# the preface

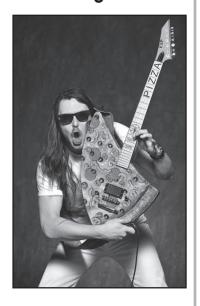
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AMERICAN HOBBIT STORY

#### New campus parking lot now fully operational

The Education and Arts Building lot was previously restricted for safety reasons



The Education and Arts Building parking lot is now open without restrictions.

Preface Photo/NATALIE MILLS

By MANDI STEFFEY Staff Writer

Frustrating students and faculty alike, the new campus parking lot located at the corner of Esther and Hildreth streets near the Education and Arts Building has been encased in fencing since the start of the semester.

A sign was posted on the fence, warning motorists that the gates would lock at 8 p.m., which is well before the last night class is released from IU South Bend. Likely to the relief of those who drive to campus, the fence is down and the lot is now fully operational.

"The gates are down and the lot is fully lit," said Michael Prater,

director of facilities management at IUSB. "Everything was put into place today [Friday]. This morning they got the lights in working order and we were able to get the gates down for good."

Prater and parking staff employees on campus say that while the gates might have been frustrating to motorists, they were there for safety purposes. According to them, the gates were necessary because the lights that were erected on the lot weren't yet working. This resulted in a very dark space during the night hours, so the decision was made to gate the lot and lock the gates after 8 p.m. to keep students and staff safe.

"It just gets dark around 8. It was

a safety reason," said Chris Lass, a full-time parking staff member and IUSB student. "It was locked down for the safety of the students."

Other options were available for students after 8 p.m., including the adjacent lots west of the parking lot and all other lots on campus. Even if a student was locked in the gate past 8 p.m., parking staff said that security personnel were on hand all hours of the night to unlock the gate.

Now that the lot is fully functional, it's able to provide much-needed parking space day and night on the west side of campus. It's the biggest parking lot on the west side and is only rivaled by the bigger lot on the east side of the Student

Activities Center, Greenlawn Hall and Northside Hall. According to the IUSB Parking website, that lot is the first to fill up.

Students can now rest assured that there will be more parking spaces available without the annoyance of a locked gate. The new lot, which has been freshly repaved to repair potholes and supplied with brand new lighting fixtures, is now fully accessible.

"It's all back to normal now. Students will be able to park in the new lot without the 8 p.m. restrictions starting this week," Prater said.

The Preface

### All bad things must come to an end

#### Felina brings a satisfying end to AMC's hit drama Breaking Bad

By: CECELIA ROEDER Design Editor

Column

"Chemistry is the study of transformation." -Walter White

Sunday evening's finale might have marked the end of Breaking Bad, but it kick-started public perception as one of the greatest TV crime dramas of all time.

Since its beginning in 2008, Breaking Bad has followed the journey of Walter White (Bryan Cranston) from chemistry teacher to drug kingpin. Along the way, we've seen the consequences of his actions affect those around him, from his former student-turned-sidekick Jesse Pinkman (Aaron Paul,) his wife Skylar (Anna Gunn) and children, to Skylar's sister Marie, and her DEA agent husband (Betsey Brandt and Dean Norris.)

It seems like finding the right way to end a show is crucial to guaranteeing the success of a show. Nobody likes when a show "jumps the shark," especially in the last episode of an entire series. A good example of this is Dexter, another anti-hero crime drama, also in its last season. Unlike Breaking Bad, many fans of Dexter have been disappointed, pointing out unrealistic and confusing plot turns. How did Breaking Bad manage to avoid this end?

I think creator and executive producer Vince Gilligan knew his limits. He didn't have Walt do anything out of character. He didn't draw out the story for numerous seasons. Like Walt, I think Gilligan was aware that all things come to an end, and prolonging the end is

The final episode, titled Felina, may go down as the best ending in TV history, no small feat. Breaking Bad managed to give fans everything they could have wanted. Felina was a true masterpiece. No line uttered is unnecessary, every scene adds to the plot.

Felina wouldn't have been able to manage such a spectacular ending without a stellar final season

to back it up. The entire 5th season, split in half and aired over 16 episodes, was chock full of action, drama, and good storytelling. Gilligan left no loose ends, no question that needed answered.

My favorite part of Breaking Bad was always Jesse, Walt's partner -in-crime or nemesis, depending on the time. Walt's transformation into Heisenberg is forefront in the show, but I most enjoyed seeing Jesse journey, from a bumbling

amateur meth cook, to a struggling addict, to a motivated criminal trying to turn his life around, and finally to a broken man, destroyed the violence and drugs that surround

I'm sure there will be a few fans who complain that the finale didn't elaborate more on Jesse's future.

However, I prefer not to know with any certainty. Jesse is the only major character who never "broke bad." He certainly had some low moments, but he never truly turned

Jesse wasn't perfect, but he always had a conscience, and he always wanted to follow it. He had empathy for children, and he didn't care about wealth or fame. Many of the bad things Jesse did were under Walt's manipulation. The most satisfying part of the finale, for me, was that Jesse broke that cycle, and ultimately rejected evil.

I truly got the feeling that it was the last life he would ever take. He did the world a favor by ending the life of a psychopath who showed frighteningly little emotion. Todd's

Yes, Jesse killed a man again. But

death was also a way for Jesse to avenge the lives Todd had taken, and the torture he had suffered. Some have also pointed out that Jesse and Todd are the inverse of each other. Jesse is highly emotional, intelligent, empathetic, and

still has a sense of right and wrong. Todd is emotionally flat, socially inept, and seems to have no conscience. It's only appropriate that Jesse would

Yet Jesse rejected his chance to kill again. Walt did a good number of bad things to Jesse, enough that many people could justify Jesse killing Walt. Jesse couldn't pull the trigger. There could be many reasons why. I like to think that Jesse was forced to face his conscience. He had every reason to shot Walt, but he wasn't going to commit any more crimes that would leave a stain on his soul. He was done compromis-

ing his conscience

for Walt. Jesse

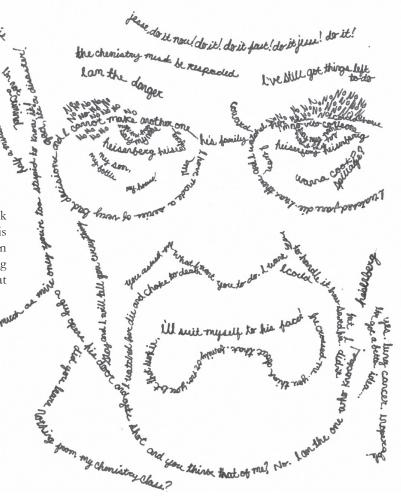
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The last we see of Jesse is him breaking out of his prison, finally free, finally happy. We don't know where he's going, and honestly, I don't want to know. Jesse was able to escape his dark past, and that's exactly what viewers needed in a show like this. If Jesse can survive hell and find redemption, who's to say you can't? I can't think of a better message to send in a show that goes to very dark places.

Thanks, Breaking Bad. For five seasons, you gave me something to watch, analyze, and discuss. I've never been so emotionally involved in a TV show the way I have been with this one. Somehow, a story about the makers of crystal meth became a story that taught me about life. That's not the kind of show you can find anywhere. Only time will tell if another series can top Breaking Bad.

I doubt it.



Artwork courtsey of Cecelia Roeder

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