

FOCUS

Technique • Friday, November 5, 2004

BAD + RADICAL = BADICAL

Take a table on Skiles, add some '80s flavor, and you get a lot of Friday fun. Get to know the guys behind Badical Industries. **Page 15**

PIXAR POWER!

Super strength, or lightning speed? Pick your favorite superpower, then head to theaters...Pixar's *The Incredibles* opens this weekend. **Page 19**



Bravo's *Manhunt* puts student in spotlight

By Kristin Noell
Senior Staff Writer

Everyone knows how the saying goes: "The odds are good, but the goods are odd."

That's definitely not the case for Paulo Rodriguez, a Mechanical Engineering senior. He is one of the contestants on Bravo's television show *Manhunt: The Search for America's Most Gorgeous Male Model*.

The premise of the show, which currently airs Tuesdays at 10 p.m., is to take relatively inexperienced men from across the country and find out whether they are model material. The winner receives a \$100,000 contract from IMG, a modeling agency.

"They were trying to pick guys off the street, off the beaches," Rodriguez said. "One of the guys was at a red light in his car and he got pulled out of his car."

In Rodriguez's case, he ran into the producers while he was in Orlando for vacation during the Fourth of July weekend. "I was at the Marriott, [and] I just met the guy in the lobby," he said. "They just asked me to interview and one thing led to another."

In addition to his good looks, Rodriguez's unique background—he has lived in Brazil, Argentina, England and many parts of South Africa,



Photo courtesy Paulo Rodriguez

Mechanical Engineering senior Paulo Rodriguez, standing second from left with other contestants, was scouted over the summer for Bravo's *Manhunt*, a reality show with a modeling contract as the prize.

and has an accent to match—may have helped him catch the producers' attention.

An easy decision

Ironically, at the time he was

scouted for the show, Rodriguez was exploring a newfound interest in modeling.

"I was looking into getting into modeling because there's a lot of money involved, and that's how

I want to pay for dental school," Rodriguez, who is working toward a minor in Biomedical Engineering and pursuing a pre-dental track, said. He had been talking to some agencies but had to put that on hold, because

the show's models were contractually forbidden from being involved with another agency.

Filming for *Manhunt* took place in Los Angeles, from Aug. 3 to 25—which worked out perfectly for Rodriguez. "The show was going to be filmed between semesters, which worked out perfectly, so...I did it."

Stunts and stars

In each episode, the models face a test of their modeling ability, usually followed by the elimination of some of the contestants.

In the first episode, they stripped down to their underwear for an analysis by Bruce Hulse, one of the show's judges and an acclaimed model himself. Afterwards, the contestants went skydiving...still wearing just their underwear.

Rodriguez said despite the underwear part, the skydiving—13,000 ft. up in the air, with a tandem master—was definitely his favorite part of the show. "Once I got over the fact there was a man on my back...It was something I'd never done and I'd always wanted to do...it's one of those things on the list that I can cross out now," he said.

The second episode's test was a 4 a.m. photo shoot with model Marisa

See *Manhunt*, page 13

Annual Charitable Campaign hopes to maintain momentum, recruit students

By Joshua Cuneo
Senior Staff Writer

This fall, Tech's faculty and staff have the opportunity to "Make a World of Difference" by contributing to the Georgia Tech Charitable Campaign, an annual fundraising event that, for the first time, is trying to reach out to Tech's student body, too.

The Charitable Campaign is part of the State Charitable Contributions Program, authorized by the 1982 Georgia General Assembly to provide state employees a convenient way to make financial contributions to charity. The program donates funds to 44 independent and 41 federated charitable organizations, including 36 United Ways.

"Georgia Tech is known far and wide for what we do with our intellectual prowess. The Charitable Campaign demonstrates that Georgia Tech's heart is in the right place, too," said Wayne Clough, Institute President, reflecting on this year's campaign theme. "What you learn is that

any one of us may find ourselves or our families in a position to need help because of circumstances beyond our control."

While anybody can make donations throughout the year, the Campaign officially started in September, when the faculty and staff receive notification of the program and campaign coordinators for each department hand out pledge cards. Employees may use these cards to choose between

cash, check, or a payroll deduction as a form of donation.

"These coordinators do a lot of work," said Carolyn Schneider, an administrative manager in the Student Success Center

and the head of the committee that helms the Campaign. The coordinators not only have to distribute and collect pledge cards, but also actively work to raise as many funds as they can from their departments.

