

## Polygamous sect

## FLDS spokesman tells private eye to back off

Willie Jessop seeks a restraining order for 'continual harassment'

By BROOKE ADAMS  
The Salt Lake Tribune

Two weeks after a restraining order targeted him, a polygamous sect spokesman is firing back and asking a Utah judge to keep a private investigator at bay.

Willie Jessop, a member of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, filed the request

against Sam Brower on Tuesday in 5th District Court in St. George.

Jessop claims Brower has a "long history of following and photographing FLDS members," often leading to confrontations, and has engaged in a "pattern of continual harassment" that includes making disparaging comments about Jessop to the media.

Jessop wants Brower and anyone working for him kept 500 feet away from his homes and offices in Hildale, Canaan Gap, Cedar City and San Angelo, Texas.

Brower, who lives in Cedar City and has helped develop cases against the FLDS over the past four years, did not return a call from *The Salt Lake Tribune* for comment. A judge has not yet ruled on the request, according to online court records.

Jessop claims Brower took a television news crew to Hildale on June 7 and scaled a 6-foot-high wall in order to take



Willie Jessop

pictures of Jessop's home and yard. In doing so, Brower "frightened... children sending them into the house very terrified," the filing states.

On that same day, Brower took the news crew to Jessop's ranch in Canaan Gap and, ignoring "no trespassing" signs and locked gates, again began photographing children and other family members, it said.

"They were forced to scramble out of the water and into a cabin on the property in order to preserve their privacy, and their family outing was disrupted," the filing states.

"Even more than it used to be, the intrusions freak the children out when strangers come barging in," said Rod Parker, a Salt Lake City attorney representing Jessop. "These children know what happened in Texas and are a little worried."

Texas child welfare authorities removed more than 440 children from an FLDS ranch in April; they have since been returned to their families.

Jessop's court filing claims Brower photographed children outside his Cedar City office

and circulated the photos to news media while falsely claiming the children were working for the company.

Brower has "become more brazen and bold... and Willie has had enough of it," Parker said. "He wants to be left alone and he wants his privacy."

In June, a Texas judge ordered Annette Jeffs to keep her 16-year-old daughter Teresa away from Jessop, whom the girl's attorney claimed was interfering in her case. Jessop denied doing so.

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## California smoke floats into Salt Lake City



CHRIS DETRICK/The Salt Lake Tribune

Smoke from the California wildfires blurs the view of the Oquirrh Mountains as Paul Gruber, of Salt Lake City, runs above the Avenues on Tuesday. Air-quality officials say the haze has not presented a significant health danger. Still, they urge residents to protect air quality.

## Old, new blazes strain fire crews, residents

By MALIA WOLLAN  
The Associated Press

BIG SUR, Calif. — Firefighters pushed back a blaze threatening this small coastal community just enough to allow hundreds of people to check on their homes Tuesday as a separate fire 300 miles north forced residents of other towns to evacuate.

Fire crews have been straining to cover 330 active California wildfires, many of which were ignited by a lightning storm more than two weeks ago. A heat wave forecast to linger in much of the state until the weekend was making the job more difficult.

Winds as high as 30 mph fanned a blaze northeast of Sacramento in Butte County,

where firefighters went door to door overnight to evacuate 800 to 1,000 residents from the towns of Concow and Yankee Hill. Nearby Paradise, where a fire destroyed 74 homes last month, was also ordered evacuated, along with Ono, about 170 miles north of Sacramento.

"Now you're in a hell of a firefight," said Todd Simmons, a spokesman for the California

Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

Five structures have been destroyed, and the complex of fires in Butte County was about 55 percent contained.

At least 23 homes and 25 other structures have been destroyed to the south in Big Sur, where flames have marched over more than 125 square miles since June 21.

## Labor abuses at depot are alleged again

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employees' work. In April, Benson signed off on the agreement, in which about 300 workers agreed to cash

payments of their portion of the settlement.

About 200 other workers who were eligible for the payment did not agree to the settlement, however, and several filed suit late last month against EG&G. In a separate allegation, EG&G employee Kristina Bradford is suing the company and its life insurance carrier, Cigna Group Insurance. Bradford claims she was wrongly denied disability payments after she was told by EG&G doctors that she could

no longer work at the Tooele facility unless she was able to resolve issues surrounding chronic back pain.

Despite the ongoing worker abuse allegations — which come on the heels of a 2003 Pentagon investigation that concluded EG&G didn't not "have a healthy safety culture" at the facility — the company recently won a contract to take over "closure work" at the depot's Chemical Agent Munitions Disposal System, which is scheduled to

conclude operations and shut down in the next few years.

The company, a subsidiary of San Francisco-based URS Corp., won the work over the prior contract holder, the Tennessee Valley Authority, a federal government agency.

An EG&G spokeswoman said the company had no comment on the new suits. She also declined to say whether any policy changes had been made in the wake of the prior settlement.

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## Bill to require inspections of dams stalls

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its current effort to inspect dams and levees and prioritize the need for rehabilitation.

"I think we're doing a very good job, an adequate job of maintaining our dams and their safety, so I'm not sure we need more legislation dealing with dams," Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Robert Johnson testified before a Senate subcommittee.

