

GAME GETTERS: 2006 BROADHEAD BUYER'S GUIDE

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JULY 2006 U.S.A. \$3.99

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BY KATHY ETLING

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GLASS FOR ARCHERS



What becomes **Bushnell's** (www.bushnell.com; (800) 423-3537) **Legends** most? New multi-position eyecups, a locking diopter and lighter, sleeker magnesium bodies for the entire roof prism series: 8x32, 8x42, 10x42 and 12x50. Then add hunter-friendly Mossy Oak Break Up rubber armoring to select 8x32 and 10x42 models. All Legends feature phase-coated prisms and exterior RainGuard-coated lenses.

Steiner's (www.steiner-binoculars.com; (800) 257-7742) **Merlin** roof prism binocular series includes eight waterproof, fog-proof and shockproof models, from tiny 8x24s to formidable 10x50s. Prisms are phase-corrected, the lenses are fully-multi coated and all are rubber-armored. Full-size Merlins are constructed on a framework of space age Makrolon; compact versions rely on weight-saving aluminum for both undercarriage and framework.



This year's 'must-haves' include **Alpen's** (www.alpenoutdoor.com; (877) 987-8370) new **20-60x80** (Model 788) rubber-armored and waterproof **Spotting Scope**, with 45-degree angled eyepiece, objective lens sunshade, tripod, shoulder strap and field case.



Kowa's (www.kowa.com; (800) 966-5692) **BD32 8x32**, a full-size, waterproof binocular that weighs slightly more than 19 ounces, rubber-armored exterior and ergonomic styling that keeps hands comfortable, while the tripod adapter means quick changeovers in the field, too.



Nikon's (www.nikon-sportoptics.com; (800) 248-6846) **Monarch ATB** (All Terrain Binocular) hopes there's a Drury Outdoors Dream Season in your future, especially since the Drury Outdoors line-up has brought new Mossy Oak camo exteriors to a number of models, including the **8x36 Dream Season ATB**, already fully-loaded with water- and fogproof, fully multi-coated lenses, phase-corrected prisms and convenient sliding eye-cups.



Leupold (www.leupold.com; (503) 526-1400) set the optical bar high with their **Golden Ring 10x42 Binoculars**, then raised it by going small with a couple of compacts: an 8x32 and a 10x32. Superior light transmission? You bet, thanks to an Index Matched Lens System, phase-coating and extra-reflective prisms. Rubber armoring is textured for better grip, and eyepieces outfitted with retractable eyecups lock permanently into position when aligned perfectly with eyes.