"It really is all about communication and making people aware that they...have an opportunity to make a difference

See *Campaign*, page 16

Is drug use widespread at Tech? Students eager to weigh in, but not always on the record

By Katherine Colmer
Contributing Writer

At a school ranked by the *Princeton Review* as one of the top universities where students "Don't Inhale," it's no wonder that a few drug-related incidents in the weekly police crime reports caught our attention at the *Technique*.

Recently, police arrested a person for possession of ecstasy with intent to distribute at Techwood Drive and Fourth Street. Police also caught students on East Campus for possession of marijuana.

So what's the real story behind drugs at Tech? Are we really as drug-free as we seem—or is it that we can't smell the pot smoke right under our noses?

Prompted by these two incidents, students in a variety of majors were asked to express their opinions about the state of drugs on campus.

Though students jumped at the chance to contribute to the discussion, almost all wished to remain anonymous.

Many felt that drug use is not a big deal, even if they did not use drugs. "Drug use is not a problem at Georgia Tech," said a Building Construction junior. "It is no different than at any other college. Smoking pot is a very normal thing for any young person to do or to experiment with."

"I see drugs affecting students negatively only in limited cases," he added.

An Industrial Engineering junior

See *Drugs*, page 14



By Christopher Gooley / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Captain James Hembree, an officer with the Georgia Tech Police Department, displays marijuana confiscated from campus residents.

Antarctica provides “cool” experience abroad

By Kristin Noell
Senior Staff Writer

Most students who miss a semester of classes are either co-oping or taking a break from school. Third-year Mechanical Engineering major Bradford Range, however, had a much more exciting reason for not taking classes his entire second year at Tech. He was “down under”—way down under, in Antarctica.

His trip was compliments of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) and the National Science Foundation (NSF). BSA has a long tradition of sending Eagle Scouts to Antarctica, the first of which was in 1928. There have been 10 Antarctic Scouts before Range. One of those Scouts was

Mark Leinmiller, who was also a Tech student at the time of his trip in 1978.

The partnership between NSF and BSA, however, will allow them to send a Scout to Antarctica every other year. The program is “a joint venture because it’s publicity for the National Science Foundation and it’s a really great opportunity for the Boy Scouts to get one of their kids down there,” Range said.

As this is the trip of a lifetime, the competition for the spot was intense. “The only basic requirement is that you’re an Eagle Scout between the ages of 18 and 21,” Range said. “So what ends up happening is that everyone has a stellar scouting history... Coming from Georgia Tech gave me

my edge that I needed there.”

Range left for Antarctica in August 2003 and returned to the U.S. on May 4, 2004. He received co-op credit during that time. “I was there for eight and a half months, so it’s hard to sum it all up in one brief little segment,” he said.

He flew in with 200 people to join 200 other scientists and researchers who had spent the winter in McMurdo, a base located almost directly south of New Zealand. Most scientists come down in mid-October for the Antarctic summer, which means there are between 800 and 1200 people on the base.

When he arrived, Range did not know a single person there, but that changed rather quickly.

“As the Boy Scout, a bunch of people joked that I kind of had the e-ticket to the continent,” Range said. “Basically anyone who I could convince...could take me along if they wanted me. I was kind of like a hired gun. I did everything from lots and lots of snow shoveling... [to going] out with penguin researchers and play[ing] with penguins out on the ice shelf.”

Range also got to do some scientific work, such as drilling through glaciers to get ice cores. “I just got to fly around a lot of different places that a lot of people don’t normally get to go and do a lot of cool stuff because I just had that ‘in’ with the scientists,” he said.

He also worked with engineers. He worked with a group trying to build a road to the South Pole. “That was one of the more engineering-esque jobs I did,” Range said.

On the other hand, “It was kind of funny—people would be like, ‘Oh, you’re a mechanical engineer, here, fix this!’” he said. “I’d only been a first year so I had my core requirement physics and calculus out of the way and all of the sudden people are like, ‘Here, fix this wind generator that’s not working.’”

Engineering in Antarctica is obviously much different from engineering in warmer climates. “There’s a lot of specialized engineering that has to happen down there because it’s such a unique environment, so I did definitely see some applied engineering, that

even if I don’t go into cold regions research or something like that, it was cool to see engineering directly applied into a real life situation and real life, real time problem-solving,” Range said.

