

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

ARIES VENTURES INC
Form 10KSB
January 13, 2005

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-KSB

ANNUAL REPORT UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2004

TRANSITION REPORT UNDER SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number: 0-14136

ARIES VENTURES INC.

(Name of small business issuer in its charter)

Nevada

84-0987840

(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

(I.R.S. Employer
Identification Number)

28720 Canwood Street, Suite 207
Agoura Hills, California 91301

(Address of principal executive offices)

Issuer's telephone number: (818) 879-6501

Securities registered under Section 12(b) of the Act: None

Securities registered under Section 12(g) of the Act:

Common Stock, \$0.01 par value

(Title of Class)

Check whether the issuer (1) filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the issuer was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes No

Check if there is no disclosure of delinquent filers in response to Item 405 of Regulation S-B contained in this form, and no disclosure will be contained, to the best of issuer's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-KSB or any amendment to this Form 10-KSB.

The issuer had no revenues from operations for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2004.

The aggregate market value of the issuer's common stock held by non-affiliates of the issuer was approximately \$146,000 as of December 31, 2004.

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has filed all documents and reports required to be filed by Section 12, 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Act of 1934 subsequent to the distribution of securities under a plan confirmed by a court.

Yes No

The issuer had 2,032,226 shares of common stock issued and outstanding as of December 31, 2004.

Documents incorporated by reference: None.

Transitional Small Business Disclosure Format: Yes No

-1-

Cautionary Statement Pursuant to Safe Harbor Provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995:

This Annual Report on Form 10-KSB for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2004 contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Federal securities laws. These forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements of expectations, beliefs, future plans and strategies, anticipated events or trends, and similar expressions concerning matters that are not historical facts. The forward-looking statements in this Annual Report on Form 10-KSB for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2004 are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those results expressed in or implied by the statements contained herein.

-2-

PART I.

ITEM 1. DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS

Background:

Aries Ventures Inc. ("Aries" or the "Company") was incorporated in Nevada on April 21, 2000 as a wholly-owned subsidiary of Casmyn Corp., a Colorado corporation ("Casmyn"). On April 28, 2000, Casmyn was merged with and into Aries, with Aries being the surviving corporation.

Business Overview:

As of September 30, 2004, the Company had no business operations. The Company is focused on maintaining the corporate entity and seeking a new business opportunity. The Company is not restricting its search to any particular business or industry, geographical area, or legal or business structure.

The Company recognizes that the number of suitable business opportunities that are available to it may be limited, and a transaction would likely result in substantial dilution to the current equity holders, and a change in control and name of the Company. The Company does not expect to present any such transaction to its stockholders for consent or approval.

Management and/or principal stockholders may actively negotiate or otherwise consent to the purchase of all or a portion of their securities as a

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

condition to, or in connection with, a proposed reorganization, merger or acquisition, and such opportunity may or may not be afforded to other stockholders.

The Company is unable to predict if and when it may actually accomplish a transaction. The Company is not currently engaged in substantive negotiations with any businesses or companies regarding the possibility of an acquisition, reorganization, merger or other significant business opportunity.

ITEM 2. DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

The Company's corporate and administrative offices are located at 28720 Canwood Street, Suite 207, Agoura Hills, California 91301. Such facilities consist of 1,847 square feet and are occupied under an operating lease that expired on September 30, 2004. Subsequent to September 30, 2004, such facilities will be occupied on a month-to-month basis. Effective January 1, 2005, the Company will occupy new offices provided by an affiliate without charge on a month-to-month basis at 11111 Santa Monica Boulevard, Suite 1250, Los Angeles, California 90025.

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The Company is not a party to any threatened or pending legal claims or proceedings.

ITEM 4. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS

There were no matters submitted to a vote of security holders during the fourth quarter of the fiscal year ended September 30, 2004.

-3-

PART II.

ITEM 5. MARKET FOR COMMON EQUITY AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

(a) Market Information

The Company's common stock is traded on the over-the-counter market under the symbol "ARVT".

The following table sets forth the range of closing prices of the Company's common stock as quoted during the periods indicated. Such prices reflect prices between dealers in securities and do not include any retail mark-up, mark-down or commission and may not necessarily represent actual transactions. Furthermore, such quotations should not be deemed to reflect an "established public trading market". The information set forth below was obtained from America Online.

	High	Low
	----	---
Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2003:		
Three months ended -		
December 31, 2002	\$ 0.11	\$ 0.03

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

March 31, 2003	1.00	0.07
June 30, 2003	0.51	0.23
September 30, 2003	0.35	0.25

Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2004:

Three months ended -

December 31, 2003	\$ 0.91	\$ 0.25
March 31, 2004	0.55	0.25
June 30, 2004	0.35	0.30
September 30, 2004	0.30	0.25

(b) Holders

As of September 30, 2004, the Company had 41 shareholders of record with respect to the Company's common stock, excluding shares held in street name by brokerage firms and other nominees who hold shares for multiple investors. The Company estimates that it had approximately 630 common shareholders, including shares held in street name, as of September 30, 2004.

(c) Dividends

Holders of common stock are entitled to receive dividends if, as and when declared by the Board of Directors out of funds legally available therefor, subject to the dividend and liquidation rights of any preferred stock that may be issued and outstanding. The Company has never paid cash dividends on its common stock and has no present intention of paying cash dividends in the foreseeable future. It is the present policy of the Board of Directors to retain all earnings to provide for the future growth and development of the Company. However, such policy is subject to change based on current industry and market conditions, as well as other factors beyond the control of the Company.

(d) Securities Authorized for Issuance under Equity Compensation Plans

On November 1, 2000, the Company granted stock options under its Employee Stock Option Plan and Management Incentive Stock Option Plan to management and directors as summarized below (see "ITEM 10. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION - Stock

-4-

Option Plans"). These stock option plans were approved by the United States Bankruptcy Court as part of the Company's confirmed plan of reorganization. The Company does not have any other stock option plans.

On June 25, 2004, the Company filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission a registration statement on Form S-8 for the purpose of registering the common shares issuable under the Employee Stock Option Plan and the Management Incentive Stock Option Plan Consultant Stock Plan under the Securities Act of 1933.

Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding	Weighted-average exercise price	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity
--	---------------------------------	---

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

options, warrants and rights (1)	of outstanding options, warrants and rights	compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a))
(a)	(b)	(c)
353,318	\$0.24	247,322 shares

(1) Consists of vested stock options.

Sales of Unregistered Securities

The Company did not sell any unregistered securities during the fiscal years ended September 30, 2004 or 2003.

ITEM 6. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OR PLAN OF OPERATION

General Overview:

As of September 30, 2004, the Company had no business operations. The Company is focused on maintaining the corporate entity and seeking a new business opportunity. The acquisition of a new business opportunity may result in a change in name and in control of the Company.

Critical Accounting Policies:

The Company prepared the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The preparation of these financial statements requires the use of estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amount of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Management periodically evaluates the estimates and judgments made. Management bases its estimates and judgments on historical experience and on various factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates as a result of different assumptions or conditions.

The following critical accounting policies affect the more significant judgments and estimates used in the preparation of the Company's financial statements.

