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BOW & ARROW

The World's Leading Archery Magazine

DECEMBER, 1971
ICD 08150

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Bow Test:
HOWATT'S BANDITO

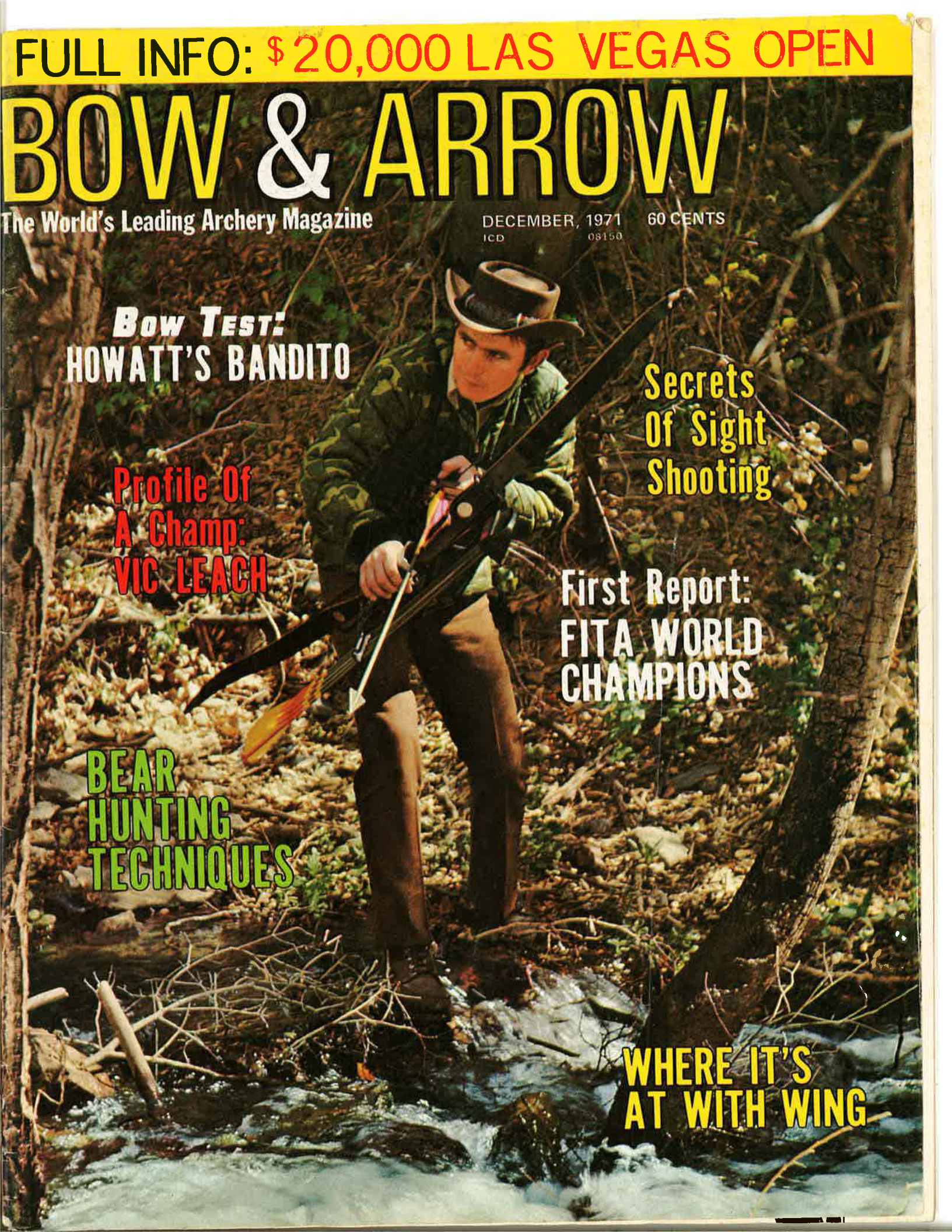
**Profile Of
A Champ:**
VIC LEACH

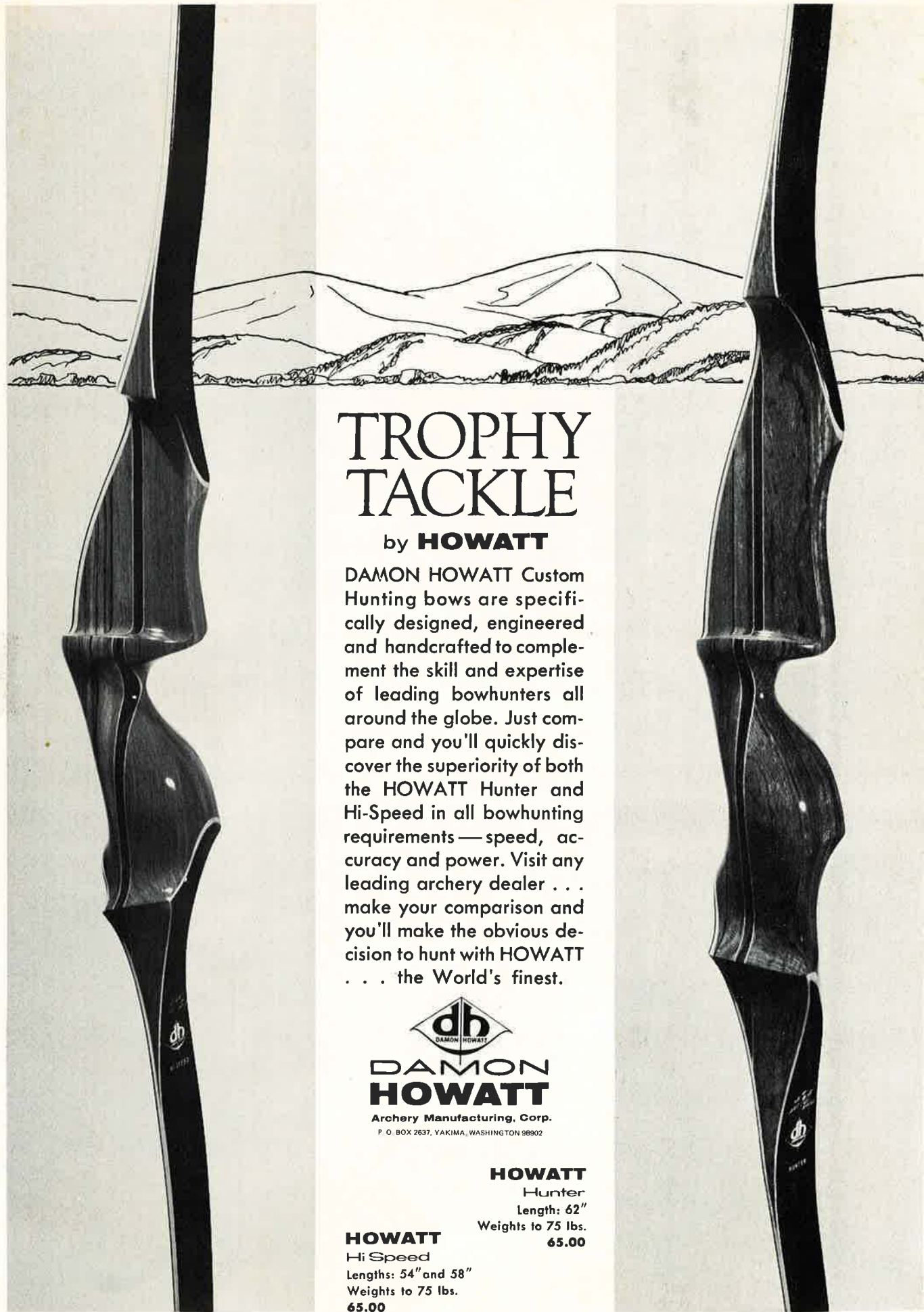
**Secrets
Of Sight
Shooting**

First Report:
**FITA WORLD
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**BEAR
HUNTING
TECHNIQUES**

**WHERE IT'S
AT WITH WING**





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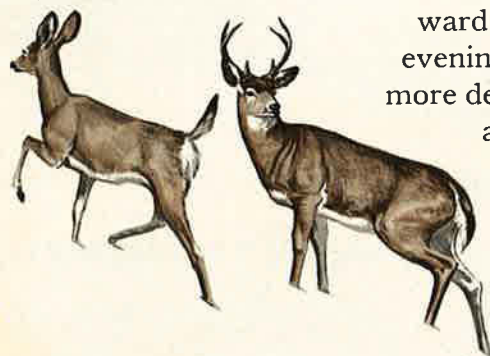
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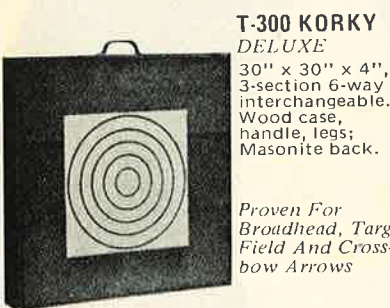
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BOW & ARROW

VOL. IX, NO. 4

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1971

BOW TESTS:

HOWATT'S BANDITO Garry M. Cameron 28

FEATURES:

A BEAR FOR THE GUIDE	Elmer E. Kurrus 16
ARCHERY'S SUMMIT CONFERENCE	Ray Roberts 22
INSTANT RANGE	Arthur G. Reitsch 32
SOUTH PACIFIC BOWHUNT (Part VII)	Hal Stephens 34
WING IT	C.R. Learn 40
SECRETS OF SIGHT SHOOTING	Milan Elott 44
LAS VEGAS REPORT!	48
PROFILE OF A CHAMP: VIC LEACH	Chuck Tyler 54

DEPARTMENTS:

MAIL POUCH	6
BOWHUNTING WITH KITTREDGE	8
TECH TALK	10
TACKLE TIPS	12
BOW POURRI	53
BOW BITS	60
PRO SCORE	64

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ON THE COVER: Stream crossing is one of the minor perils of serious hunting. Preparing to dampen his feet if not his spirits, John Alley is equipped with a Pearson Mercury Marauder bow, and Easton aluminum shafts for deer. Photo by Ron Tom.

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"The NASC Course paid off before I finished it. I know for a fact that just being a student ... contributed toward my being a permanent Park Warden at Lake Louise District of Banff National Park." Monte Rose, Canada.

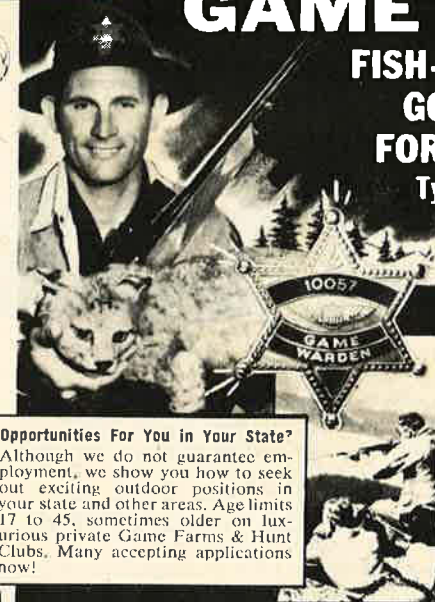


NORTH AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CONSERVATION
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on How to Become a GAME WARDEN

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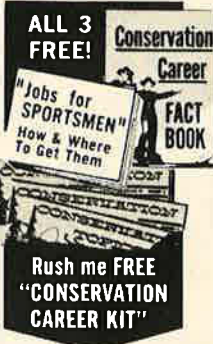


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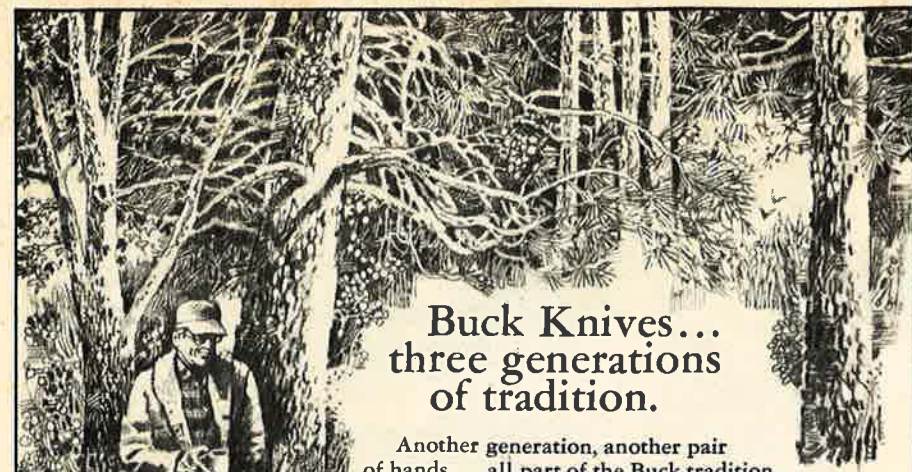


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PAA SCORES IN COURT

Archery's boiling controversy of whether or not to use various devices to assist accuracy in competition came to a head recently in a Minnesota court.

Minnesota District Judge David E. Marsden ruled in favor of the Professional Archers Association's right to adopt the standard equipment rules as outlined by the American Archery Council. The judge held that the Association's board had acted properly in ordering the change in rules based on the membership vote that had authorized it.

The controversy has centered around whether or not to use string releasing devices and compound bows in competition throughout the United States. The release devices are plastic, metal or rope items which are placed on the bowstring allowing the archer to release the arrow without physically touching the bowstring. This method results in much greater accuracy than the conventional method of drawing and releasing the arrow with the fingers. Compound bows, which are also banned by the new shooting rules, are an advanced design in bows that incorporates a pulley system that assists in reducing the force required to draw and hold the string.

Plaintiffs in the case were Ron Carlson of St. Paul, Minnesota (release aid interests), joined by John Williamson and Tom Jennings of Hollywood, California, manufacturers of the compound bow. Their lawsuit brought an injunction preventing an enforcement of the rules holding that the board of the Professional Archers Association had not acted within its authority in accepting the new shooting rules.

Dave Staples, President, and Sam Fudenberg, Executive Secretary, represented the Professional Archers Association as defendants.

G.A. Catlin,
PAA Publicity Director,
Frankfort, New York

WRONG MAKER

For the first time that my Fletch-Bone't was introduced to the public by B&A, it was introduced as a Bear product. I find this hard to take and your attention on this matter is greatly appreciated.

Jerry Gentellalli,
Rancho-Safari,
Ramona, California

(We did err in identifying this product incorrectly. If you'd like to know more about it, write to Rancho-Safari, Dept. B&A, P. O. Box 691, Ramona, California 92065.)

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Binoculars let you know for sure that what you see is what you think it is. Ever sit on a sidehill, maybe chewin' on a sandwich during the middle of the day, when your eye is attracted to some spot that stands out across the way? The more you look, the more certain you become that it is game...in fact, you can start to pick out the tips of the antlers. Then with your binoculars you find that light-colored rear end becomes nothing but a rock and the antler tips are only dark branches in the shadows. Without the glasses you'd have talked yourself into the wasted hours of circling the area to sneak in behind for a close shot. Binoculars are the experienced hunter's eyes, his super vision that lets him see much and walk little.

When starting to hunt a strange area, I like to begin by climbing to the highest point of ground during the early morning and late evening hours when animal life is moving along the edges of meadows and along forest trails. Binoculars bring it all up close where you can literally dissect the forest and peer right through the cover of trees and brush, picking out movement and details not seen otherwise. A meadow with a dark shadowy edge pops into view as a meadow with dark shadowy edge and three deer in it. An old burned-over area with downed timber strewn about like

Continued on page 52

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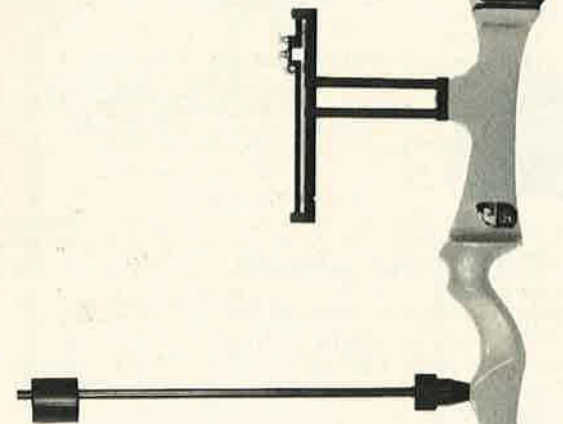
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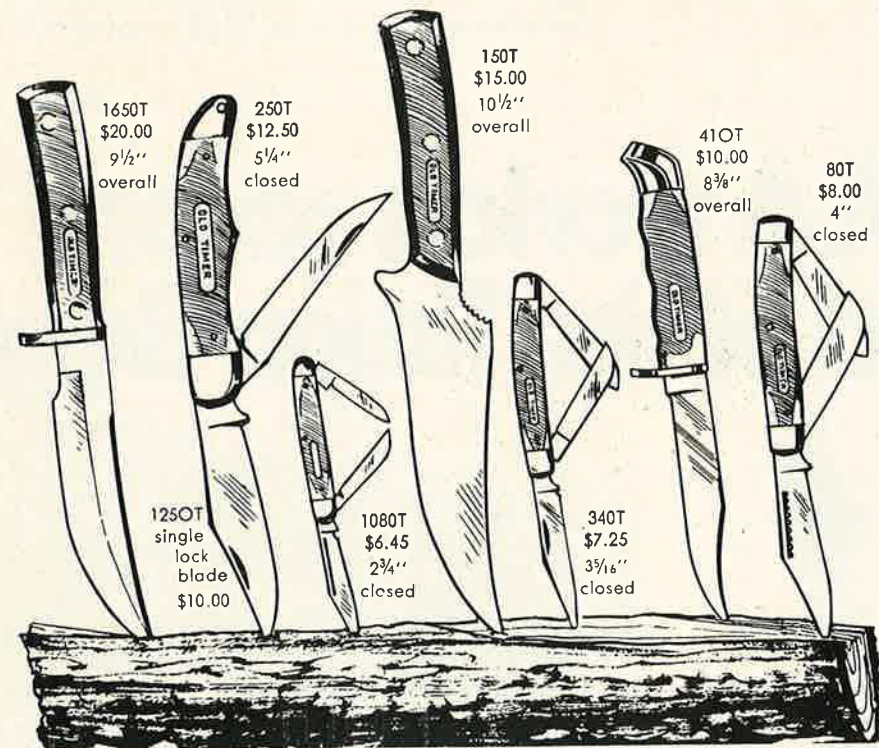
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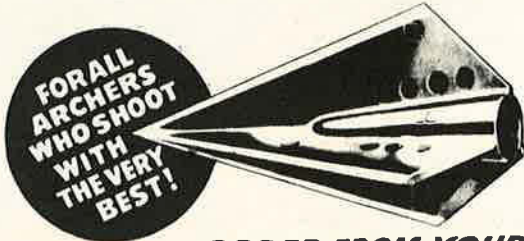
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TECH TALK

ELK HUNTING

For several years I have been hoping to take a trip to Colorado for mule deer and elk with a bow. I can see my way clear to make the trip next year.

I have written to several guides who advertise in BOW & ARROW to see about making arrangements.

Right now I have a forty-six-pound Howatt bow which has been fine for white tail. Two of the last three I shot were bucks, but I am worried it might not be enough weight for elk. What would you suggest for elk?

Larry Frederick,
New Bloomfield, Pennsylvania

(An Elk is a pretty sizable critter and takes a bit of penetrating power, particularly in the case of a hit into a bone. We don't recommend less than a fifty-five-pound weight and a sixty-pound bow is even better.)

TONKIN CANE

I am interested in the purchase of some split bamboo for bowmaking. I need only enough for home use and will go anywhere to get it.

I would also like to know where one might get some information on making bamboo bows. I am willing to pay for information on the subject.

John Mazzola,
Collinsville, Illinois

(Bowmaking requires Tonkin cane such as used by old time fishing rod makers...regular cane won't do the job. We don't know of any source of supply of this material, but you could try writing to: Dick Garver, Shawnee Sports Center (Dept. BA), Foothill Blvd., Sunland, California, 91040 and see if he can help. He used to be involved in making Howard Hill's long bows.)

FIELD ARCHERY

I am in the process of building an archery range, for hunting practice. I have only shot on one such range, and I think it consisted of twelve targets. The pattern was in a clover leaf design. I want to build my range in the safest possible way yet allow for the most targets in the space. I have ten acres in a good choppy area with lots of small hills and timber.

Do you have a plan for a range? If not could you recommend someone who could assist me?

Warren N. Cooper,
Shedd, Oregon

(Write the National Field Archery Association, (Dept. BA), Redlands, California, for full information on how to set up a field range.)

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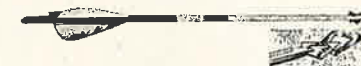
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Wherever there's bow hunting — they know Necedah! Handsome! Fittingly named NECEDAH, to commemorate that famed Wisconsin bow-hunting spot. Designed explicitly for demanding shooters who know what they want — and now further refined with even more quality and performance. The 58" Necedah is light, fast, and short enough to handle well in a blind or out of a tree. Outstanding features: semi-pistol grip, contoured thumb rest and Seduha riser, nock overlay also Seduha. Cinnamon color glass face and back blend with the out-of-doors. Also included is a String Ease bow stringer.

NO. X26 — 58". Draw Weights: 40, 45, 50 55 lbs. Limb Width — 1 3/4". Sight Window — 4 1/2". Left Hand — 45 & 50.

A-40H



The NEW SHAKESPEARE THUNDERBOLT ALUMINUM ARROW features: Self ferrule, replaceable blades, straight blades. One shaft size for bows from 40 to 65 lbs. 31" or 30". Please specify package of 12 with hunting points or package of 12 with 6 hunting points and 6 field points.

Compare at . . . \$50.00 per doz. — My Price \$22.95 per doz.

X30 SUPER NECEDAH

It's short (54"), fast (duo-flex design), and as power-packed as any hunting bow ever produced. For its size the new X30 is unbelievably smooth, with a release that is pure pleasure. Our secret; the new Broad Bow limb, finished to perfection with glareless black glass. The shooting style handle, semi-pistol grip, is a triple laminate of decorative Seduha and Zebra woods. Also included is the String Ease bow stringer.

NO. X30 — 54". Draw Weights: 45, 50, 55, 60 lbs, Limb width — 2". Sight window — 3 1/2".

COMPARE AT . . . \$80.00
MY PRICE --- \$40.98

X24 YUKON

The YUKON is an extra big value in Shakespeare's great new line of bows. It's a sturdy, economical, well-crafted, full working recurve model, fashioned for hunting as well as recreational pleasure. The Yukon is ruggedly built to take the strenuous beating of beginners. For its size, it has surprising speed and stability, and handles with all the feel and ease of a high priced bow. Outstanding are the long wear Hunter rest, built in thumb rest, and a polished handle of Island Maple wood which is contoured for a palm-pressure fit. Face and back are Woods Brown. Also included is a String Ease bow stringer.

