Brewer bags his Kansas 'long beard'



I am back from Kansas, and, as you can see from my picture, I got the job done. Hunting the western states is a world of difference, than hunting here. For example, it is a place where in Just Hunting, in case you remember. the wind blows, and I mean blows, 24-7. It is flat with wheat fields everywhere; with the wind and the wheat, everything is always moving.

look, such as the lay of the land in, say Colorado, is different than South Dakota. But turkeys, alreact like turkeys, no matter where you hunt After about 2 hours, they left; then I went into them.

till County Tribune, before I left, followed that the next day. advice, you probably got your turkey. I always listen to myself, and most of the time, bring home somewhat warmer, and less breezier. I heard the the bacon; sorry, the turkey.

one heck of a city to go through, at 1am on a all four was in the strut zone. I picked me out Monday morning. There was almost no traffic. I a nice big tom and pulled the trigger. He never pulled from my drive at 8pm on Sunday evening. fell like I wanted him to, so I threw him more When you travel as much as I do, you learn the lead. My bad, in Kansas you can hammer down little secrets of getting through these cities. Had on ever how many tags you have, all at the same I of hit St. Louis at 6am, it would be bumper to time. When I took the second shot, it gave the bumper, stop and go, and take you two hours. I other toms time to react and move farther out. *tillTribune.com> and message is automatically* waited until the road narrowed from 5 lanes to I made either a hit or miss shot at another long *forwarded*.

two, just outside of St. Louis, and got a room for 🔎 the night; then took the 7-hour finish on Monday to the hunting lodge. No traffic, just clear sailing.

I met up with "Doomsday" Harper at the lodge. I missed him at the ranch, I got there a little before him and was scouting when he arrived. By the way, he got back his \$500.00 blind that was carried away in the wind two years before because he never had it staked down.

Opening day is always a hassle, trying to get it together, because of not knowing. Not knowing what time to get the outfitter to get you up; not knowing what time you need to leave the lodge for the 22-mile ride to the ranch; just a lot of unknowns.

It was a picture perfect opening day; it was 36 degrees with a 25-mile-an-hour wind. I set my decoys and made myself home in my new house, my blind, for the next few hours. Just before daylight I heard the big boys let out their gobbles. There was, the best I could figure, 8 long beards. I gave them until 9am our time and hit my calls. The hens had left the gobblers, and the gobblers were looking to play. We went over that

By 10am they were within my sight, but they had other plans. It seemed that I had put my blind and decoys about seventy yards from their Each western state that I hunt, has a different strut zone. They would look at my Jake and hens decoys, but would not even think about leaving their strut zone. There were four big long beards, though 4 different breeds, are still turkeys, and but I followed my own plan and waited them out. action, I moved my blind to the strut zone. I was If you hunters that read my advice in the Es- in their living room and knew they would return beard, at about 60 yards; but in Kansas, with the

The next morning it was an even better day, missed. big boys open up right before daylight, game on. I went through St. Louis, Missouri, which is I hit my first call at 8am their time, and by 9am,



Steve Brewer shows off his "long beard" turkey from a Kansas hunt. Steve's next adventure will be to Mexico to hunt the Gould's turkey.

stiff wind, that is an almost impossible shot. I

I headed to the ranch house to take pictures with my guide, and learned that for some reason, "Doomsday" had checked out and was heading back home. I said my 'good-by' to the guide, went back into the field, got my things, and headed to Kentucky. It was, as usual, a great trip. Now on to Mexico next month, to hunt the Gould. Wish me luck.

You can email Steve Brewer at <Steve@Es-

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