

Parents accept wandering youth

By MIKE SCANLON

Court.

A 16-year-old boy, homeless when Garden City Police released him 10 days ago because of a jurisdictional dispute between Oakland and Wayne county juvenile authorities, was returned to his parents in Arizona last week.

Five days after Garden City Police released him, the boy was taken into custody again by Walled Lake Police. They turned him over to Oakland County juvenile authorities.

"He was sent back to his folks," said John Dowsett, director of juvenile services for the Oakland County Juvenile

A Garden City sergeant who 12 days ago contacted the Oakland County juvenile worker assigned to the youth said then the juvenile worker told him the parents wanted to keep their current whereabouts secret from the boy.

Oakland juvenile authorities refused to comment on that charge at the time. Dowsett said Friday, however, that "we found the parents to be cooperative throughout, by the reports from my staff."

Garden City Police charged the youth with vagrancy Sept. 5 when a homeowner complained that the boy was sleeping in her backyard. His only

possessions at the time were the clothes he wore and a pair of blankets.

The youth has a record of police contacts in Arizona and Michigan. He walked away from an Oakland County youth home last January.

RECORDS CHECKS showed a warrant outstanding for the youth because of the walkaway.

Garden City Police said Oakland authorities told them files on the youth were closed because his parents moved to Arizona and lost Oakland County residency. The police were told to refer the boy to Wayne County authorities,

who also refused to accept him because vagrancy is not an offense under Michigan's juvenile code.

Police had no charge to lodge against the boy and released him after the objections from both county's juvenile systems.

Meanwhile, after the youth was again taken into custody on Sunday by Walled Lake police, Oakland County authorities accepted him, although Dowsett said his case was still formally closed.

The Oakland County Department of Social Services (DSS) filed a request for court action after Walled Lake Police took him. Dowsett said.

The DSS application for a petition to take the youth into custody was denied by the juvenile court, Dowsett said. The youth was returned to his parents after the court's decision.

Dowsett said cases similar to the youths are frequent encounters. "This is everyday stuff for us. We continually get youngsters who are found within the county here and who are transferred to the county of residence," Dowsett said, adding the number of such cases are "very considerable."

"What happened in Wayne County, you'll have to see the people in Wayne County."

Attempts to contact officials at the out-county Wayne youth home that rejected the youth resulted in transfers to Judge Thomas A. Maher.

Maher said he didn't have enough information on the case to comment.

Monday, September 17, 1979

(7-4A, Ro-74X)OJPA

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The Ninth Annual Metropolitan March of Dimes Superide will be held Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 22 and 23 at four locations.

Metropolitan Beach and Grosse Ile bike outings are Saturday, Sept. 22, and Belle Isle and Camp Dearborn will see Superides Sunday, Sept. 23. All four rides begin at 8:00 a.m. All four rides will have free RC Cola to quench thirsts, bike repair units, marshalls, communications and pop-out vehicles for tired pedalers.

Co-sponsors for this year's Superide are radio station WWKR and RC Cola. Tiger Ron LeFlore is chairman of Superide '79. Superiders who turn in pledges of more than \$50 will receive a

Superide T-shirt and those turning in more than \$100 in sponsored pledges will receive a biking jacket.

Information on Superide '79 is available by calling 863-3000. Superide is a community event with school groups, community organizations and entire families participating. DJs, celebrities, clowns and complimentary RC Cola help to make the 75-kilometer ride a festive event.

The Belle Isle Superide Sunday, Sept. 23, coincides with the island's centennial birthday celebration, and Superides will merge with many island activities. While they will have a route somewhat shortened from previous years, Superiders will be able to take advantage of

the 25-cent hot dogs, 5-cent soft drinks and free popicles offered at concession stands in honor of the birthday bash. Many birthday events will be located near the Casino.

Super-Riders will be directed to the athletic complex for registration and revamped route.

With increased health awareness and alternatives to gas consumption, bicycling has reached new levels of popularity.

"We're looking forward to a great event," said Chairman LeFlore. "And the best is the fact money raised will go to March of Dimes' programs of research and medicine."

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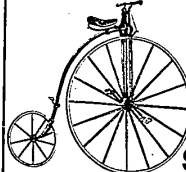
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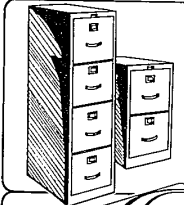
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