

boston uncommon

TAKING OFF

Ticket Master

AHA: Northeastern junior Nick Kurlas – at 21, he’s an entrepreneurship major in his fourth year of a five-year program – was inspired by a self-check-in kiosk at Logan Airport to start Ticket-Bean, a company that aims to deliver event tickets through ATMs. After placing in a school business plan contest, he has investors lining up. **LEMONADE? NAH:** Kurlas grew up renting parking spaces on the front lawn of his family home in Rochester, New York, netting \$2,000 a week during golf tournaments held nearby.

AIRPORTS ARE GOOD TO HIM: “These two college kids started something, and all these venture capitalists told them, ‘No, no, no, you can’t do this.’ Then you bump into a guy in the airport, and he’s now our lead investor.” **ON STARTING HERE:** “Boston is fantastic. It’s the second-largest center of entrepreneurial activity next to Silicon Valley. Between MIT and Northeastern and all the alumni around town, it’s a perfect place for a company.” **AND LOOKING BEYOND:** Kurlas hopes to start distributing tickets through a credit union in Los Angeles this fall. “I would think within a year of successful launch in LA,” he says, “we’ll expand to Boston.”

– Julia Tolliver Maranan