NO. X24 — 60". Weights: 40, 45, 50. Sight Window — 4 1/2".

COMPARE AT . . . \$40.00
MY PRICE --- \$22.98

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X29 CASCADE

COMPARE AT . . . \$120.00
MY PRICE --- \$52.98

The Broad Bow! The Cascade has 2 1/2" wide limbs — a full 1/2" wider than other hunting bows. This extra width distributes the stress over a wider area which, for the first time, allows a limb design of a bow 14" larger. This means more speed (up to 33 1/3% faster), less stack and smoother draw than any other bow of this length. The Cascade is built of jet-age material with a black formica handle riser and special black fiberglass face and back. This 50" black beauty also has the new Shakespeare Hunter arrow rest and comes with the String Ease bow stringer.

NO. X29 — 50". Draw weights: 45, 50, 55, 60 & 65 lbs. Limb Width — 2 1/2". Sight Window — 4 1/2".

X27 KAIBAB

COMPARE AT . . . \$100.00
MY PRICE --- \$49.95

The 56" Kaibab is a bold new weapon for the bow hunter and priced to make prestige ownership possible. The Kaibab was designed specially for hunting, with duo-flex limbs which give it speed, yet provide a smooth even draw — with no stack. Handle is laminated of fine imported Seduha wood. Face and back are black glass with black and white overlays in the riser section. Nock overlay is beige and zebra in a three layer laminate. Perfectly stabilized. A field tester in the big buck country of Arizona tagged this bow with its name. Also included is a String Ease bow stringer.

NO. X27 — 56". Draw Weights: 45, 50, 55 lbs. Limb Width — 2". Sight Window - 4". Left Hand, 45 & 50 lb.

X17A OCALA

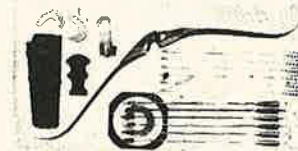
Named after the famed Florida bow hunting area. All purpose in design, extremely fast and stable, with precision balance. A nifty, compact "five-foot" for fast, easy handling in the brush or blind, as well as in the open field. The cinnamon fiberglass in combination with the Bubinga riser and the cinnamon and white overlays give this bow the quality appearance it deserves. A great addition for the hunter who wants to e-x-t-e-n-d his season in the woods. Also included is the String Ease bow stringer.

In addition to everything the Ocala has the "Special" features a 6" sight window and the pre-mounted Shakespeare Hunter Sight.

NO. X17A — 60". Draw Weights: 45, 50, 55 lbs. Limb Width - 2".

COMPARE AT . . . \$110.00
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KX21 TIAGA HUNTING SET



Contains the beautiful X21 laminated bow, string, also 1/2 dozen matched 28" Port Orford cedar 4-blade hunting arrows with 1/2 dozen matched cedar small game arrows. Also clip-on bow quiver, shooting glove, arm guard, target face, instruction booklet, complete set in presentation box, and String Ease bow stringer.

NO. KX21 Tiaga Hunting set 45 lbs.

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Ben Pearson Mustang — 45 lb.	\$ 75.00	\$29.95
Ben Pearson BPH52 — 60 lb.	\$ 65.00	\$29.95
Ben Pearson Pinto — 30, 35, 40 lb.	\$ 90.00	\$29.95
Bear Temujin — 30, 35, 40 lb.	\$150.00	\$59.95
Bear Super Magnum — 45, 50, 55 lb.	\$120.00	\$49.95
Bear Tartar — 30, 35, 40 lb.	\$100.00	\$39.95
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Bear Tigercat, Left Hand — 40, 45, 50, 55 lb.	\$ 65.00	\$24.95
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TACKLE TIPS

by Emery J. Loisele

BIG BOON FOR BOWHUNTERS

THERE ARE GADGETS for target archers, gadgets for bow hunters, gadgets which are useful, gadgets which are superfluous and some which are sometimes one or the other.

In browsing through catalogs on cold evening I came across an item which falls into the sometimes category. Because this bow attachment can be so important, and because it seems to be novel and almost unknown to bow hunters, discussion of its mechanics and application will be of interest to all who hunt with the bow. It is of all things, a bow hand rest, but don't let the name fool you; it does much more than that.

Any bowhunter who has had his fair share of encounters with the wily deer has had an experience like this — after a long wait on his favorite deerstand, the hunter senses a movement to his left. Maybe it was a slight rustling of the bushes, a shuffling in the leaves, perhaps it was a bit of brown perceived in his peripheral vision. Maybe it was something. Maybe just the wind.

The archer instinctively and cautiously turns and comes to the ready, every sense alert, every nerve and muscle taut. Now he sees it — the upper part of a hind leg, the plump hind quarter of a deer — the target part of the animal obscured by the bush behind which it is browsing.

This hunter is lucky. On too many other occasions he has been surprised by the staring eyes of a fully-exposed but alerted whitetail waiting for that first twitch on the part of the hunter to trigger the fastest blast-off you ever witnessed.

Now the hunter has sensed the quarry without the deer being aware of this presence. Soon the head and shoulders and the spot for sinking the broadhead will appear from behind the bush.

Should the hunter wait to draw the bow after the deer has emerged and chance the almost certain possibility that the target will be gone before the arrow is drawn and released? Or should he wait with drawn bow so that the flick of the bow limbs will be the first, but too late, warning of danger to the deer?

The hunter chooses almost unconsciously to draw the bow and wait. The seconds seem like minutes, his heart is thumping like a machine gone awry, his arms begin to shake, and the arrow rattles on the rest.

In the remote recesses of the 600 or so pages of an outdated Herter's catalog I saw a small illustration and brief description of an item which kindled reminiscence of just such an occasion. Herter's Archery Bow Hand Rest would have let the bow hunter hold the draw as long as necessary without getting tired.

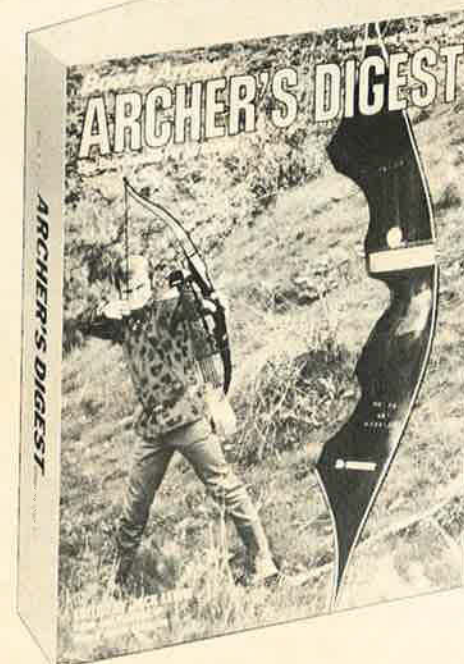
Briefly, the device consists of a small threaded steel bracket which is attached in a precise manner to the bow and a rigid adjustable rod assembly which threads into the bracket. The other end of the rod carries a pistol grip type of hand rest located where the archer's drawing hand will be at full draw.

In use the archer straddles the rod with his first and second fingers as he does the arrow. With the arrow to the left side of the rod (for a right hand shooter), he lets the rod slide through his fingers while making the draw. At full draw his thumb rides over the hand rest and the base of this thumb rests against the pistol grip similar to the way his

Continued on page 14

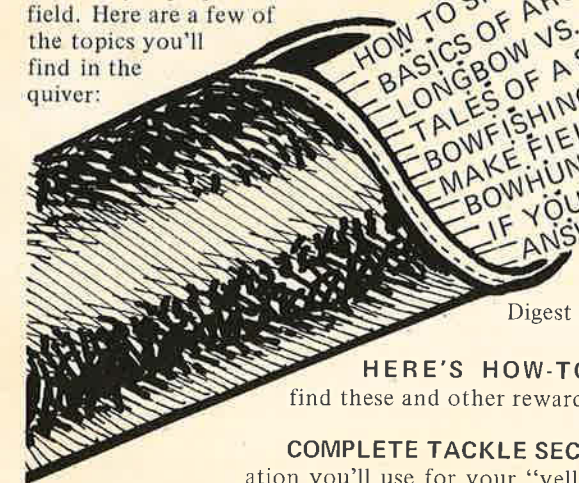
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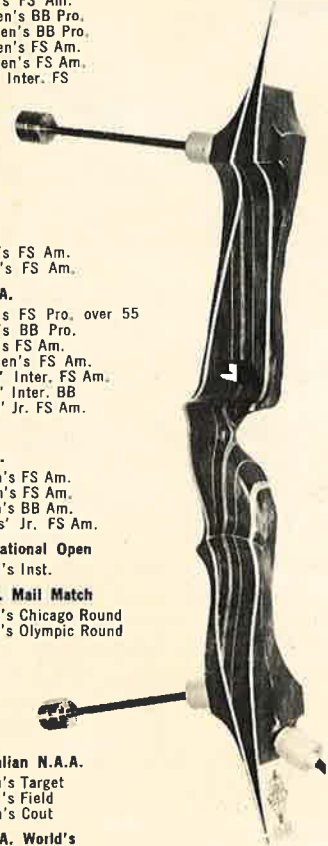
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 2nd — Men's FS Am</p> <p>1970 N.F.A.A.
 1st — Men's FS Am
 2nd — Men's FS Am
 4th — Men's FS Am
 5th — Men's FS Am
 1st — Women's FS Pro
 2nd — Women's FS Pro</p> <p>1970 P.A.A.
 1st — Women's</p> <p>1970 Amer. Indoor
 1st — Women's FS Pro</p> <p>1970 Eagle Cup
 1st — Men's</p> <p>1970 Ambass. Cup
 1st — Men's
 2nd — Men's</p> <p>1969 F.I.T.A.
 1st — Men's
 2nd — Men's
 3rd — Men's
 4th — Men's
 5th — Men's
 1st — Women's
 2nd — Women's
 4th — Women's
 6th — Women's</p> <p>1969 N.F.A.A.
 1st — Men's Open
 1st — Men's BB Am.
 1st — Men's FS Am.
 1st — Women's FS Pro
 1st — Women's FS Am</p> <p>1969 N.A.A.
 1st — Men's FS Am.
 2nd — Men's FS Am.
 3rd — Men's FS Am.
 5th — Men's FS Am.
 6th — Men's FS Am.
 1st — Men's FS Pro
 1st — Women's FS Am</p> <p>1968 International Open
 1st — Women's FS Pro.
 1st — Women's FS Am.</p> <p>1968 N.A.A. Mail Match
 1st — Men's FS Am.</p> <p>1967 F.I.T.A. World's
 1st — Men's FS Am.
 2nd — Men's FS Am.
 3rd — Men's FS Am.
 4th — Men's FS Am.
 1st — Women's FS Am.
 3rd — Women's FS Am.</p> <p>1967 N.A.A. Rankings
 1st — Men
 2nd — Men
 4th — Men
 6th — Men
 10th — Men
 2nd — Women
 4th — Women
 9th — Women</p> | <p>1967 N.F.A.A.
 1st — Women's FS Pro.
 1st — Women's FS Am.
 1st — Women's BB Pro.
 1st — Boys' Youth BB Am.</p> <p>1967 N.A.A.
 1st — Men's FS Am.
 2nd — Men's FS Am.
 3rd — Men's FS Am.</p> <p>1966 International Open
 1st — Men's FS Pro.</p> <p>1966 N.F.A.A.
 1st — Men's FS Pro.
 2nd — Men's FS Am.
 1st — Women's BB Pro.
 2nd — Women's BB Pro.
 1st — Women's FS Am.
 1st — Boys' Inter. FS</p> <p>1966 N.A.A.
 1st — Men's FS Am.
 3rd — Men's FS Am.</p> <p>1965 N.F.A.A.
 1st — Men's FS Pro. over 55
 1st — Men's BB Pro.
 1st — Men's FS Am.
 1st — Women's FS Am.
 1st — Boys' Inter. FS Am.
 1st — Boys' Inter. BB
 1st — Boys' Jr. FS Am.</p> <p>1965 N.A.A.
 1st — Men's FS Am.
 3rd — Men's FS Am.
 1st — Men's BB Am.
 1st — Boys' Jr. FS Am.</p> <p>1964 International Open
 1st — Men's Inst.</p> <p>1964 N.A.A. Mail Match
 1st — Men's Chicago Round
 1st — Men's Olympic Round</p> <p>1964 Australian N.A.A.
 1st — Men's Target
 1st — Men's Field
 1st — Men's Couit</p> <p>1963 F.I.T.A. World's
 1st — Men's</p> <p>1963 N.F.A.A.
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TACKLE TIPS
Continued from page 12

bow hand engages the bow.
 I found it necessary to widen the slot in my tab to better fit the larger diameter of the rod. No modification is necessary for a shooting glove. I also pinched the nocks on my hunting arrows so that they gripped the string slightly.

To begin with, it may be wise to adjust the attachment to its minimum draw length until you get the feel of it. Like most new developments the device takes a little getting used to as it feels unnatural at first.

All muscle tension in both arms has been transferred to the rod and the fingers of the drawing hand, and the hunter stands with bow fully drawn, but muscles relaxed. Now he can really wait out that deer. The archer's normal anchor point can be used, and exact length of draw is automatically established with each shot without use of a draw check. The possibility of creeping is eliminated, and each shot will be identical in cast no matter how long the archer holds at full draw.

The name of the device is a misnomer. It does more than rest the bow hand. It actually relieves both arms of all tension while at full draw, with all the tension of the drawn bow being transferred to the rod assembly and the fingers drawing the string. The archer can comfortably aim and release the arrow in the normal manner even after holding for an extended period without undue strain on either arm.

It reduces freezing and snap shooting. It is next to impossible to pluck the string. Torquing and heeling are eliminated. This, coupled with consistent draw length attained, makes for greater accuracy at the critical moment.

This is not a mechanical release. The bow is hand drawn and the string is held in the fingers and hand released. The string cannot be held indefinitely, but it can be held comfortably for proper aiming without strain, regardless of bow weight. Most archers can immediately use a bow several pounds heavier, which is a definite advantage for big game hunting.

The steel bracket is attached to the bow with three screws. The steel extension rod is available in four different lengths, and each length is adjustable within a steel ferrule for three different draw lengths. Generally the archer will find that after becoming accustomed to this style of shooting, his draw length will increase by about one inch due to relieved tension of the bow arm. The extension rod with hand rest attached can be quickly removed or installed by turning the rod 1½ to 2 turns.

The hand rest knob may be tilted by loosening the lock nut. It is generally desirable to have the knob tilted slightly, so that it will fit comfortably in palm of the hand while the bow is held in the drawn position. The lock nut should be tightened securely after the adjustment is made.

Due to the somewhat critical alignment in attachment, the Archery Bow Hand Rest is presently only installed on certain of Herter's bows, or installed by the company on your present bow of any manufacture providing it has a wood or composition handle. The item is not listed for self installation.

The installed price is \$18.95, and it comes complete with detailed illustrated instructions. Your particular length of draw must be stated for selection of proper rod length by the company (one of four lengths, each adjustable within a 2 inch limit) and precise adjustment of the device.

Herter's states that due to the position of the attachment there is no disadvantage in the handling or carrying of the bow while hunting either on stand or moving in heavy cover. In most instances it provides the advantage of additional support in resting the bow either in the hand or when setting aside.



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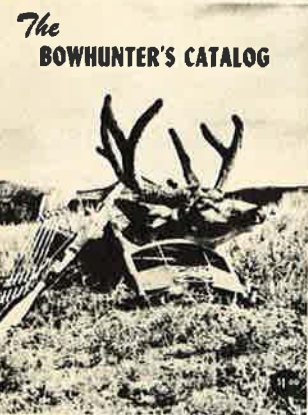
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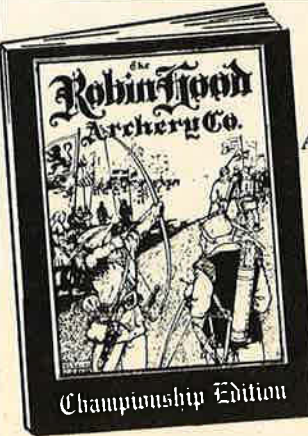
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ONE FOR THE GUIDE

Bear Bag By Bow Brings Biggest Blast To Pro

by Dave Dresen *As told to Major Elmer E. Kurrus Jr.*

I CAN'T REMEMBER a bear and hound fight more savage than the one I was hearing. Naturally my nerves were tight, and an unusual dryness in my throat reminded me that this was something truly unique. I've never before felt the same excitement during a bear hunt! When I parted the last bushes separating us from the bear, there was an unforgettable sight.

The Zenith of my five years of bear-hunting thrills was reached when I took my first bear with a bow and arrow this spring. The circumstances surrounding my hunt were most unusual, since I ended up facing the bear on the ground, forty feet away, with

Earl Cisco, and I have operated a guide service in Washington specializing in black bear. During the last three years, we've taken about one hundred bear for our clients. We run one of the strongest packs of bear hounds in the northwest. Collectively, we keep at least twenty top dogs with a dozen or more good, young hounds in training. Over the years, we've found that the Plott hound is the best all around bear dog.

Van Boven, Cisco and I schedule our hunts primarily on weekends or during annual holidays, since we have full-time jobs.

While planning for the last bear

that I was at last proficient enough with the broadhead to really take on the champ — a black bear. I decided to follow the hounds and try for a trophy the first time we didn't have a client. This was to be one for the guide!

Through experience I've found that one of the main problems an archer has during a bear hunt is to keep up with the hounds. Normal archery tackle is usually too cumbersome to handle while fighting your way through fallen timber, devil's club, and thick stands of alder and evergreens. Any archer who's tried to do so, can testify to the problems inherent with a strung bow.

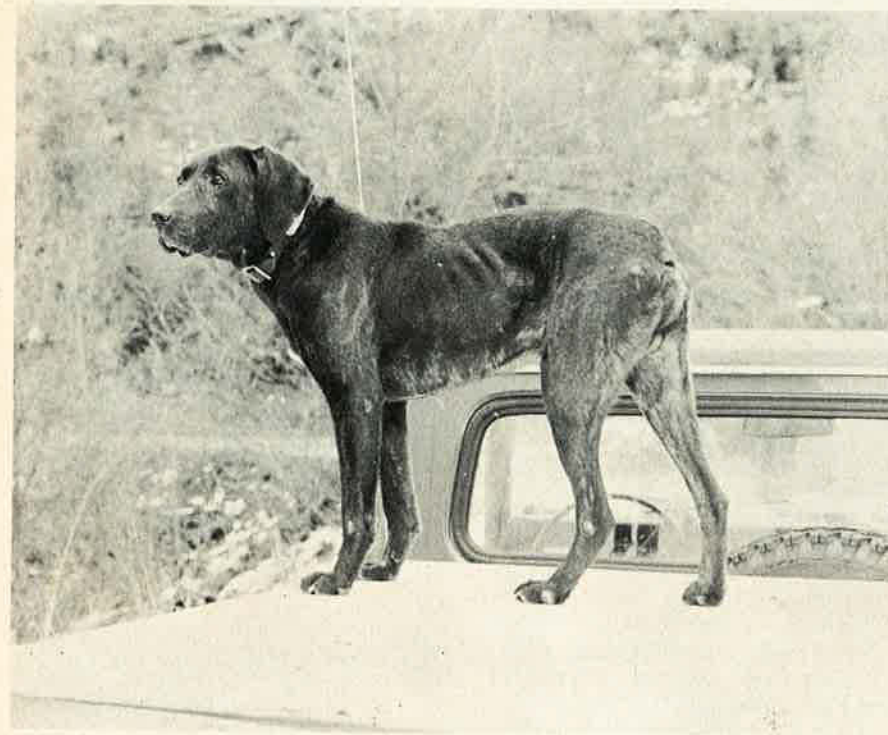
When I found that Ben Pearson made a take-down bow, it sounded like the answer to my problems. I purchased a Signature model having a drawing weight of fifty-five pounds. A dozen fiber-glass arrows and a center-back quiver completed my requirements. I ran a number of tests in all types of terrain and found that I could carry the take-down and the arrows in the same quiver. I added the capability to attach a bow quiver.

When properly adjusted, the equipment would not easily snag even in dense brush. The primary advantage I gained by this technique was that it left me uninhibited to move quickly while following the hounds. After frequent tests and practice periods, I could string the bow and attach the quiver within minutes. I was ready for a bear!

Our first cancellation occurred in late April. Our group headed for Pacific County which is one of the hottest bear areas in the state. By 10 a.m. we had jumped a good-sized bear and were listening as the hounds worked into a deep draw approximately a half mile from our four wheel drive vehicles. We played tag with that bear for over five hours but never brought him to bay.

On three occasions we headed into the timber to intercept the dogs, but the black seemed to anticipate our movements. The weather was getting worse by the minute, and the high winds all but eliminated hearing the hounds. On one ridge the dogs sounded as if the bear had treed. We had just reached the base of the alders when the pack lined out the far side. The bear had bayed up for a short time. As soon as he was rested, he carried the dogs out of hearing.

We had to give up the chase when heavy rain and a mild hurricane made pursuit impossible. It took us the rest of the night and part of the following



Apache, the full-time professional bear-hound, strikes a warlike pose on the truck platform where two of the Plott hounds ride till they strike scent of bear across trail.

only two hounds between us!

As a professional bear guide, I've been in on about 120 actual kills and involved with twice that many taken before I reached the hounds. Over five years of serious bear-hunting have left me with some definite views on the subject, as you can well imagine.

No two bear react the same way. Once you think you have them figured out, they pull something completely unexpected. Without a doubt, each bear must be considered a potential danger to life and limb! A bear, fighting for his life, is unexcelled in pure cussedness and strength.

Since 1962, George Van Boven,

season, I let it be known that I intended to bag at least one bear with a bow and arrow. Archery isn't new to our guide service. In fact, we've produced some respectable trophies for bow-hunters. The surprise was that I even wanted a bear for my own personal trophy. Over the years, I've shot about forty bear, most of them to protect the hounds during a hot tooth and claw encounter. On one memorable occasion I was reduced to beaming a bear with my rifle butt.

I've seriously hunted with the bow for about three years. During that time I've taken two deer and a respectable amount of smaller game. I decided



George Van Boven (left) holds Apache and Dave Dresen has Hustler. Dressed weight of bear, on a certified scale, was 392 lbs., would have gone close to 500, live.

day to collect our hounds. Fresh cuts and bruises told us the bear had given the dogs a rough time. Luckily none of the hounds was seriously injured. It had been a terrific chase, but Mr. Bruin had been the boss this time. He may have been tired out by the pack, but I'm certain he was none the worse for wear!

