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SOUTH DAKOTA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION
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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Everything we attempt to do seems to have a monetary value. At least every action we pursue is limited by or is successful because of the amount of funding. Certainly city and state governments use economics as their primary concern in obtaining growth and/or maintaining the status quo.

At times conflicts arise between user groups over the continued existence of suitable habitat for bird species. Those of us who note these conflicts may be ignored by people who disregard birds as an economic base. Therefore information



about how much people are willing to pay to enjoy wild birds would be an helpful question to answer. So, at my request, Eileen Dowd, Biologist for the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks provides the following information:

For many years bird watchers and other nonconsumptive users of wildlife resources were told that they did not support their avocations as strongly as hunters and fishermen did. The truth is that comparable survey information was not being collected from nonconsumptive users as it had been from consumptive fish and wildlife users since 1955.

The *1980 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation*, jointly conducted by the US Departments of Interior and Commerce, was the first to survey nonconsumptive use in detail. The results were amazing to many: 49% of US residents (83.2 million) participated in a nonconsumptive activity, such as observing, feeding, or photographing wildlife or maintaining wildlife habitat. By contrast, only 10% (17.4 million) of the population hunted during 1980 and 25% (42.1 million) fished.

The most recent statistics available indicate that not only are South Dakotans frequent participants in nongame activities, but that they spend a substantial amount of money in these pursuits. In 1985, an estimated 459,000 South Dakotans enjoyed nonconsumptive wildlife activities, spending \$100,464,000 in the process. During the same year, 202,000 citizens of the state hunted or fished, expending \$116,929,000 (1985 *National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation - South Dakota*, DRAFT).

In recognition of the tremendous interest and monetary outlay of nongame enthusiasts, many fish and wildlife conservation agencies have developed nongame and endangered species programs in addition to traditional efforts designed to enhance game populations. Such nongame pro-

grams can only be successful if users of nonconsumptive wildlife resources are willing to contribute to and support the progress of such endeavors, as hunters and fishermen (and women) have done.

These economic facts are important to us. However, we must not forget that dollars expended by any individual or group cannot create life as complex, necessary, and pleasurable as birds. Yet our dominion over their existence is so apparent when we consider species that have become endangered because of our disregard for birds' needs. Money is a product of about 4000 years of human history, while birds are nature's creation, spanning tens of thousands of years. I think nature's scheme has infinite wisdom, while much of our progress is temporary and only profit-minded. An opportunity to address this issue is becoming available through proposals being offered by the South Dakota Department of Game Fish and Parks' nongame program. Support for these programs is worthwhile, but, in the final analysis, money and commitment will make these nongame programs succeed.

REPORT OF THE RARE BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

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The Rare Bird Records Committee was established as a standing committee of the South Dakota Ornithologists' Union in May 1987. Its purpose is to promote the submission of records of rare and unusual birds in the state in order to judge the accuracy of the reports. Members are appointed by the SDOU Board of Directors and the Committee selects its own officers. Current members are Nathaniel Whitney (acting chairperson), Paul Springer (secretary), Jocelyn Baker, Gilbert Blankespoor, Byron Harrell, Bruce Harris, Nelda Holden, and Dan Tallman. They serve staggered, 3-year, renewable terms. The Committee generally meets to review submitted records during the spring and fall SDOU meetings. Five members constitute a quorum, and a vote with no more than one dissention is required for acceptance of a record. If new information arises that could alter a previous decision, that conclusion may be reexamined.

Records are categorized according to the following classification: CLASS 1. ACCEPTED. Documented by accessible specimen or by recognizable photograph or sound recording, accompanied by accurate and authentic labelling. CLASS 2. ACCEPTED. Sight records documented by written description considered by the Committee as correct beyond reasonable doubt. Also included in this category are cases in which a specimen, photograph, or sound recording, now lost, was

examined at some time in the past and diagnostic details were published. CLASS 3. NOT ACCEPTED. Identification possibly correct, but details given are not sufficient for positive identification; includes photographs or sound recordings of insufficient quality for identification. CLASS 4. NOT ACCEPTED. Identification probably or certainly incorrect.