He also got some insight into other fields as well. “I worked with a lot of research scientists, and I do know without a shadow of a doubt that I never want to be a research scientist, ever,” Range said. “Some of these scientists are content to study the impact this one little microbe has

on the scope of the ecosystem of the ocean floor of McMurdo Sound, which is this one tiny area of the ocean floor on the earth.”

He added, “I have a lot of respect for these people that they can do that and be content to put their ‘one brick in the

wall of science,’ as I heard one of them describe it. I guess I’m the kind of person that wants to build the house rather than just put one brick in there.”

Living arrangements in McMurdo weren’t far off from the dorms: there were four people to a dorm room and a galley for dining. The architecture in such a cold climate is rather interesting. Doors were designed to minimize heat loss: “Every door...is like those big walk-in freezer doors you see at Kroger with the big metal handles and insulation around the sides,” Range said. Buildings also

“Every door... is like those big walk-in freezer doors you see at Kroger with the big metal handles and insulation around the sides.”

Bradford Range
Third-year ME major

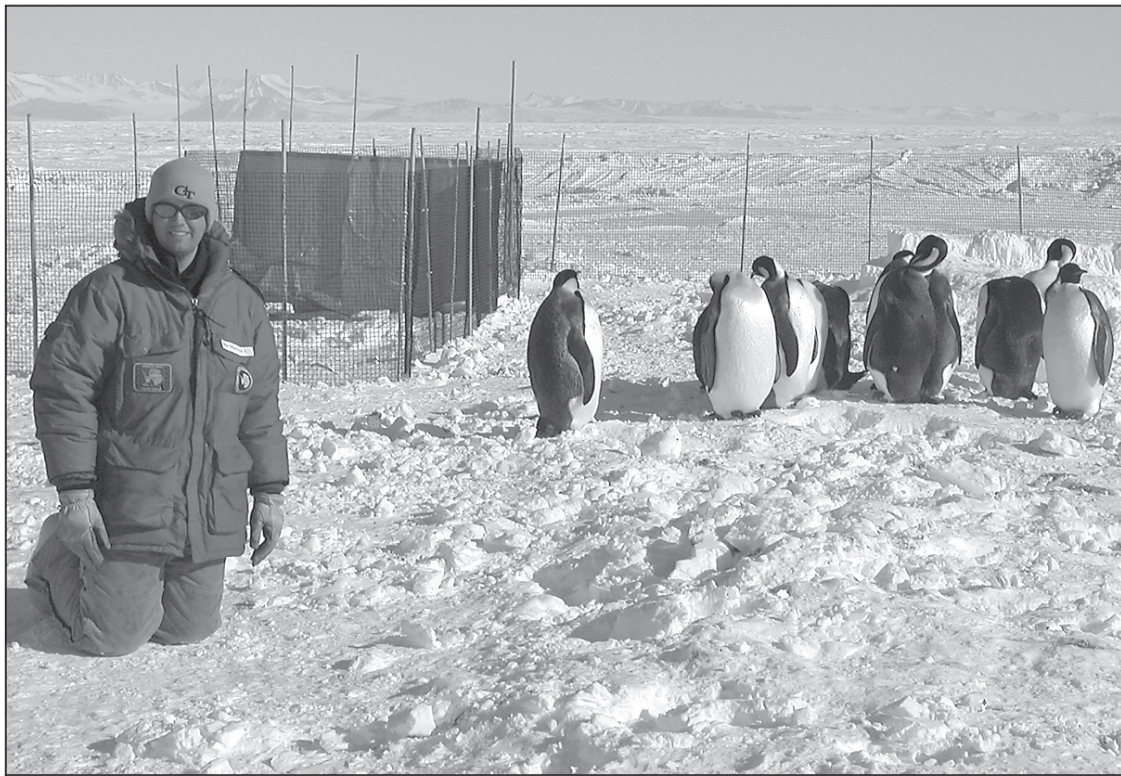


Photo courtesy Bradford Range

Bradford Range, a third-year Mechanical Engineering major, returned at the beginning of this summer from a year in Antarctica, where he worked with scientists and engineers...and some penguins, too.

See S. Pole, page 13

Manhunt from page 11

Miller, another judge on the show. Rodriguez described her as “one of the best women I’ve ever met in my life. Aside from the fact that she is beautiful, she is really intelligent... and she just threw us off our feet... She’s just a really nice person on the inside as well.”

Miller was not the only star on the show—Rodriguez also got to meet Carmen Electra, *Manhunt*’s host. Because Electra was only on set for eliminations, the contestants did not get to see her too often. But they did get to party with her once or twice. “She is a lot of fun when she gets into her party mode,” Rodriguez said.

