

SOUTH DAKOTA
ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION



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NOTES

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Tricolored Heron in Kingsbury Co. by Mark Skadsen.....cover
President Page.....83
Responses of Fall Passerines to Recordings of Local and Foreign Owls by Nancy Ernst.....84
SDOU Membership List.....87
General Notes -- First South Dakota Tricolored Heron nest; Observations of nesting Chipping Sparrows; Apparent cowbird parasitism of a Bell's Vireo nest; Lesser Scaup nesting in Marshall County; Injured Prairie Falcon near Bristol; Brewer's Sparrow nests; Black-throated Gray Warbler at Aberdeen; Purple Finch and Dark-eyed Junco recoveries; Leucistic American Robin in Charles Mix Co......95
Book Reviews.....100
The 1986 Summer Season by Bruce Harris.....102

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

September 1986 marked the end of my first term as SDOU president. I begin my second term accepting once again with pride the challenge of spearheading the only South Dakota organization dedicated solely to birding and ornithology.

During the past year, several of my original goals as President have been realized. We now have a newsletter, *The Lark Bunting*, edited by Dennis Skadsen, which will appear twice a year and, hopefully, 4 issues annually. The environmental

action committee, which was once ably chaired by the late Ken Husmann, is reactivated under the direction of Dennis Skadsen. Dennis reported at the Watertown meeting on 2 issues: the James River/Garrison Project and surface mining in the Black Hills. This committee will update and alert members about important environmental issues by publishing reports in *The Lark Bunting*. Another goal, to encourage scientific bird study, was partially achieved by the formation of an atlasing committee. Headed by Richard Peterson, this 5-member group will study the feasibility of undertaking a breeding bird atlas project in South Dakota. Their immediate objective is to make a proposal to the Board of Directors at the Spring 1987 meeting. (As an adjunct to this goal, the Board of Directors voted to hold the spring 1988 meeting at Webster. Tentative plans for the meeting are to provide instructions and experience for breeding bird atlasing by sending teams into the field.) A soon to be realized goal is the formalization of the process for reviewing rare bird reports. The rare bird records review committee will become a reality if our membership approves a constitutional amendment to establish this group as a standing committee. After developing by-laws and procedural guidelines, the committee will begin functioning by accepting or rejecting reports of unexpected birds observed in South Dakota.

According to the constitution, our overall goal is "to promote the study of ornithology by uniting more closely the students of ornithology." This goal will be partially accomplished when our organization joins with 2 other groups of similar interest during future meetings. SDOU and the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union will meet on 15-17 May 1987



in Valentine, Nebraska, for a weekend of field trips and fellowship. The following fall, the Inland Bird Banding Association will meet with us in Rapid City (25-27 September 1987). Some well-known ornithologists and bird banders will be presenters at what promises to be a very informative meeting.

My goals for my second term as President are to become better informed on West River range management practices that ultimately affect birds (particularly the Burrowing Owl and Ferruginous Hawk) and to investigate what the Department of Game, Fish and Parks is currently doing to protect non-game birds.

In conclusion, I wish to ask about your goals as a member. Hopefully one of them is to increase participation in SDOU activities. I hope to meet you at our next meetings. Members are needed to enlarge the Environmental Action Committee and *The Lark Bunting* staff. Articles are needed for both our publications, as are cover photographs for *South Dakota Bird Notes*. Presenters are always in demand for our fall meetings. Possibly you will become better informed on a key environmental issue and contact our legislative representatives. Finally, you can further our cause by signing up new members. If each of us accepts any of these challenges, our organization will benefit many-fold. Act now, you can make a difference!

RESPONSES OF FALL PASSERINES TO RECORDINGS OF LOCAL AND FOREIGN OWLS

by Nancy Ernst
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Introduction

The objective of this study was to test for differences in defensive behavior of passerines toward recordings of local and foreign owl species.

Methods and Materials

Fifteen minute tape recordings of 4 owl species' calls were made from Peterson (1962). Both large and small owls were chosen. The local species were Great Horned and Screech Owls and those foreign to South Dakota were Great Gray and Ferruginous Owls. All 4 species prey on passerines.

Three study locations were chosen in Aberdeen, SD, for their abundance of birds and trees and their freedom from outside disturbances. The owl tapes were played on calm mornings from 26 September 1985 to 8 October 1985. Only 1 call was played per day at any site until each species' call had been played at each location.

Four categories of antipredator defenses (see Shedd 1982) were used to measure the response to taped owl calls. Category I: Any aggressive move toward the tape recorder. Category II: A passive response indicated when a group of noisy birds fell silent for the duration of the recording. Silent birds that moved out of cover to observe the source of the calls were also considered in this category. Category III: Mobbing to within 3 meters of the tape recorder. Torn between fleeing or fighting (Hinde 1954), mobbing birds perform a combination of calls and visual displays. Category IV: Alarm calls given from a distance of several meters, without giving visual displays. A negative response to the recordings consisted of no perceived change in bird behavior.

Some of my data are approximate, either because of my failing to notice birds displaying undercover, the subtlety of the silent defense, or the confusion of many birds displaying together. Nevertheless, defensive response to the owl calls were obvious and sufficiently varied to overcome some degree of error.

Results and Discussion

The 2 local owl calls drew definite responses while the foreign calls were essentially ignored or drew only expressions of mild curiosity (Figure 1). Of the local owls, the Screech Owl call elicited the most spectacular response. Reactions to the Great Horned Owl were evident but more subtle.