It was quite a while before we had time for another try with the bow and arrow, but a number of clients had filled their tags.

Our next "Fun Hunt" group consisted of Van Boven, Cisco, Rich Husser and Ruben Arnold, close friends who frequently add their hounds to our pack during bear season. After discussing possible hunting areas, we agreed on a hot spot for bear near Pe Ell, Washington. In the past, we had found bear plentiful along Trap Creek near the town of Wabam (not on most maps).

Our caravan of three vehicles arrived shortly after 8 o'clock. We gave the hounds a short stretch after we left the paved road and then loaded up to begin cruising old logging roads.

Van Boven placed Hustler and Apache, our strike dogs, on a special platform built directly behind the cab of this truck. From this elevated position a good hound can detect any bear that crosses the road or even moves close to it. This method of striking is popular in the northwest where numerous logging roads provide easy access to rough country. It provides an additional advantage since more area can

be quickly covered without tiring the dogs.

Although unleashed the hounds make no attempt to leave the rig. Without command they have been trained to hold their positions until a strike is made. Both dogs became alert as soon as the truck was coaxed into movement. Periodically we could hear one or both of the hounds bawl lightly, but it was older scent. Nothing to get excited about. We cruised various combinations of terrain for over an hour without a strike.

Without warning both hounds exploded! They cleared the rig before the truck could come to a complete stop and seemed to bawl every time their feet touched the ground. I quickly checked the road and found bear tracks heading down the ridge. Cisco checked further down the ridge to insure the hounds were heading in the right direction. Pad-size indicated a good heavy bear, and the hounds were hot on his track. We listened for about twenty minutes as Hustler and Apache worked the scent. At the bottom of the steep canyon, even an inexperienced ear could detect a definite change in the baying of the hounds. The bear had been jumped — the dogs were now running the animal by sight!

We immediately released additional hounds. It's a normal procedure to cut in fresh dogs as soon as the race is in high gear. This puts extra pressure on the bear and prevents the hounds from being cornered, or possibly killed. We released Drum, Yankee, Jill Tar, Tillie



Bobcat in alder fell to a single arrow through chest from estimated 50 feet.

and Snip making it an eight dog race. The fresh hounds headed straight for the two strike dogs and opened as soon as they cut the bear's track. For the next thirty minutes we could hear the pack running close together. Gradually the faster hounds stretched the pack for a quarter of a mile along the far ridge. We could be in for trouble if the bear didn't come to bay soon.

Cisco and Van Boven drove one of the rigs around the far side of the area that the dogs were working. It's always a good idea to keep the bear between two groups whenever possible. This prevents the bear from lining out without being heard by one of us. Apparently the hounds were having serious trouble.

We could hear them separating from time to time, each group baying as it were on a hot track. This turn of events could end up in a number of lost hounds, and no bear. We finally



Dave Dresen (left) and Rich Husser with large bobcat that fell to broadhead from the Ben Pearson "Signature" 55-lb. bow.

realized we had two separate races going at the same time! Apache, easily identified by his voice on track, was running alone. The rest of the pack was across the second in a series of ridges running for all they were worth!

Apache has an exceptionally good nose. He's never been known to lie when bear were being run. When I heard him bark "treed", that was all I needed to hear. Immediately I shouldered my gear and headed toward the hound. If he had a bear up he could be in trouble if the black decided take his chances with the single hound. Cisco returned to the other vehicles after telling Van Boven to meet me at the tree where Apache was at bay. The remainder of our group would keep up with the rest of the pack.

Approximately a hundred yards from the hound I stopped to string my bow and adjust my quiver. Expecting the worst, I moved through heavy brush and saw Apache at the base of a

huge Douglas fir. I couldn't believe it! Apache had not one, but three bears up the same tree! The pack had obviously been confused by the series of trails left by the three animals. How Apache ended up with the whole family is anyone's guess. I could tell that mama was getting a little upset, so I stopped about sixty yards away.

The young ones were yearlings, definitely not in the trophy class. Van Boven arrived from the far side, and we enjoyed the show for a few minutes. Apache kept giving us a look that said, "I've put them up there. What are you going to do about it?" What we did was put a leash on Apache and walk away leaving them treed. We didn't have the heart to break up a family.

When we hit the main road the pack was still running the second track. After a gruelling three hour race, the hounds barked "treed" approximately half a mile from where



Two of the yearling cubs from Apache's triple; third bear, a sow, is behind trunk of large fir tree and not visible.

we listened. Arnold hollered, "Let's go — better see what those hounds have been chasing."

We reached a heavy stand of alder and found the dogs literally trying to climb a twelve inch tree. Fifty feet up peering down at us was a large bobcat with his feet curled around the thin branches. He seemed unconcerned and ignored the movement of the hounds. If that pack of dogs could use an axe, I'm sure they would have chopped the tree down themselves.

All agreed that I was to take the cat with the bow. This was to be my baptism. The pressure was on!

It wasn't a difficult shot. I moved around until the cat was clearly silhouetted against the sky and nocked my broadhead. Without hesitation, I draw smoothly and released. The broadhead sliced through the cat's chest, and was lost in the far timber. The bobcat held on for a second or two then dropped to the ground. The hounds piled in immediately but lost interest as soon as they realized that

the chase was over. I had a beautiful trophy and a group of wise guys who were pleasantly silent! I believe they were a little surprised to see how efficient the bow can be if used properly.

The hounds were still reasonably fresh, so we had a short lunch break and elected to try and start another bear. We drove the vehicles approximately five miles past the first strike and again loaded the strike dogs on top of our rig. The weather wasn't too hot, so the possibility of fresh scent was still good. After an hour of driving we wound our way down into a section of swamp that had produced bear in the past. Shortly after we crossed a narrow stream Hustler struck. Apache immediately chimed in, and we were listening again to the hounds unravel another bear track.

After additional hounds were released the chase really warmed up. Ringo started baying less than twenty minutes after he was released. He's what I call a marker hound, since he only bays when the bear is being run by sight. That meant that we could expect anything. We probably startled the bear long before we reached the spot he had crossed. He'd pull every trick in the book now to shake the dogs. As expected, he headed back toward the swamp and led the hounds up a series of ridges that we had recently passed. The bear was heading toward rocky terrain. It would be one of his best chances to lose the pack.

The bear was working in an area about three miles in diameter surrounded on three sides by old logging roads. Without delay we circled the area and listened to determine which way the bear would carry the race. Our prearranged plan was to converge on the bear as soon as the hounds indicated that he was treed or at bay.

For over two hours the hounds worked the bear in the same general area. The bear was in heavy timber and didn't intend to leave his protection. Husser and Arnold spotted the bear first! He was large, probably a boar, and had tried to cross the road near the original strike. Arnold moved in and got a quick glimpse as the black crossed a stream. He was able to see three hounds badgering his hindquarters, while the bear occasionally cuffed at one of the dogs. Arnold could have taken a quick shot but decided to let the chase continue. As agreed this was the bear for the bow. We had an unwritten law, however, that if the hounds were ever in danger the first man in was to put the bear down as soon as possible.

No matter what we tried no one could get close enough to the bear to help push him up a tree. He was prob-



George Van Boven (left) and Dave Dresen with large bear taken on ground with Ben Pearson "Signature" bow. Ringo, hound at right with Apache, is termed a grade Plott, due to white marking.

ably too large to tree and had decided to take his chances with the hounds on the ground. If I wanted this bear I'd have to intercept him while he was busy with the hounds.

The chase seemed to return to an extremely thick stand of alder. The bear was trying to break out of his area, but was constantly turning back to avoid crossing the open road. The high rock cliffs on one side discour-

aged him from departing in the only direction not intersected by roads. I decided to head for the thick alder and hoped to ambush the bear in front of the dogs.

Just as I reached the alders I could hear the pack moving the bear down a slight ridge off to my left. Within minutes I could hear the heavy breathing of the black as he made short

Continued on page 65

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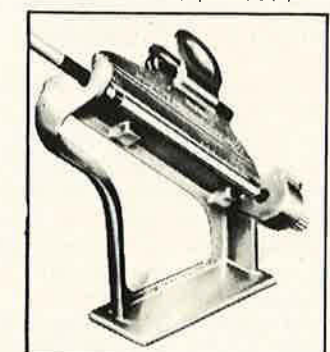
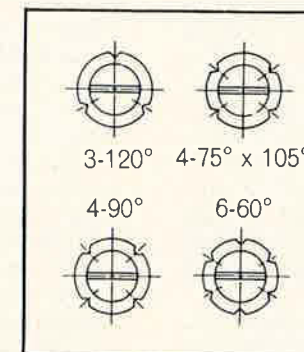
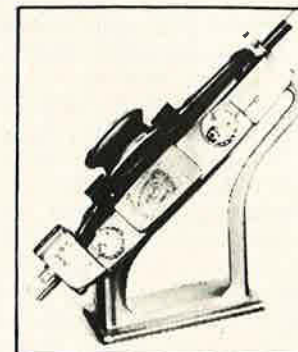


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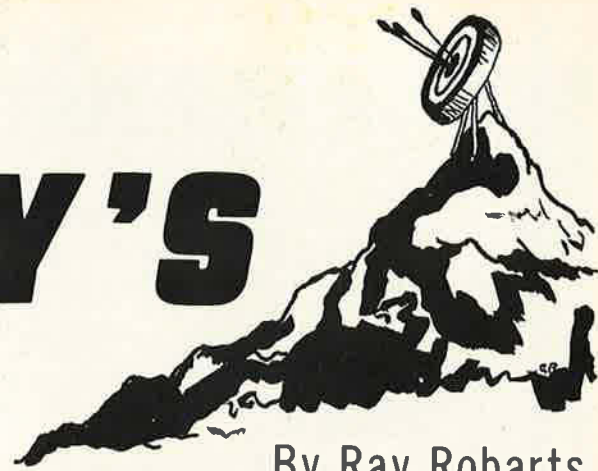


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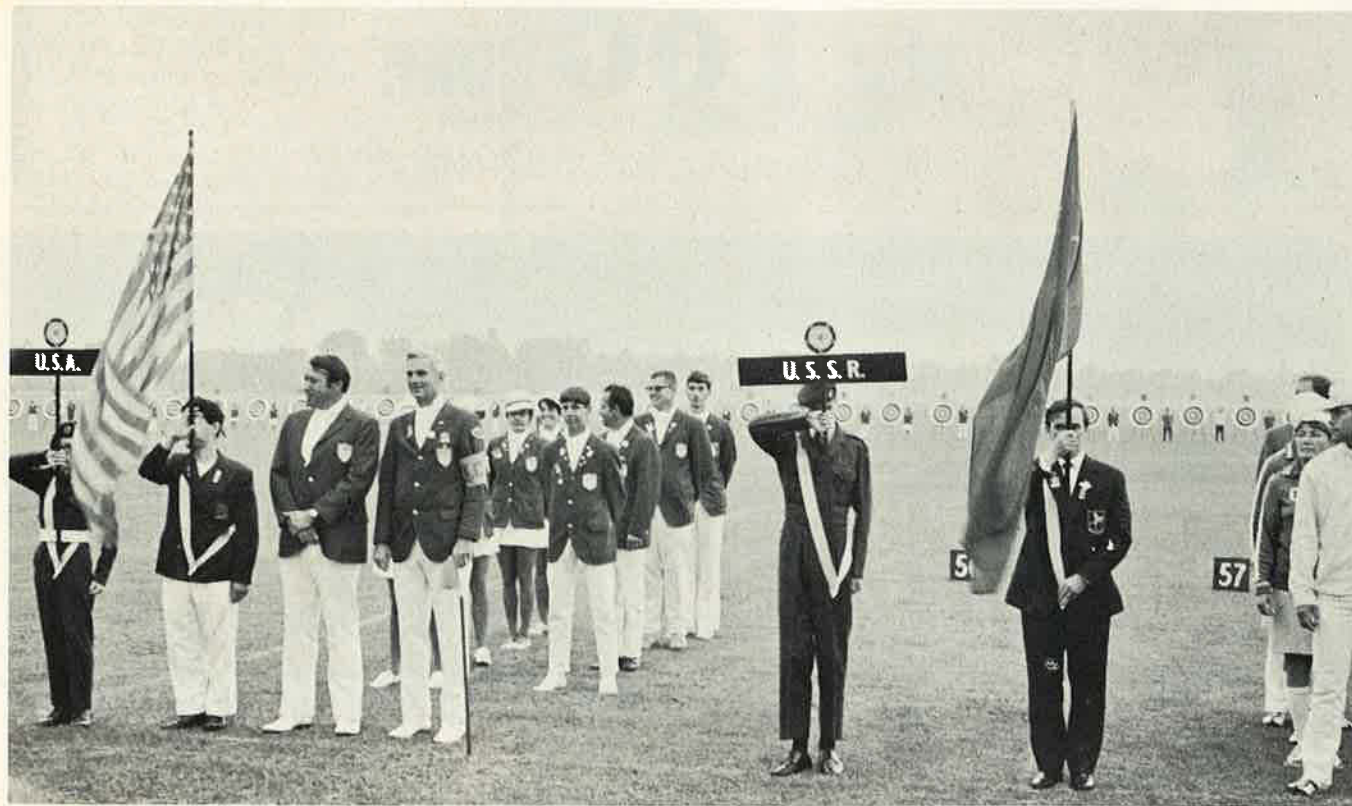
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Where Leading Archers Gather
To Determine The World's Best!

ARCHERY'S SUMMIT



By Ray Roberts



Side by side, members of the United States archery team and those of the Russian team are formed up for the ceremonies that mark the opening of world championships.

THE TWENTY-SIXTH WORLD ARCHERY CHAMPIONSHIP held in York, England, with thirty-three countries competing — a total of 177 archers on seventy targets — was the biggest yet and a fitting event in the fortieth anniversary of FITA.

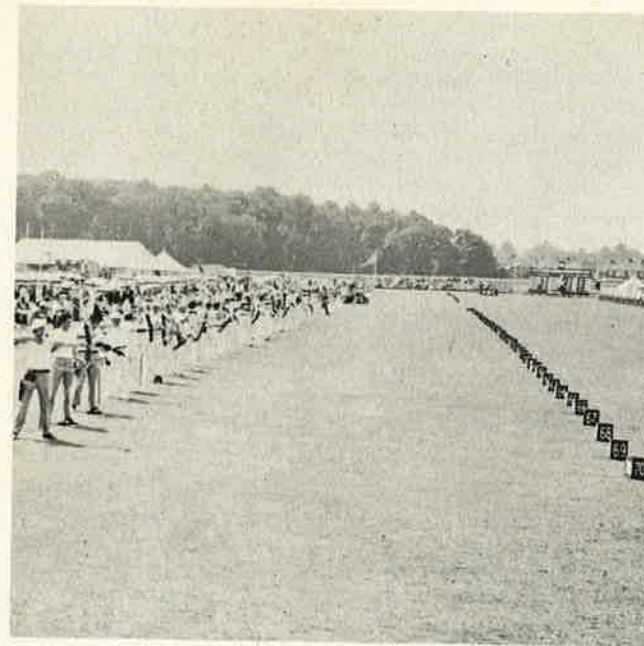
Individual scores for both men and women were higher than at Valley Forge two years ago. Seventeen-year-old John Williams of Cranesville, Pennsylvania, became the new Champion of the World. Emma Gapchenko of USSR became the new lady Champion of the World, with forty-one-year-old Doreen Wilber of Jefferson, Iowa, runner-up again — just 9 points behind. The US men made it a double-first by taking the first-place team medals; the US ladies took the third team place.

Eight world championship records were broken — including a new fifty-meter distance of 587 by Doreen Wilber, and a ninety-meter of 550, fifty-meter of 626 and a Double FITA total of 2445 by John Williams. He also holds the seventy-meter record from Valley Forge. All world

championship records are for the double FITA round or distances. World records are for single rounds or distances. No new world records were set. Nancy Myrick's single fifty-meter distance score of 305, made at Amersfoort in 1967, was equalled by Emma Gapchenko, but not broken.

Spectators had brought their record lists up-to-date with three recent world record scores (ladies' FITA of 1229 by Miss Irena Szyedlowska of Poland, men's FITA round of 1252 by Shinji Nakamoto of Japan, and a new men's fifty-meter distance of 322 by Arne Jacobsen of Denmark), but new world records were not to be, for the traditional British weather also played its part — with cold, wind, rain and even some warmth and sunshine. Bad weather on the first and last days of the four-day event affected both the single rounds. In fact on the middle two days, for the short distances of the first round and long distances of the second round, John Williams score of 1260 would have been 8 points above Nakamoto's new world level.

But where did the twenty-sixth World Target Archery



On the 1971 World Championship field at York, England, targets 70-25, in foreground, were reserved for the male contestants, while targets 24-1 were for the ladies.

Championship really start for the US team members?

THE BEGINNING — It started at the St. Louis Tryouts on June 19-20, where, they say, the tension on competitors is greater even than in the World event itself. The top men's scores then, and selection for York, went to new high school graduate John Williams; 16-year old Larry Smith; 33-year-old Edwin Eliason; and veteran 55-year-old Joe Thornton — a world champion of 1961, runner-up in both 1963 and 1965, and a competitor also in 1967. The selected ladies were Mrs. Doreen Wilber, who placed second at Valley Forge in 1969; 38-year-old, Mrs. Nancy Myrick, and 24-year-old Miss Linda Myers. Lawyer and NAA president Marvin Kleinman was appointed team manager and George (JOAD) Helwig, NAA vice-president, as team Coach.

A few days before setting out for York John Williams had managed to leave his motorcycle rather unexpectedly but remembered thinking that his hands and arms must be the last part of him to reach the ground. All was well.

Ed Eliason started from his home in Washington State — a 2,400 miles journey before the charter flight from Philadelphia. Nancy Myrick started from her home in Florida; Vicki from Minnesota, Doreen from Iowa, Joe and Helen Thornton from Oklahoma; while Larry, John and Linda — all in Pennsylvania — had relatively no distance at all to travel. A total of twenty-three for the NAA party included Helenore Helwig and Margaret Shenk. Kleinman's wife (Nancy Vonderheide, the world champion of 1961) with another daughter only three weeks old, couldn't make the trip.

Clayton B. Shenk, NAA secretary and member of FITA's administrative council, told your reporter on arrival that the bill for the US team would be 8,500 dollars. With journeys to Europe for every world championship since 1957, except for 1969 in the US and with the field championship in Wales in 1970, a total cost of \$100,000 had been raised by those interested in bow shooting in the United States. The record book since the Double FITA round was introduced in 1957 shows that each journey had its rewards, for in no target archery championship has the United States failed to take first place for a team, and, in fact, on five of the nine occasions US archers have taken both the first men's and the first women's team places.



Author (left), Ray Roberts, a leading English archery writer, pauses with young Bjorn Bengston from Sweden.

YORK, ENGLAND — In 1971 the city of York celebrated the 1,900 anniversary of its foundation when the Romans built there a fortification named Eboracum (Place of the Yews). On the Knavesmire, York, in 1844 a first national archery meeting was held, starting a series that has continued in different places, and still continues, as the major event in the British archery calendar.

On the Knavesmire race course in 1971, the World Archery Championship was to be held in Britain for the first time for twenty-three years. Chairman of the British Organising Committee was the talented president of FITA since 1961, Mrs. Inger K. Frith, Danish-born, speaking six languages. A one-time British team member and manager, she was honoured only a month previously by Queen Elizabeth awarding to her the Order of the British Empire for services to archery. Mrs. Frith is no mere figurehead.

PRACTICE DAYS — From July 22 a well spaced twenty-seven-target practice field on the university campus was in use from as early as 5 a.m. until dark each day — before, during, and even after the four days of the championships. They were golden days — of sunshine and of the friendship that is international archery. More and more teams arrived, old acquaintances were renewed and new ones made. Fun was mixed with dedicated practice. The customary gifts and souvenirs were exchanged. The self-service dining halls provided further relaxed opportunities for meeting more people, for the interested helpfulness of archers — whatever their nationality, whatever their language.

As if this was not enough, a social programme had been arranged: an historical archery exhibition; a coach visit to a country mansion, and various receptions. At one, by invitation of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of York, young Linda Myers of York, Pennsylvania, and Larry Smith of York County, presented a transatlantic letter of greeting, which was duly read out and responded to as the flash-bulbs popped.

Tuesday was an official practice day when everyone travelled to the championship field on the Knavesmire, and crowded the line at the different distances to get the feel of the ground. The Indonesian team manager called for a distance to be checked, and it was corrected. Nations competing that were not at Valley Forge included: Hungary,

ARCHERY SUMMIT

Indonesia, Israel (one cheerful competitor only), Luxembourg, Malta, Philippines, Singapore (three shot from only one hundred registered archers), and Yugoslavia. After lunch most archers returned to the greater space of the University practice field.

Interesting to the keen observer must have been the different national approaches to shooting during those practice days. The Russian ladies, for instance, tended to remain alone, wandering or sitting singly in thought. European Champion Victor Sidoruk was an exception, popular as the sportsman he clearly is. The U.S. archers seemed more casual, extroverted, talkative as usual. Dorothy Lidstone of Canada seemed to show the strain initially of being the only defending champion present. Perhaps the same tensions affected Hardy Ward in the tryouts. All the more credit therefore to John Williams, who must have known he was favorite for the title, yet at no time



In spite of the seeming laxness behind the shooting line, there were moments when nerves were on edge and shooters found it difficult to smile at camera — or each other!

before he stood on the victory podium did he show a sign of feeling under pressure.

Rumours of scores were buzzing, of course. With three or four 1200 scores, the Japanese were being tipped confidently for a place. Everyone's favorite, however, was hot-panted 20-year-old Kayo Watanabe of Baika University, Osaka, who had started archery only in 1969 and had had an 1176 to her credit. She was a great head-turner. All the Japanese were relaxed, cheerful, friendly and generous.

Then there were the popular Poles, particularly their outstanding ladies. Both Poles and Russians made use of rubber strips as warm-up exercises before drawing the bow. Strange also to English eyes was the almost universal use of an arrow as a bowstand.

Managing the practice field was Stan Patterson. Before the end, his small shelter tent had been autographed by every archer who had practiced — what a memento of what an experience. But suddenly, the playing had to stop: there was some serious shooting to be done.

FITA Congress, session one, had approved — on US application — use of the Berger or 'panic' button a spring-loaded plunger as arrow plate, and decided that an arrow could be nocked on the string, but that a bow must not be even partly drawn before the start of the 2½ minutes allowed for shooting each end of three arrows.

