

Jon Zinnel, Swea City experiences YUKON Dream Hunt

For the last three years Jon Zinnel, North Kossuth 2006 graduate, has been a National 4-H Shooting Sports Teen Ambassador representing 4-H Shooting Sports in the entire North America. During this time he has had the opportunity to represent the 4-H Shooting Sports in Indiana, Washington, Missouri, Nevada, South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Wyoming. John Kvasnicka, Executive Director of National 4-H Shooting Sports Foundation says, "Jon's knowledge, skills and positive attitude has gained him opportunities that only a few youth/adults can only dream. He is a role model and mentor for our society."



Most recently, Jon has received the opportunity for a once in a lifetime hunting experience in the Yukon Territory. He was chosen by Safari Club International Foundation (SCIF) and the National 4-H Shooting Sports Foundation to represent 300,000 youth from throughout the United States. He was gone August 10-26 to the Yukon hunting, fishing and filming. The hunt was filmed by Orion Multimedia for "Expedition Safari" hosted by Mike Rogers. An episode featuring Jon shooting a three and a half year old, two hundred plus pound mountain goat at a distance of 360 yards (3 ½ football fields) will be shown on the Outdoor Life Network (OLN) sometime this winter. Jon was accompanied by Mike Rogers the TV host, a cameraman and a guide.

During the 11 days in the bush Jon also hunted for mountain caribou, and had the opportunity to shoot a black wolf. They rode horseback to remote camps and lived off the land. They ate fresh trout from the river, hiked the mountains and enjoyed the vast mountain ranges of the Yukon.



Hunting in the Yukon is one of the most challenging places to hunt in the world. The concession he was hunting was approximately 100,000 square miles, so it was easy for the game to roam where ever they wanted to. That makes it tough to find a shot to take. They say that hunting the goat and wolf are the toughest two species to hunt in the Yukon besides the grizzly bear.

Jon is currently attending Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids, IA. He is enrolled in the "Parks and Natural Resources" course there. He remains active in 4-H Shooting Sports. Jon is an avid hunter and loves the sport of shooting. He is the son of Steve and Darlene Zinnel of Swea City. He has two older brothers, Chris and Tim, and a nephew, Tysen. His family is very proud of him and his accomplishments. Congratulations Jon.

The episode of Expedition Safari hosted by Mike Rogers will air on the Outdoor Life Network (OLN) Channel on November 5 from 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.; November 6 from 11:30 p.m. to 12:00 p.m.; and November 8 from 8:30 am to 9:00 a.m. (Times listed are Eastern Standard Time). Be sure to check your local cable listings.