by Teenagers." Also, he entered the Optimist international CCDHH for the South Carolina District. Bennettsville's teen-ager, Frederick Watson, 14, was named runner-up on his composition. The Breakfast Optimist Club sponsors the Communication Contest

for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CCDHH). The participants research, write and present compositions based on a theme provided by the Optimist Club. The theme this year was "United We Stand in Optimism." Competing in the contest has become an annual event for the students in the School for the Deaf. It provides the students the opportunity to enhance their communication skills.

## FISHING NEWS By Bassin' Bob

Lake Wateree- June 7. The Three Stooges?, The Three Musketeers?, No, The Three South Carolina Bass Anglers of the Deaf showed up to fish on this unpredictable

day. The weather forecast, calling for heavy rains, strong winds, thunderstorms and possible flooding was possibly the reason many chose to stay home. However the rain was light and steady, the wind was mild and the 3 were able to fish without any problems.

Richard Hiott (Ladson) survived the day and walked away with the top prize by taking 1st place with only 1 catch. Bassin' Bob and his partner Richard Price tried every

lure in their tackle boxes with no luck.



All said and done the 3 had a good time and enjoyed the day. After the summer break, the next tournament will held at Lake

Wylie (Ebenezer Park) on September 6.

Take care and have a great summer. Happy Fishing.

### Fishing Results:

(winner, fish/dead, total weight)

Richard Hiott, 1/0, .14oz

Richard Price, 0

Bob Morrow, 0

### Lunkers:

None

## Mary Naomi Milligan Cathey

Mary Naomi Milligan Cathey died Friday, May 23, 2003, at home.

She was born Dec. 28, 1944, a daughter of Mary Lewis Milligan and the late Vassie L. Milligan Sr. She graduated from the S.C. School for the Deaf and Blind in Spartanburg, SC and was awarded a scholarship to Gallaudet College (now University) in Washington, D.C., which she attended until employment with the Census Bureau. She worked for the Census Bureau until the birth of her second child, after which she started and remained in her career as a Christian homemaker and servant to all communities where the family resided.

During her pilgrimage, Naomi, as

she was affectionately known, was involved in various and sundry activities (too numerous to list here) all of which centered on the ministry of the Gospel of Christ Jesus, rewards for which await her. Her family prays that all who knew her will have the blessing to be more than spectators when she hears her Holy Father say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

Survivors, in addition to her mother, include her husband, Dan Cathey; three children, Belinda Miller and her husband, the Rev. Bob Miller, Benita Fager and her husband, Michael Fager, and Samuel Cathey and his wife, Carmen Cathey; and six grandchildren.

## Winnsboro Teen Selected as Outstanding Senior at SCSDB

SPARTANBURG - A Winnsboro teenager has been named the 2003 Outstanding Senior of the S.C. School for the Deaf.

Rodney Carson, son of Theresa Smallwood, received the honor during the commencement exercises on May 20 at the S.C. School for the Deaf and the Blind (SCSDB).

Outstanding seniors were honored from each program at SCSDB. He delivered the farewell address for the ceremony at which Dr. I. King Jordan, president of Gallaudet University, was the keynote speaker.

Carson has received numerous honors during his years at SCSDB. He has received the perfect attendance award, the highest GPA, recognition for computer skills and has been a poetry contest winner.

Carson plans to enroll in the National Technical Institute for the Deaf or in a technical program that offers computer repair training.

**Next Newsletter Scheduled To Arrive Early August!  
Deadline for submissions is July 14th**

# Blast from the Past!

Article from the Past - SC News - Nov - Dec 1973

## Palmetto Deaf Sportsman Club

President of the Palmetto Deaf Sportsman Club, Harold Bryant, Vice President Calvin Brown and Mrs. Marion Bryant arrived at the Greenville Fellowship Hut early October 7 with two ice chests filled with fresh large flounders. H. Bryant, C. Brown and Alvin Black brought them from Beaufort, SC a weekend earlier. J. K. Lathem came in time in order to unlock the door to the hut. Miss Peggy Cook's eyes widened as the boys raised the lids off the ice chests so she could have a peek. Secretary of the club Alvin Biggerstaff and his wife Frances arrived and were pitching in to

get things on the table. While the fish were in the frying pans, Treasurer George Rogers and his wife Josephine came to help everybody eat. Also came Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Reeves, Rufus West, James Bates, Jimmy West, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kendrick and Frances Greer. When the fish was cooked and ready to eat, Mr. Reuben Reeves gave the blessings for the good standing of the Sportsman Club and we filed in line to pick up the fried flounders, slaw, French fries, hush puppies, coffee and tea. Late comers were Alfred and Hashell Garrick-Hashell said she was hungry as a bear, we all agreed to her comment. After we

eat, the meeting was held and a movie was shown.

