

South Carolina News

October 2003

LeFors Unlikely Starter for Cards

University of Louisville quarterback Stefan LeFors hasn't ever started a college game, but he knows how he'll handle the hostility of 70,000 fans at the University of Kentucky's Commonwealth Stadium on Sunday.

He'll just think of home.

"I've just got to ignore the noise and the crowd," the junior said. "My parents are deaf, so I've got to just turn my ears off and be deaf like them and just play the game."

LeFors has some experience turning his ears off. Growing up as the only hearing member of a deaf family, he essentially had his ears "turned off" from the moment he got home from school each day.

And that's not the only unlikely turn in the life of the 22-year-old Louisiana native, who came to UofL as a recruiting afterthought but has emerged as a team leader.

"Not many people would have predicted me being the starter, that's for sure," he said.

They wouldn't have predicted it when he was a 5-foot-10, 142-pound freshman starter at tiny Christian Life Academy in Baton Rouge.

Nor did it appear likely when he received only one scholarship offer — an academic scholarship from Louisiana-Lafayette — after a senior season in which he won All-State honors and led his team to a fourth straight playoff appearance.

His emergence as a starting quarterback in NCAA Division I-A didn't seem imminent when he, his father and brother were busy crafting a home-made highlight tape of LeFors, which he sent to a dozen schools.

"I felt like I could play," he said. "All I wanted was a chance."

Only one coach who got the tape bothered to offer him a scholarship: UofL's John L. Smith. He didn't have to call LeFors twice. But once he got to UofL, LeFors found himself waiting behind ironman Dave Ragone.

"I knew this school was a great place for quarterbacks," LeFors said. "I felt blessed just to get the chance to come here."

"Blessed" is a word he uses quite a bit. He uses it while talking about his family, his opportunity and his wife, Joy, his high school sweetheart whom he married last May.

"I guess the way I grew up is different from most people," he said. "But it doesn't seem like a big deal to me."

LeFors said that a genetic problem led to his father's deafness and that his mother lost her hearing after a childhood bout with mumps. The same thing happened to his older brother, Eric. Both of his paternal grandparents also are deaf, as are both paternal uncles and an uncle on his mother's side.

If he's being asked to do things Sunday that generally are the responsibility of players with more experience, it isn't the first time. Though his parents tried to avoid it, as a child he often was an interpreter for family members at the store, on the street or on the phone.

"There was a stage — and I wouldn't say 'embarrassed' is the word — but having to interpret for them every day got to me at times," he said. "But the older I got the more I accepted that as my job and my duty, and I was so happy that God put me there so that I could do that."

Eric LeFors set national deaf school passing records while playing at Louisiana School for the Deaf and went on to play two seasons at Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C.

Now where does he go from here? Will he be a place-holder until a younger, more highly touted quarterback takes his place? Or will he grab the position and make it his own?

Coach Bobby Petrino named LeFors the starter without reservations.

What was Petrino's advice to LeFors after naming him the starter?

Don't change anything.

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Notes from the Home Office

Fall has just arrived. There are many things for Deaf and HOH people to do during this time; go to the South Carolina State Fair, attend the NAD Region III Conference, enjoy Homecoming at SCSDB, or try to get tickets to college and professional football games. I have seen Gamecock and Clemson fans argue about which football team is best.

If you plan on attending the State Fair in Columbia, you are welcome to stop by SCAD's Home Office, which is located in West Columbia. Our Home Office hours are from 9 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday. The office is closed on weekends and holidays. The Home Office has a bookstore and book/video lending library. It also has a small history museum in its bookstore. While you are at the Home Office, the staff would like to give you a tour around Home Office building. You can also pay your membership dues there.

The NAD Region III conference, which is being held October 3 – 5

at the Holiday Inn Airport in West Columbia. This conference is ONLY for delegates from each State Association around the Southeastern area BUT you can observe this conference after registering for only \$10. You can also join conference delegates at Saturday Night's Italian Pasta Dinner, hosted by the Midlands Association of the Deaf. You can check the conference agenda on SCAD's web page.

SCAD's web page has been updated by staff and is still up and running. There is always new information on our web page for you to see. Your comments, suggestions, feedback, and information is welcome. Feel free to share with us about SCAD's web page and any other issues. We will also be happy to post your future event plans on SCAD's Calendar of Events.

