

# THE BATTALION

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PAGE DESIGN BY • EMILY HENDRICKSON

## MyDoom Worm

MyDoom Worm is the latest e-mail virus, which started infecting computers Jan. 26.

- Also known as Novarg
- Contained in e-mails with random senders
- Originated in Russia and has spread to 168 countries

ANDREW BURLESON • THE BATTALION  
SOURCE: CIS CNN.COM

## Worm squirms its way through A&M

By Melissa Sullivan  
THE BATTALION

Approximately 1,000 e-mails sent to Texas A&M have been infected with the MyDoom worm, dubbed the worst worm since the Love Letter worm in May 2000.

Tom Putnam, director of Computer Information Services, said the University is working to create tools that detect and delete any infected e-mails.

"We are hoping we can find a way to catch all of them," he said. "We are deleting them as they come

through the front door."

The MyDoom worm, which started in Russia, began spreading and infecting computers Jan. 26

Willis Marti, associate director for networking at A&M, said whoever spread the worm may be upset at the Utah-based SCO group, which has been pressing its claim that some of the creators of the operating system Linux copied parts of SCO's computer code.

"There are all sorts of reasons for creating a worm or virus," Marti said. "When you take over someone's computer you can do interesting things."

Marti said the worm looks at one's e-mail address

book and generates random e-mails that includes a message such as, "The message cannot be represented in a 7-bit ASCII encoding and has been sent as a binary attachment."

"The infected e-mail may look like it comes from you or someone in your address book," Marti said.

Putnam said the subject line of the e-mail may read "hi" or "hello" and look like a friendly e-mail.

Computer labs around campus began posting warning signs telling students not to open attachments

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## Artist hosts workshop, encourages students' talents

By Rhiannon Meyers  
THE BATTALION

Since 1977, Rita Blitt said she has been dancing on paper.

Blitt said she creates her abstract art by attacking her canvas with eyes closed, a paintbrush in each hand and classical music playing in the background. The final result is the kind of art that has made her famous worldwide.

"I developed everything myself," Blitt said. "I just let lines flow from me. It's a deep emotional thing."

On Jan. 27-28, Blitt taught Texas A&M students how to dance on paper themselves. In two workshops hosted by the Memorial Student Center Visual Arts Society, Blitt spoke to students about her work and then encouraged them to dance and mark a piece of drawing paper as it moved them.

"This was the most exciting moment of my experience here," Blitt said. "It's groundbreaking. It's getting dancers to extend their lines to paper."

Blitt said she applied only three rules to the workshop: pretend to be the only person in the room, let the lines come from deep within and work as fast as possible.

Christine Bergeron, clinical assistant professor of dance, said she was surprised at how many dancers immersed themselves in dancing on paper.

"I didn't find one person that didn't connect," Bergeron said.

Bonnie Bryan, a junior economics major, said the

experience was inspiring.

"It was really like free reign," Bryan said. "Dance if you like, draw if you like."

Although this is the first time Blitt has ever taught a workshop like this, she said her art reflects the huge impact of music and dance, especially her "Caught in the Paint" series, a group of photographs taken of dancers in midair behind pieces of glass painted by Blitt.

Besides photography, Blitt has dabbled in sculpture, painting and drawing. Blitt describes her paintings and drawings as doodles that flow spontaneously onto page after page.

"Everyone should let themselves doodle," Blitt said. "It reflects who you are."

Blitt said her unique style of painting and drawing with both hands at first scared her.

