



Photo illustration by Corey Romick and Michael Bonn Clackamas

A driver parks as close to class as possible, ignoring the fact that it is not a marked spot. Parking spaces are filling up fast with a surge in student enrollment. The combination of poor discretion and neglect of drivers has led to cramped lots and difficult navigability.

Parking spot woes



By Kayla Calloway
Co-Editor-in-Chief

There's a growing epidemic sweeping through the parking lot next to Roger Rook. More and more spaces are disappearing, forcing innocent drivers to park in "not-spots." These symptoms are made worse by the college's increasing population.

This, of course, is utter nonsense. Although there is a parking problem, it's not for lack of spaces; it's because of laziness.

Every day, as I pull into the Rook parking lot searching for a spot of my own, I see cars parked carelessly at the end of rows. Oftentimes, this is worse in two-hour parking than anywhere else.

I know that everyone is always in a rush, but by parking in a not-spot, people narrow the already tight driveways. I can't even count the number of times I've almost hit a car in a not-spot.

Recently I saw three cars parked along the entrance to the lot, narrowing the path.

There are other parking lots, people. It may not be as close to your class as you'd like, but the lot behind the Family Resource Center consistently has spaces available, even though the lines there are in desperate need of a new paint job. There's also the huge parking lot behind Barlow, just a short distance away from the Rook lot.

There is hope for a cure though. Just the other day, I saw campus security tending to one of these cars. I can only hope that the punishment is more than a written warning.

Not-spot cars aren't the only troublemakers plaguing our lots. I'm going to say this loud and clear, Rook's two-hour parking lot is *one way*. It drives me insane when I'll be just about to pull into a spot and all of a sudden, a car will swing right around that corner going the wrong way and take that spot I was going for.

I really don't know of a way the school can make this more obvious. There are already signs posted, arrows painted and the constant flow of cars that gets interrupted when someone does go the wrong way.

We're all guilty of rushing to class at the last minute, and I know better than most that, when you're running late, that not-spot can be mighty tempting. But please, readers, combat the monkey on your shoulder. Plan on parking in Barlow or behind the FRC by leaving an extra 15 minutes early. You won't be late, and even if you do get a great, legitimate parking spot, you'll be golden.

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