

Internships for college students interested in motorsports

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internships is a step in furthering the outreach, France said.

"They have brought fresh perspectives, new ideas and enthusiasm to our industry and we are proud to have

them in our sport," he said.

Applicants must have completed at least the sophomore year of college and be enrolled as an undergraduate or graduate student. Applicants can be of any age and must have a minimum

3.0 grade point average for juniors or seniors and 3.2 for graduate students. Internship opportunities range from marketing to ticket sales and engineering racing machines. All interns will be paid a

minimum hourly rate of \$6 and are expected to work 40 hours a week from June 1-Aug. 13. Applicants who make the cut will attend a one-day orientation June 1 in Charlotte. Regina Phipps, a Wake

Forest University student who interned at Richard Childress Racing in Welcome, N.C. last year, said the experience "surpassed my goals in a summer internship. I was able to be a part of

the business, and not just assist on the periphery. ...The NASCAR world is definitely one I want to continue in when I graduate."

On the Net:
NASCAR Diversity Internships
www.diversityinternships.com

Eagles Nest speaks language of communication

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Robinson adds. "The child can't run the session."

Their commitment to individual instruction and adherence to high standards helps the principals of Eagles Nest compete as a private enterprise in a field dominated by governmental and quasi-governmental

agencies, Robinson says.

Wendell Varner, who operates Kiddie Farms Child Development Center in Charlotte with his wife Gloria, says Eagles Nest is a welcome addition for his children and their parents. Eleanor Tolliver of Charlotte's First Ward Child Development Center also

praises the efforts of Robinson, Gist and Floyd.

Already, Eagles Nest is dealing with growing pains as Robinson, Gist and Floyd work on expansion. They are adding child care centers to their roster as well as recruiting after school care facilities and charter schools. Further, they are seeking

with success - to provide speech therapy on a contract basis in the exceptional children departments of public school systems across North Carolina.

Smiling as she plays on her company's name, Robinson says, "We believe we are soaring to new heights with speech and language."

How to make the most of your money

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be as insidious as termites to the unsuspecting consumer, particularly those that treat their statements like unwanted junk mail. One only has to look to the example of the phone companies and their "hidden charges" to see how creative companies, including FIs, can be. The only remedy is eternal vigilance by scanning your hard-copy statements, or checking via Internet banking or audio response system if there is a "giant sucking sound" as fees are extracted from your funds. In recent years, one example has been credit card companies and FIs imposing massive penalty charges for going over your credit limit or for a late payment - even for a day. Another trick has been to charge a 1 percent or greater cash advance fee for using one of the "convenience checks" sent with your statement. These charges can be large enough to dwarf the actual interest rate on the account, although another new trick is to shoot your interest rate from 10 percent or 12 to 29 percent for one of these egregious oversights. FIs are also charging for falling below your minimum balance on accounts, for using your ATM card, for not using your ATM card, for visiting a branch, for a deposit slip, for writing too many checks, etcetera, etcetera, etcetera.

While few of us are anxious to curl up with a good disclosure statement on a rainy evening, it certainly behooves us to know what is going on with our accounts. Calling your FI after inadvertently hitting one of these expensive "tripwires," like the credit card convenience check fee, rarely results in a satisfactory outcome for most consumers. Therefore, it's best to keep an eye on the terms disclosed when you open an account and on any change of terms sent subse-

quently.

ATM surcharges- Once positioned by the banking industry as a cost savings over human tellers, ATMs are now characterized as expensive equipment warranting significant charges from consumers for their

convenience. Large banks used the lifting of prohibitions against surcharging by networks (that they control) to try and force a competitive advantage over smaller FIs with their large network of ATMs. If you use a large bank and only use their

ATMs then you're not paying surcharges, although you may pay other monthly fees. Rarely disclosed is that ATM-owning FIs already earn a transaction fee (usually around 45 cents) from the FI that issued the ATM card.

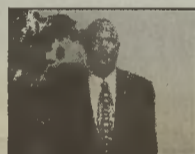
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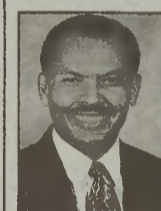
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We dreamed of having success. Success seemed like such a natural part of living. But then along the way, we began to hear the voices around us that meant so much to us tell us that our dreams were unrealistic and unreasonable. We were told to think in more practical terms.

The result was that many of us believed the voices that told us that our dreams were impossible. Consequently, we began to settle for whatever life seemed to be willing to throw our way. We began to just let life happen to us rather than creating a life for ourselves that we had dreamed of having.

Your life does not have to be that way. When we set goals for ourselves we can have our dreams. Write them down. This is critical. Review them every day. This allows your mind to be fixed and focused on them. Whatever we think about, that is what we become. Do not let others in on your goals who will not be supportive of your dreams. You do not need those kinds of distractions. Work every day to achieve your goals.

Your heart and mind will lead you as you focus on your dreams and goals to take you to the next step. You will be amazed at just how quickly your dreams will come true!

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