FIRST DAY — With unkind perversity the weather had changed suddenly to cold, for which most of the competitors were unprepared. To make matters worse the Technical Commission, aware doubtless of previous criticism of equipment inspections, were determined to do their job thoroughly. All archers proceeded with their equipment to the group in the center of the field and filed slowly through. By the time due for the opening ceremony only half the competitors had been inspected.

The closeness of the early scores was frightening. Only 4 points separated the first five men's places after two dozen

arrows. After three dozen, 11 points separated the first five ladies and 14 points the first ten men. Vicki Cook showed briefly in equal second place after two dozen, but had slipped to fourth by the end of the first distance. John Williams was fifth after one dozen, eighth after two dozen, and fifth again by the lunch break. Siegfried Ortmann, of West Germany was leading the men on 275, Jadwiga Szoszler, of Poland, the ladies on 291.

Already the US teams were where they would finish — men first at 773, ladies third at 798.

In the afternoon the sun shone occasionally and it became less cold; the head wind continued. A strange interlude occurred when it was announced that one archer would shoot an end alone. Apparently one of the Mongolian ladies had had part of a chain sling become impaled in her hand and had been unable either to attract attention or extricate it in the time available. The TC upheld her appeal and she shot the end in front of all the waiting archers — they were creditable arrows.

An unhappy Ed Eliason unbraced his bow at the end of the day to discover only then that two strands were broken under the center serving. So that accounted for his seventy-fourth place for the seventy meters. Both of the eventual champions were in second place after the first two distances: Ladies — Szoszler (Poland) 590, Gapchenko (Russia) 583; Gentlemen — Gamble (Britain) 561, Peunov (Russia) equal with Williams (US) 560. Vicki Cook had held doggedly to that fourth place and pushed it to third at the fifth dozen, but was back in fourth, two points behind 1967 world champion Maria Maczynska of Poland, by the end of the day. John Williams had moved up after a fifth dozen of 105.

It was good to see young Jagwiga Szoszler shooting so well as a late replacement to Hanna Brezinska. As this year's Polish lady champion, she had broken the monopoly of Brezinska/Maczynska/Sydowska who, between them, had won the Polish championship for the past fifteen years.

SECOND DAY — For the second day the weather was good. The wind died away during the day, the sun shone and it became warmer. By the afternoon conditions were perfect, with the flags hanging limp.

At fifty meters there were several perfect ends (of three arrows, of course) — including one by John Williams — and several of the faces had to be changed during the distance. Williams shot the distance brilliantly for 316 points with only one arrow outside the red — and that was a 6. He was on top of the leader-board by the first dozen of the day and there he stayed for the rest of that day and for the two following days. Vicki Cook for the US ladies held that fourth place through to 105 arrows; but after 7½ dozen, Doreen Wilber had worked up to sixth place and by the end of the distance had pushed Vicki from the fourth spot with 859 points to 850.

John Williams' 316 for the distance was six points under Arne Jacobsen's (Denmark) 1971 world record for fifty-meters. After lunch, Williams continued his winning form with dozens of 116, 113, 114, for the thirty-meter distance — only two arrows in the red and a score that was just 4 points under the world record of Hans Wright of Australia.

During the afternoon, Vicki Cook's invisible bouncer occurred. No sign of a hole, so no score could be given; but, said Vicki, it came out of the 10. Then a TC member who



While Nancy Myrick (left), adjusts bowstring on practice field, the defending world champion, Dorothy Lidstone of Canada, watches closely, listening to her comments.

Continued on next page

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had by chance been watching the target said he had seen a bounce out. Further inspection revealed only one possible spot, between two holes: underneath was found the binding cord, so Vicki was given a 10. "My score was bad enough already without losing another 10 points" said grandmother Vicki with relief, as she turned in a 318 for the distance.

For the second day: Emma Gapchenko had scored 638, Doreen Wilber 628, and Maria Maczynska 612 to give the half-way standing for the ladies, after on FITA round, as: 1. Emma Gapchenko (Russia) 1221; 2. Maria Maczynska (Poland) 1191; 3. Jadwiga Szoszler (Poland) 1184; 4. Doreen Wilber (US) 1183; 5. Vicki Cook (US) 1168.

Maria Maczynska's performance at this stage looked challenging. She has been in archery eighteen years and had the distinction of competing in her ninth world championship.

For the men John Williams had made in the day 659, and both Kyosti Laasonen and Arne Jacobsen 649. Placings for the single round were: 1. John Williams (US) 1219; 2. Kyosti Laasonen (Finland) 1201; 3. Wayne Pullen (Canada) 1198; 4. Siegfried Ortman (W Germany) 1194; 5. Edward Gamble (Britain) 1189;

In the evening, two films were screened in the Central Hall of the University. One showed preparations for the 1972 Olympic Games at Munich — at which George Helwig and Clayton Shenk, it was later announced at Congress, would be officiating. The other was the Bear/Easton record of Valley Forge and created a lot of interest, featuring as it did the 'Keystone Kid' on whom all eyes were now to be fixed.



John Williams, one of the United States shooters, is at full draw, while his countryman, Larry Smith, takes his time in nocking an arrow during a practice session.

THIRD DAY — It all started again with another FITA round. The weather was still ideal. The visual time-control system, installed by the timekeepers for next year's Olympics, was working perfectly. There was no computer but plenty of manpower, reinforced with walkie-talkie sets, so the leading individual scores were on the board for each end before the archers had returned from the targets.

Doreen Wilber, who soon had edged Maria Maczynska into fourth place, shot a 10-10-10-9-9-9 at the close of the long distance. In the afternoon Ed Eliason finished his seventy meters with another perfect 57, although a little earlier Bruno Schnoor of West Germany had notched a 59 end. The Keystone Kid made 284 for his ninety meters — 10 points under Ray Rogers' world record for that distance; and 317 for seventy meters — not one arrow outside the red and 3 points under his own world record.

The best scores for that day only were: Ladies — Emma Gapchenko and Doreen Wilber equal, 589; Maria Maczynska 585. Men — John Williams, 601; the Japanese Hiroshi Kajikawa, 578, and Ed Eliason, 570. Maria Maczynska set a new world championship record of 574 for the double seventy meters; Emma Gapchenko a new 610 for the sixty meters; and John Williams a new 550 for ninety meters.

FOURTH DAY — The weather for the fourth day was different. Overnight there had been heavy thunderstorms and the sky was still threatening. Sighters were delayed for half an hour, because of water in the timing and announcement equipment. Then while the 'B' detail were checking their marks came a sudden downpour that caused a breakdown to the timing mechanism and the abandonment of shooting for another hour. Sighters recommenced: then all the rain-soaked target faces were changed.

After that, although storm clouds still threatened, they fortunately passed by. There was a fresh left to right wind, which by mid-afternoon had become strong enough to blow over some chairs and at one stage sufficiently gusty to show on everyone's scores.

Early in the fifty meters Doreen Wilber moved into second place and during the distance Vicki moved from fifth to seventh position. Doreen's double fifty meters was the highest there for the ladies and set the new world championship record of 587. On the men's line Ed, shooting the same score for that distance as he had done on the second day, 301, made the leader-board in seventh place. He was probably praising his rubber fletches in the cross-wind and wind-spilling characteristics he claimed for them. John, with 310, completed his fifth successive distance in which he had made the top men's score, and also set his new world championship record of 626 for the double fifty meters.



John Williams of USA observes his target, while his scorer, Binkie Todd of London, does the computations.

During the afternoon, perhaps to show he was only human, John put down a disappointing half dozen; but he recovered and, in the last end, a ripple of spontaneous clapping from spectators and archers alike greeted his setting of the new world championship record for the double round. He had drawn his forty-two-pound bow and loosed those 30¼-inch arrows for 288 hits: 2 whites, 1 black, 20 blues, 100 reds, and 165 golds.

The highest scoring men for the last day were: John Williams, 625; Richard Hemming (Britain), 622, and Arne Jacobsen and Ed Eliason equal with 617. But the top three men for the second round only were the same as the top scorers for the third day — Williams, Kajikawa, Eliason.

On the ladies' side, Doreen Wilber had made 599; Irene Szydłowska of Poland, 593, and Halina Kopania also of Poland, 590. Top three ladies for the second round only were Wilber, Gapchenko, Kopania. At 1154, little Halina Kopania had beaten by 13 points her previous best score for a FITA — in Moscow earlier this year — and that takes some doing at a world championship.

Continued on page 43



Russia's lady champion Emma Gapchenko proves no distraction, as she walks behind Ed Eliason of US.

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BRUSHING UP THE BANDITO

And Fauna Aplenty Was
Used In Wringing Out
This Recent Model!

By Garry M. Cameron

IN THE VALLEY of Wenatchee, Washington, nineteen thousand souls work and play in this wide expanse of fruit orchards and small industries.

Located in the center of Washington State, at least forty percent in this small community are dedicated sportsmen. Fishing, hunting, trail riding, archery, boating and skiing are a few of the major sports.

From my picture window we could see the Columbia River snaking through the valley, dividing the steaming orchards on either side. Looming in the distance, mountains of the Wenatchee Forest were shimmering in a blue haze.

No doubt about it, today was hot. As I got up from my air-conditioned perch to check the thermometer the jangling phone interrupted our reverie.

It was the BOW & ARROW office in Brea, California. All business, and direct: "Get Damon Howatt's new hunting bow, the Bandito, and give it a field test."

"What kind of a test?", I stalled with one eye on the quivering haze.

"Any kind," snapped the crisp voice of the publisher. "Jack rabbits, squirrels, you name it."

I thought about the 100-degree heat in jack rabbit country and the fact they can travel at forty-five miles an hour and leap twenty-five feet. Then, a squirrel isn't the easiest target in the world to hit with an arrow in wooded country...and they were out of season.

It was a tough assignment, and since this wasn't hunting season, about the only thing we could kill legally was a predator.

The call ended abruptly with few words wasted on social amenities. I did two things immediately: completed the thermometer check — it was 104 — then contacted Carl Hamilton.

Carl is a true hunter and an archer who gets his deer or elk every year. His love of field and stream is almost atavistic. Also, he is a local archery dealer.

When I laid the assignment on him he laughed and said, "This is amusing. I just received my first shipment of the Bandito this morning and was planning a brief test in the next couple of days. Not quite so funny is that I certainly didn't plan an off-season hunt in the middle of a hot summer with most of the game burrowed in the cool earth or hiding in caves."

Nevertheless, Carl, at 34, is in top physical condition and only made a few reluctant grunts. He agreed to tramp the wilds of a nearby mountain in an effort to demonstrate the worth of Howatt's inexpensive Bandito.

The Wenatchee Forest and mountains contain some of the best bowhunting in the nation. Although heavily wooded in certain locations, the large trees seldom are interlaced with heavy underbrush; so a good clear shot is often possible.

We chose the rugged country called Badger Mountain. Named after an early settler, the mountain was about forty-five minutes away by car — until the road ran out.

We left at the cool hour of 5 a.m. in Carl's red pick-up. A bit apprehensive about our physical activity, and clutching our bag of sandwiches, I mentioned to Carl that we

couldn't see any water bags or canteens — and as a matter of fact — where was his bow?

Looking like Dane Clark, the top hand in a late, late, he said, "Water? Don't need it. We'll pass a spring. The bow? Turn around." Mounted to the cab, above the seat he had made a unique rack that held his bow, arrows and any equipment needed for immediate action.

Winding our way up the rocky road, I noted how rapidly the terrain was changing. From sagebrush country, dotted with green farms and orchards, we soon were skirting a 4,000-foot ridge. Flanking us were small meadows, covered in wild flowers on one side with the pine woods on the other.

There was a temperature drop of about twenty degrees and our walk in the sun didn't seem quite so foreboding. As we went farther into the forest, the rough, unused logging road ended abruptly with a massive tree lying across our path.



Carl Hamilton holds follow-through after launching an arrow to check its flight at 100 yards. Badger Mountains were used as site for test of bow — and author's legs.

We parked the truck near the promised spring, unloaded our gear and headed out. Skies were clear and the sun hadn't penetrated the cool forest by 7 a.m. With fairly level walking, and Carl giving a running account of the Badger Mountain area, the trek proved interesting.

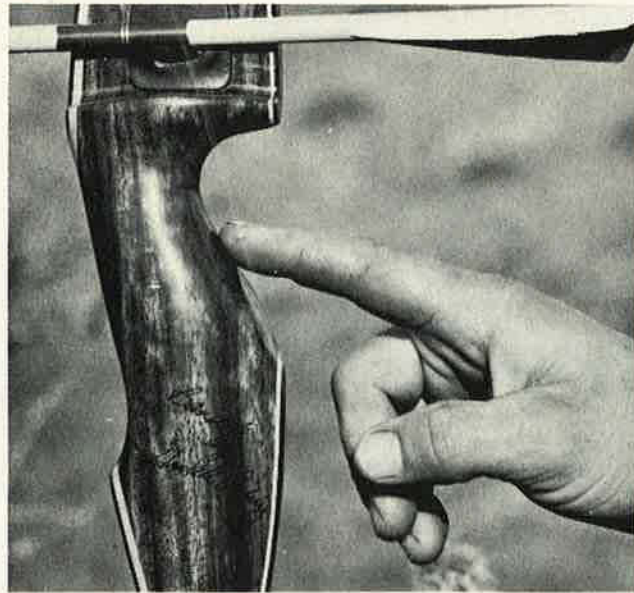
Badger Mountain is a table sloping off into sparsely timbered woods and deep canyons. Its first settlers arrived nearly one hundred years ago to grow crops, raise cattle and establish a small community. For a few years the surrounding hills provided lumber and a small logging industry was developed.

Apparently the rugged winters added to the stark living

precluded the influx of a large populace. Now, the few families remaining have cattle spreads, well-tilled farms and orchards. There is still some lumbering, but the forest is pretty well thinned out.

Currently a massive power cable is being hung from the Chelan area — about forty miles from Badger — across the state of Washington into California. The progress of civilization splits the magnificent game reserve, but will not affect the overall problem of ecology. Man's noise and machines soon will be gone and only the singing cables with their power-carrying potential will remain.

Badger Mountain is truly a wild game paradise. In the distance we could see the towering Cascade Mountains with their snowcaps gleaming in defiance of the summer heat. The near religious significance of pausing on a mountain top and drinking in the scenery is only for those who have experienced this emotional uplift.



Riser is of Brazilian rosewood and, author feels, can prove a boon to youngsters, shooters with smaller hands.

During our trail pounding, Carl had two things going for him: One, he was never out of breath and two, my oxygen gulping made for good listening. Fresh cougar, deer, wild turkey and bear tracks all were pointed out to us. I even was given the privileged information as to when they were made.

On one portion of the dusty trail, Carl showed where a coyote had tracked a slow, plodding porcupine. The encounter was clearly defined in the fresh dirt. The porky's tail was no longer dragging the dust and the busy tracks of the coyote indicated the direction from which he had approached his victim.

Ahead, the tracks of porky again showed he had resumed his plodding with the heavy tail dragging. It was fairly obvious he had given the hungry coyote a lesson in needle point.

Our goal, unless we spotted a coyote with a noseful of quills, was a small valley about five miles from our base. Carl said it would be an excellent place to test the Bandito and we could search the caves on the other side of a ridge for possible game, and if legal, attempt a kill.

Stately pine and fir trees guarded the entrance to the lush canyon we were entering and it was apparent the deer and other game spent a leisurely summer — safe with the instinctive knowledge that the hunting season was far away.

Using field point as an indicator, Hamilton points out track of coyote. Port Orford cedar shafts were used.



Single arrow from the Howatt Bandito bow accounted for this racoon, which had become a problem among farmers.

We arrived in a small valley where Carl pointed out a crumbling shack, at least seventy years old, that would make a good reference point.

The Bandito, manufactured by Damon Howatt of Yakima, Washington, is a lightweight hunting bow. The mass weight is three pounds. Because of the unique balance,

and handling, experts feel it is considerably better than the magnum.

The handle riser section is of Brazilian rosewood, coated with acrylic lacquer. There is a wide open window for good sighting and the tip is a shaped piece of Brazilian wood. Howatt's craftsmen have smoothly attached the tip so it can be replaced easily, if necessary.

Limbs feature a dark colored bow glass and the overall finish is a high gloss. The Bandito is fifty-eight inches from tip to tip and available in draw weights to sixty-five pounds.

Assuming the bowman's position, Carl demonstrated the proper alignment and bow draw. He called attention to the limbs and the near perfect bend. Making a smooth release and maintaining a follow-through position, the cast was made.

His first shaft was a field arrow and it held up very well at three hundred feet. For the second shot he used a flu-flu which held up equally well.

"Frankly, I'm pleasantly surprised," remarked Carl. "The performance of this bow is amazing, considering its cost. I would recommend it for year round hunting or target practice. However, I feel it is best for hunting."

When asked about a silencer or stabilizer, Carl answered, "It is sufficiently smooth and quiet enough so that I don't feel the addition of a string silencer and a stabilizer are really necessary. Unless, of course, you're after deer; then a silencer could be advantageous.

"Also, I like the way you can maneuver with the Bandito in thick brush. The riser is good — especially for smaller hands. Probably one of the outstanding features of this bow is the fact it doesn't pinch," he concluded.

While gathering arrows around the old cabin, Carl had one eye on a nearby cliff. I more or less sensed what he was thinking, since there was an earlier comment on caves and the possibility of enticing a coyote into the open with a predator call.

Scrambling up the side of the mountain we flopped on the crest while Carl, the only one with breath, sounded his call. His one response was the cackling of a tired crow looking for a mate.

The day had become a sticky 1 p.m. and we were ready to head for the spring. Without a doubt, my guide would have liked to remain on the mountain overnight — no water or sleeping equipment, of course. But I was more inclined to seek creature comforts and attempt to kill another day.

Our two hour return was a leg-cramping effort. The lack of legal game was disappointing, but the test work had been good, and the day far from a complete loss. Carl's enthusiasm was infectious and he made my promise not to file the report for a couple of days.

It was exactly two days later when he called. "How long will it take you to drive to Leavenworth," he said.

"Why?" I answered. "Because I've got a racoon spotted and he won't go far with an egg in his mouth. The old rascal is so tired he has resorted to raiding the chicken house." We arranged the rendezvous and he rung off.

Leavenworth is about a thirty-minute drive from my house and I knew Carl was remodeling a home on a small farm just outside the village. I grabbed camera, car keys and made the run in record time.

Carl had made his kill moments before my arrival. He didn't want to take a chance on losing his quarry since he was treed and a good clear shot was possible.

Proudly displaying the thirty-five-pound racoon it was explained how he nailed him from a lofty limb in a nearby pine tree.

"I took my shot right after he scrambled up the tree and turned to watch me. It was about a thirty-yard cast and I got him right through the heart with a field arrow. He

Continued on page 51

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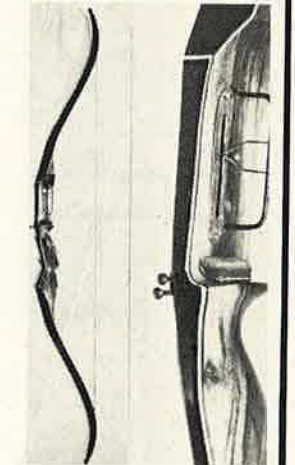
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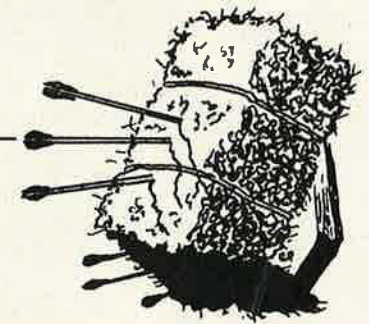
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BUILD AN INSTANT ARCHERY RANGE

Low Cost High Fun Practice For Game

by Arthur G. Reitsch



EACH YEAR, AS the hunting season draws near, the archery columns exhort us to begin practicing, so when the big moment arrives, we won't lose our deer because of poor shooting. One way to get ready is to put a bale in the backyard and shoot a few arrows each evening.

This method can sharpen your technique, especially if you are a beginner. However, it is somewhat dangerous for your neighbors and is a poor way of training for the unknown distances and uneven terrain you will encounter in the field.

Another method is to join an archery club and practice on the club range. This is completely safe and offers a wide variety of distances and terrain. But even if such a range is near you, most of these so-called field ranges are not designed for bowhunters.

First of all, the distances all are marked. Of course, it's important for the bowhunter to know what thirty yards looks like, but the knack of hitting the target at an unknown distance is what pays off. Some bowhunters are confused by the fancy equipment sported by shooters at most archery clubs. They feel silly holding a camouflaged bow and wooden arrows, when surrounded by long shiny bows, stabilizers, peep sights, release aids, and aluminum arrows. And it is frustrating to stand and wait for a guy to shoot one arrow when you could have been shooting ten.

So why not build your own range? For the past two years several friends and I have done this. We put the range in during late June and have time for two months of shooting practice which simulates the conditions of our fall hunting closely. Let's see what is

involved.

First, you need some land. The shooting area should measure 100 by 100 yards or larger and should have a safe run-out area all around it. This may seem like a big order, but stop and think. Isn't there an empty field or patch of woods within ten or twenty miles of where you live?

The owner of this land probably will not mind your putting in a few straw bales — we got permission on our second try last year, our first this year. Remind the owner that only a few people will be coming out, there will be no litter, and that you will clean up the targets when you are finished. Most people will not object to your using their land under these conditions.

Next, you need something at which to shoot. If you live in an agricultural area this is no problem, since there are straw or hay bales available. They are inexpensive and sometimes free. If these are unavailable, some ingenuity is needed. I once made a target by stuffing folded newspapers into a cardboard box and it worked well. For our range this year we bought eleven bales of straw at fifty cents apiece. This was our total cost and, split three ways, come to less than \$2 each.

The placement of the bales on the range follows several simple rules:

1. You don't have to worry about flying arrows hitting into another shooting position, because you and your friends will always be shooting at the same target together. (This does not hold if there are many people involved. In this case more land is needed so that people can safely shoot all targets at the same time).

2. You will shoot from one bale to the next, as in golf. To conserve bales

and space, some of the bales will be shot from both sides.