What the club has been doing this year: June 9-10 1973, Camped at High Falls at Lake Koewee; July 28-29 1973, Camped at Fair Play at Lake Hartwell; August 25 1973, Clay bird shooting at Pacolet; October 7, 1973, Fish Dinner at Fellowship Hut at Greenville; October 13, 1973, Camped at Pioneer, Greer. We, the members enjoyed our outings; we hope we will increase our doings in 1974---JOIN US.

J. Alvin Biggerstaff

*Cut this out and give to a friend! Help SCAD reach its membership goal!*

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## SCAD Schedule of Events

### JULY

**July 12, 2003 (Saturday)** - American with Disabilities Act Community Celebration and Open House at Disability Action Center, Inc. (DAC) Columbia, Cookout and more events, open to public, free of charge, 11am - 4pm, 1115 Bellevue Avenue, Columbia, SC 29201, for more information, call (803) 779-5121 or toll free 1-800-681-6805 for more information.

**July 19, 2003 (Saturday)** - SCDGA's monthly golf Tournament, Santee National, Time TBA, check [www.scdga.org](http://www.scdga.org)

### SEPTEMBER

**September 5 & 6, 2003 (Friday & Saturday)** - 1st An-

nual Springmaid Deaf Fishing Rodeo, Fishing at pier, Myrtle Beach, SC, Contact Greg Smith, Chairperson at [owlsoda84@yahoo.com](mailto:owlsoda84@yahoo.com)

**September 6, 2003 (Saturday)** - SCBAD Fishing Tournament, Lake Wylie, Ebenezer Park, Rock Hill, SC (State Road 161), contact [rhmmorrow@charter.net](mailto:rhmmorrow@charter.net)

**September 20, 2003 (Saturday)** - SCBAD Fishing Tournament, Lake Greenwood, Greenwood State Park, Ninty Six, SC (State Road 702), Contact [rhmmorrow@charter.net](mailto:rhmmorrow@charter.net)

### OCTOBER

**October 4, 2003 (Saturday)** - SCBAD Fishing Tournament, Lake

Wateree, Wateree State Park, Winnsboro, SC (US 21 & 101), contact [rhmmorrow@charter.net](mailto:rhmmorrow@charter.net)

**October 18, 2003 (Saturday)** - SC School for the Deaf and Blind Homecoming, SCSDB campus, Spartanburg, SC, More information TBA

**October 18, 2003 (Saturday)** - (SCSDB Football) NCSD, (Homecoming), 2:30pm

**October 18, 2003 (Saturday)** - (SCSDB Volleyball) North Carolina School f/t Deaf, (Homecoming), 10:00am

**October 25, 2003 (Saturday)** - SCBAD Fishing Tournament, Lake Wylie, Ebenezer Park, Rock Hill, SC (State Road 161), contact [rhmmorrow@charter.net](mailto:rhmmorrow@charter.net)



## SCAD's new Officers for 2003-2005

Anita Stiechen, President  
 Joseph Price, Vice President  
 Andrea Martinez-Johnson, Secretary/Treasurer  
 Mike McKee, Member At Large  
 (Upstate Including Columbia Area)  
 Donna Jones, Member At Large  
 (Low County Including Coastal Area)

**Next Newsletter scheduled to arrive at the beginning of August.  
 All articles, events and announcements due before July 14, 2003.**

## **SCAD Officers:**

**President:** Anita Steichen  
(843) 554-2024  
Anitasc@comast.net

**Vice-President:** Joseph Price  
GJJoeP@hotmail.com

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Andrea Johnson  
amj1984@aol.com

### **Member At Large:**

**Upstate (Including Columbia Area)**  
Mike McKee, babydeafdoc@aol.com

**Low County (Including Coastal Area)**  
Donna Jones, Donnanov64@aol.com

### **SC News Editor:**

Cara Senterfeit  
Cdsenterfeit@yahoo.com

## **Board Members:**

### **Chapter Representatives**

#### **Low Country Chapter:**

Ricky Hiott, bigbass65@webtv.net

#### **Midlands Assn. Of the Deaf:**

Mike Senterfeit, Jr., senterfeitjr@yahoo.com

#### **Spartanburg Assn. of the Deaf:**

Theresa Rogers, tuscsd80@charter.net

#### **Western Piedmont Assn. of the Deaf:**

Pamela Jordan, prjordan119@mindspring.com

### **Organizational Representatives/Other**

#### **SC Black Deaf Advocates:**

Jubby Rabiou

(864) 585-1830, jrabiou@scsdb.k12.sc.us

#### **SC Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf:**

Glendia Boon, aslb4me2@aol.com

#### **Miss Deaf South Carolina Pageant:**

Ann Riddle, rlriddle@aol.com

#### **SC Deaf-Blind Association:**

Cheryl Rhodes, (864)576-6394

Clrhodes@charter.net

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