

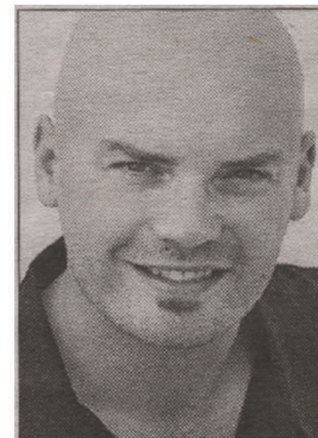
AMERICAN STORIES

Guide to the St. Petersburg Times Festival of Reading on Saturday, October 25. Free admission.

As another chapter of our larger history is being written, authors offer a bookshelf full of individual tales — heartfelt, gripping, hilarious, wise — that add to the chronicle of a nation. Page 3

» Shawn Bean

Bean, an award-winning journalist, has twice been named Writer of the Year by the Florida Magazine Association.



His book *The First Hollywood: Florida and the Golden Age of Film-making* recounts the state's history as

the early center of the film industry. Bean has a degree in film from Southern Methodist University and has contributed to *Florida Travel & Life*, *Miami*, *Florida International Magazine* and *Baltimore Magazine*.

A CRITIC'S VIEW: "Although nonfiction, at times it reads like a fast-paced novel, telling the story of how it was Jacksonville — not Hollywood — that served as this country's first film capital." — Author Patrick D. Smith

IF YOU LIKE THIS BOOK, TRY: *Florida on Film* by Susan Doll and David Morrow