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**(Neb.) - Ted Turner company sued by former ranch hand**

By: John Thayer Posted at: 04/25/2012 10:00 AM

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) - A former employee at a Nebraska ranch owned by media mogul Ted Turner says in a wrongful termination lawsuit that bison were abused at the ranch.

Ronald Samland was fired from his ranch hand job at the 130,000-acre Spike Box Ranch in Cherry County.

Samland says in the lawsuit that he was fired in 2010 after twice being injured in all-terrain vehicle accidents. He seeks lost wages plus interest, damages for pain and suffering and attorney and court costs.

In the lawsuit, Samland says bison were herded using electric cattle prods and by ramming their hind legs with ATVs.

Turner Enterprises Inc. spokesman Phillip Evans tells the newspaper that Samland's claims about the bison are irrelevant and without merit.

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