

# Student press ad agency sues web company for \$5-million

BY DAVE LEIBL

WINNIPEG (CUP) — The advertising agency for Canada's largest student press organization is suing a national multimedia firm for \$5-million.

Campus Plus recently launched a lawsuit against ProfessorJones.com, a company which owns a national student-focussed magazine, a portal website and is involved in washroom advertising.

Campus Plus, which is owned by Canadian University Press (CUP), a national student newspaper co-operative that represents more than 70 campus papers across Canada, is also suing its former executive director.

Nigel Pleasants resigned from Campus Plus this past January, at which time he accepted employment from ProfessorJones.com.

The ad agency alleges Pleasants has breached the non-

competition clause in his contract, which bars him from working for a directly competitive company for a minimum of two years following the termination of his employment with Campus Plus.

"Pleasants has breached five clauses in his employment contract with Campus Plus and has acted in a conflict of interest," said Tariq Hassan-Gordon, CUP president and chair of Campus Plus in a court affidavit. "While employed with Campus Plus, he was privy to confidential...information that would give a competitor like ProfessorJones.com Inc. an unfair competitive advantage over Campus Plus."

The ad agency is also seek-



ing a court injunction barring Pleasants from working for ProfessorJones.com. The injunction is scheduled to be heard in a Toronto court on April 20.

In his court affidavit, Hassan-Gordon also said Pleasants breached his contract by accepting equity from ProfessorJones.com.

"[Pleasants] never would have been in a position to get that offer if he wasn't executive direc-

tor for Campus Plus," he wrote. ProfessorJones' CEO Alex de Bold is on vacation and could not be reached for comment.

A supervisor with the company declined to be interviewed.

Repeated calls to Pleasants were not returned.

Campus Plus is seeking \$5-million in damages from ProfessorJones.com on the grounds the company gained "corporate opportunities" by employing Pleasants.

## Miners, construction workers support striking UCCB profs

BY CUP STAFF

SYDNEY, NS (CUP) — The president of the University College of Cape Breton (UCCB) has filed a defamation suit against the school's faculty association, the association's president and a professor.

The suit by Jackie Scott, UCCB president, against Michael Manson, the faculty president, and Professor Rod Nichol comes in the midst of a bitter campus strike.

The strike, which is now in

its fourth week, began February 11 when 115 professors, specialists and librarians walked off the job demanding more money and better working conditions.

George MacDonald, Scott's lawyer, says the suit refers to statements that were published or broadcast.

The university president has refused to comment on the lawsuit.

Students, meanwhile, are calling on the Nova Scotia government to appoint a mediator, reports the Canadian Press.

In related news, unionized construction workers and miners joined the striking professors this past Wednesday on the picket lines.

The unionized workers, who held a two-hour demonstration, temporarily prevented students and staff from entering the university and a nearby community college.

The blockade affected 500 students and 300 staff at the university, while an additional 1,000 students were affected at the college.

(With files from Canadian Press)

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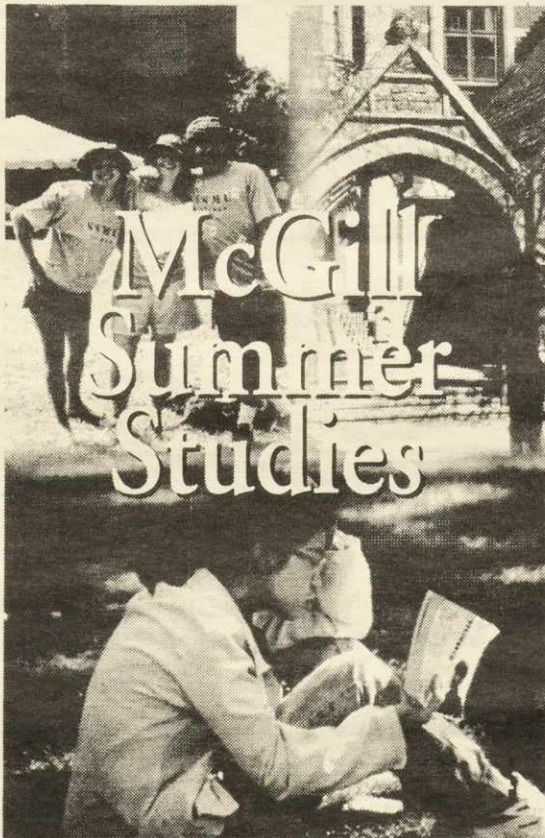
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