



Franklin Scott photo

Hope Jones, Miss ECSU, models evening wear during The Showcase.

THE COMPASS

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Reporter's job teaches student lessons in life

by Kimberly Hines

This semester has been filled with assignments and deadlines. My experience as a reporter for *The Compass* has enabled me to learn a great deal about hard work, dedication, commitment, the real world, and myself.

As news notes editor, I learned that it is important to stay on top of people to do your job successfully, because they do not always come through the first time you ask.

As poetry editor, I have learned to be more compassionate, more open-minded and patient.

As a reporter I have learned not to editorialize, or give my own opinion in a news story, the importance and effectiveness of using quotations, and the value of commitment to a story.

I have also learned to be a more effective editor, to receive constructive criticism, and to work as a team member with other staff members to produce a successful paper.

Not only have I learned a great deal about life in the news arena, I have also learned about news itself, terms and its functions, especially as it relates to print. I have, for example, learned the importance

of using quotes correctly with the correct information, when to paraphrase a quote, and the importance of checking spelling and accuracy before allowing an issue to go to press.

Misuse of any of these important details can result in a paper's loss of credibility.

I have also learned to create an appropriate lead for each type of story. The lead is the most important statement in a story; it can make or break a great story.

I have learned the different types of leads as well. For instance, a buried lead is found later in the story, not in the beginning. A cluttered lead is long and contains too much information, somewhat of a "run-on sentence."

Working for *The Compass* has been an excellent learning experience this semester. I have acquired hands-on skills in the field of print and practiced those skills.

Being the only student enrolled in Journalism Lab taught me that in life, not everyone you think you can depend on will prove themselves worthy, but the work has to be done and someone has to do it.

My job has given me a new understanding of journalism, and I am grateful for the experience.

More call boxes installed for campus emergencies

ECSU students who worry about their safety should feel relieved to know that the University has just completed installation of an additional three emergency call boxes, bringing the total number to six.

These push button units are available during emergencies, according to a statement issued by the Campus Police Department. Pressing the call button will contact police personnel, who will be able to electronically identify the box location.

By pressing the button a second time, a student can speak to the dispatcher or an officer.

"Individuals should press the call button if they feel threatened, see someone suspicious or believe another person may be in trouble," according to the statement. "The button may also be pushed when an individual believes 'circumstances could place them in an unsafe situation.'"

The system will operate 24 hours a day. Boxes are placed on utility poles with location lights turned on at night.

Flashing blue strobe lights will activate when the button is pressed as an additional crime deterrent.

Here are the instructions for use:

Press the Push for Help button. A green indicate light will light up momentarily, notifying you that your call has been sent to security.

Along with the green light, a recorded message will be played by the Callbox,

indicating assistance is needed at your location.

The recorded message will repeat until Security responds to your call.

When Security receives the call, a red light on the Callbox will light up, telling the user that the Callbox is ready to relay your message. This also indicates that Security is physically responding to your location.

If you hear a security officer introduce himself, press and hold the push for help button and speak in a normal voice.

When you are finished speaking, release the button and listen for Security's response.

The boxes are located in front of Lester Hall, at the rear of the G.R. Little Library, in front of Ridley Hall, in the New Women's Dorm, (parking lot 'L'), in the gravel lot at the rear of McLendon Hall, at the Cardwell-Hoffler Infirmary, and in the R.L. Vaughan Center Parking lot.

Gift

Free the mental
 Combine your inner ability to lead
 Use your gift to explode

Explosions like nuclear weapons
 Open the vacuum in your
 cerebral cortex
 Inhale

Kelvin Walston