

MAC BLACK (Retired Powell and Dayton Game Warden)

ESCAPING EVIDENCE

Game wardens Mac Black and John Steigleman were patrolling the area near Leiter during the deer season. There was about one inch of new snow on the ground. They met an older model car on a sharp blind corner. There were two people in the car, one wearing orange, traveling at a fairly high rate of speed. The wardens didn't try to stop them but continued on for about a quarter of a mile where there was blood in the middle of the road. A fresh drag mark showed where someone had loaded a deer and a quick look at the tracks, indicated that the vehicle they had just met had taken the animal, but there was no gut pile near the road. The wardens turned around and started chasing the car which had a several minute lead on them. Fifteen miles down the road they were able to stop the vehicle with two young men and a rifle in the front seat between them. Asked if they had been hunting, they replied they had, but hadn't killed anything. Their deer licenses were checked and the carcass tags were attached and still valid. The driver was asked to open the trunk so the wardens could take a look. When the trunk lid came up a wounded buck deer jumped out and struggled down the road at a trot. John took a look at the deer and back at Mac and shouted, "There goes our evidence trying to escape!" John took off after the buck and after a thirty yard dash overtook it and knocked it down. In a struggle for justice to be done, the animal's throat was slit and the evildoers were cited for their dirty deed.