



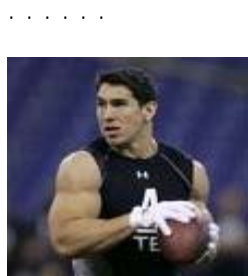
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Much like sports coaches unleash potential in athletes, David will show you how to soar to new heights exploring the business and professional dreams you desire. To learn more, [send an e-mail](#) or call 281.251.3200.



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**Boy Wonder**  
On Saturday, NFL fans will find out who lands Matthew Stafford, Mark Sanchez and other potential stars. At some point, the announcer will say a team selects "James Casey, tight end,

## Ideas For Success | April

Often as a coach, I encourage clients to 'delegate, not abdicate' in leading their teams. In other words, it's essential to have trust when you hand off an assignment...and to check progress at regular intervals. Typically, clients respond to this suggestion with "That makes perfect sense, and I've been doing exactly the opposite." (Note: Stephen Covey or another guru came up with this idea, so it is not my intention to take credit for originality.)

Over the last week, much has been written and discussed about the 'Tea Parties' that occurred across the nation on April 15th. With the opinions trotted out on CNN, Fox News, talk radio and the Internet falling along left/right, liberal/conservative lines, the real message is being lost in the medium. Regardless of where you align with taxation and the spending in Washington, would you agree the citizenry of this nation is abdicating responsibility for requiring accountability from the elected? Perhaps that's the first thing that needs to change for real change to occur.

[A Knight's Tale](#) There is a story ministers share about a painting entitled *Checkmate*. It seems the Devil is playing chess with Faust, and has him cornered with no apparent way out. In one version of this allegory, world champion Bobby Fischer stares at the painting for six straight hours then proclaims, "Wait! The King has one more move!" While the message from the pulpit is one of salvation, this apparent urban legend serves as a good reminder in business.

Chances are you've tried many things over the past year to change your desired results. Yet, the recession lingers, and you may be thinking, "We've done all we can." Rather than resign your fate to what will be will be, it is imperative to remain steadfast and keep looking for the solution. Gather your key personnel and advisors, and have candid conversations about "What now?" While you can't control what's happening 'out there,' you are responsible for everything going on 'in here.' You're the King, so make your move.

[Words of Wisdom](#) It frequently appears to the casual observer that solutions manifest in the blink of an eye. More likely, the correct path revealed itself after other options didn't work out, but moved the seeker closer to enlightenment:

*"I think and think for months and years. Ninety-nine times, the conclusion is false. The hundredth time I am right."* – Albert Einstein

Many people give up just before finding the answer. Regardless of the setbacks you've endured in the last few months, keep searching...turning over rocks and trying new things. The right one is out there waiting to be discovered.

[Graciousness Personified](#) In the 60's and 70's, Merle Harmon

Rice." While you may not know who he is, you may want to root for him.

During his senior year of high school, Casey's mother died in a residential fire. An outstanding pitcher, he signed with the Chicago White Sox, but was released after three years in the minors. Wishing to return to football, he walked on for the Owls. In two years there, he excelled at multiple positions and led them to their best record since 1949. He's also a beast in the weight room.

"It was like, do I feel sorry for myself and just quit, or do I realize that my mom would have wanted me to pick myself up and succeed," he said. "Did I want to do something with my life and make her proud? That was a turning point...It made me work extremely hard to try to be successful."

Times are tough. James Casey has seen worse. He's proof you can overcome any challenge.

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was a network sportscaster – covering the Olympics, Major League Baseball and many big-time events. He was at the microphone as the radio voice of the New York Jets during their historic Super Bowl upset of the Baltimore Colts. In the 80's, he called Texas Rangers games and Southwest Conference football and basketball...and I had the honor to work with him for six years.

Of all the people I've met, Merle ranks as the nicest. Once, after a banquet, I remarked about the uniqueness of his tie, and he took it off and gave it to me. That gift hangs in my closet still. As a mentor, Merle taught me two lessons I try to live by, though I often come up short: 1) No one cares if you have a headache, so spend your time making their day brighter, not unloading about yours; and, 2) If you don't have something nice to say about a person, say nothing. He also taught me that living your faith requires tuning out the distractions that sidetrack your real purpose for being here.

Merle's vast family and many friends are gathering today to celebrate his 82 years on this earth. Wherever paradise is, Merle Harmon is there...graciously accepting his reward for a lifetime of kindness and giving.

Until next month, continued success in all things.

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