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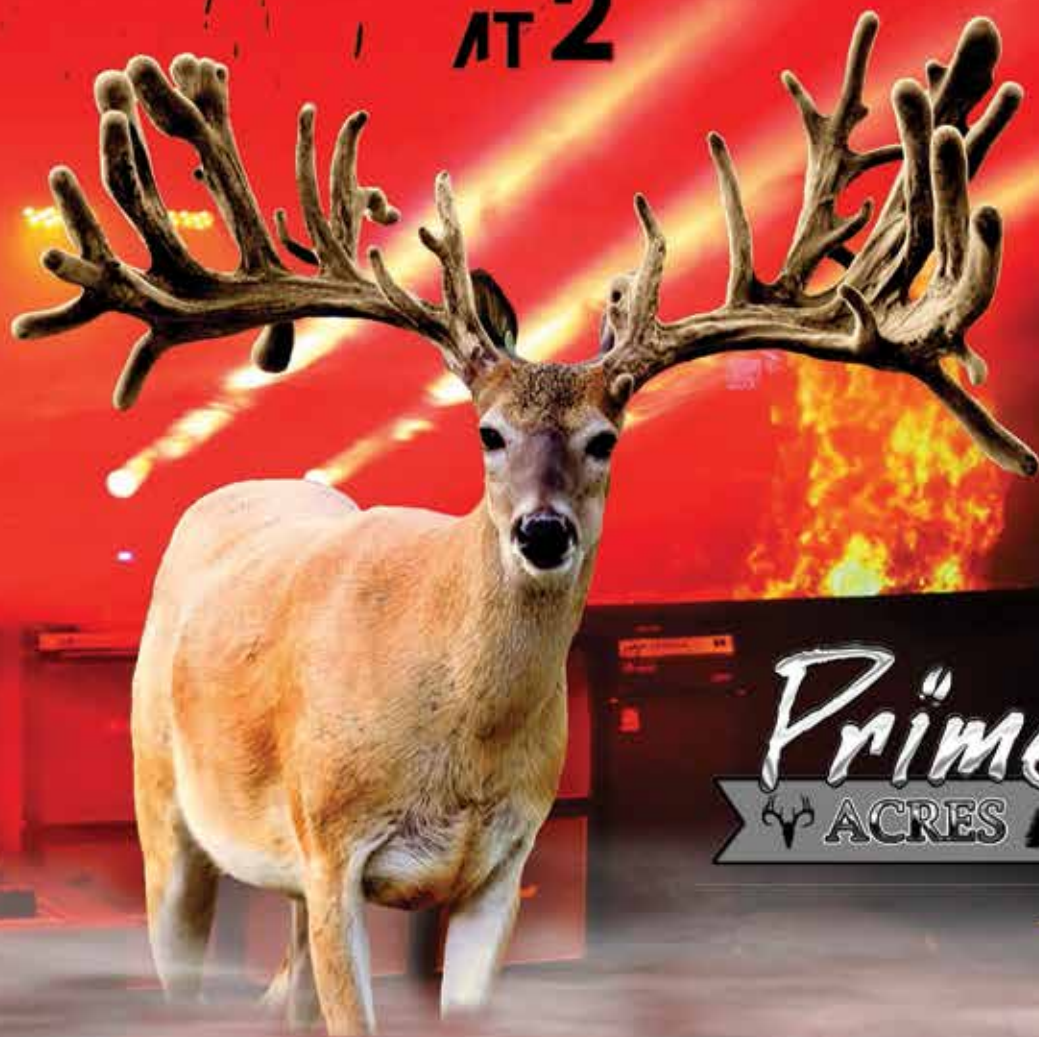
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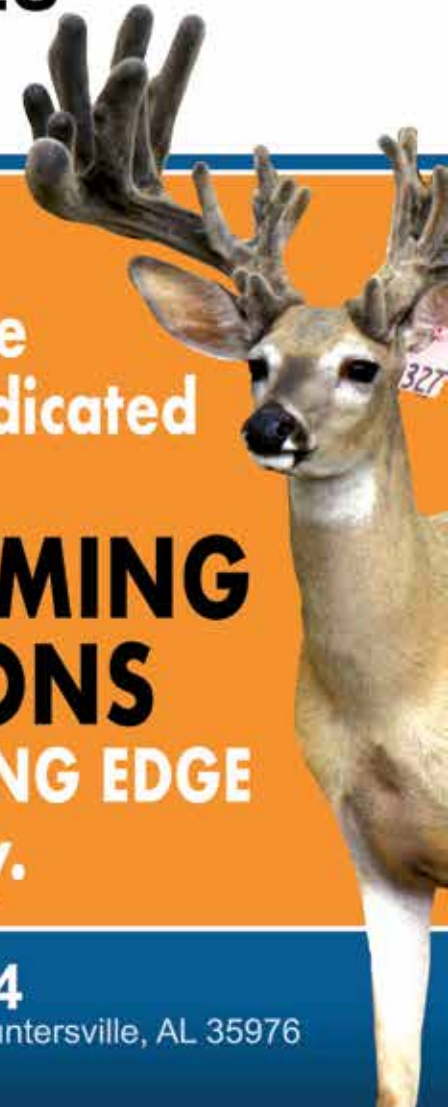