Hope you enjoy your fall season.

Eddie Hanna,
Administrator

New Account Manager For Sprint

Hello Relay Users!

I would like to make an announcement about my fairly new position as an Account Manager for Sprint Relay South Carolina.

Where's Ken Goulston?

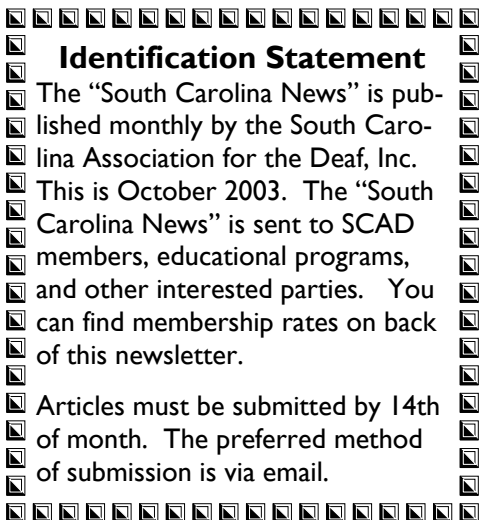
I have taken over Ken's position as the South Carolina Account Manager. He was promoted to a different position in Sales but continues to work in the same office on 905 State Street in Cayce (Columbia). We both have our own offices in

this building.

Who Am I?

Missy Whatmough McManus. I was born deaf, can sign (and speak if necessary). I lived in Ohio for 9 years and North Carolina for 14 years. In 1987, I graduated from a mainstreamed school in Raleigh then went to Gallaudet University, where I received a BA degree in 1991. I've lived in Spartanburg 10

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Identification Statement

The "South Carolina News" is published monthly by the South Carolina Association for the Deaf, Inc. This is October 2003. The "South Carolina News" is sent to SCAD members, educational programs, and other interested parties. You can find membership rates on back of this newsletter.

Articles must be submitted by 14th of month. The preferred method of submission is via email.

New Newspaper from CSD

CSD Announces the launch of its Sign Language Newspaper, SIGNews

(Release news on August 25, 2003) SIOUX FALLS, S.D. – CSD issued a statement today regarding its plans to publish a monthly newspaper dedicated to American Sign Language and the signing community. It will be available on a subscription basis and it is expected that the first issue of *SIGNews* will be released at the beginning of October 2003.

SIGNews is an unbiased publication with a mission to educate the signing community about various trends locally and nationally, inform the signing community of political issues and community events, and to provide an impartial forum for discussion. The paper will be comprised of several main sections, such as youth, education, business, life/culture, news and sports. Within these sections, *SIGNews* will also have subsections like politics, parenting and technology, to name a few.

“There have been other similar newspaper in the past – most prominently, the 30+ years old Silent News,” Says Adam Schafer, *SIGNews* editor. “But unfortunately, none of them remain in existence today. Their demise created a vacuum that CSD hopes to fill with news of relevancy and importance to the signing community nationwide.”

“American Sign Language (ASL) is the fifth most spoken Language in the United States, and because of the Millions of Americans who use sign language to communicate, we felt that such a publication would be well received,” said Benjamin Soukup, Chief Executive Officer of CSD. “In fact, we have had considerable feedback regarding the interest and desire for such a periodical, and we are eager to provide readers with timely, in-depth local and national news coverage of issues and events affecting signing communities around the country. *SIGNews* will be an entirely new publication – separate and distinct from

the *CSD Spectrum*, a quarterly company magazine. However, we will be able to leverage the infrastructure of our creative media department to produce both publications in a cost effective and balanced way.”

The costs of *SIGNews* is \$19.95 per year or \$36 for a two-year subscription. As a special introduction to advertising customers, a savings of nearly fifty percent will be given to those who purchase advertising prior to September 15. This one-time offer is good for up to three ads and is available only through September 15. For more advertising information, please contact advertise@signews.org. Also, *SIGNews* is looking for writer, editors and photographers. If you are interested in becoming a part of the *SIGNews* production staff, please contact Adam Schafer at aschafer@C-S-D.org. More information will be placed on the new publication's web site, www.signews.org, as it is developed.