Dan Keppen, executive director of the Family Farm Alliance, which represents small farmers, ranchers and irrigation districts, also praised the bill's goal, but said it creates new or redundant programs

## Utah dam profile

About 37 federally owned dams in the state are large enough to be covered by a previous law that mandates routine inspections. Most of the more than 900 dams in Utah are privately owned and subject to safety inspections by the state Division of Water Rights. Among the 13 Utah dams that would be affected by the legislation:

- Academy Mill Reservoir
- Benches Pond
- Duck Lake
- Farnsworth
- Gooseberry
- Island Lake North Fork Four
- Lake Oowah
- Little Reservoir
- Long Lake
- Milk Lake

when a detailed inspection program already exists.

"One-size does not fit all and blanket inspections for all Reclamation facilities are not appropriate or cost-effective," Keppen testified.

Several Western Democratic senators disagree.

Many Western dams are simply worn out, argued Sen. Jon Tester, D-Mont.

"It is long past time, in my opinion, that we take a proactive stand on improving our infrastructure," he said.

Reid cited a failed levee in Nevada that flooded about 590 homes as just one example of why more inspections are needed. In testimony at a previous hearing, Reid said many of the Bureau of Reclamation's 673 facilities are over 50 years

old and some are 90 to 100.

"Sadly, even the Bureau of Reclamation isn't well-informed about the condition of many of these," Reid said in April.

Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, says he supports the aim of the legislation but is concerned that it may cost so much money it could divert from other programs. The senator said in a statement that "clearly our first priority must be to ensure the safety of facilities which pose the greatest threats to population areas."

The Congressional Research Service reported recently that the Bureau of Reclamation is preparing a summary of the condition of its aging dams and other structures, but that the document has not been circulated outside the Bush administration.

Johnson declined at the hearing to say when the report would be issued.

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## Sederburg is new head of higher ed

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higher education now and in the future," said Regents chairman Jed Pitcher.

Over the past two months, the regents' search committee winnowed a list of nearly 100 candidates to seven finalists who won interviews. The full board voted to endorse the committee's recommendation after meeting with Sederburg in closed session Tuesday.

"I hope at the end of my tenure that this period will be known as one of growth and as a period of innovation," Sederburg said. "I want to turn the focus from institutional prerogatives to what the public needs."

Sederburg inherits a system grappling with the challenges of inter-campus affiliations and mergers, funding, sagging student retention and affordability.

"It is my intent to work with all parties to create a higher education governance system based on collaboration and innovation," Sederburg said. "The future of Utah depends on strengthening higher education's role in work force development, research and development, a strong K-16 system, and providing affordable educational opportunities for our citizens."

On Aug. 18, Buhler will hand the reins to Sederburg and return to his old post as associate commissioner for public affairs. At Tuesday's meeting, Buhler handed his successor an industrial-size bottle of Tylenol.

"When Commissioner Kendall gave it to me, it was full," said Buhler, who won a round of applause from the board.

The regents' choice garnered praise from Gov. Jon Huntsman Jr.

"His knowledge, experience and persistence to continue elevating our higher education system will help future generations of Utah become better prepared for the 21st century."

Sederburg holds advanced

## William Sederburg

Utah's new commissioner of higher education

► **Career path:** President of Utah Valley University since 2002; president of Ferris State College in Big Rapids, Mich., 1994-2002; vice president for public policy and director of the Public Opinion Research Institute, 1991 to 1994; Michigan state senator, 1978 to 1991.

► **Education:** Doctorate and master's degree in political science from Michigan State University

► **Teaching experience:** Professor of political science at Michigan State University, Alma College, Albion College and Kalamazoo College.

► **Personal:** Married to Joyce, two children; lives in Orem.

► **Favorite mascot:** Wolverine

degrees in political science from Michigan State University, is a past president of Michigan's Ferris State University and served 12 years in the Wolverine State's Legislature.

"He's the perfect man for the job," said Utah Valley University's Q. Val Hale, vice president for institutional advancement. "UVU's loss is certainly the state's gain. We're obviously disappointed and sad that he's leaving, because he did such a fine job here. At the same time we'll still benefit from his leadership when he assumes his new post."

Sederburg is famous for an affable, informal style, exemplified in Utah Valley's "Sandwiches with Sederburg" lunchtime gatherings where he solicited input from the public.

"We'll have to see what the new president's last name will be," Hale said. "It could be baloney with Brown or lasagna with Lawrence."

► **BEN FULTON** contributed to this report.

## RSL to host all-star game next season

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in suburban Chicago in 2006, Dick's Sporting Goods Park near Denver in 2007 and BMO Field in Toronto this season.

The 2009 game will be the fifth played in the Western United States.

California has hosted three times — San Diego in 1999, San Jose in 2001 and Carson in 2003 — and Colorado once in 2007.

Since 2005, the games

have pitted a team of MLS All-Stars against a prominent foreign team — Fulham and Chelsea of the English Premier League, Celtic of the Scottish Premier League, and this season, West Ham United of the EPL.

The game will feature the same format next season, sources said.

The \$110 million stadium is scheduled to be mostly finished in time for RSL to play the New York Red Bulls in a nationally televised game Oct. 9.

After that, RSL will have only one regular-season home game left this season, against FC Dallas on Oct. 18 — though playoff games would be played at the new stadium, too, if RSL qualifies for the postseason.

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