



Outdoor Snooper "From behind the barn"

Katie, besides having some smarts, has turned out to be a good athlete. Kevin, who shows flashes of brilliance, is deep into Boy Scouts. These two grandchildren, probably in their own minds, are getting too old to be watched by grandma and grandpa.

The next two grandchildren, Jake and Trevor, are the same age, in fifth grade, and both like sports. Jake is a big shot in ice hockey and baseball, while Trevor is a tricky kicker in soccer, and likes baseball.

Jake and Trevor are the prime age for grandpa-watching. Unlike Katie and Kevin, Jake and Trevor are still young enough to believe some of the tall tales told by grandpa.

Even though they live out of town (Jake on a hilltop above Boyertown, and Trevor on a mountain above the Boyertown Water Dam), a trip to grandpa's house offers some extra features: There is the barn to explore, a place to go fishing, all those deer trails to follow, some ladder stands to climb up and down, and, of course, the chance to find some dropped deer antlers.

You may remember from a previous article back in May how Trevor, while walking up a deer trail, found one antler. Even though it was only a "Y" with a

brow tine, that little antler is more than grandpa has ever found! My best efforts are antlers that are on dead deer, but they don't count -- they're not drops.

A couple of weeks ago, I was informed I would be watching Jake and a friend, Timmy. After the usual look-around, the big question of "What are we going to do, grandpa?" came up. "Can we look for some deer antlers?"

I took them out to the ridge and showed them the waterhole stand. Jake and Timmy helped me trim away some branches that had grown in the shooting lanes.

Since I had climbed up in the stand and it was very secure, I gave them a chance to climb up and look down on the water hole as if they were hunting with a bow. After checking out several other tree stands, we came home for some chow (now there's a word from yesteryear!).

Later in the day, we went behind the barn where four dummy deer are located. The two youngsters watched while grandpa shot arrows at the fake deer. I gave them a chance to use the compound bow, but it was too much for them to pull. When I received a phone call, I had to return to the house.

The two youngsters asked if they could go up into the woods to

look for antlers. I told them to go ahead - maybe they would be lucky.

While they were looking for antlers, I decided to take a shower since I had to go away a little later on. Shortly, I heard Jake say something to grandma. As she opened the bathroom door, she said, "Wally, you won't believe it; look at this, look at what Jake found!"

Grandma was holding a nice half four-point antler. I looked at the antler, smiled to myself, closed the bathroom door and went into the shower stall. 'I'm not telling her,' I said to myself. Since this little episode will make a good story, I decided to let grandma find out the truth as she does the typing.

I finished the article (except for the ending) and gave it to grandma. It didn't take long as I stood outside the office and waited. All of a sudden, the racing keyboard stopped; there was a pause, and from the typist came, "Wally, you stinker! You didn't tell me Jake's antler was a fake. It must be from those dummy deer behind the barn!"

That's right - Jake, Timmy and grandpa pulled one over on grandma! I guess I'll be paying for this joke!!

Wade Watch

Miller earns 14th win: Brandywine Heights grad and Birdsboro resident Wade Miller stuck out six and walked one in seven innings of work, beating the Cincinnati Reds 6-4 on Tuesday, August 28. Miller helped himself at the plate as well, bunting for a single to load the bases. The Astros did the job on offense as **Jeff Bagwell** hit his 33rd homer of the season to break the game open for Houston.



vs. Cincinnati (August 28)						
IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	
7	8	4	4	1	6	

Season statistics (as of August 31)								
GS	W	L	IP	H	HR	BB	SO	ERA
26	14	7	169.1	149	28	59	137	3.83

Inspiration: Wade Miller is having a great year, but so are the Astros' sluggers. Here's a look at the NL pitchers who seem to inspire offensive explosions every time they take the mound.

NL Leaders - Run support (as of August 31): 1. Mike Hampton 7.53; 2. Denny Neagle 6.36; 3. Woody Williams 6.33; 4. Omar Daal 6.28; 5. Kevin Jarvis 6.21; 6. Ryan Dempster 6.04; 7. Kirk Rueter 6.04; 8. Pedro Astacio 5.84; 9. Jamey Wright 5.88; 10. Matt Morris 5.86; **11. Wade Miller 5.76**; 12. Matt Clement 5.79; 13. Russ Ortiz 5.71; 14. Dustin Hermanson 5.68; 15. Julian Tavarez 5.46.

Game Commission schedules antlerless deer hunt

A limited archery/muzzleloader hunt for antlerless deer has been scheduled for the controlled access areas at the Pennsylvania Game Commission's Middle creek Wildlife Management Area. The hunt has been scheduled for one day - Tuesday, October 16. There is a possibility that the hunt may be extended to include Wednesday, October 17. That decision will be made on the first day of the hunt.

In order to participate, hunters must be properly licensed, including as muzzleloader or archery license, and hold an antlerless license for either Lancaster or Lebanon counties. hunting will be by special permit only. One hun-

dred (100) permits will be issued through a random drawing. Hunters wishing to participate in the drawing should apply as follows:

Applications must be on a standard post card and contain the following information:

- Hunter's name
- Complete mailing address
- Hunting License Number (back tag)
- Muzzleloader or Archery License Number
- Antlerless License Number and County

Only one application per hunter may be submitted. Applications will be accepted by mail only, until September 21.

Applications should be mailed to:

PA. Game Commission - MCWMA, P.O. Box 110, Kleinfeltersville, PA 17039

A public drawing will be held at 10 a.m. in the visitor center on Sunday, September 23 as part of Middle Creek's National Hunting and Fishing Day celebration. Successful applicants will be notified by mail. There will be no provisions or drawings held to fill vacancies created by permit holders who do not participate on the day of the hunt. A second deer hunt will be held in January, 2002. Details to be released later.



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