

# THE PIONEER

Serving Big Timber and Sweet Grass County, Montana

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A NEW RECREATION program for young adults (and eventually persons of all ages) is being developed in Big Timber. Story of page 8.

THE QUESTION OF remodeling the Big Timber fire hall was again discussed by the city council Monday night. Story on page 3.

JOHN BAIRD, Big Timber author and editor, is launching into several new ventures related to filmmaking. Stories on page 10.

THE FIRST BOULDER snow survey has been taken, and officials say the amount and water content is about "normal". Story on page 7.

IF YOU HEAR SOME low-flying planes in the future, don't worry, we aren't being attacked. It's all part of an Air Force training program. Story on page 8.

SWEET GRASS High School students are preparing for their Pops Concert, scheduled next week. Story and selections to be played on page 7.

## Changes in store for aid services

A change in the staffing of emergency services for Sweet Grass County is in the process of being worked out by county commissioners.

county fire equipment, and later will assume direction of the county ambulance program.

Officials last week applied for, and expect to receive notification of approval this week, of federal funds to employ a full-time fire chief for the Big Timber Fire Department.

THE COUNTY now has an agreement with Lowry Funeral Home to operate the ambulance service. Under tentative plans, Beer will assume responsibility for the program effective July 1, 1975.

Funds, which will come through the Emergency Employment program, will enable the county to hire a full-time chief to service equipment, and to enlarge the city and county fire program.

Between now and then Beer and others who will work with the program will undergo Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training to qualify them to operate the ambulance.

Ray Esp, chairman of the commissioners says although the program has been discussed for some time, officials had to act rapidly last week after they were notified funds could be available to the county. "If we hadn't acted, the money would have gone elsewhere."

Commissioner Ed Sell says although the change will not mean an immediate savings (although Beer's salary until the end of the year will be paid by the federal government), he is convinced the plan will result in tax and insurance savings for property owners "in the long run."

Under the plan presented to state officials, Dennis Beer, Big Timber fire chief, will be employed immediately as full-time chief. The federal program will pay for his salary until the end of the year, when the county will assume responsibility for the position.

The county now pays \$1,200 a month for the operation of the ambulance service. Vehicle maintenance and gasoline costs are in addition to the basic fee.

Beer will be in charge of working with businesses and officials in mapping a fire prevention program, will do maintenance work on city and

By law, commissioners are now levying the maximum amount—one mill—for operation of the ambulance service. The money, about \$7,500, is about half of the cost of the operation of the service under the existing payment schedule.

ule.

Although ambulance fees do help pay for a portion of the program, Esp said that money received does not come close to making the ambulance service a break-even proposition. From July 1, 1974, until March 1, 1975, \$2,536 was collected from the ambulance.

By utilizing the fire chief as the director of the service, Esp says additional funds can be saved.

Money he says should be set aside to provide for the eventual replacement of the existing ambulance, which was obtained for the county through the federal government. Replacement funds are not available, and Esp says the county cannot ignore the eventual need to replace the unit. Officials also have considered the possibility of obtaining a second unit for use when the one ambulance is out of the county.

ALTHOUGH the federal funds for the program have not been approved, commissioners were told last week that the final authorization would be routine.

Beer already is beginning to start planning for his new responsibilities. He says he hopes to get at least three other persons to take the EMT training between now and the July 1 deadline.



SWEET GRASS HIGH SCHOOL Herder Coach Randy Morrison goes over plans with six members of his state-bound team—seniors who will play their last high school games this week. Players include (from left) front: Terry Blair and Ron Stief; back: Lyle Stenberg, Mark

Argenbright, Mike Henthorn and Jim Graham. Story about the upcoming game, pictures of players and a look at season statistics are in a special four-page tabloid section with today's Pioneer. (Pioneer Photos)

## 250 Moose, auxiliary expected for meeting

More than 250 Montanans are expected to attend the annual Mid-Winter Convention of the Montana Moose Association in Big Timber this weekend.

The dinner will be followed at 8 p.m. by an enrollment ceremony for new members, and at 9:30 p.m. with a dance. Sunday activities will begin at 10 a.m. with a final business session. A luncheon and farewell is planned at noon.

The two-day meeting of Moose Lodge and Women of the Moose members will begin with registration at 8:30 a.m. Saturday at the Moose Hall.

Among special guests at the convention will be George Young, Spokane, a past supreme governor of the order, and Allen C. Furrow, director of the State of Montana and province of Alberta for the membership enrollment department of the Loyal Order of the Moose.

Hosts for the meeting will be Big Timber Lodge 1196, Loyal Order of the Moose. Bernard Rembold is governor of the local lodge.

DURING THE two days, the Women of the Moose also will hold their two-day convention. Donna Goosey is general chairman of the event, and officer in charge will be Deputy Grand Regent

Presiding over the convention will be Harold Bush, Livingston, president of the association.

Saturday afternoon activities begin at 1 p.m. with the Association meeting. The convention's official opening will be at 3 p.m. and a banquet will be served at 6 p.m.

Alice Miller, Sidney.