Cash and Cash Equivalents:

Cash and cash equivalents include all highly-liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the date of purchase. The Company minimizes its credit risk by investing its cash and cash equivalents with major banks and financial institutions located primarily in the United States.

However, cash balances exceeded federally-insured levels at September 30, 2004 and 2003. Balances that exceed such limits are separately insured through the commercial insurance carrier of the financial institution. The Company believes that no risk exists with respect to its concentration of balances in cash and

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

cash equivalents.

Income Taxes:

The Company records a valuation allowance to reduce its deferred tax assets to the amount that is more likely than not to be realized. In the event the Company was to determine that it would be able to realize its deferred tax assets in the future in excess of its recorded amount, an adjustment to the deferred tax assets would be credited to operations in the period such determination was made. Likewise, should the Company determine that it would not be able to realize all or part of its deferred tax assets in the future, an adjustment to the deferred tax assets would be charged to operations in the period such determination was made.

Results of Operations - Fiscal Years Ended September 30, 2004 and 2003:

General and Administrative. General and administrative expenses were \$342,525 and \$398,962 for the fiscal years ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively. General and administrative expenses decreased by \$56,437 or 14.1% in 2004 as compared to 2003, primarily as a result of decreases in accounting fees and insurance costs.

Effective January 1, 2005, the Company will relocate its offices to new facilities in the Los Angeles area, as a result of which the Company expects to incur substantially reduced office and occupancy expenses, as well as reduced personnel-related costs, from that date forward.

Legal Fees. Legal fees decreased by \$8,459 or 54.7%, to \$7,000 for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2004, as compared to \$15,459 for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2003.

Depreciation and Amortization. Depreciation and amortization was \$506 and \$553 for the fiscal years ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

Interest Expense. Interest expense was \$768 and \$1,289 for the fiscal years ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

Interest Income. Interest income decreased to \$5,202 for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2004, as compared to \$19,452 for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2003, as a result of decreased interest-bearing cash balances during 2003.

State Income Taxes. State income taxes were \$36,456 for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2003, which consisted of the California alternative minimum tax relating to the proceeds from the legal settlements received in September 2002, and which was paid in July 2003. The Company does not expect to be subject to this tax in subsequent periods. The Company did not incur any state income taxes in 2004.

Net Loss. The Company had a net loss of \$345,597 for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2004, as compared to \$433,267 for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2003.

Consolidated Financial Condition - September 30, 2004:

Liquidity and Capital Resources:

Overview. The Company's cash and cash equivalents were \$2,686,241 at September 30, 2004, as compared to \$4,345,513 at September 30, 2003, a decrease of \$1,659,272, primarily as a result of the Company expending \$1,343,743 in November 2003 to repurchase its securities, as described below at "Financing".

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

-6-

As of September 30, 2004, the Company's working capital was \$2,644,208, as compared to \$4,333,161 at September 30, 2003.

Operating. The Company's operations utilized cash resources of \$342,304 during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2004, as compared to \$446,017 during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2003, primarily for various general and administrative costs.

As of September 30, 2004, the Company had no business operations. The Company is focused on maintaining the corporate entity and seeking a new business opportunity. The Company believes that its working capital resources are adequate to fund anticipated costs and expenses during the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005.

Investing. During the fiscal years ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, the Company generated net cash from investing activities of \$26,775 and \$22,781, respectively.

During the fiscal years ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, the Company allocated certain common corporate services (consisting of rent, utilities, common area services, insurance and other office services) to Resource Ventures, Inc. ("Resource"), a related entity with certain common officers and directors, aggregating \$38,356 and \$60,485, respectively. As of September 30, 2004 and 2003, amounts due from Resource aggregated \$0 and \$26,894, respectively. During the fiscal years ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, Resource paid the Company \$65,250 and \$84,666, respectively.

Financing. During the fiscal year ended September 30, 2004, the Company utilized net cash in financing activities of \$1,343,743, as described below. The Company did not have any financing activities during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2003.

Effective November 17, 2003, the Company repurchased from an institutional shareholder 1,279,755 shares of common stock and 1,194,755 Series A common stock purchase warrants in a private transaction for an aggregate cash purchase price of \$1,343,743.

Commitments and Contingencies. At September 30, 2004, the Company did not have any material commitments for capital expenditures or have any transactions, obligations or relationships that could be considered off-balance sheet arrangements.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements:

In May 2003, the FASB issued SFAS No. 150, "Accounting for Certain Financial Instruments with Characteristics of both Liabilities and Equity". SFAS No. 150 establishes standards for how an issuer classifies and measures in its statement of financial position certain financial instruments with characteristics of both liabilities and equity. SFAS No. 150 requires that an issuer classify a financial instrument that is within its scope as a liability (or an asset in some circumstances) because that financial instrument embodies an obligation of the issuer. SFAS No. 150 is effective for financial instruments entered into or modified after May 31, 2003 and otherwise is effective at the beginning of the first interim period beginning after June 15, 2003. SFAS No. 150 is to be implemented by reporting the cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle for financial instruments created before the issuance date of SFAS No. 150 and still existing at the beginning of the interim period of adoption. Restatement is not permitted. The adoption of SFAS No. 150 did not

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

have a significant effect on the Company's financial statement presentation or disclosures.

In January 2003, the FASB issued Interpretation No. 46 ("FIN 46"), "Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities" ("FIN 46"), which clarifies the application of Accounting Research Bulletin No. 51, "Consolidated Financial Statements", relating to consolidation of certain entities. In December 2003,

-7-

the FASB issued a revised version of FIN 46 ("FIN 46R") that replaced the original FIN 46. FIN 46R requires identification of a company's participation in variable interest entities ("VIEs"), which are defined as entities with a level of invested equity that is not sufficient to fund future activities to permit it to operate on a standalone basis. For entities identified as a VIE, FIN 46R sets forth a model to evaluate potential consolidation based on an assessment of which party to the VIE (if any) bears a majority of the exposure to its expected losses, or stands to gain from a majority of its expected returns. FIN 46R also sets forth certain disclosures regarding interests in VIEs that are deemed significant, even if consolidation is not required. The Company is not currently participating in, or invested in any VIEs, as defined in FIN 46R. The implementation of the provisions of FIN 46R did not have a significant effect on the Company's financial statement presentation or disclosures.

ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements included herein are listed at the "Index to Financial Statements".

ITEM 8. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

Not applicable.

ITEM 8A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

(a) Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Disclosure controls and procedures are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports filed or submitted under the Exchange Act of 1934 is recorded, processed, summarized and reported, within the time periods specified in the rules and forms of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports filed under the Exchange Act of 1934 is accumulated and communicated to management, including its principal executive and financial officers, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

The Company carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's management, including its principal executive and financial officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based upon and as of the date of that evaluation, the Company's principal executive and financial officer concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures are effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports the Company files and submits under the

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

Exchange Act of 1934 is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms.

(b) Changes in Internal Controls

There were no changes in the Company's internal controls or in other factors that could have significantly affected those controls subsequent to the date of the Company's most recent evaluation.

ITEM 8B. OTHER INFORMATION

Not applicable.

-8-

PART III.