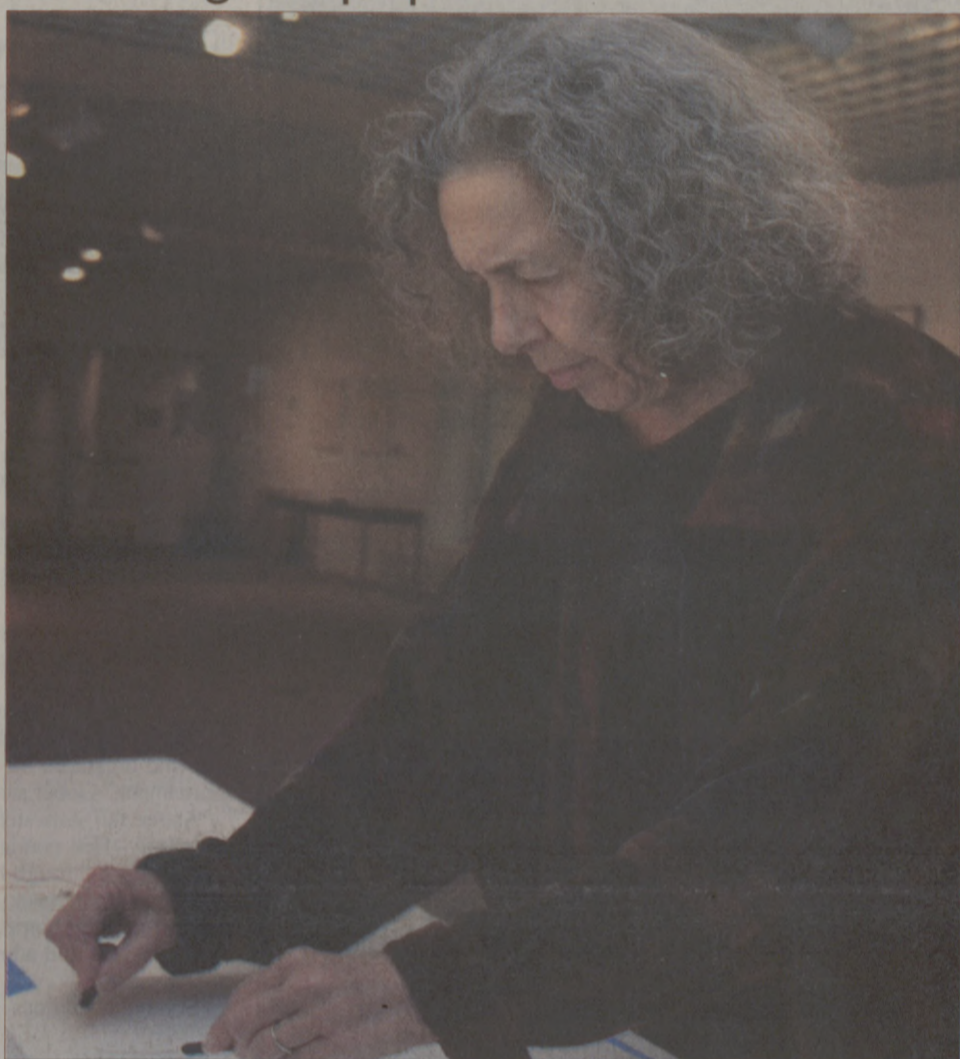
"I was really shocked and embarrassed and I kinda hoped that it would go away," Blitt said. "But then I realized I needed two hands to feel honest and whole."

Blitt has created 40 monumental award-winning sculptures worldwide that range up to 60 feet. All of her sculptures are adapted from her drawings and paintings.

Pieces of Blitt's work are now on display at the MSC Visual Arts Gallery until Feb. 13 along with two documentary-type videos. Other pieces of work are featured at www.ritablitt.com.

"My work comes from deep within me, deep within my subconscious," Blitt said. "It reflects the joy of my life. If I'm not creating, there's something wrong with my being."

## Dancing on paper



Kansas City native artist Rita Blitt demonstrates her two-handed drawing technique Wednesday afternoon in the MSC. Blitt's collection of work, "The Passionate Gesture" will be on display in the MSC Visual Arts Gallery, room 289 through Feb. 13.

## Parking plan halted due to many concerns

By Natalie Younts  
THE BATTALION

When Texas A&M Vice President for Administration Charles Sippial hired Transportation Services Director Rodney Weis, he told him that he wanted A&M to have the best parking system in the nation.

"(Weis) was the best, and still is the best, parking director in the country," Sippial said.

A&M officials will be regrouping, reconsidering, then reemerging with a revised parking proposal with more specific details in the next couple of months, Sippial said.

Sippial said he still believes Weis will turn A&M into the model for transportation operations in the country, despite the new setbacks.

