

# Garrettson builds a future through CWE



Jordan Garrettson, along with several other students and faculty, constructed this lean-to for the horticulture department at Student Vocational Village Alternative High School.

**Karen Hill**  
FEATURE EDITOR

In a time when mediocre homework assignments and half-hearted attempts to excel are a common occurrence among overworked college students, a job well done is not easily overlooked.

Jordan Garrettson is one of the ever-decreasing number of students who are willing to do a job—and do it well.

Garrettson, a second-year student at Clackamas, is enrolled in a Building Construction Cooperative Work Experience program (CWE), which gives him the chance to practice his talents and skills, earn college credit and assist in the preparation of a career in building and construction.

CWE recently presented Garrettson with the opportunity to build a lean-to for the Student Vocational Village Alternative High School, located on 82nd Ave. near Madison High School.

The lean-to, referred to by the high school as an "outdoor classroom," was built for the purpose of having a covered shelter for the horticulture students to grow and study plants.

A plan to build a raised, movable, three-walled structure with a roof, which could be easily disassembled, was presented to Garrettson. A student from the school's workshop class had done a rough sketch of the plans as a guide.

"They had the idea," said Garrettson, "I took it, improved on it and ran with it."

The students and faculty of the Student Vocational Village were invited to assist in the construction of the lean-to, which took roughly 40 hours to complete. Between four and 15 students worked with him on the project, said Garrettson.

"It was hard to find jobs for everybody!" he said.

Education Coordinator and Program Advisor Sue Metcalfe arranged the project for Garrettson. She found out about the need of the Student Vocational Village and recalled the needed work experience for Garrettson. "And I just put the needs together," Metcalfe said.

Through this, Garrettson was able to do a 'service learning project,' said Metcalfe, which means providing service for another organization.

"I enjoyed seeing the connectiveness Clackamas was able to share with other schools," she said.

"I thought [Garrettson] did a really good job," said Metcalfe. "You can't put just anyone in that situation and have them do that well."

Garrettson plans to get a degree in Building Construction and Program Management, in which he would oversee projects and ensure smooth operations. Currently, he's enrolled in a 12-



**GARRETTSON**

credit Project Management class which meets once a week. This is the first installment in a course that will continue throughout the year.

"[Building construction] has been my passion for a long time," said Garrettson. "[It's] something I've always loved to do."

His list of completed projects proves his point. Garrettson has built numerous decks and fences, remodeled basements and hung sheetrock.

He hopes to get a job as a builder someday. For now, Garrettson said, "I'm just focusing on the present."

## Student wheels her way through college Campus accessibility rates high at Clackamas

**Cory Price**  
CO EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

We all face challenges going to college, but students in wheelchairs have even more obstacles to endure.

Clackamas student Deana Butler is in a wheelchair due to a four-wheeling accident four years ago in Coos Bay. Her quad went over an 18-foot wind shear, throwing her over the handlebars. Butler was rushed to Portland's Emmanuel hospital in a Life Flight helicopter.

"It was loud and it was orange, that's all I remember of it," said Butler.

Butler spent three days in ICU. Overall, she had just over a month of healing time before going home, permanently paralyzed from the hips down.

What does Butler think about the handicap accessibility of the college? Her overall rating of the college is

good compared to Mt. Hood Community College (MHCC) and Portland State University (PSU).

"[Clackamas] is much better than Mt. Hood. They have really steep ramps at [MHCC]. Ramps here are an easier grade," Butler said. PSU is inconvenient for wheelchairs, too.

"They have only one way to get around for wheelchairs. Here [at CCC] there are many ways to get around."

The only ramp at Clackamas that is really steep is in Barlow Hall. However, this doesn't pose much of a problem for Butler; she doesn't have classes in that area of campus. Butler's class schedule keeps her in McLoughlin Hall, Clairmont, Streeter and the library.

These buildings are equipped with automatic doors or light-weight doors.

Butler struggles, however, with the speed or lack thereof, regarding the automatic doors.

"Automatic doors are so slow!"

Butler said. "Clairmont has the slowest door. I sit outside, waiting for the door to open, saying to myself, 'Um, o.k. — When!'"

Another minor issue on campus is the bathrooms. Some stall doors open the wrong way, while other stalls are too small for a wheelchair.

"Bathrooms might have a bar but aren't big enough to get a wheelchair into," Butler said. "Bathrooms are disabled-accessible, but not wheelchair-accessible."

Butler also expressed her frustration with stereotypes.

"People who can walk on two legs are called able-bodied people, when someone who is in a wheelchair is referred to as disabled," Butler said. "We're stereotyped as stupid and mentally ill, when we're not. People say we're never going to accomplish anything in life."

Currently Butler is going through the criminal justice program at Clackamas in hopes of becoming an assistant detective. She is earning A's and B's in all her classes.

I took the opportunity to spend the day in a wheelchair and experience a portion of what Butler does

**"We're stereotyped as stupid and mentally ill when we're not."**

*Student Deana Butler, on the misconception of people in wheelchairs*

## In the spotlight: Nic Delzell

**Profile by**  
**Cyndee Mady**  
CO EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Sports enthusiast Nic Delzell has advanced from staff writer to Sports Editor for *The Clackamas Print* in just three short terms.

"If they had a ghetto sports-announcing job, I'd get it," Delzell said. "I'm still trying to master the English language."

When he's not checking out the sports action on campus, Delzell likes to play basketball and keep up on his three favorite professional sports: baseball, basketball and football.

What does Delzell consider to be his greatest talent?

"Making people laugh. I have a keen ability to do it even when I'm not trying," he said. "If there were still Court Jester jobs I'd apply."

**"If they had a ghetto sports-announcing job, I'd get it. I'm still trying to master the English language."**

**Nic Delzell**  
Sports Editor

Delzell also maintains a long distance relationship with *The Print's* former sports editor Elena Boryska, who is currently pursuing Journalism at Washington State University, in Pullman, Wash.

"My lovely girlfriend is the best thing in the world. She's completely changed my life—taught

me to be a good boy," said Delzell. "I think about taking the six-hour drive and just getting out of here every, every, every, every, every, every day."

"Every time Nic visits he makes me forget how boring Pullman is," said Boryska. "He always seems to make everything better."

With two more years of community college and career explorations still ahead, Delzell is just taking life one day at a time.



**Deana Butler, an ASG office assistant, stamps posters with approval for scuba instructor Harry Klein.**

everyday. I didn't fully realize the daily struggle that one has to endure while in a wheelchair. Those automatic doors do not open fast enough at all and trying to open a regular door is a juggling act in itself.

When a wheelchair restricts a person, people often have the audacity

to stare at the wheelchair unashamedly.

"For me, I would rather have someone ask me flat out what is wrong," said Butler. "And it's nice when someone does offer assistance. It's a nice reprieve from the daily grind."

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