ITEM 9. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, PROMOTERS AND CONTROL PERSONS; COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 16(a) OF THE EXCHANGE ACT

The following tables and text set forth the names and ages of all directors and executive officers of the Company as of December 31, 2004. Pursuant to the Company's confirmed plan of reorganization, the Board of Directors of the Company is comprised of three classes, with each class having a staggered three-year term. All of the directors serve until their terms expire and until their successors are elected and qualified, or until their earlier death, retirement, resignation or removal. Also provided is a brief description of the business experience of each director and executive officer during the past five years and an indication of directorships held by each director in other companies subject to the reporting requirements under the Federal securities laws.

DIRECTORS

Name	Age	Date Elected as Director
----	---	-----
Class I (term expired April 11, 2001):		
Robert N. Weingarten	52	December 31, 2004
Class II (term expired April 11, 2002):		
Divo Milan (1) (2)	48	August 21, 1998
Class III (term expired April 11, 2003):		
Selwyn Kossuth (1) (2)	67	September 26, 1997

(1) Member of the compensation committee.

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

(2) Member of the audit committee.

Effective December 31, 2004, Mark S. Zucker resigned from the Board of Directors, and Robert N. Weingarten was appointed to the board of directors.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Name ----	Age ---	Position -----	Date First Elected as Officer -----
Robert N. Weingarten	52	Chairman of the Board of Directors, President, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary	November 20, 1998

Involvement in Certain Legal Proceedings:

None of the Company's directors or executive officers has, during the past five years: (1) had any bankruptcy petition filed by or against any business of which such person was a general partner or executive officer either at the time

-9-

of the bankruptcy or within two years prior to that time (except with respect to the Company's bankruptcy reorganization in 2000); (2) been convicted in a criminal proceeding or subject to a pending criminal proceeding; (3) been subject to any order, judgment, or decree, not subsequently reversed, suspended or vacated, of any court of competent jurisdiction, permanently or temporarily enjoining, barring, suspending or otherwise limiting his involvement in any type of business, securities, futures, commodities or banking activities; or (4) been found by a court of competent jurisdiction (in a civil action), the Securities and Exchange Commission or the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, to have violated a federal or state securities or commodities law, and the judgment has not been reversed, suspended or vacated.

Biographies of Directors and Executive Officers:

Selwyn Kossuth. Mr. Kossuth's career has been in international mining finance and the development of strategic marketing programs. During his career, Mr. Kossuth has served as president and chief executive officer of the Investment Funds Institute of Canada, as executive director and chief operating officer of the Ontario Securities Commission, vice president and director of corporate finance of Nesbitt Thomson, Inc., and president of the Canadian operations of the Hochschild Group. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Commerce from Stellenbosch University, and a Master's Degree in Law from Oxford University. Mr. Kossuth is an English barrister. Mr. Kossuth serves on the board of governors and audit committee of Royal Bank of Canada Mutual Funds, and is a consultant to the Investment Funds Institute of Canada and to Leon Frazer Associates, Inc. Mr. Kossuth also serves on the board of directors of Resource Ventures, Inc., a public company formerly wholly-owned by Aries Ventures Inc.

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

Divo Milan. Mr. Milan has been the Chief Executive Officer of Investigacion Estrategica, a merchant banking firm located in Mexico City, Mexico, since 1987. He has over 20 years experience in all aspects of corporate finance, investment banking, merchant banking and venture capital in Mexico and South America. Mr. Milan currently serves on the board of directors of Banca Quadrum and Banco Bital, both of which are publicly-held companies. Mr. Milan also serves on the board of directors of Resource Ventures, Inc., a public company formerly wholly-owned by Aries Ventures Inc.

Robert N. Weingarten. Mr. Weingarten was appointed Chief Financial Officer of the Company on November 20, 1998, President effective October 1, 2002, and Chairman of the Board of Directors effective December 31, 2004. From July 1992 to present, Mr. Weingarten has been the sole shareholder of Resource One Group, Inc., a financial consulting and advisory company. Since 1979, Mr. Weingarten has served as a consultant to numerous public companies in various stages of development, operation or reorganization. Mr. Weingarten received an M.B.A. Degree in Finance from the University of Southern California in 1975 and a B.A. Degree in Accounting from the University of Washington in 1974. Mr. Weingarten currently serves as an officer of Resource Ventures, Inc., a public company formerly wholly-owned by Aries Ventures Inc., and YouthStream Media Networks, Inc. and ARTISTdirect, Inc., both of which are public companies.

Audit Committee Financial Expert:

Selwyn Kossuth, by virtue of his background and experience, has been designated as the audit committee's financial expert, and is considered "independent", as that term is used in Item 7(d)(3)(iv) of Schedule 14A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

Family Relationships among Directors and Executive Officers:

There were no family relationships among directors and executive officers during the fiscal years ended September 30, 2003 or 2004.

-10-

Compliance with Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act:

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, requires the Company's directors and executive officers and persons or entities who own more than 10% of a registered class of the Company's equity securities to file various reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission concerning their holdings of, and transactions in, securities of the Company. Copies of these filings must be furnished to the Company.

To the Company's knowledge based solely on its review of the copies of the Section 16(a) reports furnished to the Company and written representations to the Company that no other reports were required, the Company believes that all individual filing requirements applicable to the Company's directors and executive officers were complied with under Section 16(a) during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2004.

Code of Ethics:

The Company has adopted a written Code of Ethics that applies to its senior management. A copy of the Company's Code of Ethics, executed by the Company's President and Chief Financial Officer, has been filed as an exhibit to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-QSB for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2004. A copy of the Company's Code of Ethics is available to any shareholder by addressing a request to the attention of the Secretary of the Company and mailing such request to the Company's corporate offices. Any amendment to the

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

Code of Ethics or any waiver of the Code of Ethics will be disclosed promptly following the date of such amendment or waiver pursuant to a Form 8-K filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Changes in Procedures to Nominate Directors:

Since the date of the Company's last disclosures pursuant to Item 7(d)(s)(ii)(G) of Schedule 14A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, there have been no material changes to the procedures by which security holders may recommend nominees to the Company's Board of Directors.

ITEM 10. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The following table sets forth the compensation paid by the Company to the named executive officers during the last three fiscal years. No other executive officers received total annual compensation exceeding \$100,000 during such fiscal years.

SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE

Name and Principal Positions -----	Fiscal Year Ended September 30, ----	Salary -----	Bonus -----	Other Annual Compensation -----
Mark S. Zucker former Chairman of the Board of Directors	2004	\$ 60,000		
	2003	60,000		
	2002	125,000	\$90,000 (1)	\$1,500 (2)
Robert N. Weingarten President and Chief Financial Officer	2004	60,000		
	2003	60,000		
	2002	60,000	60,000 (1)	

(1) During the fiscal year ended September 30, 2002, the Company paid bonuses

-11-

to Mr. Zucker and Mr. Weingarten as a result of the successful conclusion of various legal proceedings.

(2) Represents fair market value of 50,000 shares of common stock issued to Mr. Zucker on November 1, 2001 as compensation for arranging a \$500,000 loan.