Although he enjoyed the celebrity exposure, Rodriguez said it hasn’t gone to his head. “All those people, Marissa and Carmen, they’re just people...when you meet them in person, you get over that very quickly,” he said.

According to Rodriguez, his humble mindset was shared by the other hopefuls. “The reality of it is, it’s not like you guys perceive it...As far as attractive guys...I don’t think we were the hottest bunch that you could have picked,” Rodriguez said. After all, ultimately the model’s job, according to Rodriguez, is to sell clothing.

“What they look for in a fashion model is far more how you fit the clothes that you’re selling and if you look like a model—not necessarily the hottest guy,” he said.

The show’s viewers, however, don’t seem to think so. The men were in New York for the first of two premieres, as well as for appearances on shows like *The Today Show*. And they had their share of required publicity stunts.

“We went to Times Square and stood in these X-rated little spandex underwear with *Manhunt* written across our bums,” Rodriguez said. “After 30 minutes, the police actu-

ally had to come and tell us to put on clothes.”

The reality show factor

From Times Square to skydiving on TV in his underwear, did Rodriguez manage to keep his dignity?

“Somewhat,” he laughed. “I have a little bit left...I think I can rebuild from there.”

Being around a camera all the time was difficult for Rodriguez, who considers himself a private person. Baring his body on TV, he said, was “very uncomfortable. On the inside, my mind is kind of going ‘what the hell?’...I’m just hiding behind my smile.”

“It felt good to get off, like a breath of fresh air. We got our IDs back, our wallets, our cellphones.”

Paulo Rodriguez Manhunt contestant

But the cameras kept rolling, even after the photo shoots. The contestants shared a penthouse: “They had us in a Big Brother situation...and I was losing it with the cameras,” Rodriguez said. “They watched us do everything. Everything...I had had enough [of it] by a week.”

There were other rules the contestants had to follow: in public places, they weren’t allowed to speak to strangers or talk amongst themselves; the producers had to know where they were at all times—and they even had to ask permission to go to the toilet.

“It felt like we were completely secluded from reality...honestly, it was a virtual jail,” Rodriguez said. Even home in the penthouse, having private conversations with the

other men was especially difficult, so in order to get some privacy, they sometimes pretended their microphones were broken.

It’s understandable then why he said, “It felt good to get off, like a breath of fresh air. We got our IDs back, our wallets, our cell phones.”

Walking the fine line

Re-entry into the real world involved some negatives—namely, the actual airing of the show. One of Rodriguez’s professors commented to him about the show. “[He] was like, ‘I see you’re on TV, congratulations.’ It bothers me...I hate the fact that professors at this school have seen that side of me now, because it’s not necessarily the real me.”

Also, as with all TV, what was shown on air was only a small part of the story. “Everyone knows it’s reality TV, but a lot of people buy it subconsciously,” he said.

According to Rodriguez, for every hour that aired, there was 100 hours of additional footage, and he was disappointed with the footage that made the cut. “Nearly all of the things I said were taken out of context,” he said. “On a reality TV show, you will always be at the mercy of the editing room, which will always act in the interest of ratings.”

The final cut

Fans of the show already know the sad news: unfortunately, Rodriguez was cut in the fourth episode, which aired just this week.

That’s okay with him, though. “I think just being one of the 30 that got called back to L.A. was a good enough accomplishment,” Rodriguez said. “One way or another, I was getting a free holiday to L.A., staying in five star hotels, getting five star treatment. Just by having made it, that’s good enough.”

Manhunt airs Tuesdays at 10 p.m. on Bravo. For more information, visit www.bravotv.com/Manhunt.

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have extra insulation, and the waste heat is recaptured and reused.

“In general, it’s obviously the coldest, windiest, highest, driest continent on earth,” Range said. The coldest temperature he experienced was -47 degrees Fahrenheit with -87 degree windchill. He also experienced winds strong enough to knock him over.

On the other hand, there were some really beautiful days as well. “Highs in the mid 30s, sun’s out, no wind, you can walk out in a T-shirt,” he said.

One of the hardest parts of being in Antarctica for so long was being away from family. Mail took about a month to be delivered, and the internet connection was only 128 kilobytes per second, though there were 11 satellite lines if they wanted to call. “It was difficult being away from home for Christmas and Thanksgiving for the first time,” he added.

