



Current Photo/ Josh Clemens

## At a glance...

**Age:**

27

**Majors:**

Marketing,  
Management,  
Psychology

**Total units:**

131

**Accumulative GPA:**

3.45

**Left: Inventor John Kent takes a study break in Boettcher Library between classes. He's taken as many as 38 units in a single semester at ARC.**

# It's a bird... a plane... a super student?

**By Dennis Choban  
Staff Writer**

American River College is giving John Kent a lot of credit—school credit that is. In the spring 2007, Kent took a total of 41 units, 38 units at ARC and three more at Sacramento City College ending up with a 3.3 grade point average.

This “super student” is majoring in psychology, marketing and management all at the same time and he also likes to study law and philosophy.

“We could all get more out of life if we would instead of just thinking about what we want to do, [be] doing it,” said Kent.

The 27-year-old also took 28 units in fall 2006 and earned a GPA of 3.8. Last summer, he took 19 units. Two days a week during this summer session, he had back-to-back classes from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

This impossible scenario coming from a guy who also invented SayType, a program that enables anyone to write

school papers by simply talking into their cell phone.

Kent came up with the idea when he was recording notes from one of his many classes into a voice recorder, when he realized he wasn't tireless.

“It was a waste of time to record notes to myself, so I said, there's gotta be a better way,” Kent said.

So he came up with the idea: SayType. He says users can speak into their phone for up to two minutes, and SayType will convert the message into text. The converted text can be sent to a phone or e-mail address.

Kent says it has saved his grade before. He had an English paper due, which he hadn't written yet. As he was driving to school, he recited his essay into his phone and sent it to his e-mail address. Then all he had to do was get to a computer, proofread the piece and print it out. The SayType technology was released to the press on Sept. 4, 2008.

School officials say in order for students to take more than 18 units, they must get a dean's signature and possibly have to meet

with a counselor.

According to ARC statistician Jim Barr “[the average student load of units enrolled] during fall 2007 was 2.70 units, [but]... consider that the range, was from .25 units out to 28 units.

Johnny Sittisin is another “super student.”

“There is so much to learn and only a certain amount of time allocated to learning without any hindrance from the world outside of academia,” said the former ARC student.

Sittisin took 26 units at ARC last year and earned a 3.87 GPA. Sittisin, an English major with an emphasis on creative writing, is currently taking 18 units at California State University of Sacramento.

“School is supposedly the ideal place where minds are meant to be cultivated to their full potential or at the very least, opened up to the possibilities of the world,” said Sittisin, “[and] the most fertile ground in igniting the fires of progress and change, which is why I love it so much.”