Compensation Agreements with Management:

The Company entered into three-year employment agreements dated September 1, 1999 with Mark S. Zucker, the Company's then President and Chief Executive Officer, and with Robert N. Weingarten, the Company's then Chief Financial Officer, with minimum annual compensation of \$250,000 and \$120,000, respectively. Mr. Zucker and Mr. Weingarten do not receive perquisites or other

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

customary benefits such as medical, disability or life insurance, pension or profit-sharing, or any other ancillary benefits. The employment agreements provided that in the event of a change of majority ownership of the Company, Mr. Zucker and Mr. Weingarten would each have the option to terminate their employment with the Company and receive a payment equal to three times their base annual salary. These employment agreements were approved and assumed pursuant to the Company's confirmed plan of reorganization.

Effective October 1, 2000, Mr. Zucker and Mr. Weingarten voluntarily agreed to reduce their annual compensation to \$125,000 and \$60,000, respectively. Effective October 1, 2002, Mr. Zucker voluntarily agreed to reduce his base annual compensation to \$60,000.

The employment agreements of Mr. Zucker and Mr. Weingarten were extended through September 30, 2005, under the same terms and conditions as contained in the original employment agreements, except that, effective October 1, 2002, the compensation of Mr. Zucker and Mr. Weingarten were each reduced to \$60,000 per year, and Mr. Zucker's position was designated as Chairman of the Board of Directors and Mr. Weingarten's positions were designated as President and Chief Financial Officer. Subsequently, effective October 1, 2004, Mr. Zucker and Mr. Weingarten voluntarily agreed to reduce their annual compensation to \$18,000 for the remainder of the term of the respective employment agreements.

Effective December 31, 2004, Mr. Zucker resigned from the Board of Directors, and his employment agreement was terminated.

Board of Directors Compensation:

Commencing October 1, 2002, non-officer directors who are not otherwise compensated by the Company receive \$5,000 per year for serving on the Board of Directors. Directors are reimbursed for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in attending board meetings.

During the fiscal years ended September 30, 2004, 2003 and 2002, Selwyn Kossuth, a director of the Company, was paid an annual board committee fee of approximately \$14,000.

Committees of Board of Directors:

The Company does not have a nominating committee of the Board of Directors, or any committee performing similar functions. Nominees for election as a director are selected by the Board of Directors.

The Company does not have a stock option committee of the Board of Directors, or any committee performing similar functions. The Board of Directors is currently responsible for the operation and administration of the Company's stock option plans, including the grants thereunder.

The compensation committee of the Board of Directors consists of Selwyn Kossuth and Divo Milan, neither of whom is an employee of the Company. The compensation committee reviews the performance of the executive officers of the

-12-

Company and reviews the compensation programs for key employees, including salary and bonus levels.

The audit committee of the Board of Directors consists of Selwyn Kossuth and Divo Milan, neither of whom is an employee of the Company. The audit committee reviews, acts on and reports to the Board of Directors with respect to

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

various auditing and accounting matters, including the selection of the Company's independent public accountants, the scope of the annual audits, the nature of non-audit services, the fees to be paid to the independent public accountants, the performance of the independent public accountants, and the accounting practices of the Company. The audit committee held four meetings during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2004.

Long-Term Incentive Plans:

The Company does not have any long-term incentive plans.

Stock Option Plans:

Under the Company's Employee Stock Option Plan, the Company may issue stock options to purchase a maximum of 353,318 shares of common stock of the Company pursuant to incentive and non-qualified stock options to officers, management and employees of the Company. Under the Company's Management Incentive Stock Option Plan, the Company may issue stock options to purchase a maximum of 247,322 shares of common stock of the Company pursuant to incentive and non-qualified stock options to officers, directors, employees, management and consultants of the Company. Both stock option plans were adopted by the Board of Directors on April 12, 2000, and are administered by the Board of Directors or, in the discretion of the Board of Directors, by a committee of not less than two individuals with authority to determine persons to whom options will be granted, the timing and manner of grants of options, the exercise prices, the number of shares covered by the options, the terms of the options, and all other determinations necessary or advisable for administration of such stock option plans. At September 30, 2004, there were 247,322 options issuable under the Employee Stock Option Plan and no options issuable under the Management Incentive Stock Option Plan.

The purchase price for the shares subject to any incentive stock option granted under the Employee Stock Option Plan or the Management Incentive Stock Option Plan shall not be less than 100% of the fair market value of the shares of common stock of the Company on the date the option is granted (110% for stockholders who own in excess of 10% of the outstanding common stock). No option shall be exercisable after the expiration of 10 years after the date the option is granted. In addition, subject to certain exceptions, no option shall be exercisable after the expiration of three months after the date the optionee's employment with the Company terminates if termination is for any reason other than permanent disability or death, or one year after the date the optionee's employment terminates if termination is a result of death or permanent disability. Unless sooner terminated by the Board of Directors, both option plans expire on April 11, 2010.

On November 1, 2000, the Company granted stock options under these stock option plans to management and directors aggregating 353,318 shares of common stock, exercisable for a period of five years. The exercise price of such options was the fair market value on the date of grant (\$0.23 per share), except for Mr. Zucker, a more than 10% stockholder of the Company; the exercise price of Mr. Zucker's option was 110% of the fair market value on the date of grant (\$0.25 per share). The stock options vested in equal annual increments on September 30, 2001, 2002 and 2003.

A summary of stock options issued to officers and directors as of September 30, 2004 (all issued pursuant to stock option plans) is presented below. No stock options have been exercised.

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

STOCK OPTION VALUE TABLE

Name	Number of Shares of Common Stock Underlying Stock Options		Weighted Average Exercise Price	Value of Unexercised in-the-Money Stock Options at Fiscal Year-End (1)	
	Unvested	Vested		Unvested	Vested
Mark S. Zucker	-	176,659	\$0.25	\$ -	\$ -
Robert N. Weingarten	-	141,327	\$0.23	-	2,827
Selwyn Kossuth	-	17,666	\$0.23	-	353
Divo Milan	-	17,666	\$0.23	-	353
	-	353,318	\$0.24	\$ -	\$3,533

(1) The dollar values are calculated by determining the difference between the weighted average exercise price of the stock options and the market price for the common stock of \$0.25 per share at September 30, 2004.

ITEM 11. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

As used in this section, the term beneficial ownership with respect to a security is defined by Rule 13d-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as consisting of sole or shared voting power (including the power to vote or direct the vote) and/or sole or shared investment power (including the power to dispose of or direct the disposition of) with respect to the security through any contract, arrangement, understanding, relationship or otherwise, subject to community property laws where applicable.

As of December 31, 2004, the Company had 2,032,226 shares of common stock issued and outstanding, which was the only class of voting securities authorized or outstanding.

The following table sets forth, as of December 31, 2004: (a) the names and addresses of each beneficial owner of more than five percent (5%) of the Company's common stock known to the Company, the number of shares of common stock beneficially owned by each such person, and the percent of the Company's common stock so owned; and (b) the names and addresses of each director and executive officer of the Company, the number of shares of common stock beneficially owned, and the percentage of the Company's common stock so owned, by each such person, and by all directors and executive officers of the Company as a group. Each person has sole voting and investment power with respect to the shares of common stock, except as otherwise indicated. Beneficial ownership consists of a direct interest in the shares of common stock, except as otherwise indicated.