In some ways, it was a very small world as well. While in Antarctica, Range met a group from the School of Earth and Atmospheric Science, who were doing atmospheric research.

Another enjoyable experience was working with emperor penguins. “It was really cool,” he said. But, he added, “People have a misconception about penguins, though. They smell bad and they’re dumb as bricks. Not that cute, I promise, not when you’re working with them.”

He also enjoyed a week-long trip to the Trans-Antarctic Mountains. He and some others went sledding down the rock hard, icy hills. They measured their speed with a GPS tracking unit, reaching a maximum of 66 miles per hour. In addition, when they went back up the mountain to measure their tracks, they calculated their longest hang time to be 25 meters.

“If you have a death wish, Antarctica’s your place,” Range joked.

ON HIS LAST NIGHT IN THE SOUTH POLE:

“We planned all our meals down to a tee very carefully out there. The last night we were there, we were like, ‘We’re going to have a blowout—the rest of our steak and our shrimp!’...the science divers collected some scallops from the bottom... We had this huge feast.”

“We then had a blizzard come and set in for three days, so nobody could get in to bring us out. I have pictures of us living off peanut butter and jelly for a couple of days. Just when there was starting to be talk of ‘barbecuing the Boy Scout,’ it finally cleared up and we were able to get out, so that was good.”

In addition to Antarctica, Range has also been to London, Chile, New Zealand and Australia. “Some people have the whole ‘I want to set foot on seven continents’ thing. That’s never been a particular dream of mine... but I only have two left.”

Back at Tech, Range has to cope with the normalcy of it all.

“Right now I’m just your average Tech engineering student trying to get through,” he said. “I read my journal and I’m sitting there doing my differential equations homework or whatever and I’m like, ‘One year ago today, I was snowmobiling across an endless plain of white. Where did that go?’”

SLIVER

www.nique.net/sliver

Dam what are those pockets of stinky human fecal around campus?

Someone said last week that chivalry was dead on campus. Chivalry will return when promiscuity does.

See page 14 for more Slivers!

Drugs from page 11

agreed. “Well, I think [marijuana is] prominent, but not a problem,” she said. “Whoever wants to smoke, smokes, and whoever doesn’t, doesn’t.”

One student, a Computer Science sophomore, likened drug use to alcohol use. “[Drugs can be] the same as ‘doing alcohol’ if you can keep it to one day or on the weekend,” he said. “Drugs don’t affect your schooling, but becoming a druggie does when it takes over your life.”

Many students knew at least a few who smoked marijuana, and some students knew very many who smoked.

Interestingly, most students also made a clear distinction between marijuana and other “harder” drugs. No interviewees said they knew a lot of students who did these harder drugs, let alone abuse them.

Some pointed out that students who abused harder drugs would

probably quickly fail out of Tech.

“I think [students at Tech are] smart enough to know not to get involved in the hard drugs,” a sixth-year Computer Engineering major said. “If people have a hard enough time coping with reality, they’ll look for better ways to ease their pain. With the attrition rate we’ve got, it probably has some to do with drug use, but I think the numbers are going down.”

Another concern that was also brought up was the possible abuse of pharmaceutical drugs that aren’t generally thought of as drugs. For example, caffeine pills are available, and drugs normally prescribed for ADD or anxiety may also help students to get through a long night or week.

“Many students I know at Tech use the popular prescription drugs Adderall and Xanax on a regular basis,” one Management major said. “They assume that these drugs are safe since they are produced by pharmaceutical companies. In fact,

this is anything but the case.”

Other students noted that Tech’s rigorous academic atmosphere could potentially encourage drug use.

“Drugs certainly provide a necessary release from the trials

“We do have a drug-related incident about every two weeks.”

Dan Morrison
Associate housing dir.

and tribulations at Tech,” said the Building Construction junior quoted previously. “I myself cannot see any perceptible difference in GPA between those I know who use and those who do not,” he said.

On the other hand, some students agreed with the perception of Tech as a relatively drug-free institution.

One Chemical Engineering senior said that she knew more students who abstained from drugs than students who did drugs. “Drugs make things more difficult, but they aren’t a problem unless you do the harder ones,” she said.

A group of History, Technology and Society majors also agreed that they knew only a few students who did drugs. “Georgia Tech is known for its low percentage of drugs on campus,” one said.

According to the Georgia Tech Police Department, so far in 2004 there have only been 10 total drug-related arrests, including DUIs. Many of them were marijuana-related.