Since the official establishment, the Committee has met on 27 September 1987 at Rapid City and on 20 February 1987 at Pierre. Prior to that time, persons who were later appointed to the Committee met and reviewed a few records. The following results are the Committee's actions to date. (The numbers in parentheses following each species indicate the Committee's vote for acceptance.) Reports that have been submitted but not yet reviewed, will be acted upon in future meetings. Citations are given to articles on those reports that have been published in *South Dakota Bird Notes*. All materials pertaining to each record are kept on file by the secretary at the address given above and are available for review by interested persons.

Observers are urged to report to the Committee secretary any records of rare or unusual birds in South Dakota. Participation will greatly aid in increasing our knowledge of the numbers and of the seasonal and geographical distributions of such species in the state. Persons whose records are accepted are strongly encouraged to prepare short notes or articles on their observations for publication in *Bird Notes*.

CLASS 1. Whooping Crane - 3 November 1986, 3 near Kimball, Brule Co., photographs by Michael Melius, SDBN 39:42.
Chuck-will's-widow - 13-14 June 1987, 1 (observed by others until at least early August) below Oahe Dam, Stanley Co., call tape recorded, Paul Springer (5-0).

CLASS 2.

Red-throated Loon - 22 October 1976, 1 at Lake Yankton, Yankton Co., Richard Rosche (5-0).
Red-throated Loon - 19 October 1985, 1 at Angustora Reservoir, Fall River Co., Richard Rosche (5-0).
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron - 21 July 1986, 1 at Waubay National Wildlife Refuge, Day Co., D. G. Prisbe (5-0).
White Ibis - 31 July 1986, 1 at Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge, Bennett Co., Robert Brashears (5-0).
White-faced Ibis - 12 September 1986, 5 near Pukwana, Brule Co., Jack Freidel (6-0).
Ross' Goose - 13 April 1986, 8 near Veith's Dam, Meade Co., Jocelyn Baker (5-0), SDBN 39:41-42.
Oldsquaw - 14 November 1987, 1 at Bear Butte Lake, Meade Co., Jocelyn Baker (5-0).
Red-shouldered Hawk - 7 October 1972, 1 at Cottonwood Lake, Spink Co., Paul Martshing (5-0).
Gyr Falcon - 11 November 1986, 1 near Shadehill Reservoir, Perkins Co., David Griffiths (5-0).

- Whooping Crane - 26 October 1985, 2 near Seneca, Faulk Co., Bill Antonides (5-0).
- Snowy Plover - 1 May 1976, 1 at Angostura Reservoir, Fall River Co., Richard Rosche (5-0).
- Black-necked Stilt - 8 May 1987, 2 at Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge, Bennett Co., Robert Brashears (5-0).
- Ruif - 7 April 1977, 1 near Tuthill, Bennett Co., Richard Rosche (5-0).
- Black-legged Kittiwake - 6 June 1987, 1 at Lake Louise Recreation Area, Hand Co., John Van Dyk (5-0).
- Sabine's Gull - 22 October 1976, 1 at Lake Yankton, Yankton Co., Richard Rosche (5-0).
- Caspan Tern - 27 June 1985, 3 at Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Brown Co., Randy Hill (5-0).
- Vermillion Flycatcher - 27 September 1986, 1 at Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Brown Co., D. G. Prisbe, SDBN 39:64.
- Gray Jay - 27 September 1986, 1 at Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Brown Co., D. G. Prisbe, SDBN 39:64.
- Townsend's Solitaire - 22 September 1986, 1 at Columbia, Brown Co., Nancy Ernst (6-0).
- Black-throated Gray Warbler - 1 September 1986, 1 at Aberdeen, Brown Co., D. G. Prisbe, SDBN 38:99.

CLASS 3.

