

# Dunckel students fight to save tree

by RON GARDNER

Students at Dunckel Junior High School have started a "Save Our Tree" campaign to prevent their 20-year-old Douglas Fir tree from being cut down to make way for expansion of the school's facilities.

"It's a great tree," says Dunckel Principal Donald Keen, "and it's beautiful enough to save from being cut down. It is something everyone here at Dunckel really can enjoy and appreciate. We thought something should be done about the tree because it has

been in our courtyard ever since the school was built in 1957.

The 25-foot Douglas Fir now stands in the school's southwest courtyard. If it cannot be saved, the tree and courtyard will be destroyed to make room for a new annex to the industrial arts department and expansion of the media center and main office.

SINCE THERE ARE no funds available from the school district to help save the tree, the students are on their own to raise the estimated \$500 needed to transplant the tree.

Members of the Dunckel student council, under the direction of council sponsor Mark Guaidani, have started a program to collect proof-of-purchase seals from products which students, families, relatives and friends use in their daily lives.

To raise the needed money, the students and council will be working under the Colgate School Action Plan sponsored by the Colgate-Palmolive Company. Under this plan, the company will contribute funds to the "Save Our Tree" campaign based on the collection of proof-of-purchase seals from their products. For each boxtop, label or tearstrip students collect and turn in, Colgate will contribute an amount ranging from 2 cents to 40 cents, depending on the product.

"Right now the student council is in the process of making them to inform area residents about their project," explains Keen. "I have just completed a letter that will be sent out next week to all Dunckel students, parents and faculty members informing them about the project and letting them know we must raise the money ourselves in order to transplant the tree."

Concern about the tree began several years ago when the district became concerned about the small area of the Dunckel library and made recommendations to expand it. Its media center is the smallest of secondary school libraries in the district, so when funds became available, plans were made

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Dunckel Junior High School student council president Karen Stoychoff stands in front of the Dunckel Douglas Fir tree with several other council members and wonders about the fate of their tree. (Staff photo by Harry Maute)

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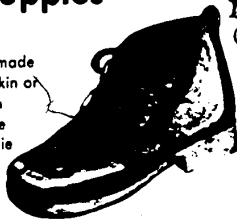


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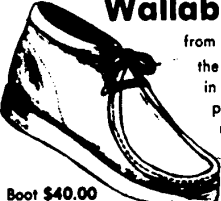
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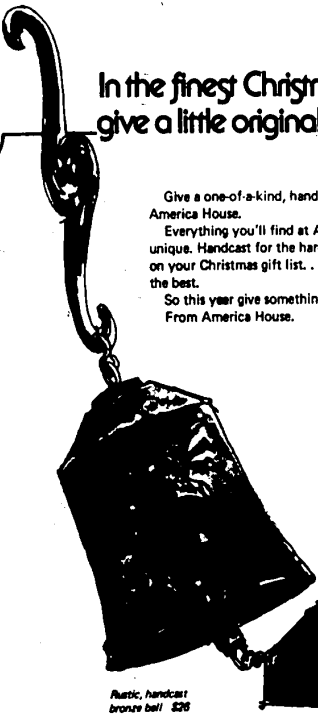
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