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

Name and Address of Beneficial Owner -----	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership -----	Percent of Shares of Common Stock (9) -----
Kyneton Investments, Ltd. 2 Jane Street, #501 Toronto Ontario Canada M6S 4W3	593,710 (1)	25.5
David and Lily Marx 55 South La Cumbre Road Suite #15 Santa Barbara California 93105	167,300 (2)	8.2
Mark S. Zucker 11111 Santa Monica Boulevard Suite 1250 Los Angeles California 90025	2,007,149 (3)	64.8
Directors and Executive Officers:		
Divo Milan (8)	253,682 (4)	11.7
Selwyn Kossuth (8)	17,666 (5)	0.9
Robert N. Weingarten (8)	141,327 (6)	6.5
All Directors and Executive Officers as a Group (3 persons)	412,675 (7)	17.7

-
- (1) Includes 296,855 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of currently exercisable Series A common stock purchase warrants.(1)
 - (2) Reflects shares of common stock reported in Schedule 13D filed with Securities and Exchange Commission on January 30, 2004.
 - (3) Includes 446,879 shares of common stock owned of record by Reflection Partners, L.P., a California limited partnership, and 50,000 shares of common stock owned by Anvil Claims, Inc. Mark S. Zucker is the general partner of Reflection Partners, L.P. and the owner of Anvil Claims, Inc. Includes 890,245 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of currently exercisable Series A common stock purchase warrants and vested options to purchase 176,659 shares of common stock.(3)
 - (4) The securities with respect to Divo Milan are held by Karpnale Investment PTE Ltd., the beneficiaries of which are the sons of Divo Milan. Mr. Milan does not have investment or voting power with respect to such securities, and accordingly, disclaims any beneficial interest in such securities. Includes 118,008 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

- currently exercisable Series A common stock purchase warrants and vested options to purchase 17,666 shares of common stock.
- (5) Consists of vested options to purchase 17,666 shares of common stock.
 - (6) Consists of vested options to purchase 141,327 shares of common stock.
 - (7) Includes 118,008 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of currently exercisable Series A common stock purchase warrants and vested options to purchase 176,659 shares of common stock.
 - (8) The address of each such person is c/o the Company, 28720 Canwood Street, Suite 207, Agoura Hills, California 91301.

-15-

- (9) The calculation with respect to percent of shares of common stock outstanding for each beneficial owner assumes that any currently exercisable Series A common stock purchase warrants and the vested stock options owned by each such beneficial owner are exercised, and also assumes that any warrants or options held by others are not exercised at that time.

Changes in Control:

As of September 30, 2004, the Company is unaware of any contract or other arrangement, the operation of which may at a subsequent date result in a change in control of the Company.

Information with respect to securities authorized for issuance under equity compensation plans is provided at "ITEM 5. MARKET FOR COMMON EQUITY AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS - Securities Authorized for Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans".

ITEM 12. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS

During the fiscal years ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, the Company allocated certain common corporate services (consisting of rent, utilities, common area services, insurance and other office services) to Resource Ventures, Inc. ("Resource"), a related entity with certain common officers and directors, aggregating \$38,356 and \$60,485, respectively. As of September 30, 2004 and 2003, amounts due from Resource aggregated \$0 and \$26,894, respectively. During the fiscal years ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, Resource paid the Company \$65,250 and \$84,666, respectively.

Information with respect to remuneration paid to officers and directors is provided at "ITEM 10. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION".

ITEM 13. EXHIBITS

A list of exhibits required to be filed as part of this report is set forth in the Index to Exhibits, which immediately precedes such exhibits, and is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES

Audit and Audit-Related Fees:

Weinberg & Company, P.A. has served as the Company's independent accountant for the fiscal years ended September 30, 2003 and 2004. Services provided to the

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

Company by Weinberg & Company, P.A. during such periods consisted of the audit of the Company's annual financial statements and limited reviews of interim unaudited financial statements included in quarterly reports pursuant to Statement on Auditing Standards No. 100. Charges by Weinberg & Company, P.A. with respect to these matters for the fiscal years ended September 30, 2003 and 2004 aggregated approximately \$23,000 and \$22,000, respectively.

Tax Fees:

Weinberg & Company, P.A. has not provided any services to the Company with respect to the preparation of corporate income tax returns or tax planning matters.

All Other Fees:

Weinberg & Company, P.A. has not provided any services with respect to any matters other than those related to audit and audit-related matters.

-16-

Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures:

The Audit Committee meets periodically to review and approve the scope of the services to be provided to the Company by its independent accountant, as well to review and discuss any issues that may arise during an engagement. The Audit Committee considers various issues with respect to the services to be provided by its independent accountant, including the complexity of any engagement, its expected cost, the knowledge and expertise of the independent accountant's staff, any complex accounting or disclosure issues, new accounting pronouncements, and the capability of the Company's financial staff.

-17-

SIGNATURES

In accordance with Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, the registrant caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

ARIES VENTURES INC.

(Registrant)

Date: January 10, 2005

By: /s/ ROBERT N. WEINGARTEN

Robert N. Weingarten
President

In accordance with the Exchange Act, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

Date: January 10, 2005 By: /s/ ROBERT N. WEINGARTEN

Robert N. Weingarten
Chairman of the Board of
Directors, President
and Chief Financial
Officer

Date: January 10, 2005 By: /s/ SELWYN KOSSUTH

Selwyn Kossuth
Director

Date: January 10, 2005 By: /s/ DIVO MILAN

Divo Milan
Director

-18-

Aries Ventures Inc.

Index to Financial Statements

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Balance Sheets - September 30, 2004 and 2003

Statements of Operations - Years Ended September 30, 2004 and 2003

Statements of Shareholders' Equity - Years Ended September 30, 2004 and 2003

Statements of Cash Flows - Years Ended September 30, 2004 and 2003

Notes to Financial Statements - Years Ended September 30, 2004 and 2003

-19-

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of
Aries Ventures Inc.

We have audited the accompanying balance sheets of Aries Ventures Inc., a Nevada corporation (the "Company") as of September 30, 2004 and 2003, and the related statements of operations, shareholders' equity and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Aries Ventures Inc. as of September 30, 2004 and 2003, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

Weinberg & Company, P.A.
Boca Raton, Florida
December 17, 2004

-20-

Aries Ventures Inc. Balance Sheets

	September 30,	
	2004	2003
	-----	-----
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,686,241	\$ 4,345,513
Due from related party	-	26,894
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	18,147	43,744
	-----	-----
Total current assets	2,704,388	4,416,151
	-----	-----
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT	27,363	27,244
Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization	(26,642)	(26,136)
	-----	-----
	721	1,108
	-----	-----
OTHER		
Deposits	2,309	2,309
	-----	-----

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

2,309	2,309
-----	-----
\$ 2,707,418	\$ 4,419,568
=====	=====

(continued)

-21-

Aries Ventures Inc.
Balance Sheets (continued)

	September 30,	
	2004	2003
	-----	-----
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable	\$ 50,045	\$ 52,702
Accrued liabilities	10,135	30,288
	-----	-----
Total current liabilities	60,180	82,990
	-----	-----

COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value Authorized - 10,000,000 shares Issued and outstanding - None	-	-
Common stock, \$0.01 par value Authorized - 50,000,000 shares Issued - 3,311,981 shares at September 30, 2004 and 2003 (outstanding - 2,032,226 shares at September 30, 2004 and 3,311,981 shares at September 30, 2003)	33,120	33,120
Less: securities held in treasury at September 30, 2004 - 1,279,755 shares of common stock and		

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

1,194,755 Class A common stock purchase warrants, at cost	(1,343,743)	-
Additional paid-in capital	1,800,859	1,800,859
Retained earnings	2,157,002	2,502,599
	-----	-----
	2,647,238	4,336,578
	-----	-----
	\$ 2,707,418	\$ 4,419,568
	=====	=====

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

-22-

Aries Ventures Inc.
Statements of Operations

	Years Ended September 30,	
	2004	2003
	-----	-----
REVENUES	\$ -	\$ -
	-----	-----
COSTS AND EXPENSES		
General and administrative	342,525	398,962
Legal fees	7,000	15,459
Depreciation and amortization	506	553
Interest expense	768	1,289
Interest income	(5,202)	(19,452)
	-----	-----
Net loss before income taxes	(345,597)	(396,811)
State income taxes	-	36,456
	-----	-----
NET LOSS	\$ (345,597)	\$ (433,267)
	=====	=====
NET LOSS PER COMMON SHARE - BASIC AND DILUTED	\$ (0.16)	\$ (0.13)
	=====	=====

WEIGHTED AVERAGE NUMBER
OF COMMON SHARES

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

OUTSTANDING -		
BASIC AND DILUTED	2,200,063	3,311,981
	=====	=====

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

-23-

Aries Ventures Inc.
Statements of Shareholders' Equity
Years Ended September 30, 2004 and 2003

	Common Stock		Preferred Stock		Securities Held in Treasury	Additional Paid-in Capital
	Shares	Par Value	Shares	Par Value		
Balance, October 1, 2002	3,311,981	\$ 33,120	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,800,859
Net loss	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance, September 30, 2003	3,311,981	33,120	-	-	-	1,800,859
Common stock repurchased	-	-	-	-	(1,343,743)	-
Net loss	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance, September 30, 2004	3,311,981	\$ 33,120	-	\$ -	\$ (1,343,743)	\$1,800,859

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

-24-

Aries Ventures Inc.
Statements of Cash Flows

	Years Ended September 30,	
	2004	2003
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net loss	\$ (345,597)	\$ (433,267)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating activities:		

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

Depreciation and amortization	506	553
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
(Increase) decrease in:		
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	25,597	2,491
Increase (decrease) in:		
Accounts payable	(2,657)	(16,145)
Accrued liabilities	(20,153)	351
	-----	-----
Net cash used in operating activities	(342,304)	(446,017)
	-----	-----
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Payments from related entity	65,250	84,666
Increase in amounts due from related entity	(38,356)	(60,485)
Purchase of property and equipment	(119)	(1,400)
	-----	-----
Net cash provided by investing activities	26,775	22,781
	-----	-----

(continued)

-25-

Aries Ventures Inc.
Statements of Cash Flows

	Years Ended September 30,	
	2004	2003
	-----	-----
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Repurchase of securities	\$ (1,343,743)	\$ -
	-----	-----
Net cash used in financing activities	(1,343,743)	-
	-----	-----
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS:		
Net decrease	(1,659,272)	(423,236)
Balance at beginning of year	4,345,513	4,768,749
	-----	-----
Balance at end of year	\$ 2,686,241	\$ 4,345,513

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

===== =====
SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE OF
CASH FLOW INFORMATION:

Cash paid for interest	\$ 768	\$ 1,289
	=====	=====
Cash paid for income taxes	\$ -	\$ 36,456
	=====	=====

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

-26-

Aries Ventures Inc.
Notes to Financial Statements
Years Ended September 30, 2004 and 2003

1. Organization and Business

a. Organization

Aries Ventures Inc. ("Aries" or the "Company") was incorporated in Nevada on April 21, 2000 as a wholly-owned subsidiary of Casmyn Corp., a Colorado corporation ("Casmyn"). On April 28, 2000, Casmyn was merged with and into Aries, with Aries being the surviving corporation.

b. Company Outlook

As of September 30, 2004, the Company had no business operations. The Company is focused on maintaining the corporate entity and seeking a new business opportunity. The Company believes that its working capital resources are adequate to fund anticipated costs and expenses during the year ending September 30, 2005.

2. Basis of Presentation

a. Presentation

The financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly-owned, inactive subsidiary (which has no assets or operations), and have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

b. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

c. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include all highly-liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the date of purchase. The Company minimizes its credit risk by investing its cash and cash equivalents with major banks and financial institutions located primarily in the United States. However, cash balances exceeded federally-insured levels at September 30, 2004 and 2003. Balances that exceed such limits are separately insured through the commercial insurance carrier of the financial institution. The Company believes that no risk exists with respect to its concentration of balances in cash and cash equivalents.

d. Property and Equipment

Depreciation with respect to furniture, fixtures and office equipment is provided on the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the respective assets.

e. Loss Per Common Share

Basic loss per share is calculated by dividing net loss by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted loss per share is calculated assuming the issuance of common shares, if dilutive, resulting from the exercise of outstanding stock options and warrants. These potentially dilutive securities were not included in the

-27-

calculation of loss per share for the years ended September 30, 2004 and 2003 because the Company incurred a loss during such periods and thus their effect would have been anti-dilutive. Accordingly, basic and diluted loss per common share are the same for the years ended September 30, 2004 and 2003.

As of September 30, 2004, potentially dilutive securities consisted of outstanding Series A common stock purchase warrants and stock options to acquire 2,056,226 shares and 353,318 shares, respectively.

f. Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The Company believes that the carrying value of its cash and cash equivalents, related party receivables, accounts payable and accrued liabilities as of September 30, 2004 and 2003 approximates their respective fair values due to the demand or short-term nature of those instruments and their underlying liquidity.

g. Stock-Based Compensation

The Company may periodically issue shares of common stock for services rendered or for financing costs. Such shares are valued based on the market price on the transaction date.

The Company may periodically issue stock options and warrants to management, employees and non-employees in non-capital raising transactions for services and for financing costs.

The Company has adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation" ("SFAS No. 123"), which establishes a fair value method of accounting for stock-based compensation plans.

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

The provisions of SFAS No. 123 allow companies to either expense the estimated fair value of stock options or to continue to follow the intrinsic value method set forth in Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees", but to disclose the pro forma effect on net loss and net loss per share had the fair value of the stock options been exercised. The Company has elected to continue to account for stock-based compensation plans utilizing the intrinsic value method. Accordingly, compensation cost for stock options is measured as the excess, if any, of the fair market price of the Company's common stock at the date of grant above the amount an employee must pay to acquire the common stock.