New Account Manager For Sprint (Continued from page 2)

years and just last week, my family and I moved into an apartment in Lexington!

What Do I Do as "Account Manager"?
I do not count beans! I oversee all aspects of Relay services that Sprint provides for South Carolina. One of my primary responsibilities is to ensure customer satisfaction among Relay users and I will be working closely with the SC Public Service Commission (PSC) to en-

sure that we are either meeting or exceeding contract compliance. I will be traveling within the state of SC to give presentations about Relay services. Some out-of-state travels occur too. Also, I help sponsor (donate to) worthy causes. I do about 98 other things!

What's Relay?

"Relay" means to "pass on." 711 is one example of "Relay." Most of you already know about dialing 711

from your TTY to talk to a hearing person. That's when you type the words on a TTY and those words are relayed--or "**passed on**"--from the Relay operator to the hearing person.

I look forward to meeting new people and seeing old friends!

Missy Whatmough McManus
melissa.mcmanus@mail.sprint.com

News from Around

FISHING NEWS

By Bassin Bob

Lake Wylie- Saturday, September 6. After a 3 month summer break, 7 deaf anglers showed up excited about re-summing the South Carolina Bass Anglers of the Deaf tournament trail championship series. The weather was a bit cool with a cloudy overcast and some wind. However, the elements were no problem for local favorite deaf pro Bob Ketner, who lives just a few miles in North Carolina from Lake Wylie.

Bob had a field day by walking away with top honors by catching a whopping total of 5 lunker fish for a total weight of 8 pounds and 15 ounces. Bob was not to be outdone, because he caught 12 fish altogether, but was only allowed to boat (keep) his best 5.

Some may wonder if Bob walks on water using magic to influence the fish to jump in his boat. Second place went to veteran Harland Bryant from Pacolet who was able to catch a big lunker at 3 pm exactly one hour before the finish time.

Chuck Funderburk another local favorite from nearby Rock Hill finishing third, could

muster only a small catch of one fish weighting 7 ounces. The next tournament will be at Lake Greenwood State Park on September 20.

Fishing Results:

(winner, fish/dead, weight)
 1) Bob Ketner, 5/0, 8 lbs 15 oz
 2) Harland Bryant, 1/0, 2 lb 1 oz
 3) Chuck Funderburk, 1/0, 7 oz
 Edward Montgomery, 0
 Richard Hiott, 0
 Richard Price, 0
 Bob Morrow, 0

Lunker:

1) Bob Ketner, 2 lbs 1 oz (17")
 2) Harland Bryant, 2 lbs 1 oz (16 3/4")

Passing of Shirley O. Blanton

BLACKSBURG -- Shirley Owana Blanton, 67, of 602 S. Shelby St. died Sept. 1, 2003, at her home.

A native of Cherokee County, she was the daughter of the late Bate and Murphy Bridges Blanton.

She was associated with Bank of America in Charlotte, N.C., for 42 years and was a member of Hopewell Baptist Church. Before her illness, she was active in the deaf community.

Passing of Virginia Duff Brown

Mrs. Brown, age 84, of Cornelius, NC, a loving wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother, died Monday, August 25, 2003 at Lake Norman Regional Medical Center after a brief illness.

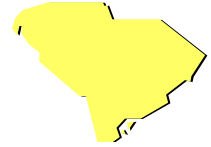
She was born July 27, 1919 in Weld County Colorado, daughter of the late Cleveland J. Duff and Alice Hellyer Duff. She graduated from the Colorado School for the Deaf and attended Gallaudet College in Washington, DC.



In 1942 she and Max J. Brown were married and they lived in Spartanburg, SC for 51 years before moving to Mooresville, NC. They had a happy and loving 61 year marriage. She loved to travel to see the beautiful American Countryside and participating in numerous conventions for the deaf.

She is survived by her husband, Max J. Brown; sons, Roland Brown and wife Mott of Cornelius, Daniel Brown of Beaufort, SC, Cleve Brown and wife Beverly of Hartwell, GA; sisters, Evelyn Mason of Solvang, CA, Madeline Christenson of

South Carolina



Broomfield, CO; brother, Robert Duff of Easton, CO; grandchildren, Daphne Little, Misty Brown, Blythe and Phoebe Brown, Danielle and Josh Emory; and great grandchildren, Brittany, Garrett and Cody Little.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Deafolinas Association of the Deaf, c/o Betty Turner Crowder, 2800 Spring Valley Road, Charlotte, NC 28210.