Those in possession of small amounts of marijuana are given a Level 2 offense, equal to two alcohol offenses.

There have also been 17 Code of Conducts; Residence Life Staff deals with these cases. “The case will go to the Dean of Students only if the student has committed an offense that could get him or her expelled,”

said Dan Morrison, associate director for residence life.

“It’s the smell that alerts us most of the time. It’s usually freshman who get caught because they have not developed sophisticated means of smoking and hiding it yet,” Morrison said.

“Drugs other than marijuana are not really a problem on campus, but we do have a drug-related incident about every two weeks,” he added. “When someone is suspected of distributing, we alert the RLC and the supervisor and decide what to do next. Housing staff are told to alert the RLC if they smell anything suspicious.”

“There is a lot of drug use on the east side of campus,” said Carla Cook, a GTPD Crime Prevention Officer. However, despite the recent drug incidents, Cook said there’s no evidence of a trend in increasing drug usage. “I don’t know if the number of incidents have increased from last year, but my guess is that it is probably about the same.”

SLIVER
www.nique.net/sliver

To Andrea Thompson (columnist): You have got to be kidding me...f*ck the country over to save a tree. Kerry sucks and won't do anybody (or even a tree) any good anywhere but sitting on a couch eatin Don't be an a\$\$, vote Republican!

Homophobia is not a social disease...being gay is a disease

Are the College Republicans out to offend people? why did they not join in the gay-marriage debate during GTCOW week? do they think they are too good to speak in the same forum as the Pride alliance a

The nique should report more on what the student's views are, when it comes to BIG issues opps, just as the nique reports no flu shots...flu shots come in...

Frats who forfeit intramural soccer games SUCK!

why was ESPN interviewing people at the library?

22 points in 5 minutes...

ECON 2106 IS BORING!!!

you know what they say, right?

hey, that was mine you nim-watt

To the girl complaining about guys here being perverted jackasses: I'm offended. Most are, but not all of us

what's a nubian?

HUCK THE FOKIES!

HUCK THEM but calvin, you can still run for president

If you get a flu shot, you deserve to die!

To STaC alumna supporting dumbass STaC Technique writer: suck it.

have you ever wondered how much deeper the ocean would be is sponges didn't live there?

ashlee simpson got caught lip synching

give her to me, i'll punish her

We look cute together - now if only I could figure out how he feels about me.

It's been the best year of my life. I love you, Phil!

See page 19 for more

Skiles home to Badical Industries' self-made fun

By Jennifer Lee
Focus Editor

Jeff Parker is a little confused. The guys from Badical Industries are out on Skiles today...but it's Monday. Parker is used to seeing them on Fridays.

But there's Eoin Grosch, a fourth-year Industrial Engineering major, dressed in an American flag-print shirt and bright red lovepants, handing out flyers that say, "Uncle Sam and Badical Industries wants YOU to support the Whig Party."

Dan Might, a fourth-year Industrial Engineering major and another member of Badical, explained that Friday's usually their day, but today they're trying to stay topical, with the election.

So today the guys are at their table, playing '80s music on their jambox and handing out flyers. They also have some Badical Industries buttons, and a jar next to them asking for a contribution anywhere between "50 cents to infinity."

Kera Jones, a fourth-year Science, Technology and Culture major, and Elizabeth Darnall, a third-year History, Technology and Society major, rush up to the table, deposit some change into Badical's donation box, and each take a neon-colored Badical Industries button.

Jones and Darnall say they come by every week. "We think it's really cool," Jones said. "I thought it was kind of weird at first, but it grew on me real fast."

There are others fans, too. Today Eric Banister, a third-year Biology

major, and Troy Lusk, a fourth-year Civil Engineering major, are helping man the table. They laugh and say they're the Badical "groupies." "We kind of support them out here whenever we can," Lusk said. "We get to draw people in; especially in between classes, it gets really busy, so we can take over and bring people in too."

Others stop by the table: some are familiar, others are first-timers.

Nick Masterson, a sixth-year Mechanical Engineering major, comes by the table to say hello. "I saw my friend Bela here the first time," Masterson said. "It's actually a table I want to stop by, as opposed to being harassed usually...[they] always have something interesting and fun, and usually there's a little bit of truth in what they have to say."

Zach Sizemore, on the other hand, is a first-timer. "I have no idea who they are,"

Sizemore said, looking over the flyer Grosch had handed him. "They're playing some good '80s music...they just look like interesting guys."