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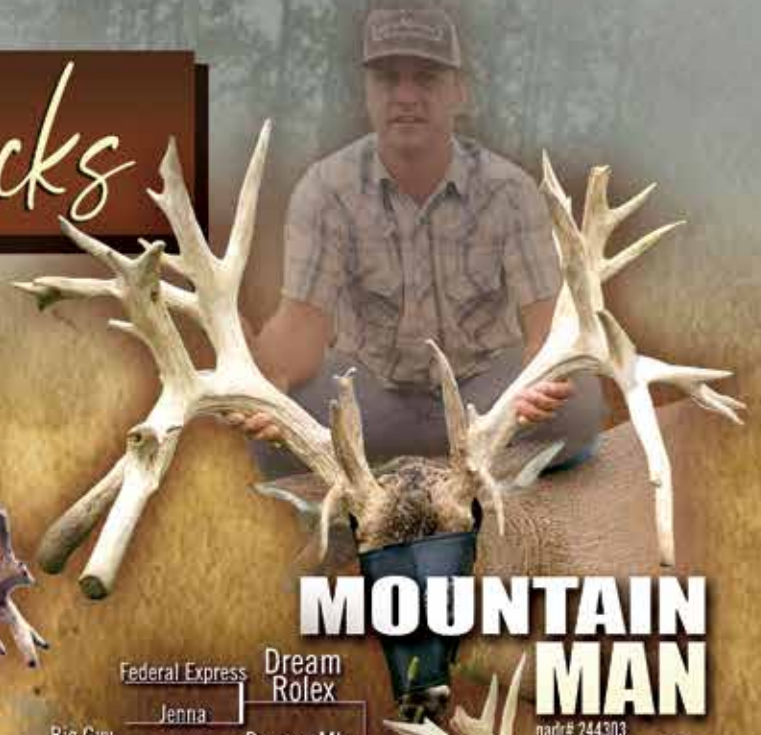


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by Laurie Seale

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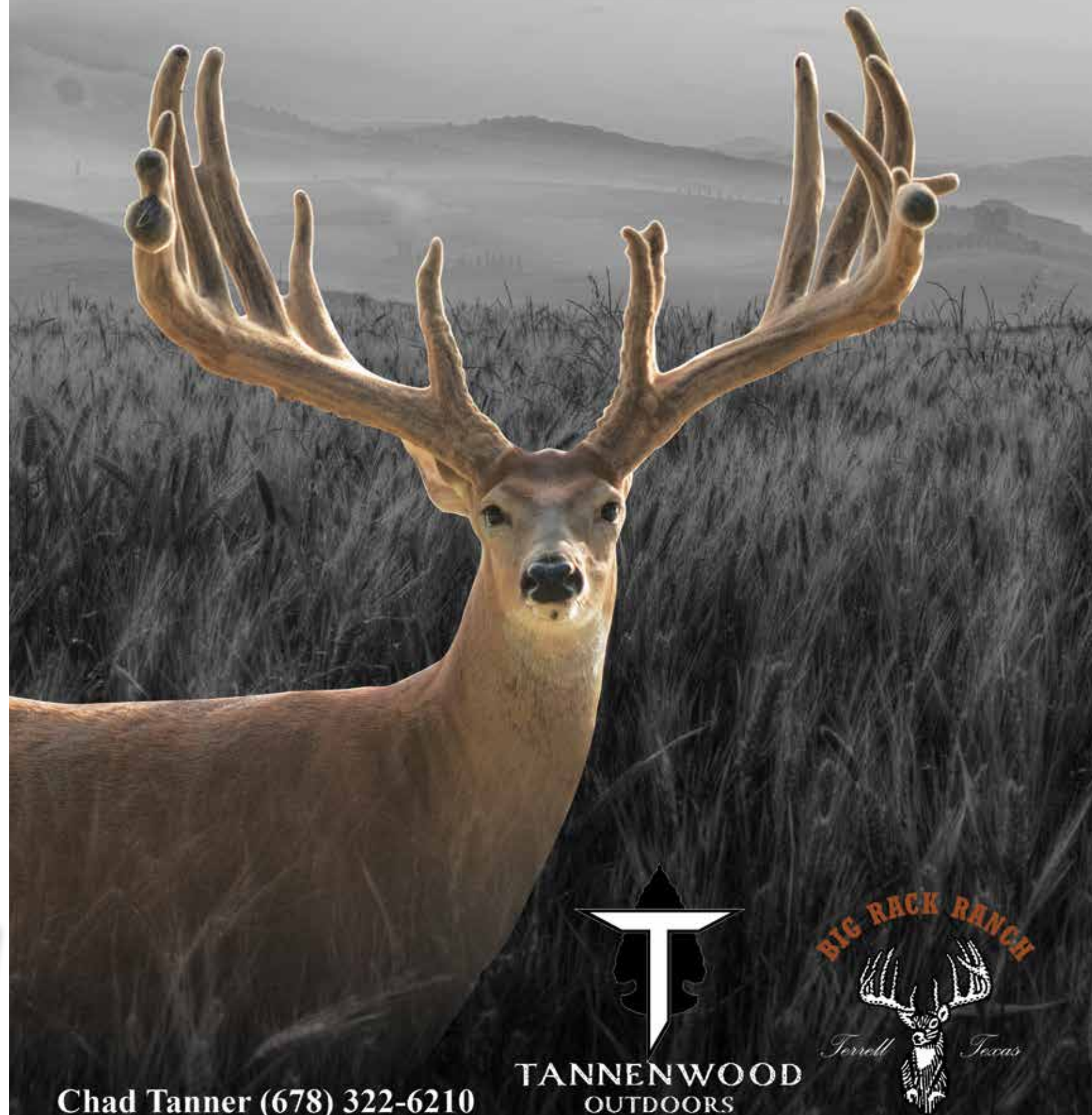
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 FALL Issue
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2 Page Spread (All Four Issues) \$2,500.00
 Full Page (All Four Issues) \$1,500.00
 Half Page (All Four Issues) \$750.00