In accordance with SFAS No. 123, the Company has provided footnote disclosure with respect to stock-based employee compensation. The value of a stock-based award is determined using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model, whereby compensation cost is the fair value of the award as determined by the pricing model at the grant date or other measurement date. The resulting amount is charged to expense on the straight-line basis over the period in which the Company expects to receive benefit, which is generally the vesting period. Stock options issued to non-employee directors at fair market value are accounted for under the intrinsic value method.

h. Reclassification

Certain amounts have been reclassified in 2003 to conform to the presentation in 2004.

i. Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In May 2003, the FASB issued SFAS No. 150, "Accounting for Certain Financial Instruments with Characteristics of both Liabilities and Equity". SFAS No. 150 establishes standards for how an issuer classifies and measures in its statement of financial position certain financial instruments with characteristics of both liabilities and equity. SFAS No. 150 requires that an issuer classify a financial instrument that is within

-28-

its scope as a liability (or an asset in some circumstances) because that financial instrument embodies an obligation of the issuer. SFAS No. 150 is effective for financial instruments entered into or modified after May 31, 2003 and otherwise is effective at the beginning of the first interim period beginning after June 15, 2003. SFAS No. 150 is to be implemented by reporting the cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle for financial instruments created before the issuance date of SFAS No. 150 and still existing at the beginning of the interim period of adoption. Restatement is not permitted. The adoption of SFAS No. 150 did not have a significant effect on the Company's financial statement presentation or disclosures.

In January 2003, the FASB issued Interpretation No. 46 ("FIN 46"), "Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities" ("FIN 46"), which clarifies the application of Accounting Research Bulletin No. 51, "Consolidated Financial Statements", relating to consolidation of certain entities. In December 2003, the FASB issued a revised version of FIN 46 ("FIN 46R") that replaced the original FIN 46. FIN 46R requires identification of a company's participation in variable interest entities ("VIEs"), which are defined as entities with a level of invested equity that is not sufficient

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

to fund future activities to permit it to operate on a standalone basis. For entities identified as a VIE, FIN 46R sets forth a model to evaluate potential consolidation based on an assessment of which party to the VIE (if any) bears a majority of the exposure to its expected losses, or stands to gain from a majority of its expected returns. FIN 46R also sets forth certain disclosures regarding interests in VIEs that are deemed significant, even if consolidation is not required. The Company is not currently participating in, or invested in any VIEs, as defined in FIN 46R. The implementation of the provisions of FIN 46R did not have a significant effect on the Company's financial statement presentation or disclosures.

3. Due from Related Party

During the years ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, the Company allocated certain common corporate services (consisting of rent, utilities, common area services, insurance and other office services) to Resource Ventures, Inc. ("Resource"), a related entity with certain common officers and directors. Activity with respect to the allocation of such services is summarized as follows:

Balance, October 1, 2002	\$ 51,075
Amounts allocated to Resource	60,485
Payments by Resource to Company	(84,666)

Balance, September 30, 2003	26,894
Amounts allocated to Resource	38,356
Payments by Resource to Company	(65,250)

Balance, September 30, 2004	\$ -
	=====

4. Commitments and Contingencies

a. Operating Leases

During the years ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, the Company leased its executive and administrative offices under an operating lease that expired on September 30, 2004. Subsequent to September 30, 2004, the Company will occupy office space on a month-to-month basis.

Related rent expense for the years ended September 30, 2004 and 2003 was \$22,441 and \$21,766, respectively.

b. Employment Agreements

-29-

At September 30, 2004, the Company had employment agreements with its Chairman of the Board of Directors (the "Chairman") and its President and Chief Financial Officer (the "President"), providing for individual compensation of \$60,000 per year for the period from October 1, 2002 through September 30, 2005. The employment agreements also provide that in the event of a change in majority ownership of the Company, each such person has the option to terminate his employment with the Company and receive a payment equal to three times his base annual compensation.

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

Effective October 1, 2004, the Chairman and the President each agreed to reduce their compensation to \$18,000 per year for the remainder of the term of the respective employment agreements.

Effective December 31, 2004, the Chairman resigned from the Board of Directors, and his employment agreement was terminated.

5. Income Taxes

As of September 30, 2004, the Company had federal net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$70,900,000 expiring in various years through 2024, which can be used to offset future taxable income, if any. No deferred asset benefit for these operating losses has been recognized in the Company's financial statements due to the uncertainty as to their realizability in future periods.

State income taxes were \$36,456 for the year ended September 30, 2003, which consisted of the California alternative minimum tax relating to the proceeds from legal settlements received in September 2002, and which was paid in July 2003. The Company does not expect to be subject to this tax in subsequent periods. The Company did not incur any state income taxes in 2004.

Due to the restrictions imposed by the Internal Revenue Code regarding substantial changes in ownership of companies with loss carryforwards, the utilization of the Company's federal net operating loss carryforwards will likely be limited as a result of cumulative changes in stock ownership.

During the year ended September 30, 1999, the Company identified specific losses occurring in prior years that were caused by the improper and fraudulent actions and activities of former management. These losses aggregated approximately \$55,120,000 and were recognized as deductions on the Company's federal income tax return for the year ended September 30, 1999. The Company's federal net operating loss carryforwards and the benefits deriving therefrom may be subject to audit by the Internal Revenue Service.

The Company's net deferred tax assets (using a federal corporate income rate of 34%) consisted of the following at September 30, 2004 and 2003:

	September 30,	
	2004	2003
Deferred tax assets:		
Operating loss carryforwards	\$ 26,412,000	\$ 26,275,000
Valuation allowances	180,000	180,000
Depreciation	1,000	2,000
	-----	-----
	26,593,000	26,457,000
Less: Valuation allowance	(26,593,000)	(26,457,000)
	-----	-----
Net deferred tax assets	\$ -	\$ -
	=====	=====

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

As a result of the Company's significant operating loss carryforwards and the corresponding valuation allowance, no income tax expense (benefit) has been recorded at September 30, 2004 and 2003. The provision for income taxes using the statutory federal tax rate as compared to the Company's effective tax rate is summarized as follows:

	September 30,	
	2004	2003
Tax expense (benefit) at statutory rate	34.0%	(34.0%)
State income taxes	-	6.2%
Adjustments to change in valuation allowance	(34.0)	37.0%
	----	----
	-	9.2%
	====	====

6. Related Party Transactions

In addition to the related party transactions described at Notes 3 and 4, the Company had the following related party transactions for the years ended September 30, 2004 and 2003:

- a. During the years ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, the Company paid an annual board committee fee of approximately \$14,000 to a non-employee director.
- b. During the years ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, the Company paid a fee of \$5,000 to a non-employee director who was not otherwise compensated.

7. Shareholders' Equity

a. Preferred Stock

As of September 30, 2004, the Company had authorized 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock with a par value of \$0.01 per share.

The Board of Directors is vested with the authority to divide the authorized shares of preferred stock into series and to determine the relative rights and preferences at the time of issuance of the series.

b. Common Stock

As of September 30, 2004, the Company had authorized 50,000,000 shares of common stock with a par value of \$0.01 per share.

