

## “DREAM”

pro basketball player in Europe. He gave it a try.

“My career lasted about a day and a half,” he said without elaborating.

Until then, he admitted he’d never really thought much beyond basketball. All his friends were working for IBM and other big companies. That didn’t appeal to Shepard. He yearned for “life experience.”

He chose to begin his journey in Charleston, South Carolina.

“I think from the beginning there wasn’t a whole lot going through my head,” he recollected. “I was more naïve than anything. It wasn’t like I’d thought far enough in advance that I should be scared. I thought I’d get to Charleston, find a job and start saving some money.”

That didn’t happen.

“It was scary the first night,” he said. He found Rivers Avenue in Charleston a dark and dreary area. His original plan had been to find a bridge to sleep under. Suddenly, that didn’t seem like a good idea.

“I made my way to the (homeless) shelter,” he said. “There wasn’t a whole lot registering in my head initially beyond ‘this is what you have to do to succeed.’”

“I’ve always had an appreciation for life and what I had, but it really hit home that first night. I really grew to appreciate the life I had. I think that’s one thing that I really recognized.”

The goal was to make it out of the homeless shelter and into an apartment. In order to do that, Shepard needed a job.

“The one moment that sticks out in my memory for sure is when I was passing

applications all around town, trying to get a job,” he said. “After about 10 or 12 days, I still didn’t have a job and I was pretty frustrated.”

He described the shelter as a mix of old, fat, bearded guys and healthy young men who had just hit a bump in the road.

“We were all sitting around and I was complaining that I couldn’t get a job. There was a guy, Phil Coleman. He just kind of bumped right in and gave his opinion on the matter.”

“He said, ‘These managers aren’t going to call the shelter and say great, we get to hire a homeless guy. You have to go to these managers and say you’re the greatest worker they’re going to find. If they take you, they take you. And if they don’t, go to the next place. Filling out applications isn’t going to work,’” Shepard said. “That really hit home for me. Here I was, the king of the American Dream 10 days into my project and I’m failing. I’m down. I don’t know what I’m going to do. And here is this homeless dude giving me advice.”

The next day Shepard went to a moving company where he’d previously applied. “I’d called the guy twice and nothing. And I went in there and I gave him the speech. I said ‘Yo, I’m Adam Shepard and I’m the greatest mover you’re going to find. Let me work a day for free and I’ll prove it.’” Shepard got the job and eventually his own apartment and “a very used pickup.”

The people that Shepard associated with during his project did not know he was living in a homeless shelter by choice.

Nobody at the shelter knew about his experiment until he one day returned with the book and said, “Hey, I did this.”

“They weren’t impressed at all,” he recollected. “This was a life that they had been living since they were born. They had come from scratch beginnings and I thought it was so cool that they didn’t even really care what I had been doing.”

Shepard said he proved that the American Dream *could* be achieved, at least in his experience.

The idea of a book had been in Shepard’s mind all along, but it wasn’t a sure thing.

“This wasn’t something where I went down to Charleston with an agent and a publisher,” he said.

He gave 4,000 copies of the first edition to high schools, prisons and homeless shelters, to those who could use it but maybe not afford it.

The book has received mixed reactions.

“Generally people love the story,” Shepard said. “But there is certainly a controversial aspect that a young, healthy guy proves that the American Dream is alive. I’ve come from two loving parents and have been educated along the way. If you’re 55 and a single mother, you can’t go move furniture. That’s the biggest criticism – that I’m one small demographic.”

Shepard believes that while the criticism is fair, everyone has talents and advantages they can use.”

The book will come out next Tuesday under the HarperCollins imprint. For the next four months Shepard will be promot-

ing it on tour.

“After that, I think that there are a bunch of different directions I could go,” he said. “I think there’s a market for high school and college kids that don’t understand the role that personal finance plays in their life. We’re so bad with money, our generation. It’s scary because social security is going to be bankrupt by the time we retire and I think our values are in the wrong place.”

With the economy in such dire straits, Shepard believes that everyone, including students, should take personal responsibility for their money to ensuring their own success.

“Pay yourself first,” he said. “Always put a little bit of money away whether it’s \$50 a month, whatever you can spare.”

He believes that education has a lot to do with the fiscal irresponsibility of the college-age population.

“I don’t think we place enough value on education,” Shepard said. “We have people who come out of high school proficient in physics and algebra, but they aren’t ready for the decisions that need to be made in today’s society.”

