

Teens to be tried as juveniles

COLUMBUS (AP) — Two more teens charged in an alleged school shooting plot in Riverton will be tried as juveniles, a spokesman for the attorney general's office said Tuesday.

Judge Robert Fleming granted state prosecutors' request to withdraw a motion to prosecute Robert Hunt, 17, and James Tillman, 16, as adults. Hunt will be under a 9 p.m. curfew, and his parents must know where he is at all times. Fleming set bond for Tillman at \$50,000, and he will be under house arrest if he posts bond.

On Monday, Fleming granted a similar request by Assistant Attorney General Andrew Bauch to try Caleb Byrd, 16, and Andrew Jaeger, 15, as juveniles, pending completion of Jaeger's psychological evaluation.

A fifth suspect, Charles "Coy" New, 18, is being tried as an adult for his role in the alleged plot. A status hearing for the four juveniles is set for Aug. 9, the same day as New's preliminary hearing.

The five were arrested April 20 — the seventh anniversary of the Columbine High School massacre in Colorado — after a message about an alleged plot to attack Riverton High School appeared on the Web site Myspace.com.

Tillman is charged with one count of incitement to riot, one count of making a criminal threat and one count of solicitation to commit first-degree murder. The four others face one count of incitement to riot and one count of making a criminal threat.

The courthouse in Columbus

was evacuated as Tuesday's proceedings ended after a bomb threat was called in. The call was being investigated by the Cherokee County Sheriff's Department and the Kansas Highway Patrol.

Lt. John Eichkorn, spokesman for the patrol, said two bomb-detecting dogs were flown to Columbus to check the building but found no hazard. Eichkorn said the patrol ended its search around noon.

Neither Eichkorn nor the sheriff's office had additional details about the threat, including where it may have originated.

A dispatcher with the sheriff's office said the courthouse was expected to reopen for business at 9 a.m. Wednesday.

Attorney general's office: <http://www.ksag.org>

Nebraska pork leader resigns

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The Nebraska Pork Producers have lost their executive director.

Rod Johnson said Friday he would resign to pursue other options. President-elect Terry O'Neel said the parting was amicable.

"We expect to find someone in

the next three or four months," O'Neel said. "We will do a thorough search, but we already have a few names suggested to us from other members of the agricultural community."

Johnson has been executive director of the group, a nonprofit or-

ganization that promotes the pork industry, since 2002.

The group has had a hard time keeping an executive director. Bob Ruggles resigned after a year on the job in 1998.

Steve Cady left after three years in early 2002.

Summer project



JAN KATZACKERMAN/Colby Free Press


Mary Stephens of Grinnell, right, volunteered at the Sheridan County Library's summer reading program to help with children as part of a 4-H project. Kylie Lewis, right background, is a library staff member who also helped the children with projects.

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