- Mississippi Kite - 28 June 1987, 1 at Prairie City, Perkins Co., (4 = Class 3, 1 = Class 4). The Committee thought that the bird could have been a first-year Mississippi Kite, but the observer was not able to see some key characteristics, including barred wing linings and barred underside of tail. Behavior reported was thought to be unkitelike, and the bird was thought to be in unlikely habitat.
- Snowy Owl - 25 September 1986, 1 at Interior, Jackson Co. (4 = Class 3, 1 = Class 4). Observation was very limited (3-4 seconds). Date was very early; earliest date on record is 15 October 1964 in Beadle Co. (30 September 1982 in North Dakota, and 13 September in northern Minnesota). Habitat was not thought to be typical for this species.
- Common Raven - 14 June 1987, 1 at Rockyford, Shannon Co. (5-0). The report of large size and wedge-shaped tail suggests a Common Raven, but the sighting was brief (1 minute), and some field characteristics (bill size, head size/shape) were not noted. The time of year of the sighting was problematic, and we have not recent confirmed West River sightings. No call was heard, but bird would have been judged Class 2 if characteristic call had been given.

CLASS 4.

- Mississippi Kite - 5 July 1986, 1 near Chamberlian, Brule Co., (4 = Class 3, 2 = Class 4). Possibility of Northern Harrier was not ruled out.
- Thayer's Gull - 24 December 1984, 1 below Oahe Dam, Stanley Co. (6-0). Decision based on review by two outside experts, both of whom judged the bird to be a first-year Herring Gull. Photographs show

undersides of primaries too dark for Thayer's. Pale base of bill ruled out first-year bird.

Northern Saw-whet Owl - 5 July 1987, 3 at Huron, Beadle Co. (1 = Class 2, 1 = Class 3, 3 = Class 4). Vocalization seemed to fit that of an Eastern Screech-Owl.

Gray Jay - 7 April 1982, 1 at Watertown, Codington Co. Plumage and behavior were more characteristic of a shrike.

Pygmy Nuthatch - 8 February 1984, 1 at Mobridge, Walworth Co. (6-0). No description of plumage, shape, or behavior. Did not eliminate other nuthatches, especially Red-breasted Nuthatch.

STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION.

Whooping Crane - 17 April 1984, 9 near Winner, Tripp Co.

THE WAUBAY BLUEBIRD TRAIL: 1987 BREEDING SEASON

By Dennis Skadsen
Box 113, Grenville 57239

INTRODUCTION. This report describes the 5th successful breeding season on the Waubay National Wildlife Refuge Bluebird Trail, Day Co., SD. See SDBN 39(1):8-11 for map and trail descriptions. Beginning with the 1987 breeding season, a banding project, as described below, was developed to study survival and return rates of Eastern Bluebirds raised on the trail.

Special thanks are given to Ted Gutzke, US Fish and Wildlife Service, for his advice on banding and Joe Cronk for his donation of 18 nest boxes for use on the trail. Seven more boxes were constructed by refuge staff and placed on the trail. To date, 124 nest boxes are on the refuge.

BLUEBIRD NESTING CHRONOLOGY. In 1987, Eastern Bluebirds were first observed on the refuge on 9 March. A mild and early spring provided for the earliest-ever nesting by two weeks, with nest construction first noted on 5 April. On 12 April, two eggs were seen in this nest and a clutch of six eggs hatched on 3 May, with the young fledging around 17 May. The first young to hatch during the 1986 season occurred around 12 May.

A nest observed on 23 July contained three eggs, representing the last nest attempt for the season on the refuge. The young from this nest hatched about 17 August.

A total of 29 nest attempts were made, of which 19 successfully fledged 74 young, an increase from the 43 young fledged in 1986 (see Table 1). A summary of all nesting and banding data is given in Table 2.

NESTING FAILURE AND PREDATION. Of 29 nesting attempts, 10 failed to fledge any young. Predation by House Wrens was the most frequent cause of nest mortality, for both eggs and nestlings. Weather

Table 1. Bluebird nesting success 1983-1987

year	number of boxes	nest attempts	young fledged
1983	54	24	50-60
1984	100+/-	9	25
1985	100+/-	12	30
1986	95	18	43
1987	99	29	74

Table 2. Bluebird nesting and banding data.

