

RELIGION

Inspiring Book Honors Father Charles Jordan

Book signing event Saturday

A well known motivational speaker and educator from Portland has written an inspirational book as a way to encourage youth and adults to pursue their dreams, honoring his mother and father.

Dion C. Jordan will host a celebration and sign copies of his newly released book, "All That It Takes Is All That You've Got and All That You've Got Is All It Takes," from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, June 18 at Reflections Bookstore, 446 N.E. Killingsworth St.

Although it is a coincidence that the celebration/book signing is the day before Father's Day, Jordan said it is no coincidence that the role his father, Charles Jordan, played in his life is woven throughout the book. Charles Jordan is a

former Portland City Commissioner and is the retired Director of Portland Parks and Recreation.

"A lot of the teachings in my book came from my father's influence," said Dion Jordan, who also is a youth pastor at Bethel AME Church in north-east Portland and a student services coordinator at Open Meadow Alternative School.

"The title of the book is a quote from my father. He said it at a time when I needed some direction in life," Dion Jordan said. "The one thing I hope the reader takes away from reading the book is the feeling of empowerment to live their dreams, find their talents and reach their goals."

Charles Jordan said the quote "all that it takes is all that you've

got and all that you've got is all it takes," means that everyone has what they need to move forward in life. The key is for people to use what they have to their advantage.

"You may not have a college degree or the finest clothes," Charles Jordan said. "But you are somebody. You are a child of God so you have something and you have to say, 'Am I willing to use the gifts that God gave me?'"

Dion Jordan, who is now a nationally known motivational speaker, said he had low self-esteem when he was younger because he was born severely pigeon-toed and had a severe speech impediment that caused him to stutter. When he was 8, both his legs were broken and reset; he had to

learn to walk all over again. During his middle-school years, he missed gym class and recess to spend time with a speech therapist and still remembers the name of the class bully who teased him daily. Dion Jordan said through those trials, he learned a lesson that he imparts to others: "Focus on your own race. There will be people who will make fun of you or discourage you, but you do what you have to do (to achieve your dream)," he said.

And despite his obstacles, Dion Jordan's mother, Esther, said her son had been fulfilling his dream of inspiring others since he was a young boy.

"He was always doing the right things. He was always helping others," Esther Jordan said. "My heart is running over with love and I'm very proud of the success he's had overcoming his disabilities." Visit www.dionjordan.com.



Dion Jordan

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FOR DADS AND GRADS

Church Celebrates Youth Night

The Full Gospel Pentecostal Church, 1033 N. Sumner, invites the young to "Get Your Praise On" during a Youth Night on Monday, June 20 at 7 p.m.

Gospel rap artist Xile and the Youth

Choir will perform, along with a speech by Overseer L.F. Townsend. Jerseys and jean attire are encouraged.

For more information on the Youth Night event call 503-280-3003.

Xile will perform for Youth Night June 20 at 7 p.m. at Full Gospel Pentecostal Church.

