Mark Zuckerberg: Biography

Born on May 14, 1984, in New York. Since starting the social networking website Facebook, Mark Zuckerberg has helped revolutionize the way people, and even businesses, interact and connect with each other online. He came from a comfortable, well-educated background. His father ran a dental practice at the family's home. His mother worked as a psychiatrist before the birth of the couple's four children but gave up work to look after the family.

Zuckerberg developed an interest in computers at an early age. While he was studying at Harvard he began work on his own social network, which later became known as Facebook. Before this, some of his fellow students asked him to work on a social networking site called Harvard Connection but Zuckerberg dropped their project to work on Facebook instead. The creators of Harvard Connection (since claim) that Zuckerberg stole their idea, while Zuckerberg always maintain that they are two very different types of social networks. Although an initial settlement reached between the two parties in 2008, the legal dispute over this matter remains ongoing.

Facebook (co-founded) by Dustin Moskovitz, Chris Hughes, and Eduardo Saverin. The group ran the site, first called thefacebook.com, out of a dorm room at Harvard. However, by August 2004 Zuckerberg dropped out of college to devote himself to Facebook full time, moving the company to California.

By December 2004, Facebook had 1 million users. By December 2005 Facebook had more than 5.5 million users. There are now more than 500 million users on Facebook. Zuckerberg turned down offers from Yahoo! and MTV Networks who want to buy the network site; instead he focuses on growing the site, continuously adding more features to Facebook.

In 2010, the film The Social Network (release) which charts the creation of Facebook. It is based on the 2003 book The Accidental Billionaires by Ben Mezrich. Zuckerberg's life story will be told in an upcoming comic book by Bluewater Productions Inc.

According to Forbes magazine, Zuckerberg is worth approximately $6.9 billion, surpassing even Apple founder Steve Jobs.

Discussion:

Are you addicted to Facebook? How often do you use it? How long do you spend on the site?

How many of your Facebook friends have you met online? Do you ‘friend’ people you’ve never met?

What are the pro’s and con’s of using Facebook?
1. has helped
2. comes
3. had been working
4. was studying
5. began
6. became
7. had asked
8. had dropped
9. have since claimed
10. has always maintained
11. was reached
12. was co-founded
13. had dropped
14. has turned down
15. has focussed
16. was released
17. is based on
18. will be told