Nest boxes used	20
Nesting attempts	29
successful	19
unsuccessful	10
Reason for failure	
House Wren predation	4
Weather	3
Miscellaneous	3
Number of eggs laid	135
Avg. # eggs per clutch	4.7
Number of eggs hatched	102
Number of young fledged	74
Number of young banded	68
unknown sex	8
females	25
males	35
Number of adults banded	20
females	10
males	10
Total # of bluebird banded	88
Estimated # bluebirds on refuge	111

caused three failures. On 19 May, a nest box contained six 15-day-old young. The nestlings were found dead, with no signs of mammalian or avian predation. I determined the cause of death, using Pinkowski's (1975) key for determining nest failure and using weather data collected by the refuge, to be from exposure to cool, wet weather. The daily high temperature dropped from 87 degrees F on the 18th to a low of 44 degrees during the early morning of 19 May. This date was the second consecutive day of light rain and dense fog. Zeleny (1986) reports that early bluebird broods often perish during cold, wet weather. He further states that nestlings over 10 days old are more

commonly found dead during cold spells than are newly hatched birds. One reason for this fact is that the adult females brood the younger birds. Zeleny hypothesizes that chilling may be the cause of mortality and that young bluebirds can not accept food unless they have normal body temperatures.

Two nests failed to produce young due to male or female desertion and one nest failed because of infertile eggs. The female incubated this clutch for five weeks, three weeks longer than the normal incubation period of 12 to 14 days.

Prescribed burns adjacent to several active nest boxes did not disturb the nesting bluebirds and may have proven beneficial to later nesting pairs by reducing ground cover, allowing for easier hunting for food.

BANDING. During the 1987 breeding season, a project was undertaken to band all nestling and adult bluebirds that used the nest box trail. Nestlings were banded between 14 and 16 days after hatching with both regulation US Fish and Wildlife and plastic-colored leg bands. A different color leg band will be used each year to aid in identification of age classes. Nestlings were sexed using Pinkowski's (1974) key. To prevent premature fledging, a nest box restrictor was attached to the nest box before the nestlings were removed for banding. The restrictor is made from a two inch square piece of quarter-inch plywood, with a one-inch hole drilled in the center. The restrictor allows adults to feed nestlings, while preventing the young birds from leaving the nest box. The restrictor remains on the box one to two days after banding (see Gutzke 1982).

Adults were captured using a 6 meter mist net placed near the nest box. Adults were attracted to the net by the distress calls of a nestling held below the net or were netted while bringing food to the nest box. Both regulation and color leg bands were placed on the adults to aid in individual and pair identification, eliminating the need of recapturing these birds on subsequent nest attempts during the breeding season.

Nesting Tree Swallows were also banded. Incubating females were hand captured in nest boxes. Nestlings were banded when wing chords measured between 50 and 70 mm. A total of 352 nestlings and 41 adult Tree Swallows were banded during the 1987 season. A female Tree Swallow (band 870-01249), banded on 26 July 1983 as a nestling at Enemy Swim Lake by Nelda Holden, was recaptured in a nest box on 13 June 1987 on the refuge trail, four years after banding.

LITERATURE CITED.

- Gutzke, T. W. 1982. A review of capture techniques for Eastern Bluebirds. *Sialia* 4(3):83-89.
- Pinkowski, B. C. 1974. Criteria for sexing Eastern Bluebirds in Juvenile plumage. *IBBA News* 46:88-90.
- Pinkowski, B. C. 1975. A summary and key for determining causes of nesting failures in Eastern Bluebirds using nest boxes. *IBBA News* 47:179-186.
- Zeleny, L. 1986. Cold weather may kill bluebird nestlings. *Sialia* 8(2): 63-64.

GENERAL NOTES

GREATER PRAIRIE-CHICKEN SIGHTING IN BROOKINGS COUNTY.

While driving west on US highway 14, we sighted what appeared to be a Greater Prairie-Chicken on the north shoulder of the road. This location is about one-quarter mile east of the Aurora turnoff (S23, T110N, R49W). We turned the car around to make a positive identification. We stopped on the south shoulder of the highway, about 15 yards from the bird. From this vantage point, we clearly saw the barred pattern of the body and the pinnae on the sides of the neck. The bird then flushed, giving us a clear view of the dark, rounded tail, indicating that the grouse was probably a male.