With a recession on the horizon, he thinks that now is the perfect time to look at what matters.

“This economy is very exciting because it gives our generation a chance to look at what’s truly valuable,” he said. “Maybe what’s really valuable isn’t a big house we can’t afford. Maybe what’s truly valuable is loving your fellow man, respect and character.”

## “COLD CASE”

incide with the time period, McClure said. Actors of different ethnicities, ages and sexes will be needed for each shooting.

“It needs to be as realistic as possible,” McClure said. “The leads are drying up. We’re hoping to trigger that something and find the missing link to solve this.”

The goal of the reenactments is to bring closure to the families and victims and to

bring justice to offenders, the officer said.

The reenactments are going to be produced as realistically as possible so viewers will pay attention, McClure said.

“This needs to be something people want to turn on and see,” McClure said. “More viewers can lead to the information we need.”

Sandra Grant, mass communications

instructor, is helping to write scripts and coordinate actors for the project. She thinks the project is a true community service.

“Unsolved murders make people uncomfortable,” Grant said. “It’s nice to know that someone out there cares enough to keep looking.”

She said the project would be worth it if

just one case were solved.

“Maybe there’s someone who didn’t want to say anything in the 1980s, but they want to come forward now,” Grant said. “Some of these cases are fresh on people’s minds.”

Grant is currently meeting with students who are interested in participating.

## “TUBE”

“It seems like a great chance for students to take something they learn theoretically and practice it in real life,” Lewis said. “It will give them more experience.”

Each school takes responsibility for submitting content on a given day. MSU provides material for the magazine on Thursdays. Students scour YouTube, Twitter and other media sites for presidential campaign coverage and compile the information on TubetheVote.

The project integrates ideas that students learn on the Internet and in

society, Lewis said. “This is a chance to extend the classroom one step further,” she said.

Students prepare drafts for submittal to the site every Wednesday. Lewis looks over the copy and provides feedback before the pages are sent to an editor at the magazine.

The site is organized into seven distinct sections. Some pages are more work than others.

Lewis said the easiest section to complete is probably the Twitter section, which highlights popular

campaign topics. Sleeping with the Enemy, which is dedicated to party officials speaking out against their own affiliation, may be the most difficult.

Other sections are Top or Flop, 100 % Biased, Best Parody, Quote Quiz and User Videos.

Some students were opposed to the project at first, but Lewis thinks most have warmed up to it now.

“It seems like you hear about the election all the time, so it’s like information overload,” she said. “But I think they’re enjoying doing

something of this scope. You don’t get to do this in every class.”

Lewis hopes the project will help students have fun while learning, as well as giving them an opportunity to participate in their own fates.

“The decisions the nation will be making will affect their futures more than mine,” she said. Sophomore Jaleesa Bealom contributed to the 100 % Bias section of the site Thursday. She said it’s her favorite.

“It allows you to be totally creative and forces you to be current in the

news,” Beasom said.

Beasom, a Democrat, had a hard time representing both sides of political arguments at first, she said. The project has helped her become more objective.

“It’s a well-rounded aspect instead of one view,” she said. “It’s a little difficult because it forces you to see both sides even though you may not want to.”

## “ARTIST”

frogs changed their natural color and looked more like the female frogs from toxins in the water.

Dr. Richard Leakey, who will speak Oct. 20, was raised by well-known anthropologists Louis B. and Mary Leakey. He followed in his parents’ footsteps to become an accredited paleoanthropologist, political advisor, and environmentalist. He has discovered some of the most significant fossils in history such as the “Black Skull” which caused

paleontologists’ ideas of the human family tree to change. He was named one of TIME Magazine’s 100 Greatest Minds of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

The jazz trio Three’s a Crowd will perform Nov. 5 at Akin Auditorium. Shaunette Hildabrand, Bernd Lhotzky and Frank Roberscheuten found each other when Echoes of Swing Orchestra, an eight-member group, was formed. The three broke off to form their unique sound of predominantly jazz mixed with a hint of clas-

sicism.

Billed as “An Evening With Soledad O’Brien: Her Life Stories,” the CNN correspondent will speak Feb. 23. She started her career as an associate producer and news writer for Boston’s WBZ-TV, previously an NBC affiliate. She worked her way up to the Today Show and NBC Nightly News, and later joined CNN.