The guys are Grosch, Might and Kevin Hicks, a third-year INTA major—and the three make up Badical Industries, "an independent, non-profit organization designed to create fun on campus in creative and inexpensive ways," according to their mission statement.

The three like to think they're making an impact on campus. "We kind of see ourselves as the rain, you know?" Grosch paused, turning to

See **Badical**, page 16

BADICAL EVENTS: ON SKILES WITH A MISSION

AUG. 24: DASANI VS. TAP WATER

(left to right) Kevin Hicks, Daniel Might and Eoin Grosch, who make up Badical Industries, pose at their table. They offered samples of Dasani and tap water to passersby, challenging them to guess which one was which.

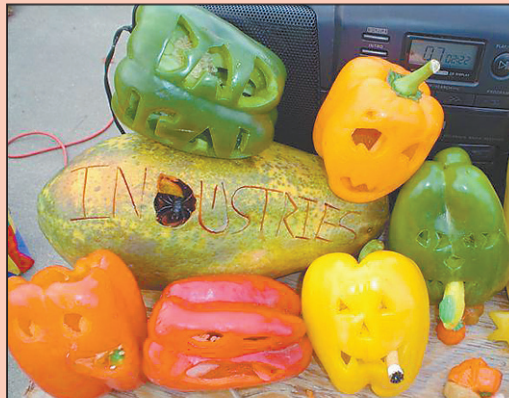
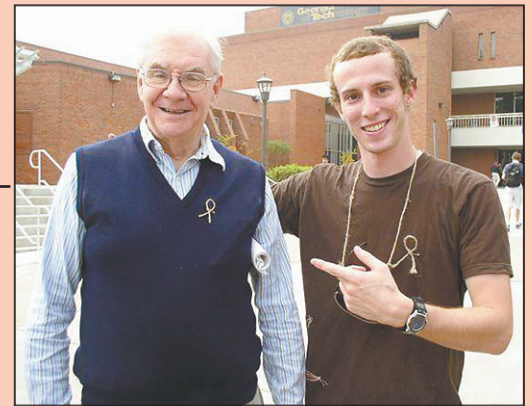


OCT. 8: STOP, DROP AND...CELEBRATE

Hicks helps a fellow Techie drop a class on a laptop set up on their table.

OCT. 1: TWINE AWARENESS DAY

Pink and purple ribbons are out, and twine...is in. After reading that twine was the backbone of the American economy, Badical pinned twine to the lapels of passersby, including an amused professor.



OCT. 22: TRICKS AND TREATS

Pumpkins were a little too expensive, so Badical provided some bell peppers and Exacto-Knives instead. In addition to the pepper-carving, they passed out a flyer with information on making creative Halloween costumes out of household items.

Photos courtesy Badical Industries

Badical from page 15

Hicks. “Can you help me out?”
“Because campus is like a desert, and water is like happiness, and Tech is a big desert,” Hicks provided after a moment of thought. “At the end of the day, we’re just trying to make you wet.”

Badical Industries was created last fall, when Grosch and a friend found an empty table in the Student Center and, out of boredom or for fun, started manning it.

“We really enjoyed how sitting at a table gave you some kind of authority over stuff,” Grosch said. So the two decided they’d take their tabling one step further. “We decided... we could take pictures with people as they pass by...kind of to spread joy,” he said.

Later, Grosch’s friend left Tech and was replaced by Hicks. The two were responsible for the “Jeff Goldblum is watching you poop” flyers that popped up around campus last spring. “We infiltrated some female bathrooms, too,” Hicks said.

Might joined this fall, and with the three, Badical Industries is starting to be a presence—though that’s something Grosch said he planned all along. “We were planning to surge back this fall,” Grosch said. “The dynamic we have—these two have really stepped it up.”

They’ve done so through a variety of quirky events, based out of their table on Skiles Walkway, on most Fridays. Some events, such as Monday’s, are inspired by current events, such as Halloween or Tech’s drop day; other events are just inspired by their own creative juices. (See page 15 for more about their past events.) Their jambox is always at their table, as well

as a signup sheet for their mailing list, which has grown to about 160 members.

For example, Grosch considers one of Badical’s most successful events to be “Twine Awareness Day,” an idea inspired after one of the members read that twine was the “backbone of the American economy.” The group handed out lapel pins made of twine, in a somewhat good-natured parody of the pink or purple ribbons worn to support breast cancer or AIDS.