To our knowledge, this record is the first sighting of a Greater Prairie-Chicken in Brookings Co. since 1977 (Holden SDBN 30:8). *Howard W. Browsers, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, South Dakota State University, Brookings 57007 and Rebecca T. Edwards, Box 554, Aurora 57002.*

MOCKINGBIRDS. On 25 May 1988, I was bicycling up Battle Creek Canyon in NW Shannon Co. I stopped to rest by the creek and heard Blue Jays and a Say's Phoebe. The latter attracted my attention for being somewhat out of place, common in the badlands along the valley but not so common along the streambed. Then I heard robin or oriole songs, and realized I was hearing a Northern Mockingbird. When I saw it, the mockingbird flew to a cottonwood, about 100 yards away. The bird exhibited flashes of white in the wings and tail. The mocker continued singing without pause excellent renditions of the above mentioned species, as well as those of Rock Wrens and Common Nighthawks.

On 1 June, I was camping at the French Creek picnic ground in eastern Custer Co. I awoke after midnight and heard a mockingbird singing, along with meadowlarks (perhaps responding to the mockingbird?). The night was cloudy but bright with the full moon. I listened for about 10 minutes more before returning to sleep. *Michael M. Melius, RR 2 Box 40C, Hermosa 57744.*

STEFFEN 1987 BANDING REPORT. The following is a list of the 39 bird species (2536 individuals) that I banded in the Burke area of Gregory Co. during 1987. I received notice of three recoveries: an adult male Mourning Dove banded near Burke on 23 July 1986 was shot near Sandia, Texas, on 19 October 1986; an adult male Mourning Dove banded near Burke on 25 July 1986 was shot in Guatemala, Central America, during October 1986; an immature Mourning Dove banded near Burke on 17 August 1986 was shot near White Lake, South Dakota, on 8 September 1987. During March and April 1987, I also trapped 4 Pine Siskins that had all been banded earlier in 1987 in Hays, Kansas, by Dr. Charles Ely.

Mourning Dove	115	Black-headed Grosbeak	1
Northern Flicker	1	Blue Grosbeak	1

Eastern Kingbird	1	American Tree Sparrow	17
Purple Martin	103	Chipping Sparrow	43
Tree Swallow	21	Clay-colored Sparrow	7
Barn Swallow	12	Field Sparrow	5
Blue Jay	15	Lincoln's Sparrow	2
Black-capped Chickadee	2	White-crowned Sparrow	11
White-breasted Nuthatch	2	Harris' Sparrow	19
House Wren	9	Slate-colored Junco	94
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	Red-winged Blackbird	44
Eastern Bluebird	19	Brewer's Blackbird	1
American Robin	309	Common Grackle	176
Gray Catbird	1	Brown-headed Cowbird	27
Brown Thrasher	43	Orchard Oriole	23
Warbling Vireo	1	Baltimore Oriole	133
Orange-crowned Warbler	2	Red Crossbill	46
Myrtle Warbler	10	Pine Siskin	1209
Common Yellowthroat	1	American Goldfinch	8
Wilson's Warbler	2		

Galen L. Steffen, Burke 57523.

WHITNEY 1987 BANDING. The birds that I banded in 1987 were:

Blue Jay	1	White-winged Junco	30
Black-capped Chickadee	2	Slate-colored Junco	19
Red-breasted Nuthatch	2	Oregon Junco	2
American Robin	3	Cassin's Finch	2
Brown Thrasher	1	Red Crossbill	35
Spotted Towhee	2	Pine Siskin	144
Chipping Sparrow	3	Evening Grosbeak	8

Nathaniel R. Whitney, 633 S. Berry Pines Road, Rapid City 47702.

BOOK REVIEWS

Harrier, Hawk of the Marshes, the Hawk that is Ruled by a Mouse by Francis Hamerstrom. Smithsonian Institution Press: Washington D.C. and London. 1986. 171 pp. Cloth \$24.95; paper \$10.95.

