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In full camo gear, Mike Cliff of Norton took aim with his compound bow. Mr. Cliff has been hunting with bow and arrow since he was eight years old.

— Photo by Carolyn Plotts/The Norton Telegram

Bow

By Carolyn Plotts

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Mike Cliff of Norton has been hunting with bow and arrow most of his life.

Cliff, who grew up in Colorado, said his father was a bow hunter and he began shooting a recurve bow when he was about 8. He later switched to a compound bow, he said, and killed his first deer when he was 14.

Cliff and his family moved to Norton about eight years ago and he said hunting in Kansas is a world better than it is in Colorado.

"Hunting here is as good as it gets anywhere in the country," he said, adding that Kansas can offer trophy-class mule deer and white-tail deer for the serious hunter.

Cliff has a trophy white-tail buck that he brought down with a bow and arrow, on display at EndZone Sporting Goods in Norton.

"It was a six by six that gross-scored 184 inches," he said. "It was a monster deer.

"Hunting with a bow and arrow is just a better experience. You are more at one with the game, on their terms, in their setting."

He said hunting with bow and arrow offers hunters a greater challenge.

Ryan Manning, another Norton hunter, agrees. He said the challenge of hunting with a bow is getting close.

"It's a game of how close you can get," he said.



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