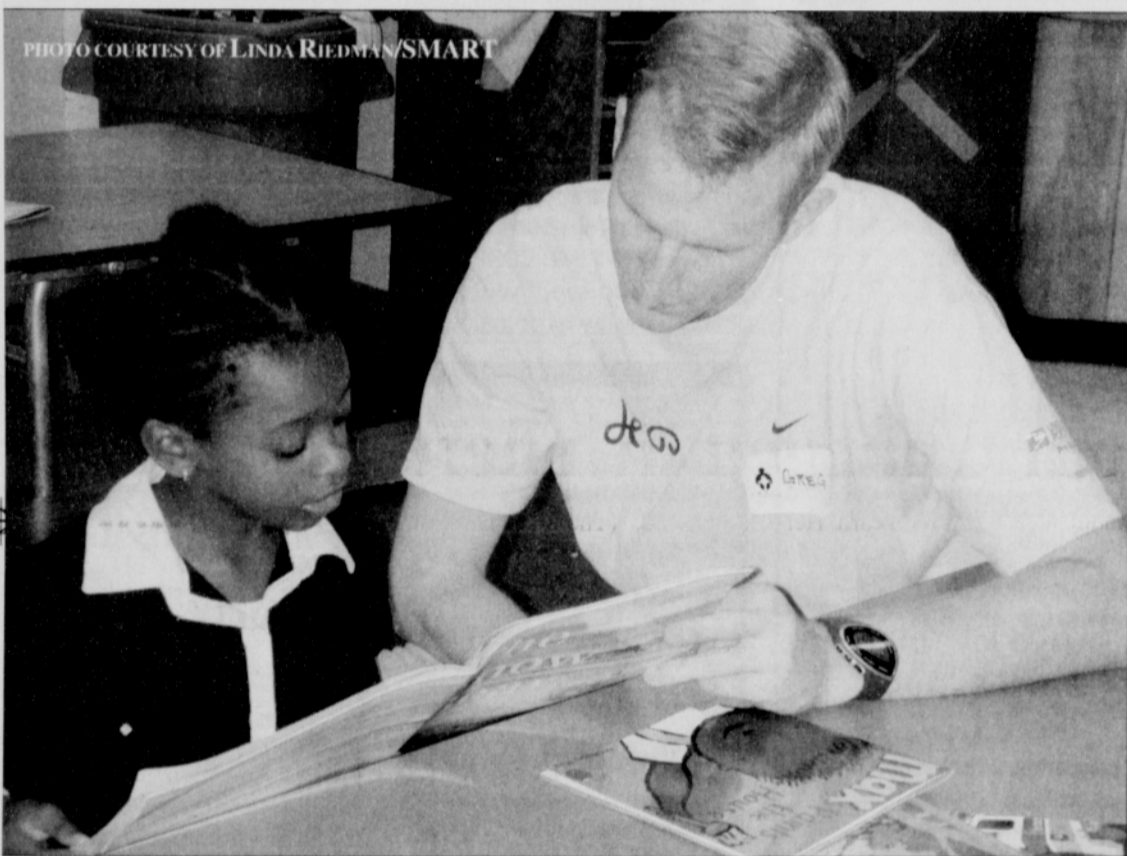


PHOTO COURTESY OF LINDA RIEDMAN/SMART

A volunteer with SMART (Start Making a Reader Today) helps a young girl keep her mind sharp by coaching her improvement in reading.

Summer reading encouraged

continued from Metro their own well-being, but the world around them.

"We really look at it as an investment," Riedman said. "Those

Oregon students will hopefully go and enter our workforce and help our economy. We see it as a long-term goal to help the state. It's everyone's effort. Oregon's children belong to all of us, so we need

to make a difference in their lives." For more information on how you can get involved with SMART, via volunteering or donation, visit www.getsmartoregon.org or contact Carolyn Forbes at 503-937-4800.

Birth Announcement

Dylan Thomas Beckett

Catherine and Tom Beckett gave birth to Dylan Thomas Beckett on May 2, 2005 at Providence Portland Medical Center. The baby boy was born at 11:49 p.m., weighing in at 6 pounds, 11 ounces with a height of 19.5 inches. Dylan Thomas has a big brother named Stryder, age 7. His grandparents include Sam Sperry, Tory Courtney and Barbara Schlotfeldt, with his great-grandparents being Ray and Barbara Black and Pat Krajewski.

The Oregon-Washington A.M.E. Zion Church Annual Conference

The Oregon-Washington Annual Conference Will Hold Its 113th Session June 14-19, 2005 At First A.M.E Zion Church, Portland, OR 4304 N. Vancouver Ave (corner of Vancouver and Skidmore Sts)

"Raising Our Level Of Enthusiasm" Is The Theme For The 2005 Oregon-Washington Annual Conference Session.

Bishop Roy A. Holmes Will Preside Over The Annual Conference. This Will be The First Time Bishop Roy A. Holmes Will Have Presided Over An Oregon-Washington Conference. Bishop Roy A. Holmes Was Elected The 92nd Bishop Of The A.M.E. Zion Church, In August '2004.'

Tuesday Night June 14th Will Be The Communion Service and The Following Day; Wednesday June 15th Will Be The Official Opening Of The Conference. Besides Business And Reports, The Conference Is Also A Special Time For Fellowship, Inspiration, Anointed Preaching, Singing, Etc.

For More Information Please Call The Church At 503-287-4969
Rev. Emily Broussard,
Conference Publicity Chairperson

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