

# Flying sparks endanger historic mountain lodge

by MICHAEL P. JONES  
Post Correspondent

Sparks from a chimney at Timberline Lodge set a small section of the historic landmark's roof on fire Friday evening.

The fire was caused by hot ashes rising from the massive stone chimney shortly after an employee burned some cardboard boxes. The ashes ignited a small section of the lodge's cedar shake roof and burned an estimated four-by-eight foot section before being extinguished.

Henry Neuman of Portland, a retired computer operator with the Bonneville Power Administration, saw smoke coming off the roof around 5:15 p.m. when he arrived at the lodge with three other persons. He estimated this was about the time the fire started.

Neuman said sparks were blowing out of a chimney near the main entrance of the lodge. About four feet directly below, the roof was on fire.

An amateur photographer, Neuman watched the incident through the lens of his camera as he photographed employees and, later, firefighters attempt to extinguish the blaze.

Neuman said two employees for the lodge, one in an upstairs window and the other on the ground in front of the entrance, attempted to put the fire out.

The employee stationed in the upstairs window, said Neuman, was using what he believed to be a regular garden hose. This was useless, he said, because it did not have enough water pressure.

The employee on the ground had a regular fire hose that appeared to have enough water pressure "but was too far away to do any good," said Neuman. "He just wasn't reaching the right spot."

The wind was blowing heavily towards the lodge from the west, said Neuman. The flames were shooting up about two feet in the direction of the building's peak.

Neuman said he believed it was around 5:35 p.m. before both of the employees got together in the right location to extinguish the blaze.

The employees who put out the blaze were Stan Kott, a front desk clerk, and David Hetz, who works in the lodge's Cascade Room.

The officer on duty from the Hoodland Rural Fire Department arrived around 5:40 p.m., said

Neuman. The engine arrived at 6 p.m. while the roof was still smoldering.

"They caught it just before the situation got worse," said Neuman. "They sure need additional firefighting equipment. Hoodland is a good 25 miles away and that's a long way to come when you have so little time."

Damage to the lodge is reported to be minimal.



The Sandy muster teams, both men and women's, recently captured two first places and a second place at the Prineville muster.

## Sandy muster teams motor to victories

Sandy Fire District's muster team is making its mark.

At a recent muster in Prineville, the mens team captured first place in motorized pumper competition and first place in motorized hose wagon competition. There were six teams in each category.

In the womens division, the Sandy team, competing for the first time, placed second among six teams in motorized pumper com-

petition. Mens team members are Paul Stanley, Dave Senn, Team Captain Chuck Chaffin, Co. Captain Gary McQueen, Bill Laflin, Tom Rutledge, Martin Grassl, Steve Wilson, Wayne Taylor and Keith Hergert.

Members of the womens team are Patty Chaffin, Colleen Taylor, Debbie Hergert, Linda Senn, Lorie Laflin, Donna Wilson, Tamy Stalvig and Cathy Williamson.

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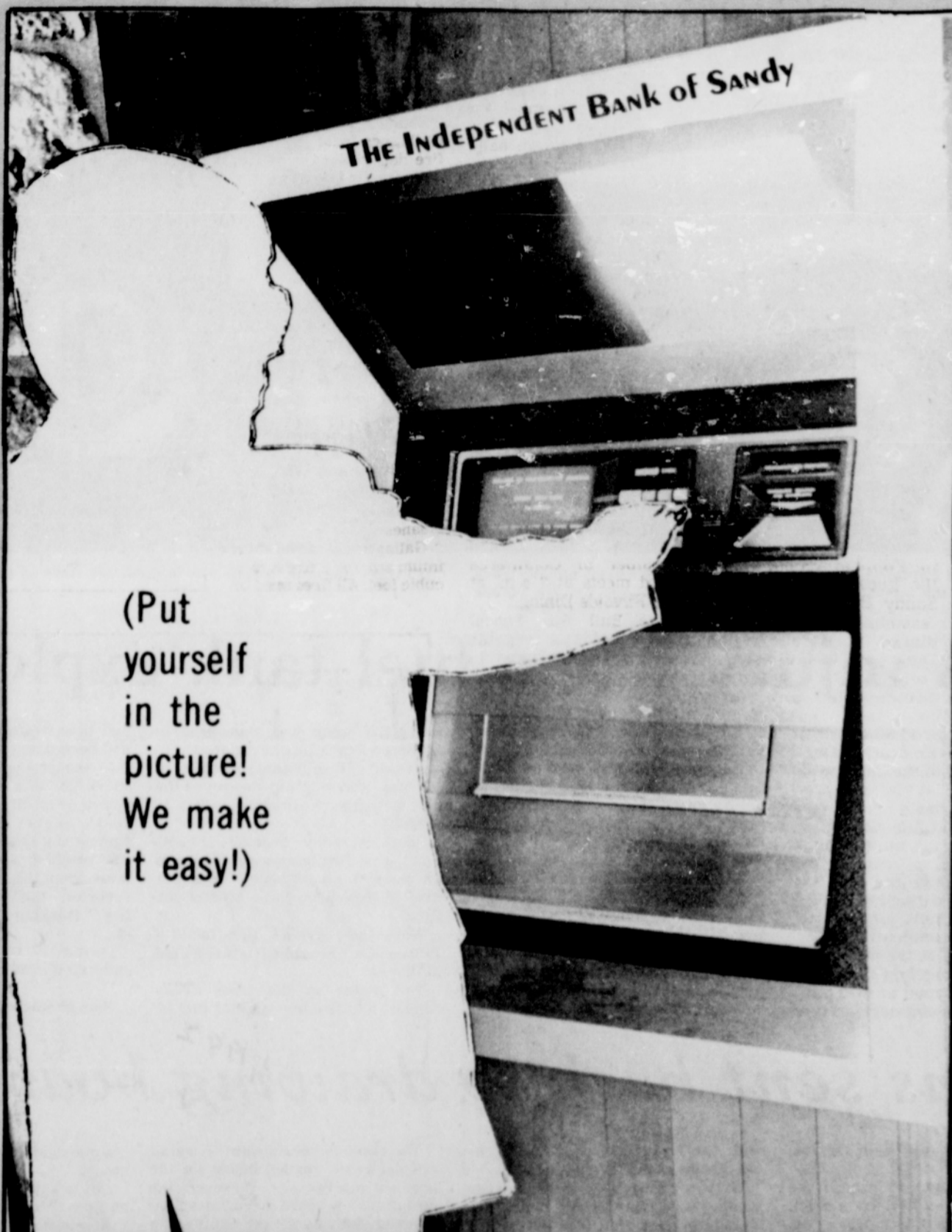
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