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THE U.S. GOVERNMENT
WANTS TO PROSECUTE
GARY McKINNON FOR
HACKING THOUSANDS
OF CLASSIFIED COMPUTERS.
THERE'S JUST ONE PROBLEM:
**HE'S A CAUSE CÉLÈBRE
IN THE UNITED KINGDOM**

**DID AUTISM
MAKE HIM
DO IT?**

WHY THE
TOPOLOGICAL
INSULATOR IS
THE **STRANGEST
NEW DEVICE** SINCE
THE MEMRISTOR

JAVA'S BRILLIANT
BUT **SHORT-LIVED
PREDECESSOR**





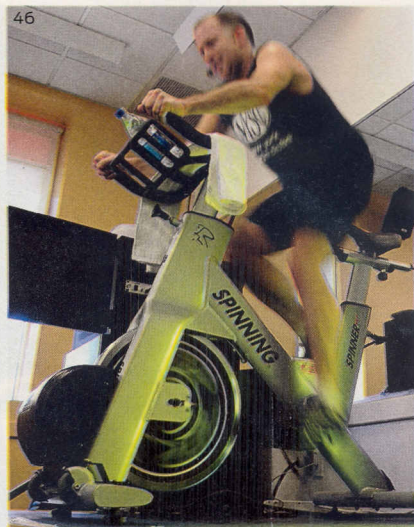
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ROUSHAN/
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The U.S. government says Gary McKinnon is a dangerous hacker who broke into military networks and threatened national security. McKinnon's supporters say he's a misunderstood martyr with autism. *By David Kushner*



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A new class of semiconductors that conduct only on the surface promises to serve as extraordinarily robust, high-speed circuit elements. *By Joel E. Moore*

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Many kinds of computers can become "Java virtual machines"—an approach that researchers at University of California, San Diego, helped to pioneer decades before Java came on the scene. *By William W. McMillan*

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Exercise machines that generate electricity may be good for you and the environment—but will the economics work out? *By Tom Gibson*