On 22 April 1957, while sitting in her blind observing prairie-chickens, Francis Hamerstrom noted two harriers sky-dancing. She wondered, "do they mate for life?" This question began a 25-year study on which her latest book is based. Her study began by banding Northern Harriers on her farm, eventually expanding to the 50,000 acre Buena Vista Marsh Prairie-Chicken Study Area in central Wisconsin. With her original method of capturing harriers failing, she developed a new procedure to capture these birds, using a net and a

Great Horned Owl named Ambrose. By marking harriers with colored feathers, she observed a male defending three nesting females, not only confirming bigamy in the species, but also discovering a trigamist. These examples are but a little of the wealth of information collected during her study, which eventually led to the discovery of the relationship between vole populations and breeding success in harriers (and to the answer to her original question). Humorous anecdotes make the book entertaining and informative. She baked pies as payment for analyzing harrier tissue samples for DDT. Her field assistants snuck into airstrips to read the labels of pesticide cans stored near crop spraying planes.

I highly recommend this book to banders, raptor rehabilitators, those interested in the life history of harriers, and to the backyard birder who will get an interesting insight into the trials and tribulations of avian research. Appendices at the end of the book present the original data from Mrs. Hammerstrom's study and a bibliography cites references for those interested in learning more about this species. *Dennis Skadsen, Box 113, Grenville 57339.*

Birds in Minnesota by Robert B. Janssen. University of Minnesota Press: Minneapolis. 1987. 352 pp. \$35.00 cloth, \$14.95 paper.

This text, published for the Bell Museum of Natural History, presents distribution records of Minnesota birds through the end of 1986. As such, the book is of critical importance for birders who travel to Minnesota or who are interested in the ornithology of eastern South Dakota.

The species accounts give the species' statuses in the state, followed by sections of migration dates and other seasonal records. Clear range maps accompany each account and the text has liberal margins, ideal for making personal notes or marking new sightings.

Kim Eckert wrote the short introduction on Minnesota geography and birding spots. Terms used in the text are defined, and, at the end, new species to the list are discussed along with birds mentioned in the literature but not accepted on the state's official list. Eight pages of excellent color photographs form the book's centerpiece. A species index completes the tome. Although noteworthy individual reports are cited in the text, I was disappointed that the book lacks a literature cited section. Thus, from this book alone, one cannot find leads into the ecological literature on Minnesota birds. The book can only be used as it was intended, a guide to the distribution of the state's 400 birds. *Dan A. Tallman, Northern State College, Aberdeen 57401.*

A Synopsis of the Avifauna of China by Chen Tso-hsio. Paul Parey Scientific publishers, Hamburg and Berlin. 1987. 1223 pp. cloth \$163.00.

Going farther afield from Minnesota (see last review), we come upon this huge and expensive guide to the distribution of China's birds. Range maps accompanying each account show breeding and/or wintering ranges and migration routes. Subspecies distributions are

also given. Each account gives the Chinese and scientific nomenclature, along with the Russian and English names. The taxonomic history of the species follows, along with the species' range. The text has no illustrations, but does quickly review Chinese ecology. Regional checklists of all species are also included.

Obviously birders travelling to China will want to invest in this text. Those book-collecting ornithologists will find that this text probably fills a geographical void in their libraries. However, considering the large price and lack of pictures, others might well review this text through interlibrary loan before deciding to purchase. *Dan A. Tallman, Northern State College, Aberdeen 57401.*

THE 1988 SPRING MIGRATION

Dennis Skadsen
Box 113, Grenville SD 57239

Weather for the spring was extremely hot and dry. Dust storms reminiscent of the 1930's occurred in northcentral and northeastern South Dakota, beginning in late March through May. Heavy rains finally came in late May. Waterfowl migration began early in the south, with a major flight observed in the northeastern prairie pothole region in the last week of March. Poor sparrow and warbler migrations were reported for the eastern and western parts of the state. One first state observation of a Great-tailed Grackle was reported and nine earliest-ever observations were recorded, possibly due to the mild spring and strong southerly winds. Abbreviations used : WNWR: Waubay National Wildlife Refuge, Day Co. Observers cited:

