

Patrick Mccarthy covers the top 50 songs every iPod needs this summer, page 9



the Seahawk

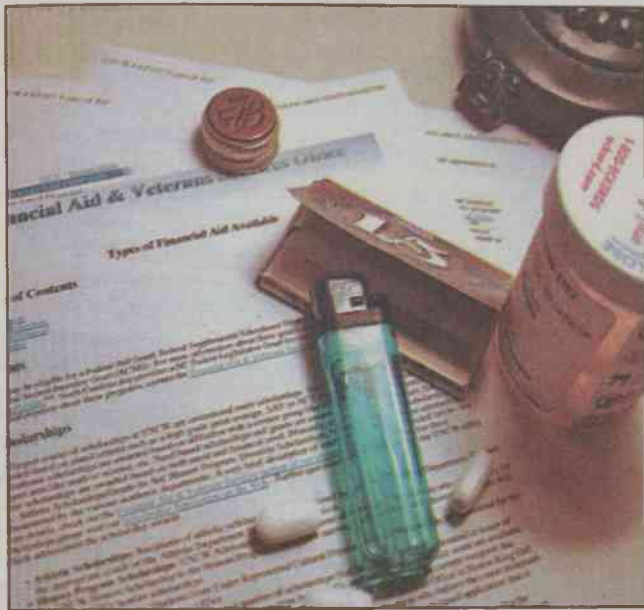


The search continues for a new UNCW basketball coach, page 11

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Chris Carlton | THE SEAHAWK

Students that are convicted of drug possession or drug solicitation charges can be stripped of their financial aid according to federal law. One UNCW student has been affected by the law since it was implemented in 2000.

Drug convictions could cost students their financial aid assistance

AMANDA HUTCHESON
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

A current law prohibits students with drug convictions from receiving financial aid.

Section 438 of the Higher Education Act takes away federal financial aid from students after a drug conviction. Students convicted of a possession charge lose their financial aid for one year for the first conviction, two years for the second conviction and indefinitely for the third conviction. Students convicted of the sale of illegal drugs lose their financial aid for two years

for the first conviction and indefinitely for the second conviction. If students wish to receive financial aid again, they must pass a drug rehabilitation course.

The federal law only applies to federal financial aid. Each state can pass its own laws regarding state-funded financial aid. North Carolina does not have a policy set by law but leaves it up to individual schools and courts. Federal financial aid applies to Pell Grants, Perkins Loans, Stafford Loans, Federal Education Opportunity

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Legally-sold hallucinogenic herb drawing attention from the media, DEA

LAYTON LOMAX
CORRESPONDENT

Illegal drugs get lots of attention, but a legally-sold herb that can have LSD-like effects when smoked or chewed is becoming popular for young people.

Considered a "drug of concern" by the Drug Enforcement Administration, salvia divinorum is a plant native to Mexico that can have effects ranging from mild numbness in limbs to hallucinogenic and dreamlike experiences.

The psychoactive drug is an underground substance used since the 1960s, but it has only caught the attention of the media, young buyers and the DEA since the early '90s, coinciding with the Internet boom.

Liquid extracts of slavinorin A, the active ingredient found in salvia which can be taken orally, are sold in two Wilmington shops. One seller said it is popular among area customers. Although it is found in stores, the Internet has virtually cornered the salvia market.

A description of salvia on the DEA's Web site said the Internet has played an important role in the promotion and distribution of the drug to young adults.

Salvia leaves can be smoked or chewed, and a liquid extract from the plant can be taken orally as well. Users say the drug can open new realms of time and space and bring about visionary trances. Most users do not consider it a "party drug." They say the effects are more insightful and do not bring about euphoric feelings like other drugs. Some users have also had negative experiences of terror and fear.

Daniel Siebert runs a Web site

see SALVIA page 2

Summer Internships: No pay doesn't mean no experience

AMY TARRILLION
CORRESPONDENT

It may be less than a month until the end of the semester, but it's not too late to find the often dreaded, but nonetheless virtually obligatory fulfillment of every college student before they graduate: the summer internship. Giving up a good chunk of your summer vacation to work without pay isn't exactly an appealing notion, but it has become a necessary evil for some students. However, with some perseverance and a little UNCW Experience savvy, students may turn a dreaded summer duty into an enriching experience by finding their perfect practice run in the real world, rather than just another to-do before graduation.

Internships have become the standard component of any college graduate's repertoire, and it's a given that one summer out of three, a student's time will be spent working for someone for work's sake and experience alone. Paid intern-

ships do exist but are few and far between, especially for UNCW's most common majors, business and biology. Students must prepare themselves to devote a large portion of their time and effort without monetary compensation.

According to Thomas Rakes, Career Services director, it is all in how much students use the resources they already have access to.

"Internship opportunities come to us wanting to hire students, and we seek them out as well through a national internship resource we subscribe to. Everything we find out about, we put on the UNCW Experience site."

The UNCW Experience Web site is a vital source not only finding internships, but making the most of those internships once students find the one that best suits them.

"We also provide students with an internship workbook that assists them with the steps in securing a valuable internship," said Rakes.

Along with this workbook is the Internship Learning Contract, a

vital tool in suiting both the student's and the employer's needs.

"The internship learning contract is a contract between student, teacher and employer that lays out the duties of the student in their internship and helps them to avoid internships where they run the copy machine all summer long," said Rakes.

Students can also consider jobs they already have as an internship resource, especially if the job ties into the student's major. With the help of the internship learning contract, Amy Thomas, a junior art major, found that all it took to get her internship was a resource she already had: her current job.

"I work for an artist at Carolina Beach and talked to him about working with him as an intern this summer, since my work ties in with my major. I filled out the internship learning contract, and now I can work an internship at a place I am already familiar with and receive credit for school."

Using the internship resources



Courtesy of uncw.edu

Thomas Rakes (above) is the Career Services director at UNCW. Rakes recommends that students use UNCW Experience online.

that UNCW offers to students may make for a less painful experience and possibly for an enjoyable one.