Hiawatha teen sentenced in fatal wreck

(KNZA)--A Hiawatha teenager charged in connection with a single-vehicle Brown County wreck last November that claimed the life of another Hiawatha teen has learned his fate.

Andrew Kreek pleaded guilty in September to acharge of involuntary manslaughter while driving under the influence, three counts of aggravated battery and speeding in the wreck that claimed the life of 16-year-old Ian Miller. Kreek and three other Hiawatha teens suffered injuries in the crash at the intersection of U.S. 36 Highway and Horned Owl Road, west of Hiawatha.

During a juvenile sentencing hearing Tuesday, Brown County Attorney Kevin Hill said the two victims that appeared asked the court to give Kreek a chance at furthering his education and not to send him to a juvenile correctional facility.

Hill said he asked for the court to give Kreek some jail time in addition to having strict compliance with an alcohol/drug evaluation once he was out.

Hill said the court ended up sentencing him to 36 months in a juvenile correctional facility, but suspended it to a strict probation plan. The plan includes a requirement that he obtain drug/alcohol treatment, abstain from possessing or using alcohol or non-prescribed drugs and a requirement that he give a 20 minute speech to every high school in the four-county judicial district, subject to their approval, about the dangers of drinking and driving. The speech will have to be approved by the court and county attorney's office prior to him delivering it. Kreek was also ordered to pay restitution.

Kyle White, of rural Hiawatha, was charged last December in the fatal wreck.

He pleaded not guilty in July to a charge of unlawfully hosting minors and eight counts of furnishing alcoholic liquor to a minor.

A 6-person jury trial for White, which had been set for earlier this month, has been continued to next March.

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