Mike H. Getman (MHG)	Robert W. Kieckhefer (RWK)
John M. Gilman (JMG)	Michael M. Melius (MMM)
Marjorie A. Glass (MAG)	Ernest Miller (EM)
Ken Graupmann (KG)	Richard A. Peterson (RAP)
David Griffiths (DG)	Catherine Sandell (CS)
Carolyn Griffiths (CG)	Dennis R. Skadsen (DRS)
John Haertel (JH)	Jerry Stanford (JCS)
Willis Hall (WH)	Galen L. Steffen (GLS)
Bruce K. Harris (BKH)	Steven Van Sickle (SVS)
Gertrice Hinds (GH)	Dan A. Tallman (DAT)
Augie Hoeger (AH)	J. David Williams (JDW)
Nelda J. Holden (NJH)	

Horned Grebe - 31 March, Yankton Co., 4 (WH).

Red-necked Grebe - 2 April, WNWR 4 (DRS).

Western Grebe - 2 April, WNWR (DRS).

American White Pelican - 1 April, Day Co., 6 (MHG).

Double-crested Cormorant - 27 March, Gregory Co., 6 (GLS).

Great Egret - 13 April, Kingsbury Co. (JH). Also reported from Brookings, Faulk, GREGORY and PENNINGTON Co.

- Snowy Egret - 10 April, Minnehaha Co., very early (AH).
 Little Blue Heron - 1 May, Perkins Co. (DG, CG). 21 May, Day Co. (NJH).
 Yellow-crowned Night-Heron - 27 May, Meade Co., 2 (EM).
 Black-crowned Night-Heron - 26 March, Faulk Co., **EARLIEST EVER** (JDW).
 White-faced Ibis - 23 April, Deuel Co. (BKH et al.).
 Snow Goose - 29 March, Codington Co., 200,000 (BKH). 21 May, Day Co., very late (DRS et al.).
 Wood Duck - 2 March, Yankton Co., **EARLIEST EVER** (WH).
CINNAMON TEAL - 4 May, Deuel Co. (BKH et al.). 21 May, Day Co. (RAP et al.).
GREATER SCAUP - 2 March, Yankton Co., very early (WH). 29 March, Day Co. (BKH).
SURF SCOTER - 1 April, Yankton Co., **FIRST SPRING OBSERVATION REPORTED** (WH).
OLDSQUAW - 27 April, Perkins Co., very rare spring migrant (DG, CG).
 Bald Eagle - Reported from Faulk, Grant, Brown, and Marshall Co.
 Hooded Merganser - 19 March, Brookings Co. (NJH, CS). 26 March, Edmunds Co., 6 (JDW). Also reported from Brookings and Brown Co.
 Red-breasted Merganser - 31 March, Brookings Co. (CS). 24 April, Brown Co., 3 (JDW). 28 April, Yankton Co., 75 (WH).
 Swainson's Hawk - 9 April, Day Co., early (DRS).
 Merlin - 28 April, Grant Co. (BKH).
 Sharp-tailed Grouse - 28 April, Codington Co., 4 on lek (BKH).
WHOOPIING CRANE - 1 May, Badlands NP, Pennington Co., 3 banded juveniles, photographs taken (MAG).
 Piping Plover - 13 April, Jackson Co., 2 ties **EARLIEST EVER** (KG). 24 April, Perkins Co., Shadehill Reservoir (DG, CG).
 Lesser Golden-Plover - 14 May, Brookings Co., 250+ (NJH et al.).
 Pectoral Sandpiper - 29 March, Day Co., **EARLIEST EVER** (BKH).
 Short-billed Dowitcher - 21 May, Day Co., very late (DRS et al.).
 California Gull - 29 March, Day Co., **EARLIEST EVER** (BKH).
 Herring Gull - 2 March, Brookings Co. (CS).
 Black-billed Cuckoo - 4 May, Brookings Co., very early (RWK).
 Common Barn-Owl - 30 April, Fall River Co. (RAP). 11 May, Jackson Co., pair (KG).
 Snowy Owl - 12 April, Day Co., late (BKH, JMG).
 Long-eared Owl - 24 March, Brown Co. (DAT et al.).
 Northern Saw-whet Owl - 28 March, Brown Co., banded (DAT).
 Pileated Woodpecker - 16 March, 26 May, Roberts Co., increasing winter and spring observations (BKH).
 Yellow-bellied Flycatcher - 16 May, Brookings Co., **EARLIEST EVER** (CS).
 Purple Martin - 27 March, Gregory Co., **EARLIEST EVER** (GLS).
 Brown Creeper - 4 May, Brown Co., late (DAT).
BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER - 7 May, EDMUNDS CO. (JDW).
 Swainson's Thrush - 16 April, Day Co., very early (DRS).
 Hermit Thrush - 11 May, Brown Co., very late (JCS).
 Northern Mockingbird - 1. 2 May, Brown Co. (JCS). 18 May, Perkins Co. (RAP). 25 May, Shannon Co. (MMM).
 Water Pipit - 1 May, Faulk Co., 4 (JDW).
 Loggerhead Shrike - 11 March, Yankton Co., very early (WH).
 Warbling Vireo - 30 April, Minnehaha Co., very early (AH).
 Nashville Warbler - 2 May, Brown Co., very early (DAT).
 Chestnut-sided Warbler - 6 May, Minnehaha Co., **EARLIEST EVER** (AH).
 Magnolia Warbler - 16 May, Brookings Co. (CS). 22 May, Edmunds Co. (JDW).
 Cape May Warbler - 6 May, Minnehaha Co., very early (AH).