PER ISSUE PRICING

2 Page Spread (One Issue) \$650.00
 Full Page (One Issue) \$375.00
 Half Page (One Issue) \$175.00

The Alabama Deer Association
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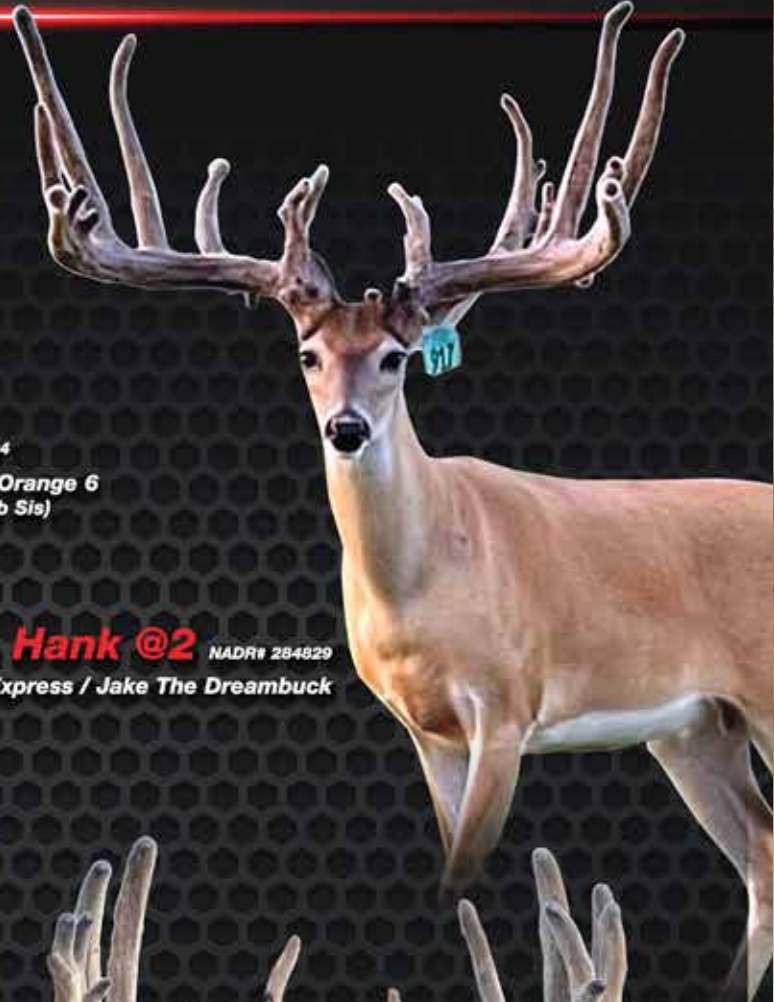
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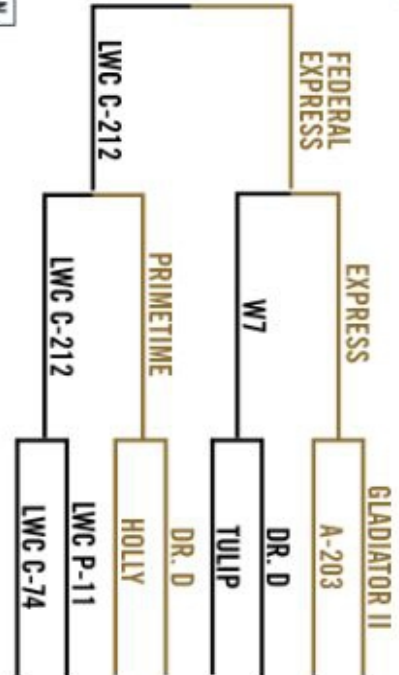
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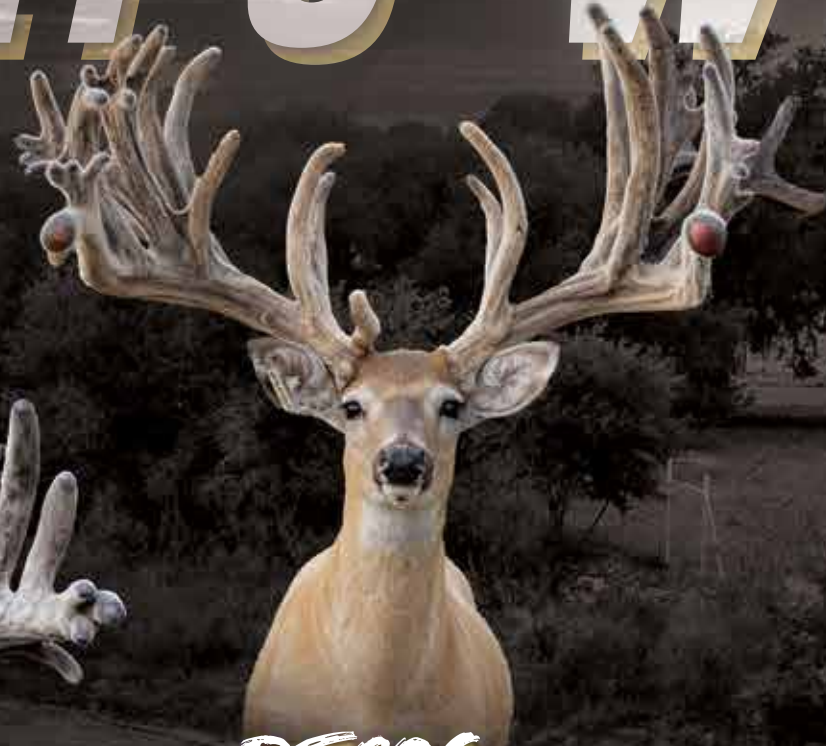


