



**DAVE AVEY**  
**Casper Game Warden**

### **AN ORIGINAL EXCUSE**

Late one October afternoon, another officer and I were working the antelope season near Casper. We were about to call it quits as we had our usual 14 plus hours in when we spotted one more vehicle headed our way.

We positioned our vehicles and stopped the oncoming pickup. The couple had a nice buck antelope in the truck with the front legs tied over the head in typical Minnesota fashion.

Upon examining the license, I inquired as to why the lady had not tagged her antelope. She replied that her husband had not instructed her to do so, and besides, he was the one who shot it.

After a quick conference, the husband admitted he had indeed killed the antelope and had drug it a mile and a half to the pickup by himself. He also stated there was a special reason he shot an antelope for his wife. I told him that was fine but he would be issued a couple of citations. He could tell his story to the judge if he so chose.

The court date rolled around and we were scheduled for a trial before the judge. After all the swearing in, the trial began.

I was the first to testify. Next the judge asked the defendant if he had any questions to ask the officers. He replied no, that everything happened as stated. But he told the judge he would like to explain the circumstances of the day. The defendant stated, "As you can see your Honor, my wife is a rather large woman and she has a difficult time walking great distances. This, plus the fact, and I don't want to embarrass my wife, due to womanhood, she was menstruating and was physically unable to hunt. So, I shot her antelope for her."

The judge said that was an interesting story and pronounced him guilty as charged.