Scout

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and again in the summer of 1987.

"It wasn't easy for them to come in and expose the damage done to their person and to their dignity," he said. "Without kids like this, Hacker wouldn't have gotten 100 years."

Hacker, who was the director of the Burbank Park District for eight years, had been active in various youth activities in the Burbank-Oak Lawn area for years. It was not known there that he had been convicted of sex offenses in Indianapolis in 1970 and Mt. Prospect in 1971.

The facade he had gradually built up through the years began to crumble in late 1987 when Burbank police began investigating the theft of $575 from the Burbank Park District safe. Suspicions were aroused when Hacker asked police not to conduct background checks on employees.

He was arrested on Feb. 10, 1988, after the parents of the victim suspected their son had been molested.

During the trial, Hacker's lawyer said the defendant "was out of control" and unable to control himself.

The State of Illinois has dropped charges against Hacker on eight other counts and both Indiana and Michigan, which have charged Hacker with crimes while on scouting activities in those states, are expected to do the same.

But families of the youths have filed a civil suit against the Boy Scouts of America because Hacker was a Scout leader despite his past.