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Born in Cottageville, S.C. on May 7, 1972, Matt began shagging at age 7. As a Junior shagger he represented the State of S.C. at the National Governor's Association Conference in Beaufort, S.C. and National Parks and Tourism Department's Southeastern Hoedown in Washington, D.C. Along with his partner Leslie Williamson, Matt was a dance instructor for and a principle dancer in the movie "Shag". Matt and Leslie won 43 consecutive Junior Shag contests and were 2 time Junior national Champions.