

## RAP SHEET

# ANOTHER SPAMMER FLAMES OUT

**ONE OF** the world's biggest spammers may face time in the slammer. On June 30, federal authorities arrested Christopher Smith (aka "Rizler") of Burnsville, Minn., after he stepped off a plane in Minneapolis. Smith, 25, was returning from the Dominican Republic, where he went in May after an FBI raid seized \$4.2 million in assets, including a fleet of luxury cars.

Experts call Smith one of the 10 most prolific spam-



**SMITH** More than a billion e-mails put him in the big time

mers. Gregg Mastoras of software firm **Sophos** says Smith sent more than 1 billion e-mail pitches for things like fake college degrees and hair-growth

products, eventually building a chain of Web sites staffed by an 85-person office. The Feds allege that Smith kept operating from overseas under an alias, making \$18 million this year alone selling medications without proper prescriptions or a medical license.

He's charged with criminal contempt of a court order and could face up to six months in jail. Smith's lawyer, Joe Friedberg, was unavailable for immediate comment. —Elizabeth Woyke