Vicencio's Happy Trails

On August 23, 2003, Eddie Hanna escorted Marvin Vicencio in odd routine from Eddie's residence to the Tavern and surprised him. Eddie hosted a surprise retirement and farewell party for Marvin Vicencio, AKA "Buffalo Bill". This party took place at the Frink Street Tavern in Cayce, SC. There were about 35 Deaf people and several of his hearing biker friends that attended his party. His cake at the party read, "Happy Retirement, We will miss you!". We presented him with a large black with orange lettering banner with signed messages from the party atten-



dees. The Tavern owner, Larry presented him with a framed picture of him with his Deaf buddies at the tavern. Covered dishes and the cake were provided at this party.

In 1975, Marvin Vicencio was hired to work for the federal government in California as an Army Optician. He relocated from California to Denver, CO in 1976. About 6 years ago, he relocated from Denver, CO to the Columbia area, due to the federal government downsizing. He worked at Fort Jackson, U.S. Army's 120th reception station. He has been with the federal government for 28 years. He felt it was the right time for him to retire at his age and move back to Denver to be near to his beloved daughter, beloved grandchildren, and beloved Deaf biker gang. He plans to spend more time on his hobby, HO scale model Southern Pacific Line railroad and trains. He has missed Denver's dry climate.

Marvin Vicencio lived in Denver for 21 years and was involved in various Deaf activities like co-founder of the Colorado Deaf Biker Club in Denver, and enjoyed riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle around the western states with their members. He also was a member of Denver's model railroad club.

Since relocating to Columbia, he has always complained about many things about living in South Carolina, like its weather. The South Carolina climate has been a difficult thing to deal with. In his spare time, he has enjoyed shopping at the area flea markets, meeting many Deaf Southerners, sharing his jokes, stories and histories. There was no mistaking him as he rode his Harley Davidson motorcycle around South Carolina. Just look for the spurs on his cowboy boots and unique t-shirts while meeting other South Carolina bikers and becoming their biker brother. South Carolina bikers know him as "Buffalo Bill" because he wears a helmet with buffalo horns and fur with tail. He was involved in the SCAD Board as Representative from Midlands Chapter for the Deaf. He has shared many ideas and suggestions to the organization.

At his retirement party, he said, "I admit that I was really surprised and shocked at this party to all the many "Deafies", I will miss but remember all of you".

We thank him for his many supports to our South Carolina's Deaf Communities and wish him luck in his retirement in Denver. We will miss him. When you get into Denver, Colorado, don't forget to stop by and visit him.

Blast from the Past—SC News April-May 1972

Taking Aim on the Outdoors with Alvin Biggerstaff

On Monday, February 7, I decided to go out and see for myself about the ravage dogs that have pulled down two of my neighbors' fine cows. I stood in the pasture camouflaged with my son, Ray, some 50 yards away where a dead cow laid. Suddenly Ray's arm flew out to point at a meadow of tall grass as my eyes focused at two large dirty dogs.

The light one smelled trouble and took off fast. Ray said the biggest one was the leader of the pack. The dog smartly walked in the other direction. Automatically we peppered at him with #00 buckshot. My mouth flew open in surprise because the beast acted like only bees stung him.

Ray wound his legs away from me and jumped over the barbed wire fence. I followed but wasted a lot of time. When I caught up with Ray I asked him where was the dog. He directed me to him and his presence scared me.

He was well built physically with glaring teeth. I pumped 3 shots that finished him. We stood there for a long time as Ray estimated his weight to be of about 60 pounds. We found out we had only one shell in each of our chambers and my knees almost bucked under me. Ray shook our legs up the hill.