Effective November 17, 2003, the Company repurchased from an institutional shareholder 1,279,755 shares of common stock and 1,194,755 Series A common stock purchase warrants in a private transaction for an aggregate cash purchase price of \$1,343,743. As a result of the exercise price of the Series A common stock purchase warrants being substantially in excess of

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

the fair market value of the Company's common stock, all of the consideration was allocated to the common shares. These securities have been classified as treasury securities and recorded at cost as a reduction to shareholders' equity in the Company's balance sheet at September 30, 2004.

c. Stock Option Plans

-31-

Under the Company's Employee Stock Option Plan, the Company may issue stock options to purchase a maximum of 353,318 shares of common stock of the Company pursuant to incentive and non-qualified stock options to officers, management and employees of the Company. Under the Company's Management Incentive Stock Option Plan, the Company may issue stock options to purchase a maximum of 247,322 shares of common stock of the Company pursuant to incentive and non-qualified stock options to officers, directors, employees, management and consultants of the Company. Both stock option plans were adopted by the Board of Directors on April 12, 2000, and are administered by the Board of Directors or, in the discretion of the Board of Directors, by a committee of not less than two individuals with authority to determine persons to whom options will be granted, the timing and manner of grants of options, the exercise prices, the number of shares covered by the options, the terms of the options, and all other determinations necessary or advisable for administration of such stock option plans. At September 30, 2004, there were 247,322 options issuable under the Employee Stock Option Plan and no options issuable under the Management Incentive Stock Option Plan.

The purchase price for the shares subject to any incentive stock option granted under the Employee Stock Option Plan or the Management Incentive Stock Option Plan shall not be less than 100% of the fair market value of the shares of common stock of the Company on the date the option is granted (110% for stockholders who own in excess of 10% of the outstanding common stock). No option shall be exercisable after the expiration of 10 years after the date the option is granted. In addition, subject to certain exceptions, no option shall be exercisable after the expiration of three months after the date the optionee's employment with the Company terminates if termination is for any reason other than permanent disability or death, or one year after the date the optionee's employment terminates if termination is a result of death or permanent disability. Unless sooner terminated by the Board of Directors, both option plans expire on April 11, 2010.

On November 1, 2000, the Company granted stock options under these stock option plans to management and directors aggregating 353,318 shares of common stock, exercisable for a period of five years. The exercise price of such options was the fair market value on the date of grant (\$0.23 per share), except for the Chairman, a more than 10% stockholder of the Company; the exercise price of the Chairman's option was 110% of the fair market value on the date of grant (\$0.25 per share). The stock options vested in equal annual increments on September 30, 2001, 2002 and 2003.

Option activity under these stock option plans for the years ended September 30, 2003 and 2004 is summarized as follows:

Remaining
Contractual

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

	Number of Options -----	Exercise Price -----	Life (in years) -----
Balance outstanding, October 1, 2002	353,318	\$0.23-0.25	
Options issued	-	-	
Options exercised	-	-	
Options expired	-	-	

Balance outstanding, September 30, 2003	353,318	\$0.23-0.25	
Options issued	-	-	
Options exercised	-	-	
Options expired	-	-	

Balance outstanding, September 30, 2004	353,318 =====	\$0.23-0.25	1.1
Options exercisable at September 30, 2004	353,318 =====	\$0.23-0.25	1.1

-32-

The fair value of the stock options granted on November 1, 2000 were estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model with the following weighted-average assumptions: risk-free interest rate 5%; dividend yield of 0%; stock price volatility of 100%; and expected life of five years. Had compensation cost for stock option grants made under the Employee Stock Option Plan and the Management Incentive Stock Option Plan been determined under SFAS No. 123, the Company's net loss and net loss per common share for the years ended September 30, 2004 and 2003 would have been as follows:

	Years Ended September 30, -----	
	2004 -----	2003 -----
Net loss, as reported	\$ (345,597)	\$ (433,267)
Additional compensation expense pursuant to SFAS No. 123	(1,662) -----	(20,124) -----
Net loss, as adjusted	\$ (347,259) =====	\$ (453,391) =====
Net loss per common share (basic and diluted), as adjusted	\$ (0.16) =====	\$ (0.14) =====

d. Warrants

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

Warrant activity for the fiscal years ended September 30, 2003 and 2004 is summarized below. The Series A warrants entitle the holders to purchase one share of common stock at \$6.00 per share, and are currently exercisable through October 11, 2005.

-33-

	Number of Warrants -----	Exercise Price -----	Remaining Contractual Life (in years) -----
Balance outstanding, October 1, 2002	3,250,981	\$6.00	
Warrants issued	-		
Warrants exercised	-		
Warrants expired	-		
Warrants repurchased	-		

Balance outstanding, September 30, 2003	3,250,981	\$6.00	
Warrants issued	-		
Warrants exercised	-		
Warrants expired	-		
Warrants repurchased	(1,194,755)	\$6.00	

Balance outstanding, September 30, 2004	2,056,226	\$6.00	1.0
	=====		
Warrants exercisable at September 30, 2004	2,056,226	\$6.00	1.0
	=====		

-34-

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit Number -----	Description of Document -----
2.1	Debtor's Second Amended Chapter 11 Plan of Reorganization, previously filed as an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 31, 2000, and incorporated herein by reference.
2.2	Order Confirming Debtor's Second Amended Chapter 11 Plan of Reorganization, previously filed as an exhibit to the Company's Current report on Form 8-K dated March 31, 2000, and incorporated herein by reference.

Edgar Filing: ARIES VENTURES INC - Form 10KSB

- 2.3 Order Authorizing Non-Material Modification of Debtor's Second Amended Chapter 11 Plan of Reorganization, previously filed as an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K dated June 1, 2000, and incorporated herein by reference.
- 3.1 Articles of Incorporation of Aries Ventures Inc., a Nevada corporation, as filed with the State of Nevada on April 21, 2000, previously filed as an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K dated April 28, 2000, and incorporated herein by reference.
- 3.2 Articles and Plan of Merger of Casmyn Corp., a Colorado corporation, and Aries Ventures Inc., a Nevada corporation, as filed with States of Nevada and Colorado on April 28, 2000, previously filed as an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K dated April 28, 2000, and incorporated herein by reference.
- 3.3 Bylaws of Aries Ventures Inc., a Nevada corporation, as adopted on April 28, 2000, previously filed as an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K dated April 28, 2000, and incorporated herein by reference.
- 3.4 Articles of Amendment of Articles of Incorporation of Casmyn Corp., as filed with the State of Colorado, previously filed as an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 31, 2000, and incorporated herein by reference.
- 4.1 Management Incentive Stock Option Plan, previously filed as an exhibit to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-8 dated June 25, 2004, and incorporated herein by reference. (C)
- 4.2 Employee Incentive Stock Option Plan, previously filed as an exhibit to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-8 dated June 25, 2004, and incorporated herein by reference. (C)
- 10.1 Employment Agreement between Casmyn Corp. and Mark S. Zucker dated September 1, 1999, previously filed as an exhibit to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-KSB for the fiscal year ended September 30, 1999, and incorporated herein by reference. (C)
- 10.2 Employment Agreement between Casmyn Corp. and Robert N. Weingarten dated September 1, 1999, previously filed as an exhibit to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-KSB for the fiscal year ended September 30, 1999, and incorporated herein by reference. (C)
- 14 Code of Ethics, previously filed as an exhibit to the Company's March 31, 2004 Form 10-QSB Quarterly Report, and incorporated herein by reference.
- 31 Certification Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. (1)
- 32 Certification Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. (1)

(1) Filed herewith.

(C) Indicates compensatory plan, agreement or arrangement.