

Boys Town...

Continued from page 9

The article adds that over a two-year period, the youth care staff was reduced from 268 full-time employees to 206.

Dwite Pedersen's twin brother Dwain was also an employee at Boys Town for many years and was fired in January 1979 over a confidentiality controversy. A student had given Dwain Pedersen a photograph of a family-teacher that consequently raised a controversy at Boys Town. Dwain Pedersen was fired when he refused to reveal the student's identity to the administration.

Dwite Pedersen said he felt his brother actually was fired because he spoke out in opposition to the administration on a number of occasions.

Dwain Pedersen filed grievances against

Boys Town after his release but, said Dwite: "Boys Town bought him off. Financially he needed it. No one would hire Dwain as long as he was tied up in litigation."

Pedersen's suit was settled out of court but both Pedersens and the Boys Town administration refused to comment on the final settlement.

Going home

All of the former employees interviewed agreed that Boys Town will not take all boys who wish to go to the home. They add that the administration picks boys who will fit its program.

Administrator Coughlin said the typical boy at Boys Town has had four placements in homes and programs prior to coming to

Boys Town; comes from a one-parent family and is about three years behind in school.

"We will not take murderers, boys addicted to narcotics, boys who have committed spontaneous assaults or boys who have committed homosexual or heterosexual rape," Coughlin said.

The Boys Town admissions office said late last year that the home was operating at "about 100 percent capacity" and added that boys probably would not be accepted until after the first of the year.

Boys Town bought him off

... he needed it.

Phillips said 222 boys were admitted to Boys Town from Jan. 1, 1978, through Dec. 31, 1978.

However, five former employees complain that not only are not enough boys being admitted to Boys Town considering its financial capabilities, but too many boys are being dropped from the program.

90 terminated

One said 18 high school students were dropped from August to November. He said he did not know the figures of elementary of junior high school drop outs. Phillips said his records showed that

from Jan. 1, 1978, to Nov. 6, 1979, 90 youths were terminated by Boys Town initiating the withdrawal.

"Let me define 'dropped' as youths that are sent back to their referring agencies because we couldn't fix their problems.

However, there are other types of departures where parents want their youth home with them; the youth may reach the age of majority and want to leave, or the referring agency may feel it is time for the youth to try to make it in the original community," Phillips said.

Paul Laughlin was dropped from the Boys Town roster in November because, in his words, he could not follow the rules. Laughlin said he got along with his family-teachers, but he felt there was a personality clash between himself and Boys Town community director Mark Kirshhoff.

'Didn't like me'

"He didn't really like me," Laughlin said. "I know he didn't because he told me once that if I got into trouble again, I was gone. He said he didn't care."

Said Kirshhoff, "I can't really talk about why Paul was dropped but I don't think there was a personality conflict."

A former employee said the drop out rate reflects Boys Town's reluctance to work with problem children.

He said, "If he doesn't fit into the program, they don't want to take the time to help him."

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for rent

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roommate

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Wine Seminar: Beginning Jan. 20th—Major regions studied For information call 477-3843.

Attention Model UN delegates! Submit resolutions by Feb. 8 for exciting debate.

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crossword

ACROSS

1 Mimic
4 Southpaw's pitching arm
8 Transplant
13 'Umble one
15 — Minor
16 Choleric
17 Bern's river
18 Red planet
19 Welles
20 Smash hit
23 Ready
24 Spanish relative
25 Ennui
27 Landi of old films
30 Does a cakewalk
33 "Thou — then be false ...": Polonius
36 Goose genus
37 Everyday abbr.
38 Moral principle
40 — la-la
41 L. A. cager
44 He began life as a sculptor
47 W. W. II group
49 Surgeon's sewing thread
50 Loose at last
53 West Point grads
54 Commercials
56 Milky Way, for one
61 Mother: Prefix
63 Coaster
64 Comstock —
65 " — Melancholy": Keats
66 Invariably
67 Sea bird

DOWN

68 Director of "Anna Karenina": 1948
69 TV program
70 Bumpkin

10 Make the grade
11 Sioux
12 Omar product
14 Jelly basis
21 Osculate
22 Sullivan and Wynn
28 Repository of sorts
27 Outer, to an M.D.
28 Dull
29 Dwellers in formicaries
31 Far from verbose
32 Spanish Mrs.
34 Cry of discovery
35 Fixations

37 High note
39 Sweet cakes
42 German article
43 Greek wine
45 Alaskan island
46 Struggle
48 Command to Rover
51 "They'd — every one": Carroll
52 Tee shot
54 Frenzied
55 Wall decoration
57 Ball of yarn
58 Texas bull
59 Ferber
60 Hazard near Norman's Woe
62 Reel's partner

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