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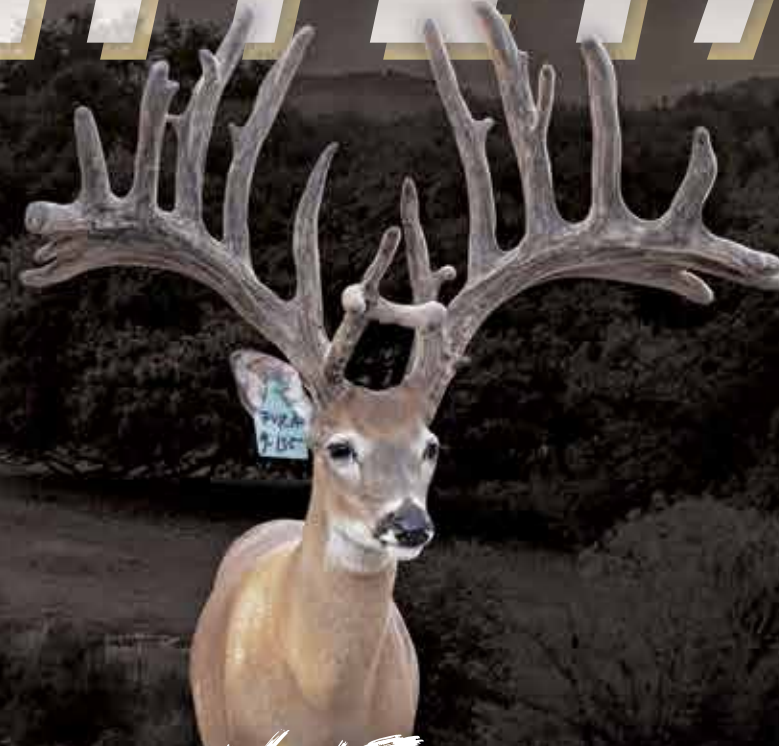
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FAWN CARE 101

...by Laurie Seale

ANIMAL CARE

WHEN FAWNS ARE BORN:

Give them time to bond with mother before tagging and vaccinating – at least 3-4 hours. Attempting to tag and vaccinate too soon can result in does abandoning their fawns. When there are multiple fawns in a pen, does can get confused as to which fawns are theirs without proper bonding time. Wait until fawns are completely dried and mother is no longer laying and nursing fawns, Make sure small or weak fawns are able to reach the dam to suck; if not, then those fawns will need a bottle to be fed.

PROPER TAGGING OF FAWNS:

Between the two main blood veins and close to the fawn's head is the best place to tag. Areas of the ear to avoid: blood veins, towards the end of the ear, top of the ear and very bottom of the ear

VACCINATIONS:

- » No one really knows if vaccinating newborn fawns actually does any good. Research on sheep and goats indicates animals must be two months of age in order to be successful. (Dr. Donley advises only 2 vaccines for newborns)
- » If you have new pens and sterile ground, vaccinating fawns and adult deer may not be necessary for the first few years.
- » If you have pens where cattle or other livestock have been raised, vaccinations will probably be necessary.
- » If you have health problems in the past, vaccinations will be necessary.
- » Yearly liming of pens and leaving a pen empty for 6-12 months helps to rid the pen of diseases and parasites

VACCINES TO CONSIDER USING:

- » Ecoli vaccines: Bar Guard – 2cc orally within the first 12 hours of birth
- » Clostridium vaccines available:
- » Clostridium A
- » Clostridium C & D Antitoxin – 3 cc under the skin as a preventative (works to prevent for max of the weeks)
- » Alpha 7-2 cc under the skin – does not need a booster in 3 weeks so works well for fawns left on their mothers CD & T – 2 cc at birth and another 2 cc at one month so only practical for bottle fed fawns
- » Rota Virus and Corona Virus vaccines: Scour Guard- given orally within the first 12 hours of birth