A&M President Robert M. Gates said in a University-wide e-mail Friday that he decided to bring implementation of the plan to a standstill due to serious concerns, as well as much misunderstandings and misinformation from a number of groups and individuals on campus.

Sippial said one misunderstanding is that there will be no 24-7 reserved spots, when in fact they would be reduced in number, but not eliminated.

"We can't eliminate them all; there are people who need access 24-hours a day. Maybe not every day, but the times they need them, they need them."

Sippial said a frequent question asked of him that he couldn't answer was how much reserved spaces would cost. He said they haven't run the analysis on the costs yet.

"We borrow money to build parking garages and surface lots on a 20-year basis," he said. "We have to look at a fair and reasonable price to charge, but also consider we have visitors' revenue, but the folks who want it 24-7 will have to pay the bulk of those charges."

Sippial said people have been concerned or confused about who would assign the parking, about how the assignments would be made for the 400 expected faculty members and about the process of grandfathering.

Sippial said poor communication is a major problem that has occurred.

"We're going to go forward and try to make sure when we come back out with this program that it's one that's clear and concise and we can answer all the questions, and we can get support of all our customers throughout the campus."

Speaker of the Student Senate Matthew Wilkins said the Senate supported the original plan under the condition that on-campus residents received parking priorities near their dormitories.

He said he would speculate that the new plan would give more concessions to faculty members, but hopefully not to the disadvantage of students.

"We'd have to reevaluate it with the student government to find out what our position is on it," he said.

Weis said he knew there would be a lot of resistance to the plan, especially from faculty members.

"We'll keep moving forward," Weis said. "It's kind of like dancing: three steps forward and two back."

## Aggie dies after battle with cancer

By Joaquin Salcedo  
THE BATTALION

Jennifer Wood did not have to be a teacher to be involved in children's lives.

She has dedicated her life to children by helping out in a group called the "glitter gliders," in which she and her fiancé Travis Gober coached fourth- and fifth-grade students.

All of her dreams and aspirations were never put on standby, and she lived her dreams and acted in the present, Gober said.

"One of the glitter gliders who was kind of shy and reserved wrote that Jennifer made her a braver person. She really did make an impact on her," he said.

However, Wood, a junior education major, died in Dallas, Jan. 2 from Hodgkin's disease, which she was diagnosed with in December.



WOOD

"We didn't think she was dying or anything; the doctors didn't expect it," Gober said.

The diagnosis came as a tremendous shock to Wood's friends and family as there was never a time when she had shown any visible signs of grave illness.

She became sick after Thanksgiving when she contracted a viral infection that seemed to never go away, said Jared Briggs, a childhood friend.

"We thought maybe she just had a bad case of the flu," he said.

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## 'Bubba-tat' raises more than \$157,000

By Elizabeth Knapp  
THE BATTALION

The local chapter of Habitat for Humanity raised more than \$157,000 with its latest project "Bubba-tat."

Bubba Moore, owner of TV Facts magazine, came up with the idea of living inside a glass house inside Post Oak Mall in order to raise money to build five homes for low-income families.

The Bryan-College Station Habitat for Humanity had been thinking of a new way to raise money for its cause a few months before Moore came up with this idea, Moore said.

"I was sitting at home one night and I was watching a reality show on a magician being locked in a glass house," he said. "The idea had to go to Habitat for Humanity because it was a house and it was only natural to go to them."

Moore moved into the house Nov. 3 and stayed 46 days. Moore said initially his goal was to raise \$150,000. He agreed to stay in the house until he reached his goal.

"I did not mind being on display," Moore said. "The intimidating part was not knowing when I would make it."

Trish Burk, executive director of Habitat for Humanity, said the Bryan-College Station area supported Moore and the cause.

"The whole community came together and all saw Bubba's sacrifice as a way they could provide homes for low-income families," she said.

Moore said his time in the glass house was not always fun.

His aunt and a close friend passed away while he was living in the house.



J.P. BEATO III • THE BATTALION

W.F. Bubba Moore works on publishing his TV Facts magazine from inside his 16 x 20 plexiglass house in front of JC Penney in Post Oak Mall Thursday afternoon. Moore, who was locked inside since Nov. 3, 2003, raised more than \$157,000 for Habitat for Humanity.

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