Even at the height of a professional football career that would some-

day merit his inclusion in the Hall of Fame, Alan Page knew he had to plan for the rest of his life. The former defensive lineman – a member of the Minnesota Vikings and the Chicago Bears – earned a law degree while still an active player so that, after retiring from the game, he could move directly into a full-time career as an attorney.

In 1993 Page became an associate justice on the Minnesota State Supreme Court, making him the first

African American elected to office in that state. Page is also the first person of color to sit on the high court in Minnesota. He will speak March 25.

The process to decide which speakers will participate in the series comes from meetings that take place in the spring by students on the Artist Lecture Series committee, said Treva Clifton, assistant to the associate vice president of student affairs. They decide on a list of po-

tentia speakers, check the speakers’ schedules, and figure out the costs.

Keith Lamb, associate vice president of student affairs and adviser to the Artist Lecture Series committee, said the most expensive lecturer this year is O’Brien at \$30,000 and the least expensive is Three’s a Crowd at \$3,000. The total comes to \$70,600.

This marks the 44<sup>th</sup> year of the Artist Lecture Series. All lectures and performances will be at 7 p.m. in Akin Auditorium.

## “CORNYN”

loans regardless of the borrower’s ability to pay the money back is partially responsible for the financial mess.

As a result, he doesn’t see this as a failure of the private market, but an example of how government intervention in the private sector can cause disastrous results.

“I won’t be satisfied until the people who got us into this mess are held accountable,” Cornyn said.

He likened the situation to Enron, where those involved were prosecuted.

“There needs to be a grand jury convened; there needs to be an investigation; there need to

be indictments and prosecution. Only then can we say that we’ve done that part of it, held the people responsible.”

Cornyn is not only campaigning for his own reelection, he’s also promoting John McCain.

“This election is going to be up and down between now and

November,” he said. “It sounds like a short period of time, but it can be an eternity in politics. There are going to be a lot of twists and turns between now and election day.”

He thinks the choice between the candidates is a very distinct one.

“I’ve never seen an election where the choices were more clear,”

Cornyn said. “Between Barack Obama and Joe Biden – I don’t understand how Joe Biden, who’s been in Congress for 35 years, can be the face of change.”

“Then you have John McCain and Sarah Palin, who have basically been reformers, who have even rattled the cage a bit of republicans

and conservatives, people like me, along the way.”

When the campaign trail comes to an end, he hopes he’s still in office to bring a little bit of his state to D.C.

“If I could make Washington more like Texas, I’d be a happy man,” Cornyn said.

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## Campus briefs

• **Oct. 8** **Maverick’s Birthday party and Picnic; Sunwatcher Plaza; Wed. 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.; cost \$2**

• **How Mustangs Round Up A’s and B’s Part Two; Dillard 336; Wed. 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.**

• **Christopher Carter ESP Show; CSC Comanche; Wed. 8 p.m.; no cost**

• **Banner Competition and Judging; CSC Atrium; Wed. 4 p.m.**

• **Oct. 9** **Legacy Walk Induction; Gates of Hercules; Thurs. 3 p.m.**

• **Foreign Film Series: “Away From Her;” Kemp Center for the Arts; Thurs. 7 p.m.**

• **Torchlight parade followed by Bonfire; CSC; Thurs. 9 p.m.**

• **Theatre production: “Doubt;” Fain Fine Arts Theatre; Thurs., Oct. 9 - Sat., Oct. 11; 7:30 p.m.; purchase tickets in Fain Fine Arts**

Hall

• **Oct. 10** **Ex-Letterman’s Coffee and Breakfast; Arrowhead Lounge; Sat. 7 a.m.; pay at door**

• **Homecoming parade; all campus; Sat. 11:45 a.m.; entry forms in CSC 194**

• **Tailgate party; Memorial Sta-**

**dium; sat. 5:30 p.m.**

• **Oct. 13** **Artist Lecture Series: Dr. Tyrone Hayes; Akin**

**Auditorium; Mon. 7 p.m.**

• **Oct. 14** **Texas Association of College Teachers Event; CSC Kiowa; Tues. 12:15 p.m. - 2 p.m.**

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**Name:** Kevin Lloyd  
**Occupation:** Student  
**Hobbies:** Playing music and surfing the internet  
**Why I donate plasma:** Donating plasma is a worthy cause.

**Name:** Lua Augustin  
**Occupation:** ISM lead at Sears  
**Hobbies:** Reading and dancing  
**Why I donate plasma:** A simple way to contribute to medical advances. My mother is a nurse and I always wanted to do something to help other people.



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