VACCINATING DOES PRIOR TO FAWNING TO PREVENT SCOURS IN FAWNS MAY BE THE BEST SOLUTION:

- » Fall vaccinating of does doesn't offer the best coverage to newborn fawns- vaccine wears off over time
- » Spring vaccinating of does will increase anti bodies being passed on to the fawns through the colostrum
- » Can safely vaccinate pregnant does as late as the first of April

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PROBIOTICS:

- » Given at birth puts helpful bacteria into their digestive system – variety of products on the market
- » Give at birth and anytime fawns have scour problems

BOSE:

- » Giving ½ cc under the skin at birth stimulates their immune system in addition to preventing white muscle disease
- » Iodine the navel- prevents navel infections (too much iodine will burn the surrounding skin) Chlorhexidine also works for navels
- » Pull hair for DNA and place in a small mailing envelope. Be sure to write the fawn's tag number on the envelope along with who you think the sire and dam are. Once you have this, the sample is good for ever as long as you keep the envelope and hair sample dry. The best place to take a hair sample is the white hair from under the tail.

WANT TO BOTTLE FEED:

- » Pulling fawns at 12- 24 hours seems to work the best
- » Pulling fawns earlier than 12 hours prevents them from getting enough anti-bodies through the colostrum from the doe
- » If left on mother for longer than 24 hours fawns bond too much with mother and tend to be wild and harder to feed

WANT TO LEAVE FAWNS WITH THEIR MOTHERS?

- » Fawns left on mother can be tamed by spending time in the pens with them and feeding treats to does and fawns
- » Saves valuable time and money – bottle feeding is extremely time consuming and costly

BOTTLE FEEDING:

- » How to get stubborn fawns to suck the bottle (demonstrate techniques)
- » Newborns should be fed at least 4 times a day Start with 4-6 ounces per feeding and gradually increase with each feeding
- » Feeding too much milk at a feeding can increase the chances of fawns getting the scours. Clean bottles between feedings to prevent scour problems from spreading.
- » Drop of bleach in your dish water once a day will help sterilize bottles
- » Keep fawning areas clean to eliminate problems
- » At two or three weeks of age, feeding times can be cut back to 3 times a day.
- » At 1 ½ - 2 months of age, feeding times can be cut back twice a day.
- » Fawns need to be wiped daily during or after feeding to stimulate them to urinate and defecate until they learn to go on their own
- » It also gives you the opportunity to check each fawn for scours on a daily basis.
- » Give fawns fresh dirt to help with their digestive system – don't use potting soil



- » Give fawns access to fresh water, pellets or sweet feed, and good quality hay or grass.
- » The sooner they start eating solid food, the sooner you can cut back on the number of feeding per day & the healthier they will be.

WHAT MILK TO FEED FAWNS?

- » Pasteurized goat's milk is the best, but not the easiest to find someone near you to purchase from; also is more costly
- » Pasteurized goat's milk prevents diseases from passing from the goats to the fawn
- » Unpasteurized goat's milk can be risky unless you are purchasing from a goat herd that is tested for diseases
- » Doe milk replacer works very well- there are a number of companies out there that produce this product
- » I personally do not recommend using any milk replacer other than doe milk replacer
- » Cow's milk – many use this for their fawns, but I personally do not recommend it. In my opinion, fawns need to drink much more of the cow's milk to fill them up because it is not concentrated like the does or goat milk.

SICK FAWNS:

- » Get fecal sample (if scoured) to vet for culture or a dead fawn to vet for necropsy as soon as possible
- » Need results in order to know what drugs to use for treatment of the sick fawn or any future sick fawns
- » Fawn scours will kill in a short amount of time so noticing a problem and acting fast is crucial
- » Noticing problems are much easier with bottle fed fawns.
- » Not eating well at one feeding may be nothing to worry about, but two feedings are a sign of problems.
- » Check consistency of fecal matter – if scouring act accordingly
- » Sick fawns left on their mothers are so much harder to identify
- » Checking pens on a regular basis and knowing each fawn and their behavior are important factors
- » What do sick fawns look like? (See pictures of sick fawns)
- » Watch for a wet tail, butt and/or legs... a good mother will keep all these areas clean, but an observant eye will notice the wet look.
- » Fawns too sick to suck must be rehydrated and sometimes taken away from mothers temporarily and treated.
- » Whether conditions sometimes play a factor in my decision of pulling fawn or leaving it in the pen
- » I normally take them away for 2-3 feedings depending on how well they will re-cooperate
- » I don't necessarily wait until all the diarrhea is gone, but usually until they regain some strength
- » Most mothers will take fawns back after they are strong enough to suck again
- » Check temperature of fawn – normal temperature is 101
- » Digital thermometer is a necessary item Too cold – get warm fluids in them first and then warm them up (the reverse will hasten their death)
- » Fawns get weak and do not have enough energy to control their body temperature