Women's convention activities open at 8:30 a.m. with registration, and a 10 a.m. opening session. After a noon luncheon, a 2 p.m. ritual session is planned. Sunday activities will include a 9 a.m. registration and 10 a.m. informal closing session.

YOUNG, a Spokane attorney, has been active in work of the fraternity for more than three decades. He joined the Moose while studying for his LLB degree at Gonzaga University and progressed through the chairs of Spokane Moose Lodge 161 to become governor.

He then advanced to become Grand North Moose of the Legion of the Moose, the fraternity's second degree; president of the Northwest Moose Association; president of the Washington State Moose Association; and Justice of the Moose Supreme Forum.

FURROW became affiliated with the Moose in 1962 when he joined the Glasgow lodge. He transferred to Billings in 1963, where he served as secretary and membership chairman until he resigned in 1970 to become state director. The degree of honorary past governor was conferred on him July 1, 1970.

Active in all phases of the Moose program, Furrow was a member of the Legion of the Moose, had served as west and east Moose, and was South Moose when he resigned.

## Mrs. Plaggemeyer begins new duties as treasurer

A new county treasurer began duties Monday at the Sweet Grass County Courthouse.

Margaret Plaggemeyer, former county clerk and recorder, took office at the first of the week.

Assisting Mrs. Plaggemeyer will be Ruth Sheen, who commissioners this week appointed deputy. Work in

the office is familiar to Mrs. Sheen, who was elected treasurer in 1966. After her term, she continued to serve as deputy under Margaret Buaha, whose term expired last week.

Because of a state law, county treasurers take office the first of March, rather than at the first of the year, as do other elected county officials.

## Go Herders: Take state!

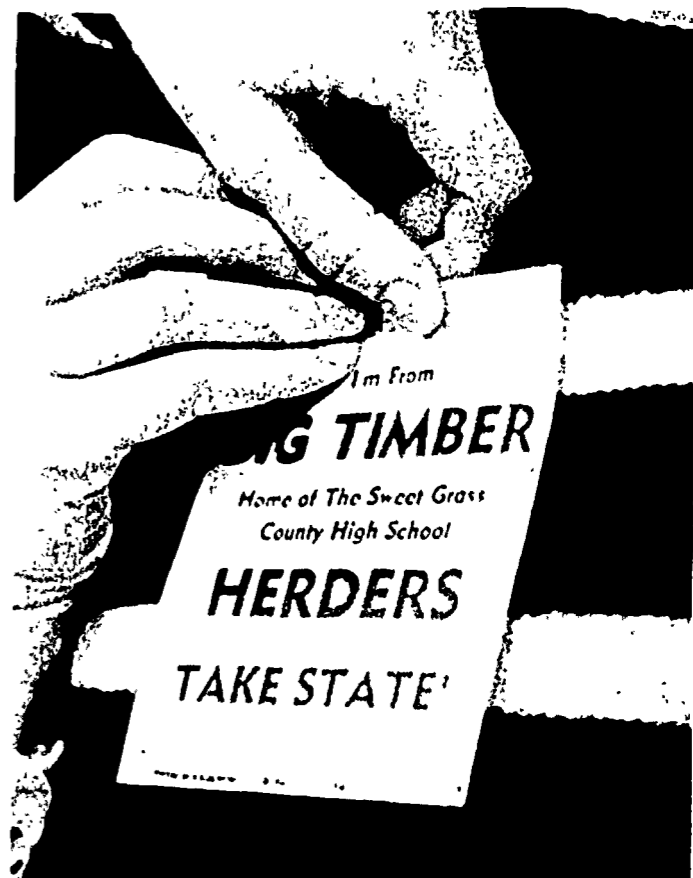
### Badges part of paper

Show them that you care... That will be easy for Pioneer readers, who this week will receive a special "supplement" to their paper. Included is a four by five inch yellow stick-on label to identify readers as Herder Boosters.

The stickers identify the wearer as being from "Big Timber, home of the Sweet Grass County High School Herders." Also included are the words "Take State."

Printed as a public service by The Pioneer, stickers are included in every copy of today's paper. A limited supply of additional stickers are available at The Pioneer, and a supply has been given to Sweet Grass High School.

The gummed back of the stickers will allow it to be fastened to the bumper or windshield of a car, or they may be pinned on the lapels of fans attending games in Billings.



WEAR YOUR Herder booster sticker at the state tournament this week. Although the backing is self-adhesive, you can pin it on to make it last longer. Only a limited supply of the stickers are available.



ALLEN FURROW



GEORGE W. YOUNG

## new Pioneer look

Again this week, The Pioneer has a new look...we're sporting a new "flag," the nameplate of the paper.

The new flag was designed especially for The Pioneer by Jack Hines, whose art and graphic arts experience and familiarity with this area, have produced what we consider an outstanding design for the paper.

The design simply refers to the paper as "The Pioneer," although the official name will continue to be The Big Timber Pioneer. The change was made primarily to reflect the community's general reference to the paper, and to provide for graphic simplicity. Incorporated into the design

is the notation that the paper serves Big Timber and Sweet Grass County, Montana. The new design also provides space for an index of features in each week's paper. We hope readers will like the changes. We think they not only more accurately reflect the community, but help make the paper easier to read.