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Christopher Grady, 29, and Sascha Hunt, 45, all of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, are currently incarcerated in the Russell County Jail.

Grady and Hunt were arrested last Wednesday after a reported auto theft in Russell Springs and reports of "shots fired," but was released just hours later on a "signature bond" by a pretrial officer, authorities said.

A third suspect, Muthig, fled on foot, Russell Springs Police Chief Joe Irvin said.

Late last week, Irvin obtained information from Russell County Jailer Bobby Dunbar that the two previously arrested suspects and Muthig were in the area and possibly occupying a U-Haul vehicle.

Around 1:38 p.m. Friday, less than an hour after receiving the tip, law enforcement officers spotted the suspected vehicle on Sano Road and attempted a traffic stop.

The U-Haul failed to pull over and took off at a high rate of speed, authorities said.

Citizens reported see-

ing police pursue the vehicle, which traveled down Sano Road, the same area of the auto theft investigation, and "through several fields, fences, creeks, and ultimately through a barn, finally coming to rest at a tree" in a wooded area off West Sulphur Creek Rd., in Adair County, Irvin said.

Grady and Hunt, charged with offenses two days earlier, "were arrested out of (the) U-Haul truck," the police chief said, and "the suspect that successfully fled on foot (during the auto theft investigation), was the driver of the U-Haul truck and again fled on foot after striking a tree."

The suspect, Muthig, was "taken into custody...after a short, foot pursuit," Irvin said.

Irvin said all three Iowans are suspects in events which occurred last Wednesday, around 8 p.m., at a convenience store on West KY 80 in Russell Springs.

Authorities said the driver exited a car parked at a convenience store "and left it running and unoc-



Law enforcement officers from multiple agencies converged on the scene of a pursuit which led authorities through woods, over creeks, and across fields in rural Russell and Adair Counties Friday. (RSPD photo)

cupied as he ran in real quick to get cash out of the ATM."

Muthig allegedly "pulled up and jumped out of the driver seat of his car and jumped into the driver seat of the parked vehicle, and took off," reports said.

"Grady was initially a passenger in their car, and jumped over to the driver seat of their car and took off," authorities said. "They actually collided before getting out of the parking lot."

Authorities were notified and were in pursuit as the trio reportedly traveled from the store and down Sano Rd. to Melissa Drive, where shots were reportedly fired.

Grady and Hunt were captured and arrested, but Muthig fled, Irvin said.

An intensive investigation and collaborative effort by area law enforcement agencies ensued.

Irvin, Russell Springs Police Department (RSPD) Assistant Chief Melissa Taylor, RSPD Sgt.

Nathan Antle, RSPD Detective Sgt. Chasity Shirley, Russell County Sheriff Derek Polston, Russell County Deputies Nathan Ginn, Luke Hughes, and Nathan Bradshaw,

Kentucky State Police Trooper Levi Scott and Sgt. Morris Farris, and Adair County Sheriff Josh Brockman, and Deputy Chandler Statton, along with others, participated in Friday's pursuit and subsequent arrests.

Already facing local charges, Hunt was additionally charged with first degree wanton endangerment, fleeing or evading police, and criminal mischief, and Grady with first degree fleeing or evading po-

lice, criminal mischief, and two counts of first degree wanton endangerment.

Muthig faces several counts including wanton endangerment, criminal mischief, fleeing or evading police, auto theft, reckless and careless driving, and other offenses.

All three suspects were given \$100,000 cash bonds on their charges.



Russell Springs Police Chief Joe Irvin, right, and Russell County Sheriff Derek Polston, left conferred with other law enforcement officers following a pursuit Friday which ended when the vehicle shown above crashed into a tree. (RSPD photo)

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As the owner of Quality Insurance Agency, we are excited to have Chris as a part of our team. He has a great personality and has worked extremely hard to get all of the training and certifications with each carrier. He will be a very good addition to our team.

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