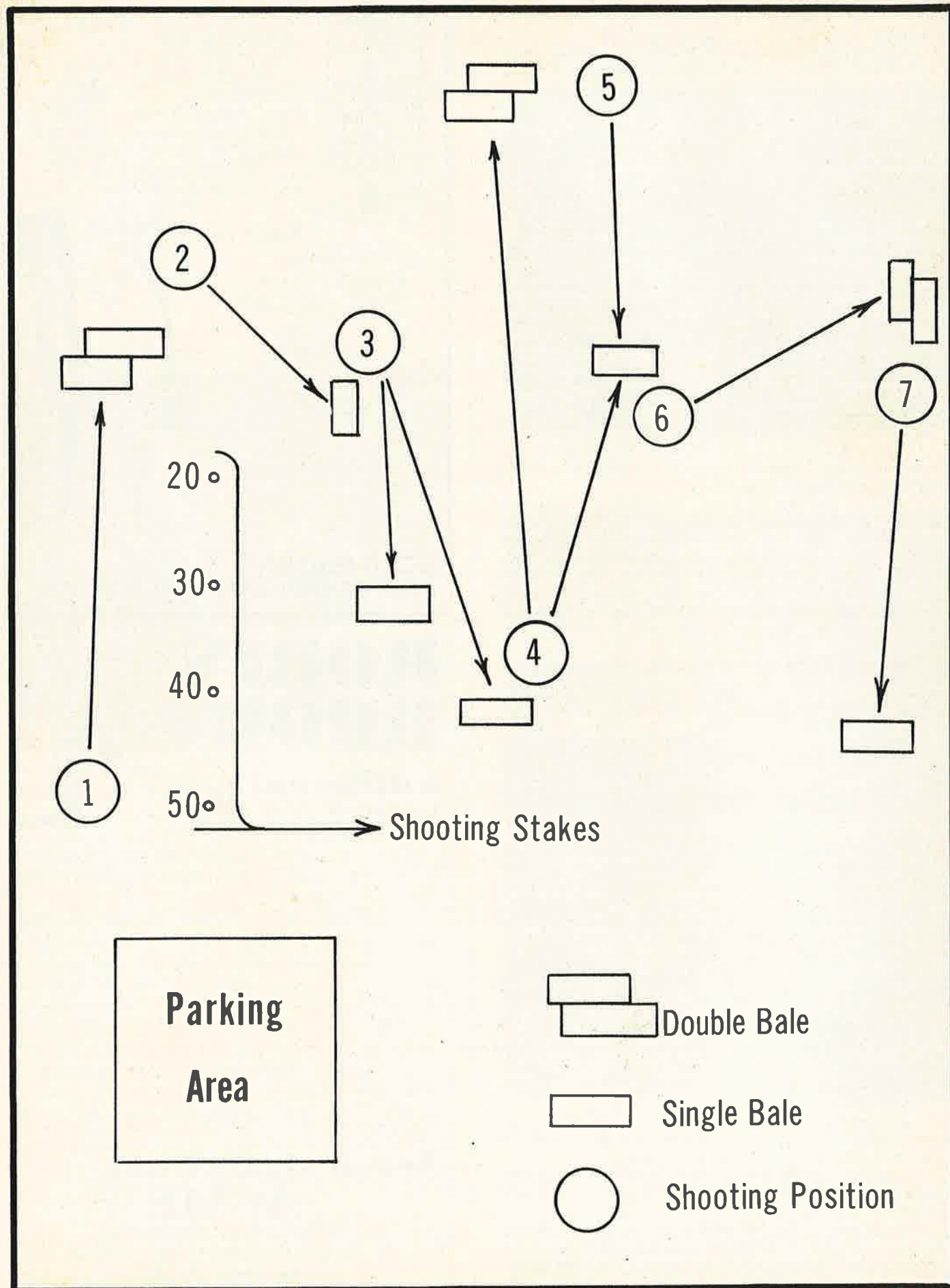
3. You need a variety of ranges, from about fifteen to forty-five yards depending on the conditions you will face when hunting. You shoot from different positions as you move around the course, thereby practicing range estimation as well as shooting technique. The bales are placed so that an appropriate number of close, medium, and long shots are offered.

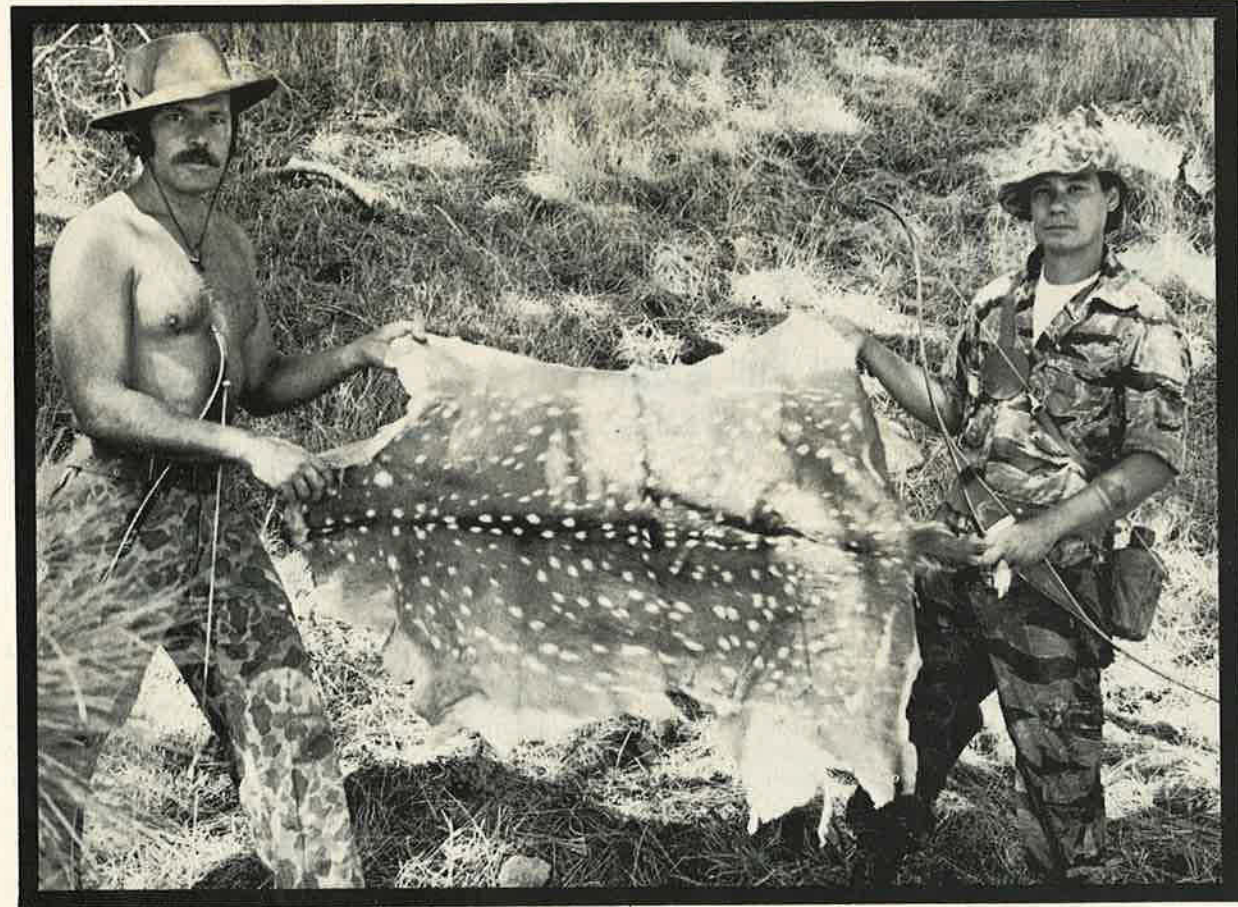
4. A shooting lane should be available on one target. Stakes are placed 20, 30, 40, and 50 yards. Practicing on this target is necessary to sustain a mental image of what each of these distances looks like.

After shooting bale seven, we move to the right and shoot the backside of bale six, then continue back through the course. There are fifteen or sixteen different shooting situations in one round, depending on how you move through the course. The shooting positions vary each time so that ranges cannot be memorized. We usually shoot three arrows at each target, moving forward a bit after each shot. There are all sorts of ways to score yourself depending on what type of target you are using.

As for targets, we use paper plates attached to the bales with long nails. These plates are about the size of the vital area and provide excellent targets. A set of animal targets would be more fun, but would cost more.

So the next time you realize it's time to get ready for that buck you've been dreaming about, consider putting in an archery range built exclusively for bowhunters. It costs practically nothing and gives you tremendous confidence in your ability to hit a target in the field. ←





by Harold Stephens

Surviving The Extreme Perils In The

PANIC overtook us. We couldn't find our way back to the trail where we had left the packs. We were completely twisted around. Every ridge and every valley looked like every other one. Was this the way other men had disappeared in the Ureweras, never to be seen again? We couldn't possibly survive without our gear.

ing there was not new to me. Ten years ago I sailed across the Pacific in a small ketch, and after arriving in New Zealand broke, I hired out as a professional government hunter to cull the deer herds on the North Island. Later I hunted the South Island for chamois and thar. When we finally sailed from New Zealand four months

SOUTH PACIFIC

Oriental Jungles, The Hunt Meets With Tragedy In Civilization

Imagine hunting in a land thickly forested where the game animals have never seen man, where there's no limit to a hunter's bag, and where there are no license fees or closed seasons.

Your choice of game is wild boar, goat, rabbit, elk and deer of several varieties: European red and fallow deer, American whitetail, Asian Japanese deer, sambar deer and axis deer. A day's drive and you are in high country, where you can try your luck at Rocky Mountain goat, European chamois, Himalayan thar and Canadian moose.

This is not fiction; it's New Zealand, the hunter's heaven on earth.

New Zealand was to climax my South Pacific bowhunt, although hunt-

later, I was determined to return one day as a bowhunter. After ten years I went back.

You may recall I began my South Pacific bowhunt in Baja, then moved on to Hawaii and crossed to Southeast Asia, with hunts on Bali, Lombok, Borneo, Malaya and as far north as Assam in India. I hoped to cover more of Southeast Asia and the Pacific but had great difficulty moving in war-prone Asia, and my traveling companion, Willy Mettler, was lost in Cambodia, a war victim.

In Auckland I met Kim Kahana from California as arranged. Kahana is native Hawaiian, and when he learned I would be in New Zealand, the land of the Maori and his kinfolk, he

wanted to join me. He is an avid bowhunter, actor and stuntman, and with him along I was certain there would be some added excitement. There was.

We arrived in Auckland on the same day, and by the following morning we were visiting the Maori center at Rotorua. The headman presented us with detailed maps of the rugged Ureweras, and by afternoon we had our full packs and archery equipment and were standing at the edge of the great forest. We weren't about to lose any time.

New Zealand is made up of two islands, which together are about the size of California. North Island is the warmer of the two, with thick almost impenetrable forests, where some Maori have yet to see a white man. It's an island with smoking volcanoes and steaming fissures in the earth.

The South Island is much like Switzerland and is noted for its Alps. It's criss-crossed with snow-capped mountains, glaciers, pre-historic ice flows and great fiords.

Both islands teem with game, but none of the animals are indigenous. When the Maori first migrated to the islands more than a thousand years ago, they found a land of giant forests and green vegetation, but nature had forgotten something. There wasn't a single fur-bearing animal.

Captain Cook introduced the wild boar, but it wasn't until the mid Nineteenth Century that the English colonists began the importation of game animals, mainly to provide sport for their leisure hours. They gathered prized animals from the world over.

The importation of game backfired. No one had given any thought to the

BOWHUNT

balance of nature. Within a few decades herds of wild game, unmolested and without natural enemies, literally took over the islands.

In the 1940s the game population reached the explosive point, and the government was forced to adopt a costly extermination policy. A corps of professional hunters was hired; however the cost of maintaining shooters grew prohibitive. Ten years ago, when I joined the cullers, it cost the government an average of \$80 for every deer killed, although we were getting twenty-five cents per deer tail.

New Zealand's new policy is to encourage hunting. Professional shooters have turned into hunting guides. Landrovers have replaced the pack horse,

and speedy plane service enables a sportsman to hunt the North Island one day and the South Island the other, with the possibility of getting trophy heads from four continents.

If time is no limit, the hunter can strike out on his own, as Kahana and I were doing. We had supplies in our

heavy to support their own weight. Fallen fern trees are everywhere and make traveling slow and cumbersome. Adding to the jungle-like appearance of the bush is the subtle jack, a mass of twisted vines which blocks the trails and seems to hold the forest together.

In spite of the denseness, there are

Kim Kahana (left), author's hunting companion on this boondoggle, uses arrow to explain type of track they are following through the jungle area of New Zealand.



back packs for two weeks in the Ureweras. My twenty-pound Gerry pack also included a two-man tent. I carried a Pearson take-down bow and a Pearson sixty-five-pound Pinto. Our shafts were fiberglass.

We left civilization behind at the village of Ruatahuna and followed the Waimana River into the Ureweras. I

trails that cross and criss-cross and open areas among the archway of trees. The sun's rays filter down in pencil-thin shafts through the mist, and at times I felt as though I was walking through never-never land, a forbidden forest.

The many trails and cleared underbrush are a result of the deer. Signs were everywhere. The most recent tracks, perhaps minutes old, were oozing water. Tracks along the river were so thick it looked like a herd of cattle had passed by. We could hear them now. We were in the height of the roaring season, and the stags were throwing precaution to the winds. We had been hiking a mere two hours when we had our first encounter with a large herd.

I was setting the pace when Kahana nudged me to stop. He pointed through the bush off the left. We removed our packs and flopped them on the trail. After notching a broadhead I led the way, cautiously. After going no more than fifty yards I stopped, and there, twenty yards ahead, was a huge red deer, his head hidden behind a tree. I drew back and aimed for a shoulder shot. I lowered the bow.

It couldn't be a deer. This animal was much too large. We were in Maori land, and it could be a horse tethered to a tree. A horse this far in the bush?

I took aim again then once more lowered my bow. I moved in closer and up went the head. It was deer, a hind, but I no longer had a clear shot. She saw us and darted off into the bush.

I wanted to break my bow. Here was our evening meal and I let it go. Kahana saw the humor. "She was too big anyway," he decided. "Pick out a small one for the table."

After ten years I had forgotten that the habits of New Zealand game differ from those of other lands. In America when a whitetail spots a hunter it will stamp a foot to alarm the others in the vicinity. The hind we saw did not do this. We advanced no more than twenty yards when several more red deer rustled in the bush. Then we saw a stag, well over ten points, on the move, perhaps twenty-five yards away. We both drew back and shot instantly. He went down but quickly recovered and regained his footing. The next thing we saw were deer jumping every which way. There had to be more than twenty in the herd.

We waited a few minutes — not long enough—then set off to track the stag. A hundred yards from where we hit him, we found blood where he had rested. Evidently he heard us approaching and had moved on. Further on we found blood. We moved rapidly, making a great deal of noise, spooking half a dozen more red deer. One stopped dead in the trail, eighty yards distant. The sun was against us. I gave the shot to Kahana. He missed and lost his arrow. The deer was much too big, I reminded him. "We want a small one for the table."

We spent the better part of an hour looking for our stag but lost his track completely. We were certain that only one arrow had hit him, but not knowing whose, we placed a five-dollar bet on the outcome. Approaching darkness forced us to give up the search.

It was at this point that we became hopelessly lost. Had it not been for Kahana I probably would still be in the Ureweras. He went into action. He handed me his bow, kicked off his shoes, and after grabbing a hanging vine, swung to the lower branches of a huge tree. As though the director had called action he began scampering up the branches until he disappeared in the foliage. From somewhere in the upper reaches he gave a victorious shout and seconds later dropped to the ground. He had spotted the river, and in a half and hour we were back with our packs and heading downriver. From then on we never moved without taking our compasses.

Our camp site that night was ideal. We pitched our tent on a bluff where



Kahana uses pieces of native flint found in jungle as stones for sharpening his broadheads in the rude camp.

the river emptied out into a flat, open valley. The view was excellent. There was firewood for the picking, and the bowers of a tea tree warded off the wind from the south. We had half an hour before dark. We set out in opposite directions for one last try.

On the opposite shore I found a deer culler's old shack and got bogged down in a swamp. No deer. I took a stand along the lower sweep of the river, where deer tracks came down

from the hills. No deer came. High on the ridges stags roared, like bellowing bulls. This continued through the night.

When darkness came I worked back upriver, and in the grayness of night I could see smoke from the campfire rising into a breezeless sky. I went closer and saw Kahana jumping up and down as though on a tambourine. He was jubilant. Over the fire, on a spit log was the two hundred-pound car-

When he isn't hunting, Kahana is an entertainer and a sometimes movie stuntman. Even in the jungle, he found it logical to carry blades for his Samoan knife dance!



case of a freshly butchered deer. He had the spit fashioned so he could turn it slowly.

"A two hundred-pound venison dinner," he sang. "All you want to eat."

Eat we did, like Roman generals, cutting out hunks of meat with our knives and tearing them apart with our teeth. Gorged, we slept until dawn, then washed ourselves awake in the icy waters of the river. After cold venison and hot coffee we continued the hunt.

I decided to continue the search for the stag we had wounded, and I am pleased that I did. I headed back into the same area, checking with care my direction of travel this time. Not a breeze stirred; not a leaf moved. Only black New Zealand tul birds fluttered softly about. They look much like our blackbirds except that they have white tufts at the back of their heads, and they have no fear of humans. A few even tried to land on my extended arm as I pushed the brush aside. Later I heard that they go after the insects the hunter or trapper stirs up.

About mid-morning I found the stag, with Kahana's arrow deep in his right flank. He was a ten-pointer and could have weighed in at 220, but it was impossible to determine exactly. After making sure he had no other arrow wounds, I paid Kahana his five dollars.

Our objective was a Maori village half a dozen miles downriver. Kahana carefully wrapped two haunches in fern leaves, tied them with strips of

bark, and placed them high in the branches of a tree. I found it hard to believe that meat not refrigerated would keep, but when we returned a week later, we had some delicious steaks and roasts. It was an island secret Kahana learned in Hawaii.

We struck camp and headed downriver. The river was swift in places, and where the walls of the canyon were steep, we had to plod through the knee deep water. If we followed the river bed any distance we always had a problem in finding the trail again. In places punga fern trees had toppled over and lay across the river. They were damp and slippery and made traveling difficult. Kahana could leap with ease from one to another. It looked so easy when he did it. "Let your own motion carry you across," he instructed.

I tried his method. We came to one fallen tree that completely bridged the river. He skipped across it with me scampering at his heels. At midstream my feet slipped, and over the side I went, into the icy water. My right hand held the bow high, and that was all that didn't get wet. We had to set up camp there and light a fire to dry out my equipment and sleeping bag. The next morning Kahana let me lead the way at my own pace.

We reached the village at noon. The Maori greeted us warmly. They are a handsome, rugged people, but their western clothing, which looks like Salvation Army rejects, gives them a drab appearance. Several of the ancient

women had their chins tattooed. At one time Maori men had their faces carved, not to beautify themselves, but to frighten their enemies. Carvings in the village showed how the men once looked.

The Maori knew we were hunters, but where were our guns? We showed them our bows and, of course, had to demonstrate their accuracy. They wanted to see us in action. We explained we had shot red deer and that we would like to try other game. They indicated that along the river branch to the east there were many spotted deer. These had to be axis deer. At the crack of dawn we set off.

Each of us, I'm sure, has one shot in particular that we are proud of, one we won't forget. I had that shot that morning in the Ureweras.

The three Maori who accompanied us were still not certain about the effectiveness of our bow as a hunting instrument. One was a young girl in her late teens, who wanted to join us. We had no objections. She was agile and moved with ease, but I insisted she remain behind me, so she wouldn't hinder any shot I might have. I really didn't expect to get any shot. With five people walking noisily along a river trail, you don't expect any game. But New Zealand game is not used to man, and when they hear someone approaching, they are curious.

We turned around one bend in the trail and there, feeding beside the river, a large axis stag threw up his head. He didn't move. The Maori girl had come up beside me, and with one hand I gently moved her back. I nocked an arrow, aimed and let go. I immediately pulled another arrow from the quiver and prepared for a second shot, but there was no need. The first arrow drove directly through the deer's shoulder, penetrating the heart. He fell over dead where he stood.

I was amazed by my own shot, but the Maori were stunned. They leaped with joy and excitement, which made me act even cool about it. Half an hour later we had a chance at another shot, but I declined. Why spoil a perfect record?

Ten years ago I recall I had been paid off for fifty-six deers I shot in thirty days in the bush. I thought that was good until I heard of one shooter who brought down 12,000 deers in ten years. He is Rex Forrester, who has turned guide, and I'm sure he holds some sort of unbreakable world's record. When I later met Forrester he told me that on many occasions he shot fifty deer a day, often bringing down fifteen out of twenty deer he met in a herd.

Kahana comes to full draw in the bush, making certain of his aim before releasing the shaft at possible trophy.



C.R. Learn's test report on archery's boldest new concept in bow design: **BUSHWHACKER I**

"There was no stack at my 27-1/2 inch draw. I pulled it over my draw to see if I could find a stacking point and couldn't."

"The main reason the solid fiberglass limbs won't stack is due to design in the glass. It is made longitudinal and the end result is an almost indestructible limb and bow combination. I disassembled one, then put it back together to check alignment. The limbs tracked true and stayed that way."

"The small riser eliminates some of the usual riser weight, but the heavy limbs put some of that lost weight back into the total. It isn't too heavy for hunting and, in totting it around on several trips, it proved no problem."

"The Bushwhacker performed beautifully out to forty yards. After shooting heavier bows than the fifty-pound variety, it takes a bit of getting used to a lighter bow. This had nothing to do with the cast of the Bushwhacker; it put an arrow out well, but I had to change my thinking and aiming for the longer shots."

"To say the test was approached with frank skepticism might be better justified by the fact that one can purchase all this for a modest \$29.95."

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SOUTH PACIFIC Continued from preceding page

Such days of wanton hunting in New Zealand are gone. The game is plentiful, but it takes arduous treks and some skill to bring down game. I have known some hunters who failed to shoot anything, after spending days trying. But then a certain degree of luck is always necessary. Kahana and I had our red deer and axis deer from the North Island, but we hadn't gotten any wild boar. We were leaving the forest on our last night out when the chance came. It began to rain that night when we made camp and in our rush to get into the tent we left many of our supplies scattered around outside. We were no sooner asleep then we awakened to a sound in the brush below us. We thought it might be pig, but we weren't certain. If we opened up the tent and rushed outside we might miss our chance, so decided to do the impossible and string our bows, in a prone position in a two-man tent. It can be done, at a great risk to limb—human and bow.

The night was light, but it was wet and cold, especially for two hunters chasing barefoot through the brush in their underwear. We didn't have to travel far. A boar appeared in the trail and stopped. It was our chance to release two arrows. Both hit, and for a moment we expected he might charge, but he turned and fled.