- » Too warm- give Banamine to reduce the fever (Caution: overuse of Banamine can cause kidney damage)
- » Ice packs between the arm pits and groin area work well to bring the fever down
- » Sick fawns do not feel good so they stop eating and quickly become dehydrated
- » Re-hydration is crucial to their survival - here are ways to re-hydrate them
- » Lactated ringers under the skin may be necessary
- » Quick energy source – Dextrose or Karo syrup (never give Dextrose under the skin)
- » Pedialyte is a good electrolyte to use – electrolytes designed for calves are high in sodium and not desirable for fawns
- » If fawn won't suck, it may be necessary to tube a fawn tube is another necessary item
- » Measure the tube before inserting from the mouth to the last rib cage so you know how far to insert
- » Be careful not to insert liquids in the lungs when tubing
- » Inserting tube to the last rib cage will prevent drowning
- » If in doubt of being in the wrong spot with the tube, suck back on the tube with the syringe
- » If you are in the stomach you will not be able to draw any air out

TREATMENTS:

I am not a veterinarian so these are only recommendations that have worked for me.

BOTTLE FED FAWNS THAT ARE SCOURING – OPTIONS FOR TREATMENT:

Color of scours makes a difference in treatment (see article I wrote on a diarrhea for more information)

- » Early Treatment: try Pepto Bismol, gelatin, or canned pumpkin in their bottles for at least 3 feedings
- » Manually feed them some dirt – put small amounts in their mouth and they will eat it
- » Probiotics will put helpful bacteria in their digestive system
- » Bacterial scours (only try one of these recommendations at a time – if one treatment isn't working then switch to another):
 - » Try a pinch of LS 50 in the bottle for at least 3 feedings to clear up dark brown/black scours
 - » Albon in the bottle or down the throat with a syringe – twice a day (also treats coccidiosis)

SCOLURS CAUSED BY ECOLI:

- » ½ CC Baytril under the skin – once daily for 3 days
- » Baytril in the muscle can cause severe lameness especially if given in the hind quarter so avoid this area
- » Exceed also works for treating Ecoli. Safe to use in combination with Baytril so if in doubt you can use both
- » Specto Gard – use orally for the treatment Ecoli susceptible to spectinomycin

- » Some farmers have very good luck using Albon in combination with Baytril; this would treat bacterial scours and E.coli at the same time. Many times you do not know what the ailment is so it helps when you can treat for more than one thing when medicines are compatible.
- » Other things to do to help them recuperate: ½ cc of Benamine in the muscle – helps make them feel better
- » For scours that get worse instead of better with any of the above treatments, it may be necessary to pull them of the milk
- » Pedialyte every 4 hours for two treatments - 4- 6 ounces depending on size of fawn
- » After two treatments of Pedialyte, try one or two treatments of colostrum to help heal the intestines
- » Colostrum theoretically increases the local immunity in the intestine in addition to providing fluids
- » Colostrum I use and have good luck with is Rite-Start – Calf Colostrum Supplement purchased at Farm & Fleet
- » Goat colostrum would be the best source available
- » Clostridium issues- many times fawns will show no sign of scours and other times there will be blood in their fecal matter:
- » Fawns can die quickly from Clostridium so if you have diagnosed and suspect another fawn with it, act quickly.
- » Very hard to treat Clostridium and very little success in saving fawns
- » Treatment is ineffective against the peracute and acute cases
- » Easier to prevent than to treat so vaccinating the does prior to fawning is highly recommended
- » Clostridium can be cause by too much milk at one feeding or change in diet
- » Clostridium organisms are always present in the fawn's gut and usually cause no problems because they pass out through the feces. The gut activity needs to be stopped by something else long enough to get these bugs a chance to build up sufficient numbers to cause Enterotoxemia, better known as Clostridium.
- » A fawn that is sick from Ecoli can quickly turn into issues with Clostridium as well

CLOSTRIDIUM PROBLEMS; WHAT TO DO:

- » 5CC OF c & d Antitoxin under the skin – once daily until fawn recovers
- » Always keep this antitoxin on hand- anytime a fawn looks bloated give 5 cc immediately
- » The faster you act the faster you can rid the fawn of these aggressive bugs.
- » The antitoxin only has one function: to destroy on contact any toxins detected in the gut
- » The antitoxin has no other role to play and will just dissipate from the fawn's system
- » There is no risk to giving the antitoxin; better off to



treat with antitoxin if in doubt

ADDITIONAL TREATMENT OPTIONS:

- » 3 cc of Penicillin in the mouth (give only the first dose orally)
- » 3 cc of Penicillin in the muscle – once daily until fawn recovers
- » ½ cc Banamine in the muscle kills the pain and cuts inflammation created by the toxins
- » Never substitute Dexamethasone for Banamine as it will shut down the immune system

VITAMIN B

- » Baking soda mixed with water reverses the acidosis created by the toxins
- » Pepto Bismol coats the intestinal walls to help protect them from further damage by the toxins
- » One article I read recommended using the antitoxins along with Tetracycline orally at the rate of 5-10 mg/lb
- » I have never tried the Tetracycline so I have no comment on this particular treatment-consult with herd vet.
- » Scours caused by viruses, Cryptosporidium (crypto) and Campylobacter
- » Keep fawn hydrated by using Pedialyte and colostrum as listed above
- » Any use of antibiotics will only prevent secondary infections
- » There are no antibiotics that treat viruses or Crypto.