Blackburnian Warbler - 7 May, Edmunds Co. (JDW). 16 May, Brookings Co. (CS).
 Palm Warbler - 3 May, Brookings Co. (CS).
 Bay-breasted Warbler - 19 May, Edmunds Co. (JDW).
 Blackpoll Warbler - 4 May, Brown Co., very early (DAT).
PROTHONOTARY WARBLER - 2 May, Deuel Co., **EARLIEST EVER** (BKH).
WORM-EATING WARBLER - 2, 4 May, Brown Co., ties **EARLIEST EVER** (DAT). 7 May, Perkins Co. (DG, CG, GH).
 Summer Tanager - 20 May, Minnehaha Co. (AH).
 Scarlet Tanager - 20 May, Minnehaha Co. (AH). 21 May, Day Co. (RAP et al.).
 Northern Cardinal - 8 April, Deuel Co. (BKH et al.).
 Lazuli Bunting - 16 May, Edmunds Co. (JDW). 16 May, Brookings Co. (CS).
 Fox Sparrow - 15 March, Brookings Co., ties **EARLIEST EVER** (NJH).
 White-throated Sparrow - 21 May, Day Co., very late (DRS).
 White-crowned Sparrow - 7 May, Edmunds Co., late (JDW).
EASTERN MEADOWLARK - 1 March, Brookings Co., **EARLIEST EVER** (CS).
GREAT TAILED GRACKLE - 14 May Yankton Co., **FIRST STATE RECORD**, if accepted by Rare Bird Committee (SVS et al.).
 Purple Finch - 4 May Brown Co., late (DAT).
 White-winged Crossbill - 2, 21 March, Deuel Co., 2 (BKH). 21 March, Brookings Co., 10 (RWK).
 Pine Siskin - 15 May, Day Co., 3+ (DRS).

KENNETH H. HUSMANN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Mrs. Jackie G. Zimmer Halbritter, Montrose, SD, has won the Kenneth H. Husmann Memorial Scholarship for her senior studies in biology at Dakota State College during the 1988-89 academic year. Upon graduating, Halbritter hopes to teach biology in a South Dakota high school and to share with her students her knowledge and enthusiasm about birds.

Administered by the South Dakota Ornithologists' Union, the Husmann scholarship was endowed by Mrs. Patsy T. Husmann, Brookings, SD, in honor of her late husband's dedication to the study and preservation of birds and other wildlife. Mr. Husmann served many years as a director of the South Dakota Ornithologists' Union. He also was honored by the US Department of Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service, for his volunteer work in establishing bluebird nesting trails at the Waubay National Wildlife Refuge.

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