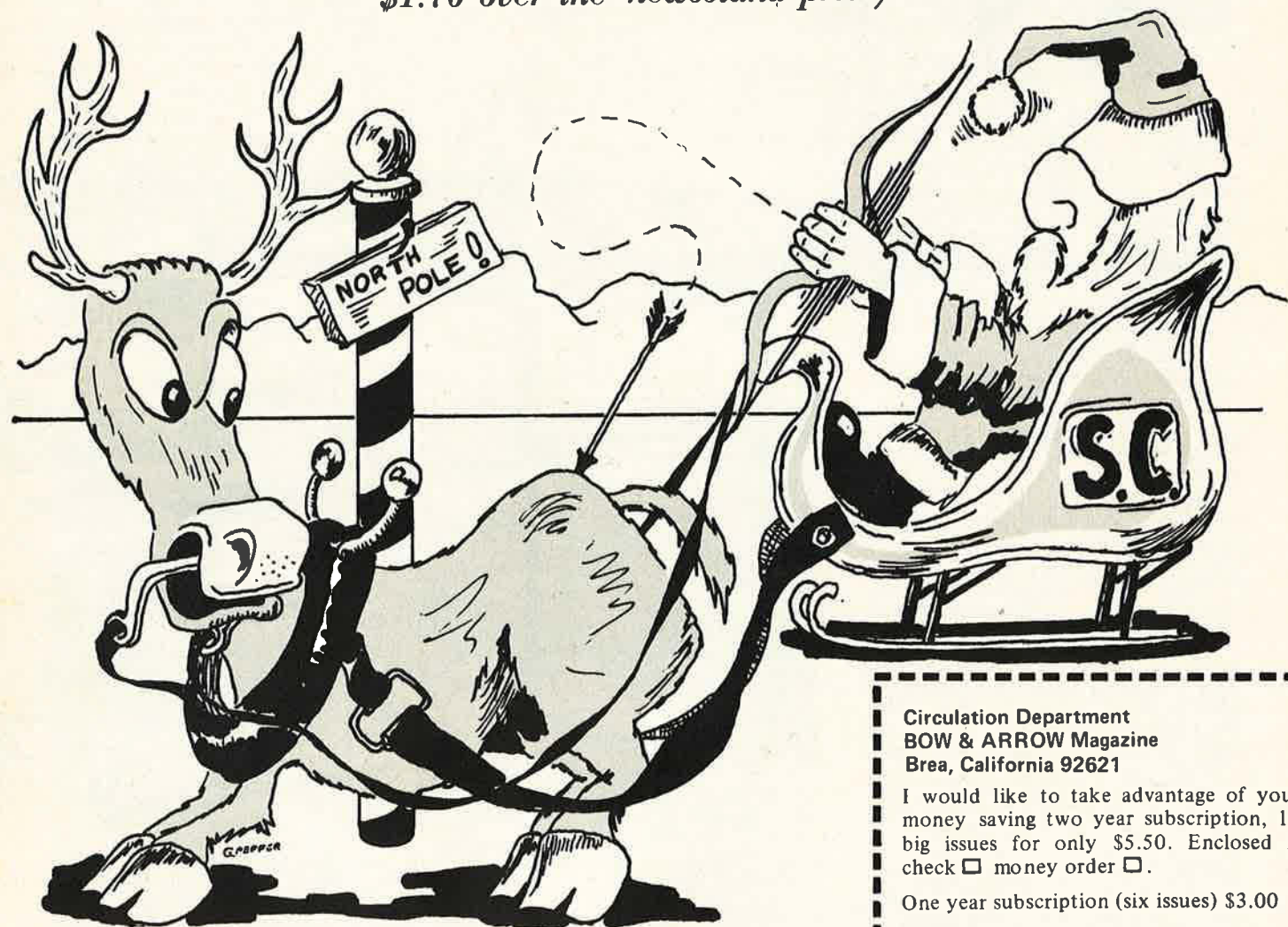
I stood guard on the trail while Kahana returned to get his Samoan knives. They are heavy, three-foot long, evil-looking knives he uses in a dance act. He never expected to use them against a wounded wild boar. We found the animal mortally wounded; it was only a matter of finishing him off.

Morning came clear and warm. Needless to say we had pork for breakfast, but after two weeks in the Ureweras we were getting tired of our meat diet. We had the game we were after, and there was no sense killing any more just for the sake of killing—although the government still encourages hunters to take all they want.

The embedded concept of conservation that we have in America runs deep in us, and as we were not after trophies the hunt lost its value. Kahana and I were anxious to head to the South Island, to try our luck at thar, chamois and goat. Three days later we were in the Southern Alps, but it was far from the easy hunting we thought it would be. But that's my next story. ←

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By C. R. Learn

WING IT

WHEN SOME dauntless and talented archers find they can't get a bow they like they make their own. That is, they used to. A rare few still do. One of today's leading bow manufacturing plants began as the brainchild of just such an archer.

After Bob Lee worked the kinks out of his idea of how a bow should be made he found that other archers were interested in them so he bounced into the bowyer business in Houston, Texas, in 1951 under the Wing trade name.

He hunted with his product and managed to down an impressive list of game including a few native alligators before they became a protected species.

When Wing needed to expand to meet the demand for his bows Lee moved to Jacksonville, Texas, in 1965 where he still hangs his hunting cap. This is rolling hill country covered with pine and hardwoods that offers great hunting and beauty. The plant is situated on a small hill on the south end of town. It is an ultramodern facility covering at least 50,000 square feet with an additional 12,000 square feet near the rail line for wood storage.

The building is cement block with an imposing front of tall glass sections leading into the lobby which shelters a few of the trophies Lee captured along the years with his brainchild bow.

There is a display of the present line of Wing products arranged on the boards for inspection by the public. The company has been a division of the Head Ski Company of Maryland since 1968, but makes nothing but Wing bows. The list of bows marketed by Wing includes three utility bows, four hunter, and five target models. These range from children's and begin-



Racks of bows stand ready for inspection, packaging and shipment to dealers. A healthy inventory is maintained.

ner's bows to the heavy hunters and exquisite target tackle made by Lee and Wing Archery.

Nothing is perfect, so the people at Wing are constantly working toward finely honing their product. Their new SLIM LINE has added another five bows to the Wing list. These include an aluminum riser replaceable limb bow and four one-piece bows. They are different in appearance but have lines that are appealing to the archer.

The SLIM LINE bows are sold only by Wing pro dealers and are available in no other locations. This is a move to support the archery specialty shops.

Wing manufactures other products in the archery field including their new bow quiver. The quiver attaches to Wing bows by a knurled bolt that screws into a receptacle in the limbs and holds six arrows in a compact circular area on the side of the bow. The razor broadheads are covered with a

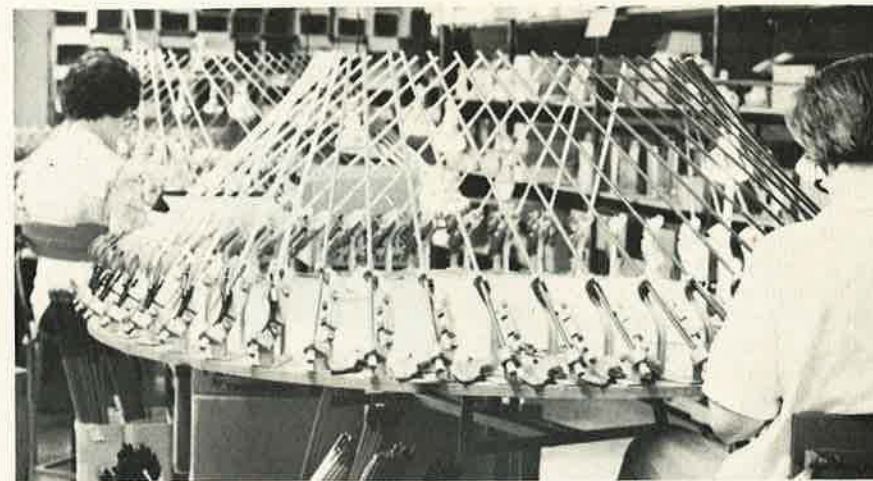
strong, light plastic cover attached to the full length rod on the quiver. The shafts are held in place with memory material on the base of the quiver. It will accept large cedar shafts as well as smaller aluminum hunting arrows.

Recently Wing started making their own arrows of aluminum, fiberglass, and Port Orford cedar, as well as leather accessories and arrow rests. They are one of the few companies handling the Easton Aluminum X7 shaftings.

When you enter the shop area of the ultramodern plant it is quiet. There are production personnel in all areas, but when the plant was built plenty of room was incorporated for the machines. A central vacuum system helps keep dust and sandings out of the air. A working supply of hardwood is maintained in the plant while the reserve is kept in the storage building near town. These exotic hardwoods include East Indian rosewood, shedua, bubinga, and hard maple. The fiberglass facing and backing used is a 3M product.

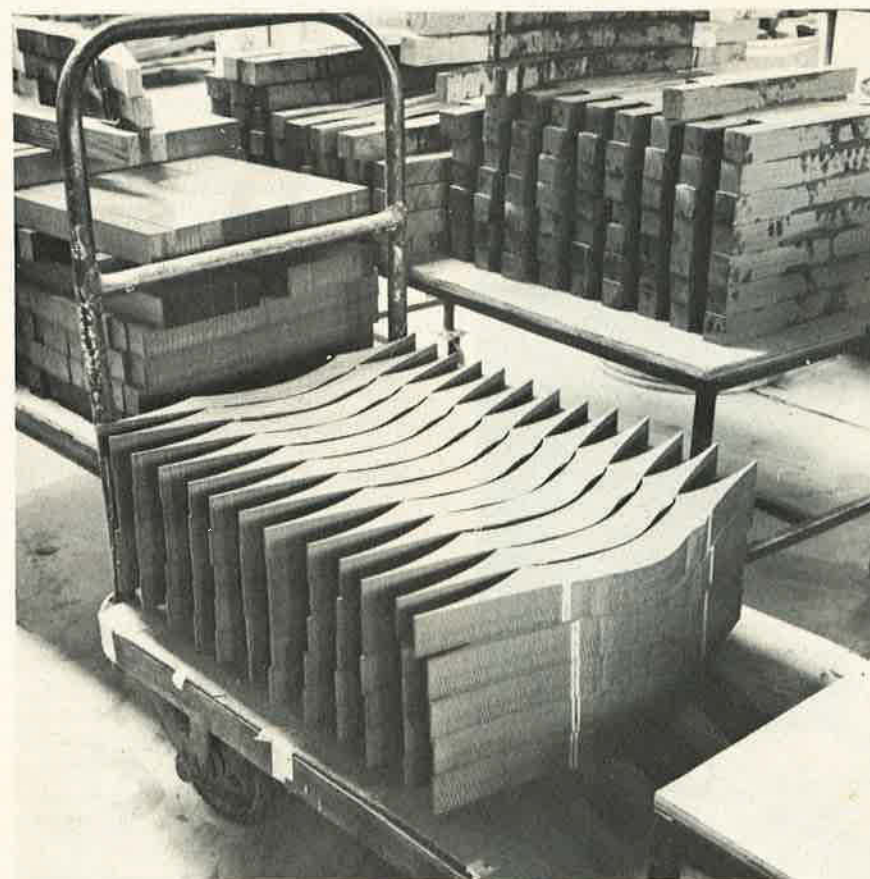
The wood is sorted first for proper grain structure then blanks for the riser sections are hewn from these

Business Boom Proves Bowyer's Bane When It Cuts Into Hunting Time



Recent addition to the Wing plant is an arrow production system to allow the firm to match shafts to the bow.

This truck is loaded with riser sections that are ready to be hand-contoured before the limbs are installed.



selected pieces. The planks move to a planer where they are squared and the grain structure rechecked. The next move is to another planer which cuts the first contour of the riser section. These are stacked on a cart as they are completed. When they have been shaped they move to a template machine which cuts the rough handle shape into the riser.

The next process cuts each riser, handle, sight window and style, exactly the same. The people at Wing are proud of this technique. When they make a Thunderbird bow each riser for that bow will be exactly the same. This process will cut the hardwoods as well as the formica bowflex used in the Thunderbird riser or the hardwood and bowflex combination. The black bowflex adds strength to the riser section and allows a smaller grip area for less torque when shooting.

After the handles, riser and sight window are shaped the riser sections are stacked in a bin, each section for a different bow style. When they decide to make the Chaparral bow they go to the bin, remove the riser they desire, move the cart to the laminate section where the hard rock maple center core is selected along with the 3M face and back of proper thickness for the

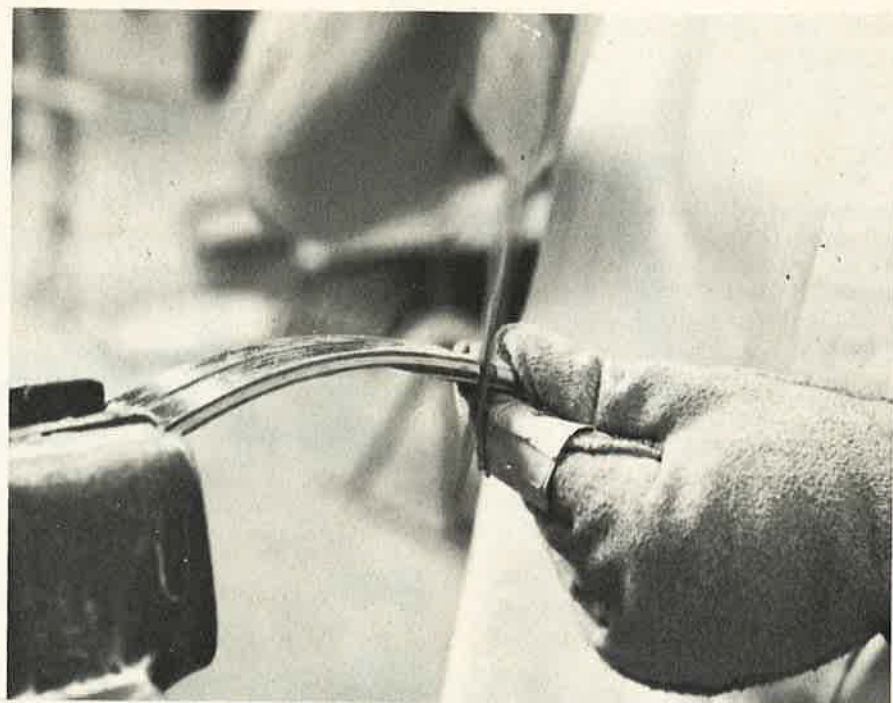
desired bow weight. They can determine this weight within two pounds from these materials, and the bows that are to be laid up are then moved to the laminating section.

This is usually the messiest part of any bow manufacture. They have it streamlined at Wing, and although they can't do much about the epoxy odor, they ventilate with blowers and keep the area clean. The laminates are passed over a wheel that coats them with epoxy.

The back is glued and placed on a table, then the hard rock maple laminate is placed over it after being epoxied. Next comes the riser section, more laminate and finally the belly or facing glass is placed on the blank bow. This unit then moves to a section where equal pressure and constant heat are applied to the laminates to cure them properly.

The laminates for Wing bows are ground on special grinders to taper them the desired thickness. This gives more action to the limbs and more speed to the arrow. This type of manufacturing takes more time in process, more machinery, and more personnel, but produces an excellent bow.

From here the Wing bow is cut to basic limb shape by hand on band saws, and the tip overlays are placed



Hand filing puts string grooves in the tips of a Wing bow. Such details all are handworked by craftsmen.

on the limb ends with heat and pressure. The bows are tillered, hand rubbed, and epoxy is sprayed to bring out the grain and beauty of the wood used in the risers. This seals the bows from

moisture and prolongs their already long life.

At each point in production the bows are inspected. Any flaws are corrected, or the bow is rejected if necessary. They use a master mold to tiller the replaceable limb bows. This assures that each set of limbs will fit the riser sections of any popular style.

The final stage is to add the string and arrow rest, slip the bow into a plastic sleeve and box it for shipment.

Wing maintains a stock supply of all bows to assure prompt delivery of orders. They make over 30,000 bows each year with hunting bows constituting the highest sales and production in the Wing plant.

Bob Lee found problems when he went into production of his Wing bows. Problems such as finding time to hunt. Like many people who go into business for themselves so they can do what they want when they want to, he found himself working longer hours and more days than before.

There is an inviting field range wandering through the pines on the north side of the plant. It has animal faces on the bales, and many of the workers spend their lunch hours and time after work on the range. Gene Jones, sales manager of the Wing plant, took his favorite Wing hunter to Colorado to down a beauty of an elk. These people not only talk archery, and produce archery tackle with beauty and durability, but use what they make, too. ←

Bob Lee, who is president of Wing Archery, also founded the corporation in Texas community from his own interest.



ARCHERY SUMMIT

Continued from page 27

FINAL PLACINGS — The final leaderboards were now up and showed:

MEN	
1 Williams (USA)	2445
2 Laawene (Finland)	2381
3 Pullen (Canada)	2366
4 Jacobsen (Denmark)	2353
5 Kajikawa (Japan)	2344
6 Eliason (USA)	2328
7 Bostroem (Sweden)	2325
8 Ortmann (W Germany)	2316
9 Sidoruk (USSR)	2314
10 Jackson (Canada)	2309



Winning ladies at international championships: (from left) Doreen Wilber, Emma Gapchenko, Maria Maczynska.

LADIES	
1 Gapchenko (USSR)	2380
2 Wilber (USA)	2371
3 Maczynska (Poland)	2326
4 Szozler (Poland)	2292
5 Szydlowska (Poland)	2289
6 Berglund (Sweden)	2286
7 Kopania (Poland)	2271
8 Cook (USA)	2269
9 Hamvas (Hungary)	2254
10 Lonskay (USSR)	2250

MENS TEAMS:	
1 US — 7050	(Williams, Eliason, Smith)
2 Finland — 6979	(Laasonen, Kyllonen, Sandelin)
3 Canada — 6931	(Pullen, Jackson, Courchaine)

LADIES TEAMS:	
1 Poland — 6907	(Maczynska, Szozler, Szydlowska)
2 USSR — 6866	(Gapchenko, Lonskay, Kholtsmeier)
3 US — 6832	(Wilbur, Cook, Myrick)

In the kaleidoscope of thought while tackle was being packed away, the scorers' papers were being completed, the preparing to form up for the closing ceremony — one wondered whether Doreen Wilbur could have made those 9

Continued on page 50



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Secrets Of SIGHT Shooting

Here Are Tried Techniques
That—Practiced Seriously—
Should Up Your Scores!

By Milan Elott

THE BASIC SECRET of sight shooting — which is overlooked by many archers who reject sighting — is good form. If your shooting technique is faulty, no type of sight will help.

The conclusion sounds simple. I know, but it is based on extensive testing at our Archery College in Atlanta, Georgia. Archers, beginners as well as professionals, tested

Full-floating anchor has been modified to adapt for use with a release and peep sight, but derives from South Korean technique dating back 2500 years.



just about every kind of sight, from pin sights to expensive telescopes. The results are overwhelming: good shooters are helped by sights, bad shooters are not.

This explains who so many over-bowed snapshooters, who have not been aided by the use of a sight, become so intolerant of sight shooters. They refuse to believe that the archer must learn to shoot correctly in order to sight properly for that pinpoint accuracy that a non-sight shooter can never equal.

Another discovery of the Archery College tests is the fallacy of the idea that the sight on the spot is the most important and only requirement of sight shooting. Our tests showed that it is equally important to aim the back end of the arrow.

Glynn Wilkerson, of Atlanta, took up archery at age 58, has long arms: ideal for in-line draw and under-jaw anchor, can shoot well without sights.



The rifle is a good example of this. The front sight is attached to the front of the rifle barrel. The rear sight is attached to the rear end of the steel barrel. The immovable sight alignment is perfect. On the other hand, the bow with a front sight may have a very wobbly head at the rear end of the arrow.

Thus, even though your front sight is dead still on the spot, you still will miss if you have an changing head position or a movable anchor point. Aiming the back end of the arrow is the most difficult part of sight-shooting. Most shooters can hold the front sight on the spot, unless they are over-bowed or have target panic. The real problem is to maintain an exact anchor point.

Anchor points come naturally to some archers. In FITA competition, for instance, a rear peep sight or a mark on the string is forbidden. This limits the competition to those shooters whose arms and shoulders are of such length and breadth that they naturally draw under their jawbone with a full draw and fit. The International and anticipated Olympic rules, moreover, literally eliminate all shooters whose arms are too short or too long to obtain a full, firm, natural, under-the-jaw anchor.



Virtue of low-floating anchor is that even short arms do not prevent full in-line draw, placing pull on strong back muscles for maximum range.

If we must shoot without a rear sight, then many shooters are just not going to make it. Great emphasis is attached to the kisser button. In my opinion, this may be one of the most worthless pieces of equipment ever sold to archers. When it is used between the lips, it is not only useless, but misleading because the shooter thinks he had pinpointed his anchor point when actually the error factor is tremendous.

There is only one method of using a kisser as an asset, and that is by using it in direct contact with the teeth. You may have to redesign your entire shooting form to make this work, but it has been done, and it can result in surprising accuracy.

Whatever type of sight is used, it is important that it does not slip or work loose and that it is fully adjustable to



Wilbur Hunt, of Cleveland, made his bow and tackle, prefers floating anchor and string peep.

A firm anchor and 1/8-inch peep is hard to beat on game, with ledge release and a knack for Kentucky windage, you can hold 3-in. at 20 yards.



hairline tolerance. The only sight we have tested which meets all the requirements is the CHEK-IT sight. It has every adjustment necessary and, if set properly, it does not get out of adjustment. This well tested sight is used by more than sixty percent of the sight shooters — a testimonial in itself.

One basic of sight shooting is to determine which of the several systems fits an archer the best. This requires the assistance of an expert coach or a great deal of experimenting. No system is necessarily better than any other.

Apparently, only a few archers have ever used or understood the flag system. The great Lester Gervais, who was the biggest money winner of his time, used the flag system for aiming. It is a superb and simple system. A bead on the string and a mark on the bow are lined up. This sets the head position. Add a firm under-the-jaw anchor plus string alignment on the bow, and bullseye follows bullseye.

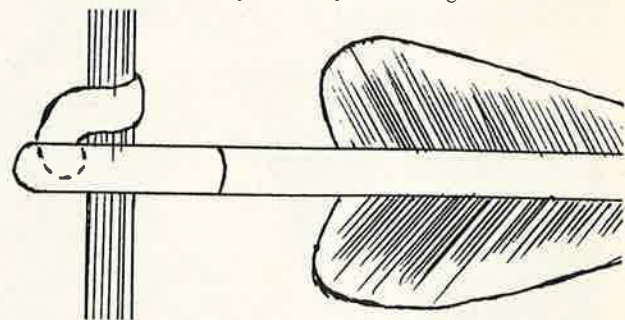


Lester Gervais uses flag aiming system for full, natural draw, exact anchor at all distances.