Always consult with your herd veterinarian when treating sick fawns. One thing I will tell you is that you will get a variety of answers from veterinarians in regards to health issues and sometimes you will need to try different things. One time a particular treatment will work and the next time it doesn't. There are so many causes of scours and no one treatment works for all, that is why scours are so

hard to treat. Please read the article I wrote Diarrhea and look at the chart. This will give you a good idea of all the problems that can occur.

I have found that deer are similar to goats when it comes to diseases and treatments. Use the internet to find articles on goat car.

Laurie Seale is the Executive Director of the Cervid Livestock Foundation (CLF), the research and educational foundation for the North American Deer Farmers Association (NADeFA). She is the President of Whitetails of Wisconsin and has been a board member of this association for the past 12 years. She also is active in the regulatory and political arena having served as a member of the United States Animal Health Association for 9 years and has attended the annual Washington, D.C. trip for the past 10 years. She is also very active on the state level in the regulatory and political arena. Laurie has been an active whitetail deer farmer in the north central part of Wisconsin for 23 years. She has a passion for the deer industry and plans to continue to be a major player. Her farm website is www.maplehillfarms.us and she can be reached at 830-928-3143.

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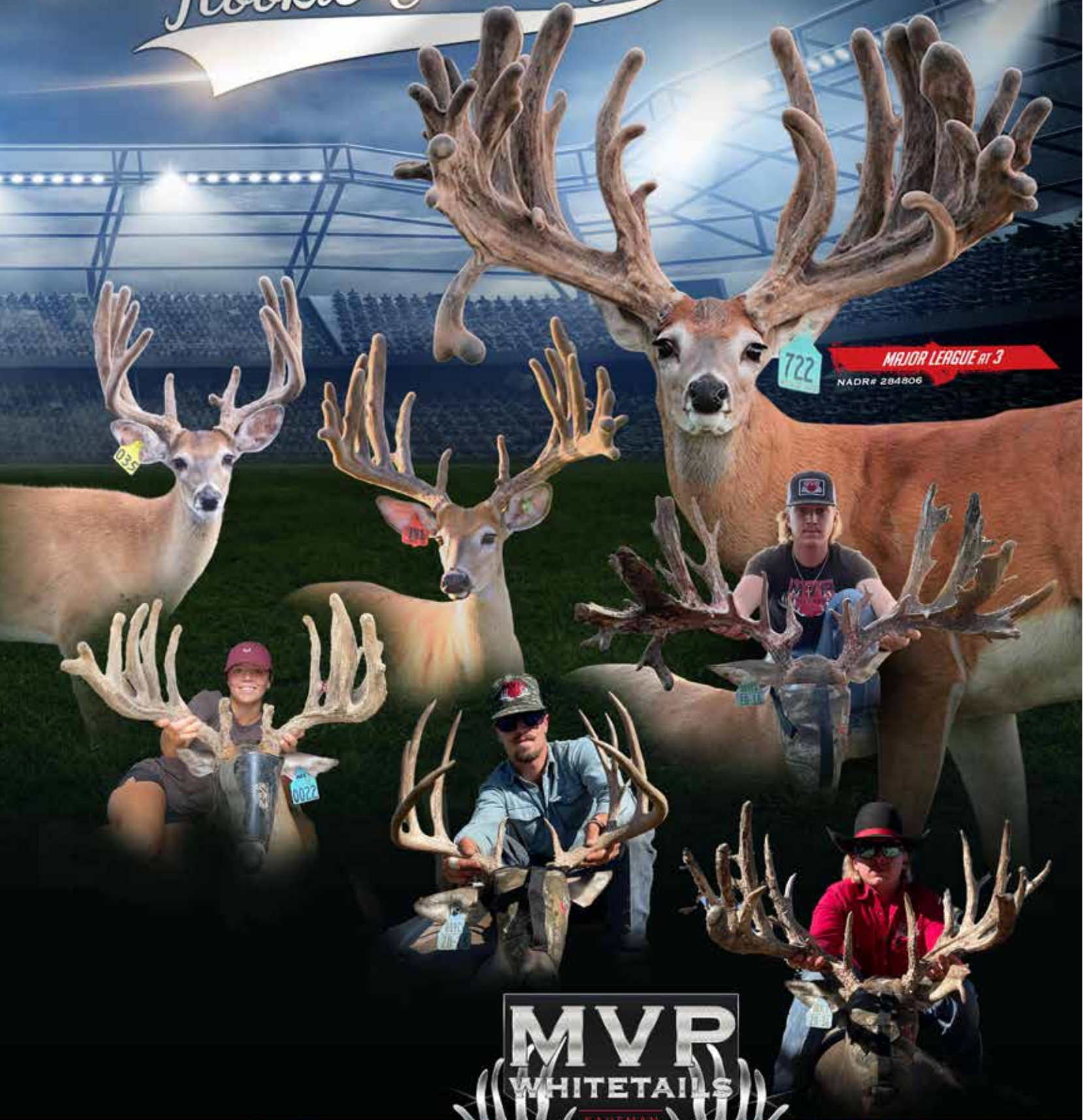
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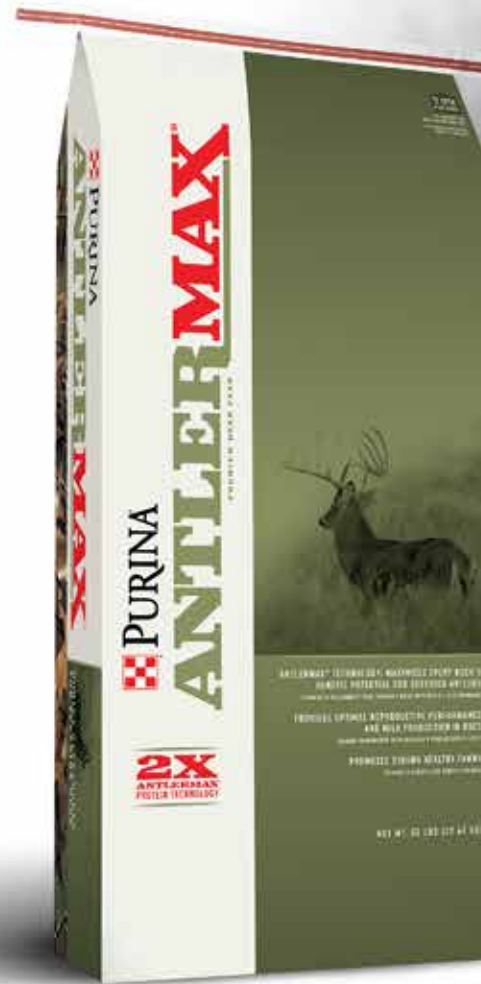
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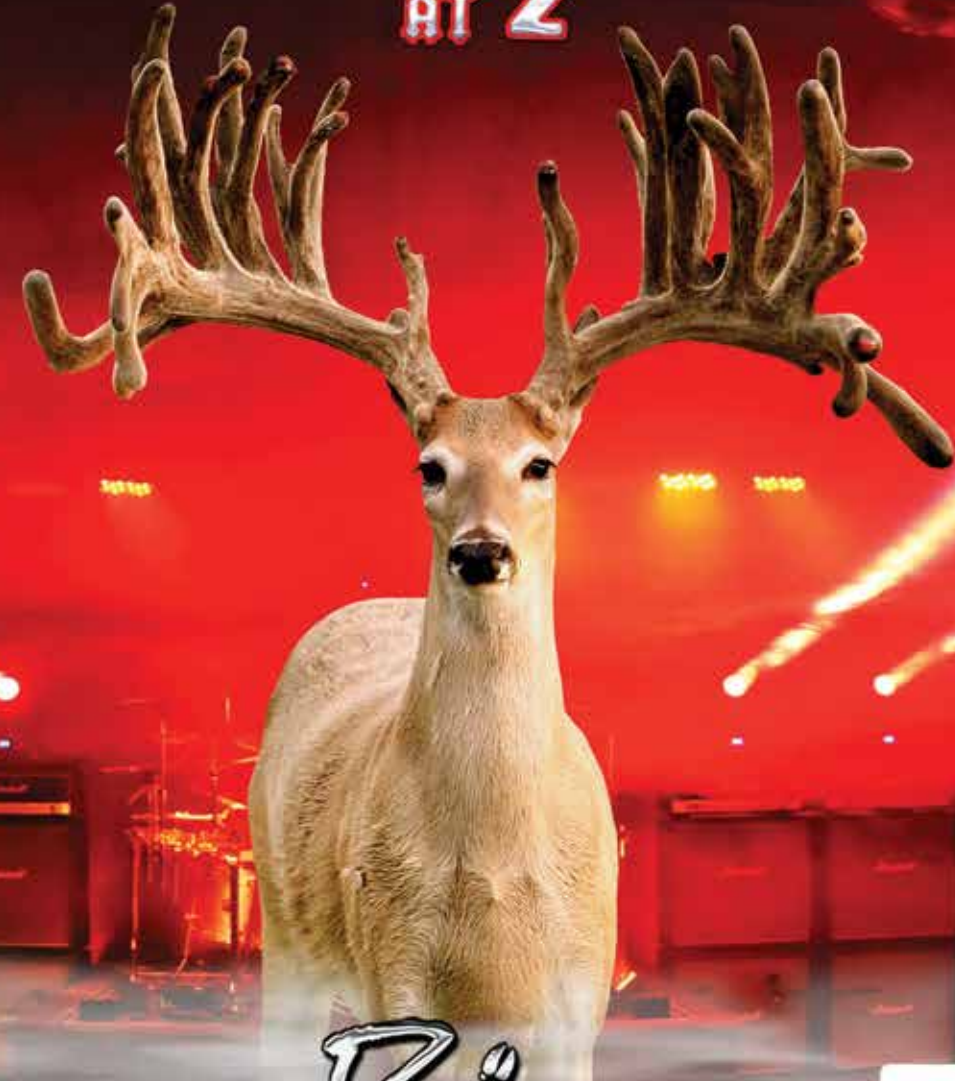
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