“It’s actually a table I want to stop by...[they] always have something interesting and fun, and usually there’s a little bit of truth...”

Nick Masterson
Sixth-year ME major

“We made everyone wear a twine ribbon,” Might said. “We handed out like 100 twine ribbons that day.”

They keep a notebook of ideas, as well. “Anytime we have an idea, it goes in the notebook,” Might said. In addition, the three often hang out outside of their Friday events, and “sometimes it just breaks down into a badical industries brainstorming session,” Grosch said.

Though Badical Industries is by no means an official organization—with no intentions of becoming one—Might said he puts just as much time into Badical, if not more, than his other extracurricular activi-

ties. “It’s definitely time consuming,” Might said, “but it’s something we enjoy doing.”

Grosch is involved in several other organizations, but he says, “all that goes on the back burner when there’s an event going on for Badical Industries. This is my main interest, and it’s my passion.”

Though the things they do may seem random, Grosch, Might and Hicks actually spend a lot of time planning their Friday events. And every person reacts differently to Badical’s table. Some smile, others raise an eyebrow, other come over, excited.

The three agree that the worst reaction is when students think they’re lame. “They’re like, don’t you have something better to do?” Grosch said.

Fortunately, Might said, that’s usually not the scenario.

“That’s very rare; on the whole, everybody who passes thinks it’s funny,” he said, “and that’s really what we’re about.”

And the best reactions may easily outweigh the bad.

“It used to be I would just wait for weekends, but now I get to wait for Fridays,” said Parker, a fourth-year Industrial Engineering major. “I’ll make sure I’ll go to my morning classes now on Fridays, so that I can get here. I think we need more things like this.”

Steve Gesualdo, a third-year Electrical Engineering major, is another regular. On Monday, he stopped by the table in the break between classes. “I’m on my way to a test right now, but I can still make time for Badical,” Gesualdo said. “I can always make time for Badical.”

Check out Badical Industries’s website at badical.shim.net.

Campaign from page 11

through this vehicle,” said Janice Rogers, the campaign coordinator for Georgia Tech Research Institute. “We do that from a variety of different mediums, from announcements, meetings, letters, just general information.”

Coordinators this year are also trying to reach out to students, a challenging group to recruit not only because students are traditionally right on funds but also because, according to Schneider, it’s difficult to spread the word among the student body.

“We don’t know how to inform the students,” Schneider said. “We don’t do things like collect money at football games or anything...[and] we wouldn’t interrupt class and get in trouble with the professor.”

In fact, many students either had never heard of the program or had no idea what it entailed.

“I’m not all that familiar with exactly how the system works, but I think it is wonderful that the faculty cares,” said Chrystine Gorman, a fourth-year Aerospace Engineering student.

Schneider encourages students to donate by contacting the coordinators in their schools for a pledge card. She added, “If someone has suggestions [to reach the student body]...either email them to me or

call me.”

Tech was one of the top contributors in the University of Georgia System last year, raising \$287,369.98 and falling second only to rival University of Georgia. This is down from approximately \$325,000 the previous year, a drop attributed at least in part to the economic recession.

“It does impact, and understandably so,” Schneidersaid. “People have less money.”

“My gut feeling would be that people are more aware of their economic situations, and they probably take that into account when [they] are trying to decide whether to contribute, and, if so, how much,” Rogers added.

Nevertheless, both Schneider and Rogers hope to see an increase in this year’s Campaign.

Schneider has high hopes, pointing to a midyear report that shows that Tech has already raised \$144,863.28. In addition, for the past four years, Tech has won the Governor’s Cup, an award presented to the university with the largest increase in the number of employees giving.

“I think it’s an excellent way...for the employees at Georgia Tech to rally around being good neighbors,” Rogers said. “Many years ago, I was a recipient of Charitable Campaign funds from the American Cancer Society when a family member had terminal cancer, so I know the good it can do.”

“We don’t know how to inform the students...We don’t do things like collect money at football games or anything.”

Carolyn Schneider
Charitable Campaign committee head

Tech Up Close

CAN YOU FIGURE OUT WHERE ON CAMPUS THIS PICTURE WAS TAKEN?

Email focus@technique.gatech.edu for a chance to win a free student combo at Lil’ Dinos.

THIS WEEK’S PHOTO:



By Julia Bunch / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS



Last week’s Tech Up Close:
Stonework on Tech Tower

Last week’s winner:
no correct entries