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There are several dozen other methods of sighting I have not mentioned because they have not been used by winners of major tournaments. One you can try is shooting through a hole on your front sight instead of using a pin. With this method your eyes are always in focus with the spot, which is a good way to shoot. The hole in the front sight should be about one-fourth-inch in diameter. A pin sight is still best for animal targets.

Despite all the talk about release aids, the real reason that a ledge release works so well is that it permits an archer to really aim, and then release. Not more than one percent of the finger shooters who take up archery are able to do this over an extended period of time without a clicker. The few finger shooting experts know this, and they are doing everything in their power to change the rules so they can win. ←

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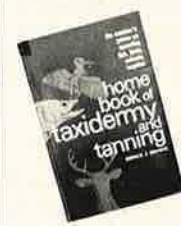
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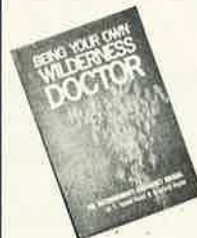
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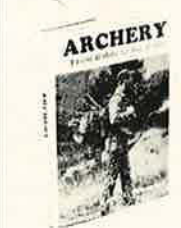
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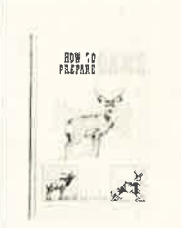
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TWO-DIVISIONS — LIMITED & UNLIMITED: The limited division will be for archers shooting conventional bows with their fingers as defined by the American Archery Council equipment committee.

THE UNLIMITED DIVISION will be for archers shooting release devices and/or compound bows. Simply put, this division is where the bow is drawn and held by the archer and may be released by any releasing aid. A shooter in the Limited Division may compete in this division also, using either his AAC conventional equipment or by using the equipment legal in the Unlimited Division.

SHOOTING IN BOTH DIVISIONS: Any archer may register for both divisions. A shooter can shoot conventional equipment in the Unlimited Division, but cannot shoot Unlimited equipment in the Limited Division. Archers entering both divisions will not be eligible for any flight awards. They will compete in the championship division only. Archers entering only one division must shoot all rounds with the same method with which they start.



AMATEUR DIVISION: Fourteen trophies will be awarded the top amateur archers at Las Vegas. All amateurs will be required to comply with the rules of the Limited Division and shoot conventional bows; no release devices will be allowed.

MIXED TEAM EVENT: This added event is part of the first round. All archers will be assigned to a team of four shooters. Where possible, the team captain will be one of the nation's leading shooters with three others assigned to his team. There will

be four separate divisions with \$400 in prize money for each division. There is no extra entry fee for the mixed team shoot, with trophies being awarded the winning amateur teams.

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You are encouraged to make your reservations early at the Thunderbird and enjoy the facilities of one of the Vegas Strip's finest hotel-casinos.

Further information about the tournament may be obtained by writing U.S. Open, Box 21032, Phoenix, Arizona 85036.

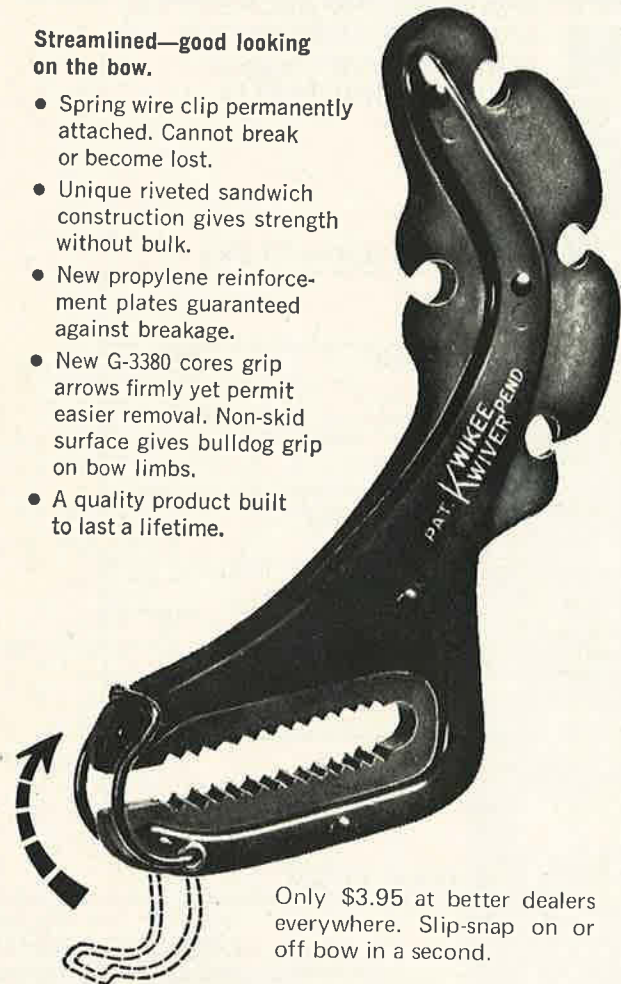
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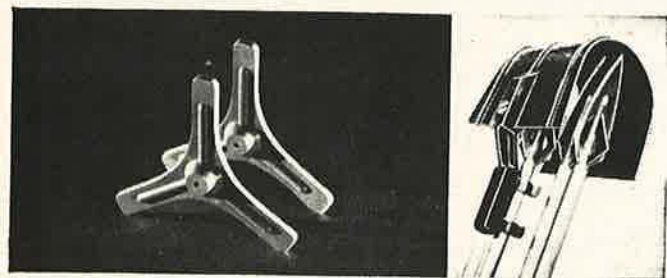
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ARCHERY SUMMIT Continued from page 43

points, if the round had gone on a little longer, or had started perhaps a little later, but such is archery.

Then there was that formidable total for the popular Polish ladies — third, fourth, fifth, seventh — a new world championship team record by 220 points! Does the experience of three or four International tournaments each year play some part or is it perhaps no more than appropriate for the country in which FITA was formed? There was that modified bow of Emma Gapchenko, the new lady champion, which even the maker did not recognize as one of his bows. All four Russian ladies were in the top thirteen. Both the current European champions had finished in the top ten. Annalisa Berglund (Sweden) sixth; and Victor Sidoruk (USSR) ninth.



Prizes were displayed on tables prior to award banquet.

The Japanese must have been disappointed; yet their friendliness and cheerfulness never left them. Young Larry Smith, at 16, the youngest archer shooting, had come a creditable eighteenth despite his own views on that subject. There had been so much to observe, particularly the comparisons in team management methods; yes, every archer is an individual.

AFTERWARDS — Even on the day after, there were archers on the university practice field, still helping each other — and talking. Congress held its second session and awarded the first North American Championship to Mexico in December, 1972.

That night was the banquet — more than five hundred travelled twenty-odd miles to a hotel big enough to hold it. Some 140 prizes given by British archers made the banquet prize-giving embarrassingly long.

As I mailed this story, Douglas Thomson, secretary general of FITA, told me that, by common consent of member nations, WC71 was not only the largest, but had been considered well organized and most enjoyable. It will please the three hundred archers of Britain who helped to arrange it. Among them, your reporter and his family had the privilege of witnessing fine shooting and sportsmanship and the pleasure of making new friends in archery from throughout the world, and not least from the United States.

BANDITO Continued from page 31

chewed the shaft frantically, so I managed a second shot and hit him behind the ear.

"The bow performed exactly as it did on our earlier test. Now I'm anxious to give it the ultimate and go after big game this fall," he said.

I gleaned a few interesting facts on the racoon. This particular gangster was categorized as a rogue and had become a real threat to the local chicken farmers. Killing a rac, who hasn't resorted to criminal activity, could net the hunter a fine of \$150.

The coon always has had the reputation of being neat and clean, because it washes its food before eating. This is not a true picture. He really washes his food, because there is no saliva in his mouth and he needs the liquid for digestion.

Normally the racoon will indulge in a diet of fish, grubs, mice or clams. A brook or river is his natural habitat and he will go after anything small enough to catch.

Running until cornered they will put up a fierce fight, although a dog, sixty pounds or better, can easily kill a racoon.

"However, a coon can really handle itself in the water," said Carl. "I've seen them kill five Walker hounds in the river. When the hounds thought they had their quarry trapped in the water, the coon would leap on their head and ride the dog until he'd drown."

Our mission was finally finished. We had tested the Bandito under the most unusual conditions. There was one less predator and no fine involved. All that remained were some happy farmers and an enthusiastic bowman.

Carl Hamilton had a final comment to make about the Bandito: "As far as I'm concerned," he remarked, "I'll take this bow and hunt anything from a jack rabbit to a five hundred-pound elk — and if there is a clear shot I'll guarantee either one." ←

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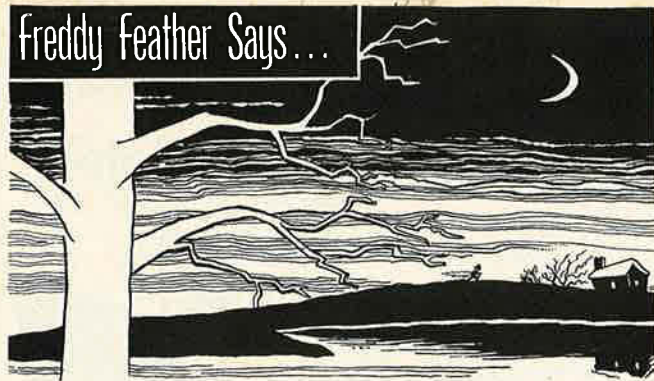


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BOWHUNTING WITH KITTREDGE
 Continued from page 8

mumbly pegs shows up with a cow elk feeding in the far corner. It doesn't take half an hour to tell what's going on...is it worth hunting, or do I go on? I then can try somewhere else without having spent a day's hunt needlessly. Yet, if it proves good, I've not disturbed the animal life by traveling through it and so stand a pretty fair chance of being able to plan a successful stalk right to where the best game is.

Last elk season, Ray Torrey and I clambered to the top ridge bordering on a huge timbered basin we wanted to hunt for the first time. The sun was just beginning to color the tips of the trees on the far ridges. For almost an hour we glassed the meadows and timber below, spotting three different herds of elk and some dandy bulls. They were a considerable piece off, but through the glasses we could tell just how many animals were about, the quality of the racks on the trophy bulls, where the herds were heading and a good bit of detail about the terrain we would have to cross to get close enough for a shot. We had ample time to work up a hunting plan, then start out into the virgin country with the odds in our favor.

A part of our plan involved Ray's working to our left, deep into the basin. He then was to appear on a small rise to the left of a tiny meadow and signal to us if he had a hit or, if not, then to tell us the direction he was taking for the balance of his hunt. At almost a mile away it would have been impossible to see Ray's signals without binoculars. We would have had to stay together as a hunting group, or to take the chance of getting into each other's way later on in the morning.

There's no single piece of hunting equipment I value more! I've been known to turn around and drive almost one hundred miles back home, because I had left them on my dresser when I packed my duffle...I can't think of another thing I'd be so lost without, other than perhaps my boots.

When I hunt along one drainage I try to keep watching the various other areas that come into view, even when a mile or more away. I may see feeding game so far away I'd not consider hunting it that day, but what about the day after, when the present area seems to peter out?

By watching for lush green feed-grounds on a side hill one can sometimes locate literally herds of browsing game coming in just as it gets almost too dark to see. But your binoculars can gather in light beyond the capacity of your natural eyes and will pick up such happenings, even a thousand yards away, and more. Feeding grounds like this are ideal for the bowhunter who likes to pop his game like fish in a tub, waiting while the animal grazes into shooting range while he hides behind a concealing blind. Places like this are visited every evening by the same animals...and they arrive almost to the minute at the same time of day.

Binoculars come in as many types of grades, styles and prices as bows. You can spend the cost of a month's hunting trip or the price of a pair of boots. A pair that does not show a clear, crisp image over the entire field of view has little value to the bowhunter who is trying to see behind every tree or bush on a distant hill. When the two barrels are not perfectly in alignment with your line of sight, it forces your eyes to a type of strain sure to start a headache before you count the points of a single buck. Without good mechanical construction the prisms can loosen unexpectedly, moisture can enter to fog the lenses, the overall weight or size can make easy carrying impossible, or the unit can be difficult to focus.

Continued on page 59

Bow Pourri



WRITER'S SHOP

Kathy Spievy, archery instructor at the outdoor clinic of the Outdoor Writers Association of America, shows Warren Page, executive vice president of the National Shooting Sports Foundation, some of the finer points of archery.

At their forty-fourth annual conference, the OWAA membership attended clinics on archery, shooting, casting and camping. The archery clinic instruction was provided by the members of the Pensacola Bowmen Archery Club and Fred Bear.

A good way to interest and educate people to the ways of our sport.

MEADVILLE STAND

The Meadville Field Archers Incorporated of Pennsylvania, have issued the following:

1) Whereas field archery is truly an American sport and should not be required to follow standards set by F.I.T.A.

2) Whereas rules to govern field archery in Pennsylvania should be those basically prescribed to by the N.F.A.A. and not the ones set down by F.I.T.A. and advocated by the N.A.A.

3) Whereas field archery in general in Pennsylvania should continue to exist under rules which would leave a) accepted methods of shooting as they now are, b) always make a distinction between barebow and freestyle, and c) and would continue to use the yardage distances as is presently being utilized.

I. Therefore be it resolved that equipment regulations concerning freestyle archers in field archery events in Pennsylvania shall be those consistent

with the N.F.A.A. Specifically any type of sight is to be permitted in the freestyle division, which would include the legal use of string peeps, leveling devices, kisser buttons of any dimension, klickers, mounted stabilizers of any length and and bow and finger slings.

II. Therefore be it resolved that equipment regulations concerning barebow archers in field archery events in Pennsylvania will allow the use of bow, strings, and accessories free from any sights, marks, or blemishes, in the barebow division. No device or mechanical shooting aid will be permitted other than a klicker and level, neither of which may protrude above the arrow. All arrows shall be identical in length, weight, diameter and fletching with allowances for wear and tear. The ends of edges of laminated pieces appearing on the inside of the upper limb shall be considered sighting mechanisms. String walking and multiple anchors shall be permissible. Mounted stabilizers and finger slings shall be permitted as they are part of the archer's equipment.

III. Therefore be it resolved that there should be in any and all field archery tournaments in Pennsylvania a distinction between barebow and freestyle with competition in the two separate divisions by themselves as both are accepted methods of shooting and are by definition different.

IV. Therefore be it resolved that the hunter and field round as is currently accepted by the N.F.A.A. in reference to the distances in yardage and the size of targets in inches be acceptable in the future in field archery events in Pennsylvania.



BEAR STAFFER

Robert A. Bigler, former manager of Dealer Development, is the new district manager for the Michigan sales territory, for Bear Archery. He will cover all of lower Michigan and the eastern portion of the Upper Peninsula.

Bigler has been with the Bear organization for two years and is a certified P. A. A. Instructor. He managed Bear's participation at Detroit's Cobo Hall in February.

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CHAMPION'S CHAMPION

by Chuck Tyler

THIS YEAR'S WINNER of the Bear American Indoor classic overcame both the nation's top archers and hereditary paralysis to become one of archery's great champions.

Like many bowmen, Victor Leach was introduced to the sport by a friend who dropped in one afternoon to show off his new bow. The conversation led Leach to a field course where, armed with a borrowed sixty-pound fiberglass bow, he shot the fourteen target animal faces.

It was not an instant success story, as Leach garnered only twenty points. He blanked thirteen of the faces and hit only one. The bow was too heavy, and the borrowed arrows were spined for a forty-four-pound bow.

In the cool fall at his Marysville, California, home, while warming at a bonfire between rounds, Leach was offered a lady's thirty-six-pound bow and matched arrows. This time he racked up 114 on the fourteen targets. Three days later he purchased his first bow, a forty-three-pound laminated wood and plastic number.

This was in 1962, and Leach was working as a full-time electrician. Now he is one of the world's top professional archers, a full-time employee for Roger Erlandson, owner of Frontier Archery Company, Sacramento, California, and a member of the Shakespeare advisory staff.

There was no dust on Leach's feet after that first bow purchase. Every leisure hour was spent in practicing and becoming more familiar with the tackle and techniques of shooting. A few weeks later he bought a more expensive target bow and started perfecting a game that has become legend.

After eight months of shooting, Leach tried his luck at the 1963 National Field Championships in San Bernardino, California. Through the coaching of a friend in Marysville, Leach had worked his way up to the middle division when he arrived at the National and shot his way into the championship class against archers like Jim Pickering and Ed Rhode. The same year, in September, he captured the California State Championships by winning the Quad-American Round.

Since that beginning the California wonder has stayed on top of the heap, but not without some dramatic changes in his life and immeasurable quantities of hard work.

"I was pretty enthused after that showing, and I made up my mind this was the sport for me. I was going to do my best to become a top national target shooter," Leach related.

Leach won the California State Field Championships in 1965 and 1966. He was runner-up at the Cobo shoot in 1966. That same year he placed sixth during the Las Vegas U.S. Open and won the Fresno Safari shoot.

Archery had become such a part of Leach's life by April, 1968, that he left his electrician's job to become a full-time employee at the Frontier Archery Company, where he still coaches and outfits archers. Frontier is one of the largest wholesale archery jobbers on the West Coast.

At indoor tournaments, Leach shoots a Shakespeare Golden Eagle seventy inches long. The bow has thirty-two-pound limbs. He uses a 65½-inch ten-strand string with a monofilament serving. Frank Ketchum, a champion in his own right, make the strings for Leach.

His next tackle item earns him the Black Knight of Archery title. He uses Shakespeare's Black X7 arrows by Easton. Indoors he shoots an 1814 with a thirty-two-pound bow, and he uses a release. For outdoor tourneys Leach changes to a set of thirty-seven-pound limbs on the seventy-inch Eagle with the same ten-strand string, but the black arrows now are 1716, 27½ inches in length. According to Leach, the 1716 works better for him, is more stable, for outdoor rounds.

He uses a 2½-inch feather or a 2½-inch rubber fletch. He's had good luck with Max Hamilton's Mini-Vanes.

Leach likes the Check-It sight, and the Champion stabilizer. He uses a torque converter which screws into the bow and accepts the stabilizer. This is a special product that is manufactured in Sacramento and sold exclusively through Frontier and Shakespeare. The torque converter lets the stabilizer give so the action of the bow is less violent after a shot, according to Leach.

Leach doesn't use a plunger or Berger Button, but the standard Hoyt Pro-flex rest is on his bow. He feels he does well enough with this rest and that there is no reason to change until something better comes along.

This national professional champion shoots both release and fingers. He uses a twenty-nine-inch 1816 arrow when he is shooting fingers, since the position of the anchor point is changed. He tends to stretch out farther with his fingers, while it is uncomfortable for him to do this with a release.

The past two years, Leach has had the golden touch. He was runner-up at the California State Championship and tied for first at the Las Vegas Indoor Open in 1970. This year he led the Shakespeare team to first place at the Vegas money shoot. The frosting on Leach's cake was winning the Bear American which ended in a three-way tie and sudden-death shoot-off.

Leach won the Bonnie Bowmen shoot in California this year, defeating Bob Lewis and Frank Ketchum, who also had scored perfect 300 PAA rounds. The final shoot-off began with the archers shooting one arrow each in rotation until one of them missed the gold. Ketchum was first to drop. Lewis and Leach continued to shoot and finished another 300 round. The exhausted archers then notched up an additional 200 points until Lewis finally missed the spot, leaving Leach the winner.

Do you know what factor Leach pinpoints as being crucial to his success here and at other shoot-offs? Physical stamina, not skill. He argues that the target face should be changed to a smaller spot after a few arrows, like the system used at Detroit during this year's American. After three ends of fifteen arrows, the targets were changed from the PAA to a special smaller spot.

"It's more exciting for the spectator to watch and a bigger challenge for the archer to use the smaller spot during a shoot-off, even if it only takes four or five arrows," he offers.

There have been several volumes written about the use of the release by now, but although Leach is an excellent finger shooter, he changed to a release, because it helps him shoot better.

"I attended the 1969 Sacramento Open sponsored by Frontier Archery, and up until that shoot hadn't seen too much of the release. Nor had I tried one," Leach relates. "Well, I ended up tied for fourth place in that tournament, and when I got a chance to look around, I found that the top seven archers on the line, with the exception of me, all were using a release.

"After that shoot, I got in touch with Don Johnson who makes the DJ release. He came down to the shop and spent a few hours with me, teaching me how to use it. It's quite a frightening experience to start with, since you think you are going to lose the string and perhaps hit your face or nose with your shooting hand.

"I practiced with it for a few weeks before shooting a perfect indoor round. I took it to the Bonnie Bowman shoot after working with it for about two weeks. During that tournament we shot two rounds, and I shot a 296 in the first round and was two points out of first place. During the second round I shot a perfect 300 and my 596 tied for first place with two others. My 300 was the only perfect round shot that year, but I ended up in second place during the shoot-off because of a glance out. The same thing happened to the boy who ended up in third place. He too had a glance out off a nock. Bob Lewis ended up winning

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that tournament.”

Leach says the release, if designed and used properly, eliminates finger problems. With finger shooting one can anticipate the shot and may have a little problem freezing off of the spot. Since the release is unintentional, you don't know when the arrow is going to fly. You know within a second or so when the string is going to go when you use a release, but by then it's gone. You can stop and mess up the shot, but mainly, you are forced to concentrate on your aim.

Once you start squeezing you must be aimed in the center, since you don't know exactly when the arrow is going. The release acts like a super clicker. Even if you move after release, the arrow has already gone. You just have to keep squeezing the release and aiming as well as possible.



Leach has his own style of draw when using a release, although he still feels adherence to basic, proper instruction is important for even advanced shooters.

Right: Leach's tackle includes Check-It sight; a Hoyt Pro-flex rest; Champion stabilizer with a torque converter, as well as Easton's aluminum target shafts.

Leach has no set schedule of practice hours each week. However, before a tournament, he does settle down to some serious sessions.

“I try to start timing myself with my shooting so that I get a good sequence of events. I don't want to shoot too fast or get over-fatigued too fast. At the beginning of the round I want to be strong and at the end of the round I want to be just as strong as when I started.

