



2 of 3 BRF fugitives back in custody

BLACK RIVER FALLS, Wis. (AP) — Two of the three inmates who fled Sunday from a state prison camp in Jackson County were back in custody Monday.

While authorities continued a search for the third fugitive, a separate search was under way for five convicts who fled Sunday from another prison camp near Rhinelander.

Officials said Gerald Puchas, 23, of River Falls stroled into the St. Croix County sheriff's office in Hudson and surrendered.

Walter McMillan, 19, of Mauston also was captured Monday, several hours after walking away from the Black River Forestry Camp with Puchas and Danie Marko of Colfax. They were serving sentences for burglary and theft.

In Merrill, police said they found an abandoned state vehicle which five inmates are accused of having used to get away from the McNaughton prison camp north of Rhinelander.

Missing were John Burrow, 19, of Merrill, Richard Marcinik, 35, of Racine, and Mark Jacobs, 20, Matthew Laumann, 22, and Keith Stepniowski, 21, all of Milwaukee.

Disaster aid

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Iowa livestock farmers who report a 40 per cent reduction in the feed harvested this year are eligible for federal disaster assistance.

Rights Commission backs preference for minorities

By RICHARD CAPELLI

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Civil Rights Commission today strongly defended education and business programs that give preference to women and minority members. It conceded that such efforts may pose a "disappointment" to expectations of white men.

The commission, an independent agency reporting to the President and Congress, released an updated "statement on affirmative action" at a news conference held on the eve of Supreme Court arguments in the so-called reverse discrimination case of Allan Bakke.

"The justification for affirmative action to secure equal access to the job market lies in the need to overcome the effects of past discrimination by the employers, unions, colleges and universities who are asked to undertake such action," the commission said.

Bakke successfully sued the University of California, contending that he would have been admitted to its medical school at Davis had it not been for a special admissions program for minority applicants.

Bakke, who is white, said the program made him a victim of racial discrimination. The California Supreme Court agreed with Bakke, and the university appealed its decision

to the nation's highest court. Essentially, the case asks two questions: can race be considered in a university's admissions policy — and by extension in an employer's hiring policy — to overcome past discrimination, and if so, was Bakke the victim of an af-

firmative action program that went too far?

The high court's eventual decision could have a profound impact on such programs begun in recent years in education and employment to help bring more minorities and women into the nation's economic mainstream.

In a Supreme Court brief filed in the Bakke case, the Carter administration has come out on the side of affirmative action programs. But the administration carefully avoided weighing Bakke's rights against those of the minority students admitted to the Davis medical school under the special program which guaranteed 16 slots out of 100 in each class to minority members.

The civil rights panel said that until the nation reaches a point where minorities and women have reached true equality, white men are going to have to bite the bullet.

Body of Iowa girl is found in ditch

BURLINGTON, Iowa (AP) — A group of young people trying to push a car out of a ditch found a body Sunday near Burlington.

It has been identified as that of 15-year-old Lisa Elaine Miller of Burlington. Law enforcement officers from several agencies are investigating the death.

One officer said it looked like the girl had been beaten about the head, but no cause of death had been determined Monday.



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