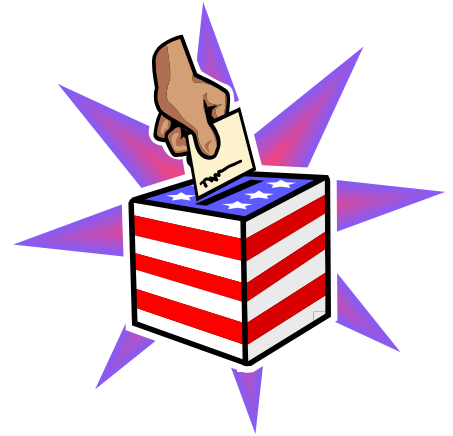
It was a scary experience and gave me a nasty feeling, but the owner of the cows felt better. (The owner and law officers gave us consent to shoot them off.)

Hints for Deaf Sportsmen...By Alvin Biggerstaff

An election year is nearing soon. Now is the time for you deaf sportsmen who want to remain free to find out how a candidate for elective offices stands on the gun bills.

If a candidate is against all of the gun laws, we must do all in our power to beat him (by vote). Our freedom and the freedom of our children may depend on them. The gun control is

communist inspired. It would be a great day for socialists revolutionary when the populace is de-gunned.



We don't need law enforcement! We need judges desperately who will enforce laws instead of scolding a radical "Naught, naughty, don't do it again" and turning him free. Pick your right man!

Thanks for your attention.

SCAD
welcomes any and all submissions but reserve the right to edit and/or publish any items. The Editor is not responsible for the opinions or beliefs in the SC News. The articles are submitted by the SCAD Home Office, SCAD Board, SCAD Members and the community.

SCAD Schedule of Events

October
October 2, 2003 (Thursday) - (SCSDB Football) Prince Avenue Prep., **Home**, 7:00pm

October 3 - 5, 2003 (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday) - NAD's Region III conference, Holiday Inn Airport, 500 Chris Drive, West Columbia, SC., Registration required. Contact SCAD Home Office at info@scadservices.org

October 4, 2003 (Saturday) - SCBAD Fishing Tournament, Lake Wateree, Wateree State Park, Winnsboro, SC (US 21 & 101), contact rhmorrow@charter.net

October 9, 2003 (Thursday) -

(SCSDB Football) Lockhart, Away, 7:00pm

October 10-11, 2003 (Friday & Saturday) - (SCSDB Volleyball) Mason-Dixon Volleyball Tournament, Tennessee School f/t Deaf, Knoxville, TN

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) North Carolina School f/t Deaf, **Home (Homecoming)**, 2:30pm

October 25, 2003 (Saturday) - (SCSDB Football) Georgia School f/t Deaf, Away, 2:00pm

October 25, 2003 (Saturday) - SCBAD Fishing Tournament, Lake Wylie, Ebenezer Park, Rock Hill, SC (State Road 161), contact rhmorrow@charter.net

October 30, 2003 (Thursday) - (SCSDB Football) Grace Christian (Summerville), Away, 7:00pm

November

November 1, 2003 (Saturday) - 9:00 am until 10:00 am Breakfast Social, 10:00 am until ???, **SCAD Board meeting**, SCAD Home Office

Join SCAD Today!

- SCAD Membership Form -

Remember, your membership includes SCAD publications and rights to voice and vote.

Please Check One

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual - \$20/yr | New | Renew |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Married Couple - \$25/yr | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen Couple - \$15/yr | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen Individual - \$10/yr | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student - \$10/yr | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Tax-deductible Donation

SCAD is a nonprofit organization, designated 501 C-3 by the IRS. Your additional donation to SCAD helps us continue our work, and may be tax deductible for you!

Donation Amount \$ _____

The total amount of \$ _____

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Ann Riddle, rlriddlesr@aol.com

SC Deaf-Blind Association:

Cheryl Rhodes, (864)576-6394

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Membership Information

Annual Dues

Individual	\$20.00
Married Couple	\$25.00
Senior Citizen Single	\$10.00
Senior Citizen Couple	&15.00
Student	\$10.00
Corporate	\$ 50.00

Membership includes
all publications for
ONE FULL YEAR
Contact SCAD for a
Membership form!

Advertising Rates:

(Suggested Contribution)

Full Page -- \$50

1/2 Page -- \$35

1/4 Page -- \$20

1/8 Page -- \$15

Business Card -- \$10

Flyer Inserts-- Call for pricing

**Deadline for submission is the
14th of each month.**

Please include payment with ad.

<http://www.scadservices.org/>



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