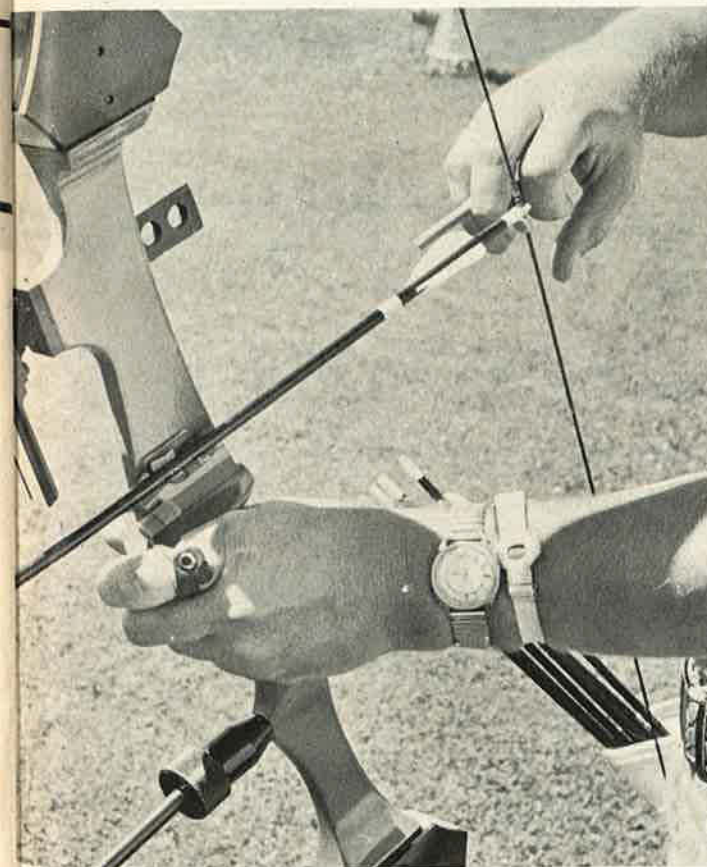
“I time myself so that I shoot one arrow, then wait a while before I shoot the next arrow. After each arrow is shot I try to criticize myself to see if there was anything I didn't like about the shot. Then I correct with the next arrow.

“I try to practice so that all my thoughts, while shooting, are directed at the target, my inner self, and what I'm going through. I sort of block out all the background noise and concentrate on the shooting.”

Although Leach doesn't do any special exercises to help him shoot, he plays golf and says this sport requires the use of some muscles also used by archers. He and his family are avid bicycle riders. Shooting the bow isn't enough exercise to keep an athlete in top shape, Leach thinks and adds that golf, baseball, and swimming are excellent sports for muscle



Thousands of arrows are produced at Frontier Archery in Sacramento by Leach and employer, Roger Erlandson.



tone.

“Just get out and do some exercise that is different from archery. This makes you a much better shooter and builds all the muscles, not just those used in shooting alone.” he adds.

The greatest obstacle Leach has had to overcome in shooting is aiming. To hold the sight on the spot without shaking or moving off the gold is, he believes, the worst problem he has had to overcome. Holding the bow steady

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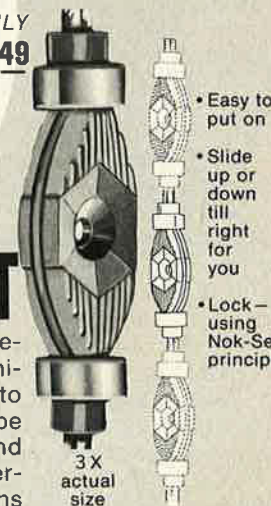


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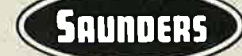
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long enough to shoot the arrow into the spot is difficult for him. He plans to go into more exercises to build up his muscles so they will hold better and longer.

A new archer's most important task is to get set up with equipment he can shoot, Leach allows. It doesn't have to be the most expensive, but it should be carefully selected and matched to the individual. Next in importance to equipment is expert professional instruction, so the beginner gets a proper start. If one starts off with a bad habit it becomes quite difficult to correct later on. Another tip from the champion is to watch the top archers and how they shoot. This will help instill good habits from the beginning.

Some early bad habits commonly developed by archers are stance to the target aiming at the floor then drawing the bow and lifting it up to the target, or aiming over the target and drawing then bringing the bow and arrow down to the point of aim. Many hold the bow incorrectly, going too far into the handle and torquing the bow to the point where the bow can't shoot correctly. Proper coaching in the beginning can eliminate these problems so they do not become a major problem for an archer later on.

As a member of the Shakespeare advisory staff, Leach reports to the company on different items of equipment, assists them in improving their line of tackle and helps make it more saleable. Leach and the other advisors test all the new tackle and let the company know if any changes should be incorporated into the new item. They try to evaluate the item so that it will be acceptable to the majority of archers.

The staff also tries to give the company an opinion on the acceptance by the general archery consumer of prototypes before it is marketed. With products already on the market, if the staff finds a problem, the difficulty is reported to the company with a recommended change or correction.

Vic Leach enjoys hunting and, whenever possible, he gets into the boondocks after deer and small game. His hunting tackle includes the Shakespeare Kaibab, fifty-six-inch bow. This year he plans to go to a longer job, the Eagle Hunter, a metal take-down. It will be sixty or sixty-two inches and is brand new. For deer hunting, he prefers a fifty-pound bow. This year Leach hopes to go bear hunting with a fifty-five or sixty-pound bow. He hunts with Easton 2016s and Micro-Flight glass arrows.

Leach has had to overcome periodic familial paralysis, a



In competition, Leach shoots a Golden Eagle bow that is seventy-two inches long. Indoor limbs draw 32 pounds.

disease which can paralyze a person completely when an attack occurs. Although he controls this problem by diet, rest, and medication, it can hit at night and the next morning Leach either can't move or is partially disabled by the illness.

During the National Southwest Sectional in 1965 at Discovery Park in Sacramento, after the first day of shooting, Leach was leading the field by twenty points. The following morning he awoke to find his arms partially paralyzed. He had to have a friend string his bow. He went to the practice site and tried to shoot at an eighteen-inch field target at thirty yards. He couldn't keep five arrows on the target.

He couldn't draw the bow to its full length and ended up with four or five inches of arrow sticking out in front of the bow. He had to add quite a bit of yardage to the sight, draw for just an instant, get the sight on the target, and shoot fast, because if he tried to hold his arms would collapse toward each other.

He sank from a 20 points lead to 12 points behind the leader. Leach had taken the medication that he uses for this illness in the morning, and by the time he got to the last half of that day's shooting he had recovered all his strength. He regained the points he had lost and won the tournament by a 12 point lead.

The 34-year-old champion started to shoot for money in 1965 and has been active off and on in various tournaments since then, but he didn't get really serious about the big money until the last few years. He figures his winnings top the \$7,000 mark and today he travels better than 25,000 miles a year just to participate in tournaments. Plans for the future include more archery and the hope that someday there will be enough money in archery to enable him to become a touring pro.

BOWHUNTING WITH KITTREDGE

Continued from page 52

I don't believe you need to buy the very finest super-seum at \$200, but you must pay enough to eliminate those short cuts of quality that affect performance. Between \$50 and \$100 should do the trick and you'll never regret the expenditure!

Don't get carried away by the power bug! Nothing over a seven-power should be bought, as it is too difficult to hand hold without wobbling. I personally prefer a six-power glass as they are usually smaller in size and lighter in weight. The lens surfaces should be coated. Appearing as a deep blue color, this coating prevents undue reflection of the incoming light, giving a sharper image and greatly helping to see well under poor lighting conditions.

The large objective lens should be of a sufficient size to gather enough light to permit good viewing during the poor light conditions of early morning and late evening, or during dull stormy days. There is a distinct relationship between this objective lens size and the amount of power of the glass. The greater the power, the larger must be this objective lens if it is to gather in the same amount of light from the smaller field of view induced by the higher magnification. This gathered-in light is reduced through the lens system to a small concentrated dot that you can see easily by holding the binoculars at arm's length and looking at the eye pieces...you'll see a bright spot of light about the size of a nail head. The larger this light spot, the darker can be the day during which you can still see well, but up to a point only, for if the spot is larger than the size of your human eye pupil, your eye cannot absorb that light exceeding your pupil size. It has been found that a man's pupil increases in the poor light of late evening and early morning to a size of about 5mm in diameter. Thus, if this is as large as the pupil gets during these trying hunting hours, the light dot of the binocular, called the "exit pupil," need only be this size, but not smaller, if the user wants to see in detail.

By dividing the rated diameter of the objective lens by the power of the glass, the result is the diameter of the binocular's exit pupil for that particular power/lens relationship. A six-power glass with a 30mm objective lens gives a 5mm exit pupil. A pocket sized six-power with a 20mm or 25mm objective does not. As the very best hunting is during the poorer light conditions, I would not use a glass with less than a 5mm exit pupil for serious hunting. But to carry the extra weight and size of a "night" glass, such as a 7x50 which develops an excess of 7mm exit, is a waste of effort, as well as money spent.

I like a 6x30, or a 7x35. Because of high quality with medium cost, I favor the Bushnell brand. Bushnell has an extremely handy pocket size 6x25 which, because of the highly efficient lens coating, gathers sufficient light for most hunting purposes even in the late hours...I believe I would consider buying this model if I were in the market for a new pair.

When using your binoculars, be as steady as possible. It helps to sort of cup the glass with your hands and then force your hands tight against your forehead for support. I rest against a tree, or even lie on the ground anytime I want to see in maximum detail. A jittering binocular is like watching a peep show during an earthquake...you can see just enough to know you want to see some more!

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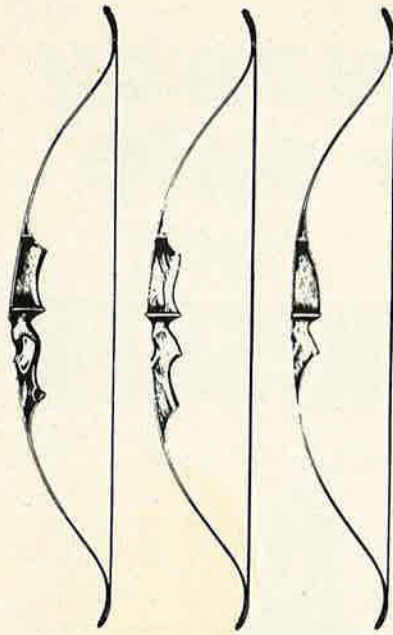
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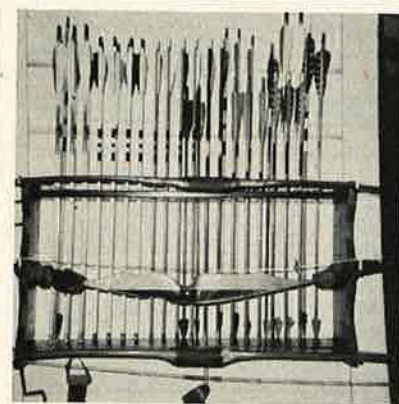
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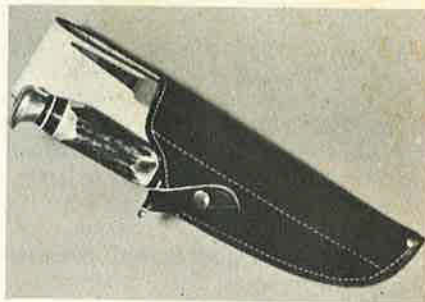
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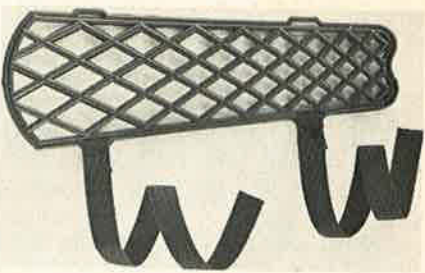
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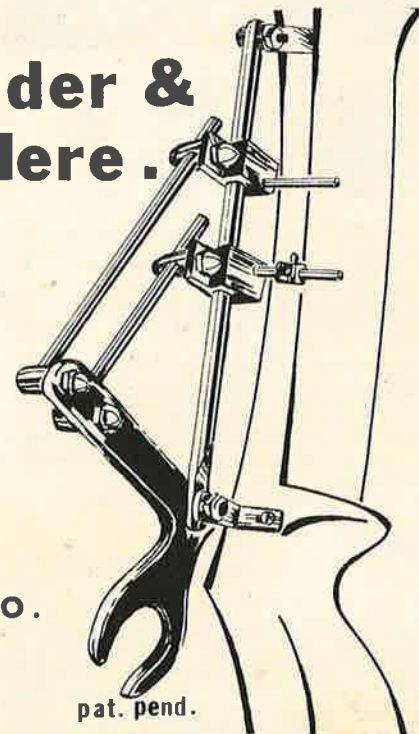
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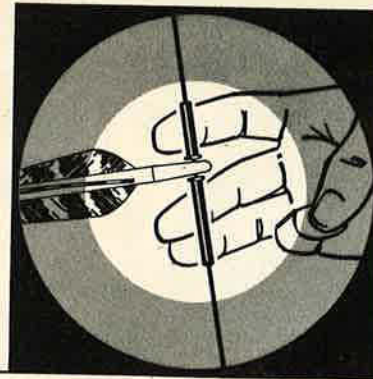
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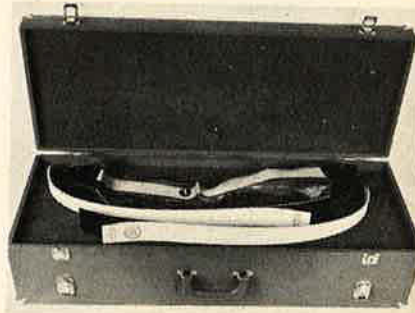
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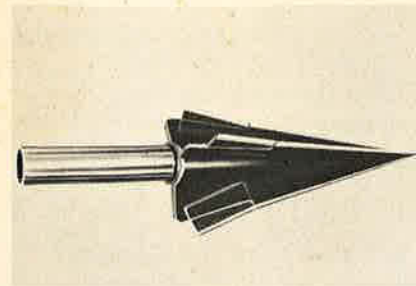
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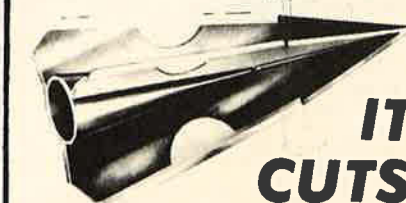
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Al Henderson of Phoenix, Arizona, Joe Rusinek of Baltimore, Maryland, Charles and Marilyn Nicholas of Warren, Michigan, and Phil Grable of Lansing, Michigan, have been added to the certified instructor list.

PRODUCT EVALUATION

A six-man products evaluation board consisting of Chuck Lewis, Flint, Michigan; Dave Young, Niagara Falls, New York; George Catlin, Frankfort, New York; Jim Ploen, Bloomington, Minnesota; Hugh Shaw, Wellman, Iowa; and Jimmy Carroll, Fremont, California, has been authorized to evaluate new products against the shooting rules of the PAA, and evaluate and report on any new products to the membership.

Interested manufacturers should send a sample of their products along with complete technical data to George Catlin at R.D. No. 1, Frankfort, New York 13340.

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BEAR FOR THE GUIDE

Continued from page 20

charges toward the hounds. Occasionally I could hear a hound whine in pain as the bear connected. Van Boven had followed me in with his rifle as a safety precaution. It was a comforting feeling to know help was available if needed.

The bear was at bay - sitting on his haunches! Instinctively he realized that his rear was the least protected part of his huge body. Each time one of the hounds charged close enough, he swatted with those deadly claws. I saw Hustler dart in only to be slapped away as the bear countered with the back of his paw. At least three of the hounds were already cut along their shoulders and face. Something had to be done and quickly!

Van Boven and I hadn't alerted the bear, since we had approached as quietly as possible. I had time for one shot if the hounds would give me an opening.

Only thirty yards separated us from the bear. He was facing my left in an ideal position for a shot. I straightened to a standing position and drew the full length of the shaft. It seemed like ages as I tracked the bear's movements hoping for the hounds to clear. Just as I began to tremble from the bow's weight, the bear swung around, scattering the dogs. I released. The arrow disappeared under the bear's left front leg, buried up to the gray fletching. All hell broke loose!

The bear stumbled back on his hindquarters and let out an unearthly sound part growl, part groan. In seconds he was back on his feet and running to our left down the ridge. The hounds were on him immediately, excited by the scent of fresh blood. We could hear the bear and hounds mixing it up as they carried on the moving battle. We hurried along the top of the slope as the fight progressed slightly below us. Van Boven urged me to hurry, as I was fumbling to nock another arrow.

From above I was able to put my second arrow into his lungs from twenty feet away! Luckily for us the bear's attention was focused on the hounds who never let up their attack. Loss of blood brought the battle to an end. The bear was dead within two minutes from the time he was first hit. I had my trophy.

My bear weighed 239 pounds after being field dressed. He was a mature male with an exceptionally nice pelt. This was a hunt I will never equal in pure excitement and tension. I guess it was Cisco who really broke the tension. With his wry sense of humor, he mumbled, "Damn archer. Had to use two arrows!"

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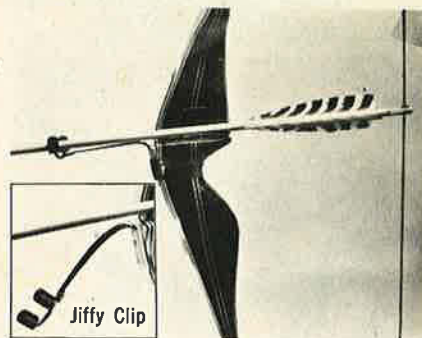
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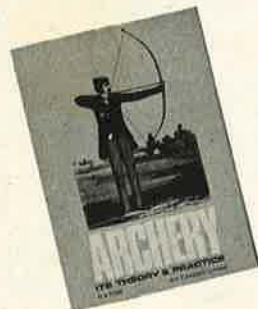
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BOOKS FOR BOWMEN



ARCHERY ITS THEORY & PRACTICE by Horace A. Ford; George Shumway Publisher; \$6.00; 128 pp, limited edition. This is a new edition of Ford's articles, first published in The Field in 1856 in recognition of a need for "teachings for the guidance of archers who wished to excel in this pastime." This was to coincide with a great archery revival in full swing in England.

In 1887, after the original copyright expired, Charles J. Longman, a champion archer in his own right, put out a third edition revised and rewritten by W. Butt. Through this, Horace Ford was dubbed the "founder of modern scientific archery" due to his insistence that the arrow must be drawn directly beneath the aiming eye — a change from older methods of drawing.

The book is filled with delightful old drawings. It is primarily a text for those who treasure rare books, more particularly rare archery books.

Some of the material is enchantingly quaint. "He must be a good archer indeed who can do without this necessary appendage to his equipment. It is simply a tassel, made of green worsted, for the purpose of removing any dirt that may adhere to the arrow after it has been drawn from the ground. It need not be a yard in circumference, as, to judge from the stupendous size of their tassels, would seem to be the opinion of some archers, but of as small a size as is compatible with its answering the required purpose."

Don't think for a minute that there is nothing new to learn from this book, though it may not, necessarily, be in the direction of improving your shot. One can, without any prejudice, say that it will surely improve your humor, for many an good reason. A beautiful find among books! — DJ.



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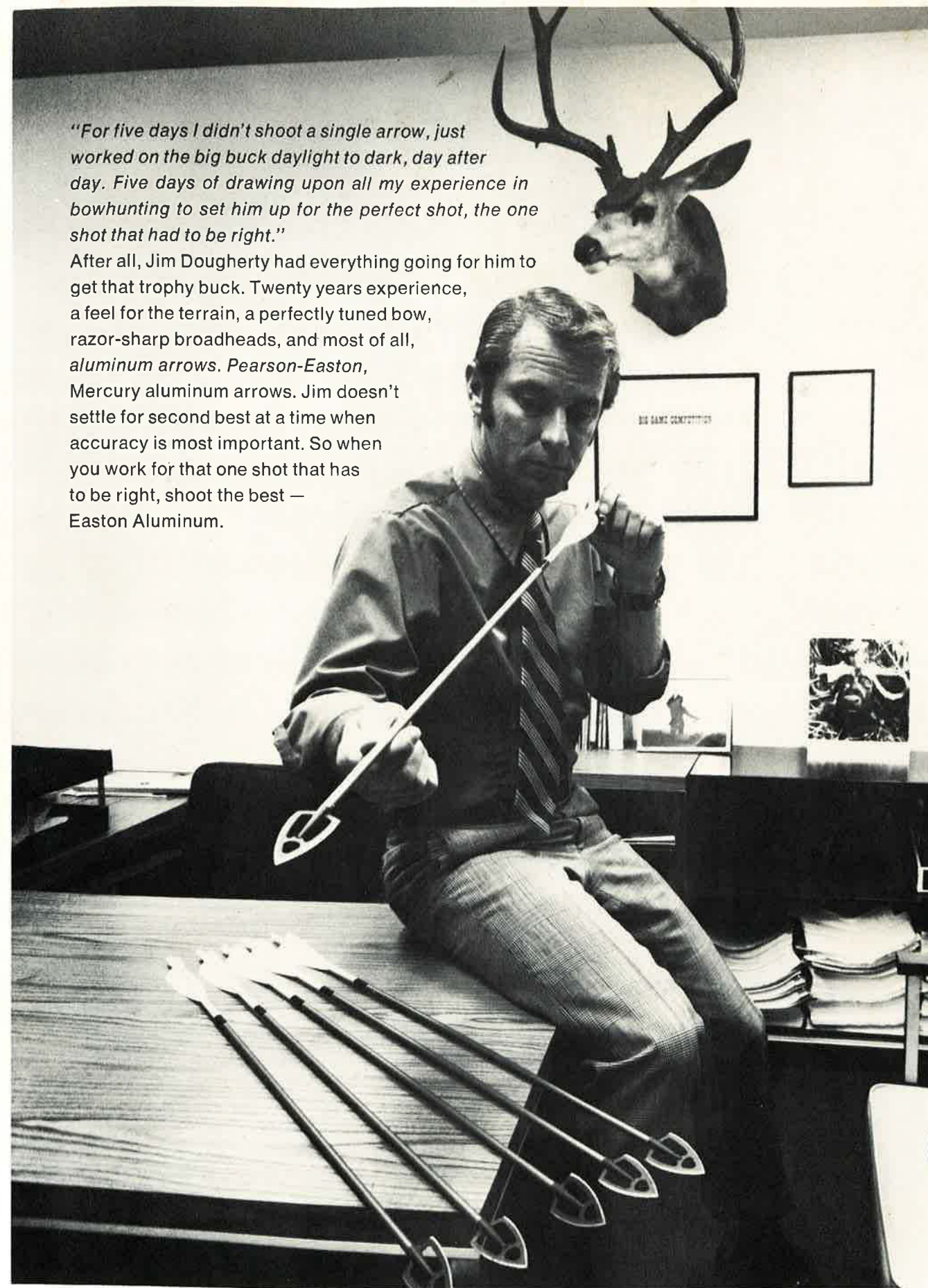
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