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Chadrad Communications, Inc.
226 Bordeaux St - Chadron, NE 69337
308-432-5545 fax 308-432-5601
E-mail: kcsr@chadrad.com

(Neb.)- Dawes County Man Who Escaped State Prison Custody, Captured

By: Jeremy Anderson Posted at: 07/11/2013 02:27 PM

(Lincoln)- A work release inmate jumped out of a state prison vehicle in south Lincoln Thursday afternoon, and eluded authorities for almost two hours before being found, according to the Lincoln Journal Star.

Juan Ramirez, 33, opened the door of the vehicle near 27th Street and Nebraska 2 about 1 p.m., got out and ran south toward Star City Shores Water Park, according to the state Department of Correctional Services and scanner traffic.

He is a nonviolent offender and was not shackled, authorities said.

Police spoke with Ramirez Thursday at his work detail about an alleged residential burglary Wednesday, and corrections staff was taking him back to the work release center when he jumped out and ran, said Corrections Department spokeswoman Dawn-Renee Smith in a news release.

Ramirez is serving 10 to 15 for burglary and two counts of having a stolen firearm out of Dawes County, prison records show. He has been living at the work release center in Lincoln, according to prison records.

He started the sentence in March 2008, was eligible for parole in October and set for a hearing next month.

His tentative release date was April 7, 2015, Smith said.