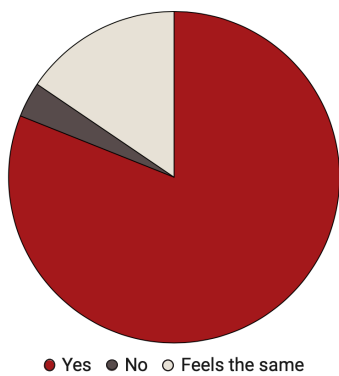


## What's Your Opinion?

Has A-State's parking situation worsened?

Out of 58 responses:  
 Yes -- 47  
 No -- 2  
 Feels the same -- 9



● Yes ● No ○ Feels the same

## Next Poll:

**iPhone vs. Android**  
 Which smartphone do you use/prefer?

Students can answer the poll on The Herald's Instagram page, [@astateherald](#). Instagram polls are posted on Mondays. Previous poll results can be found on [astatetheherald.com](#). Have an idea for a poll? Send your ideas to [heraldopinion1921@gmail.com](mailto:heraldopinion1921@gmail.com).

These and future articles can be found on the Opinion section of The Herald's website.

## Campus parking needs a revamp

**ALLIE CARSON**  
 STAFF WRITER



Allie Carson is a first-year creative media production major from Jonesboro.

From the pricey tickets to the limited parking areas for students, parking on campus has become a hassle that needs to be addressed — especially with new colleges coming to campus and the gradual increase in enrollment numbers every year.

It feels like every semester the parking situation worsens, and yet, there are no real changes made to fix it.

It's a daily struggle for students to circle the parking lot searching for a vacant spot, to park and risk receiving a ticket or even make long treks across campus in severe weather conditions. It's evident that the entire parking system needs to be reworked to accommodate the growing student population — so

why is it not happening?

One of the biggest issues contributing to this frustration many students are feeling is the restrictive parking permit system. This system unfairly limits where students can park based on whether they live on or off campus.

For example, I live in University Hall and usually leave campus in the afternoon before I have a meeting in the Education/Communications building in the evening. I shouldn't have to park at U-Hall, typically having to drive around the entire campus because of the entrance gate, and then have to walk across campus to the Education/Communication building when there's a parking lot behind the building.

**"We should be able to park where we want, when we want without worrying about getting hit with a hefty fine for college students."**

However, students who live in dorms or anywhere on campus should be the only ones allowed to park in those parking lots because those in the residence halls deserve to have those nearby spaces.

This is a huge issue during the Spring semester, especially lately due to

dangerously low temperatures. Making students walk across campus from wherever they live to wherever they have class is unsafe for them and many don't want to make that walk because of it.

This brings me to my next point, many of the existing parking lots need to be expanded.

The visitor parking at the North Park Quads barely has any spaces and it's in the most populated area of campus. Same with the LLCs. There's hardly any visitor parking in those areas and it's not like students can park at the Convocation Center because if there's a basketball game, students have to park at the baseball field if they don't have a pass.

Students can't park at the Reng Student Union parking garage either, without getting a ticket, unless it is after 5 in the afternoon and before 8 in the morning. On some occasions, I've needed to run into the Student Union for something yet was worried about getting a ticket if I didn't pay or for being in a spot I wasn't supposed to be in.

With the record number of first-year enrollment, parking needs an upgrade. More students should mean more parking, preferably free. However, with the new buildings coming to campus, that removes space for more parking for

students and faculty.

This includes the new Windgate building being built. Where it's going, there used to be a large parking lot for students to use but instead of parking, the campus now gets a new fine arts building.

We pay to go to this school. We should be able to park where we want, when we want without worrying about getting hit with a hefty fine for college students.

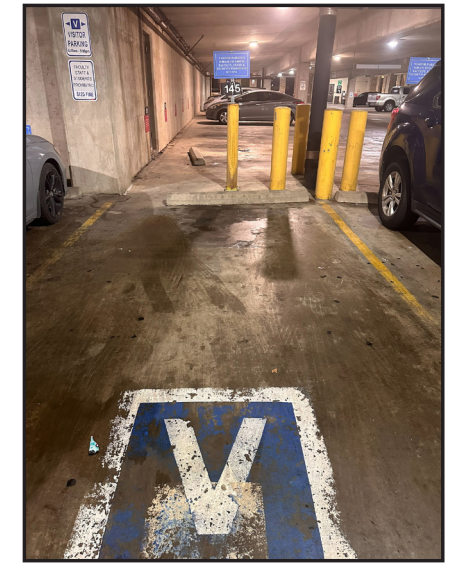


PHOTO COURTESY OF ALLIE CARSON  
 Photo depicts a visitor parking spot in the Reng Student Union parking garage.

## Professional wrestling is the best live theater

**ELIJAH TEMPLETON**  
 LIFE EDITOR



Elijah Templeton is a senior English major from Jonesboro.

The allure of a live performance is something so captivating and exhilarating that I have a hard time not enjoying myself whenever watching, regardless of the actual quality of the on-stage action.

The knowledge that the performance is live, that there are no do-overs and that one misstep could destroy the fragile illusion that exists between the stage and the crowd is a sort of thrill that must be comparable to the thrill of giving said performance.

This suspension of disbelief allows the audience to forget that they are watching a performance and instead embrace the story being told and emotionally invest in the stakes of the narrative.

All of this and more is magnified

exponentially whenever I watch professional wrestling.

Pro wrestling is one of the oldest forms of entertainment in America. What started in carnivals and circus acts, designed to get one over on the 'marks' in the audience who truly believed they were witnessing a physical confrontation, has since evolved into the pinnacle of live theater.

Real dramatic stakes and emotional storylines playing out over weeks, months and even years. The thrill of live performance where one mistake can shatter that aforementioned illusion that allows for that suspension of disbelief.

Larger-than-life characters that embody universal human experiences. The epic triumph of victory and the crushing blow of defeat are present within all professional wrestling shows—when done right.

There is bad professional wrestling, no doubt. In the same way that bad theater can come about as a result of bad acting, writing or directing, the same can occur in wrestling. A poor storyline can limit fan interest, bad actors can remind you that you are watching a performance and a bad 'finish' or ending of a match can drain all of the energy from the crowd.

Some wrestling replaces storytelling

with violence and dramatic performance with high-flying stunts and this can get old very fast. For every bad instance of pro wrestling, there is a magical moment of it being done right that reminds you why you still invest your time and attention and keep watching.

When done right, professional wrestling is the greatest live theater imaginable. It has made me seethe with anger and cry tears of joy and it has been the one of the only constants in my media consumption since I was seven years old and first saw "The Undertaker" on television.

It captivated me then and from time to time, when done just right, it captivates me now.

And for a brief moment in time, I

am completely engaged, the illusion has worked its magic and I am seven years old again, on the edge of my seat, hoping that one of my favorites like "CM Punk" hoping that my hero overcomes the odds and triumphs over our shared enemy.

There is nothing quite like professional wrestling, for better or worse. Whether done poorly or superbly, it stands alone as a strange mix of performance art and athletic competition that can capture your imagination like nothing else.

So give pro wrestling a shot and you may just find yourself captivated and never stop watching.

But of course, that's just one man's opinion.



ARTWORK COURTESY OF USA TODAY  
 Artwork depicts a collage of professional wrestlers throughout history.

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