At all 3 locations, the Screech Owl recording provoked vigorous mobbing interspersed with displacement activities. Dark-eyed Juncos and Harris' Sparrows with raised crests were particularly active. A Downy Woodpecker displayed random displacement tapping (similar to that reported in Terres 1980) between short flights from branch to branch. Black-capped Chickadees stopped to scratch or wipe their bills quickly on branches.

Birds were active at each location as the Great Horned Owl tapes began. Some passerines remained undisturbed throughout the tape and aggressive defense was rare. The most common reaction was a general quieting of bird activity. Once a large group of noisy American Robins quietly

slipped out of sight for the duration of the tape. This comparative lack of aggression toward the Great Horned Owl may be because of its size relative to the Screech Owl or because small passerines might be less threatened by the larger owl.

The few reactions to the foreign owls were non-aggressive. Most birds continued their normal activities and vocalizations during these tapes. A Downy Woodpecker landed near the recorder playing the Ferruginous Owl call. The woodpecker cocked its head for a few minutes and then flew off. Similar behavior has been recorded in Chaffinches examining an owl model with poor predatory characteristics (Hinde 1954). Birds learn to recognize predators by observing the mobbing behavior of conspecifics towards these enemies (Curio et al. 1978). Presumably the passerines in this study showed no alarm toward foreign owl calls because the local birds were not culturally trained to fear them. Since birds give a more aggressive response to predators during the breeding season (Shedd 1982), I look forward to similar experiments in the spring.

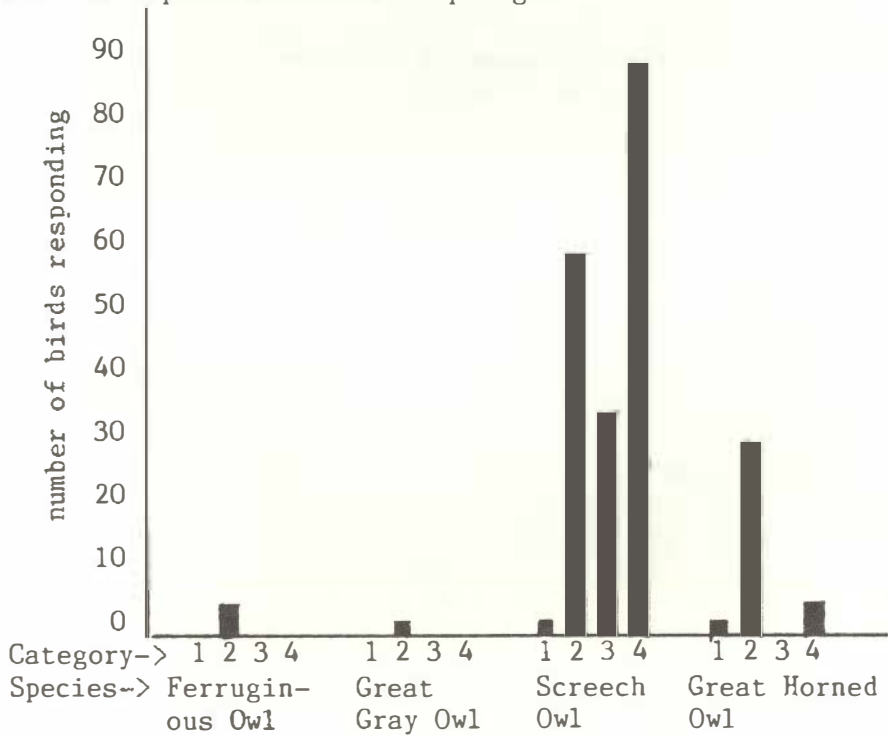


Figure 1. Passerine reactions to 4 owl calls. See text for description of categories of response.

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MONARCH
 AUSTRALIAN BIRDING TOURS

GENERAL NOTES

FIRST SOUTH DAKOTA TRICOLORED HERON NEST. On 19 June 1986, Bruce Harris located a heron/egret colony 2.5 miles south of the town of Lake Preston, Kingsbury Co., SD. The colony was spread out in willow thickets over 3.4 feet of water along 250 feet of a swollen stream between Lake Whitewood and Lake Thompson. Harris found Black-crowned Night-Herons, Cattle Egrets, Snowy Egrets, and Little Blue Herons on nests. An adult Tricolored Heron was at the colony and Harris suspected it was nesting.

I visited the colony on 13 July and observed an adult Tricolored Heron fly from the top of the willows to a nest at the outside edge of the thicket nearest to me. The nest, a 15-inch diameter cup made of dead twigs, sat in a live willow 3-4 feet above the water. The adult bobbed its head down into the nest several times and at least 1 downy young, less than 1/6th grown, was seen above the nest rim. I did not see the adult feed the nestling. The long, thin, light-brown down on the nestling's head contrasted with the light-buff breast and gray-brown back. Its long, stout bill was black or very dark gray. This plumage identifies the Tricolored Heron; the young of all the other herons and egrets at this colony have white or gray down (Bent, 1963, *Life Histories of North American Marsh Birds*, Dover Publications, New York). I returned to the colony on 20 July and found the young had more than doubled in size. A nestling stood on the edge of the nest and jabbed its bill at an adult Snowy Egret perched less than a foot away. An adult Tricolored Heron sat in the willow tops but was not seen at the nest. A possible second adult Tricolored Heron was seen 3 miles west of the colony 30 minutes earlier.

On 26 July, Gil Blankespoor and Augie Hoeger accompanied me to the colony to confirm the nesting. Four young were now nearly half grown, but noticeably different in size. The smallest was still in the nest, while the other 3 had climbed into the willows above the nest. Their plumage was very well defined, with chestnut on the head and neck, except for a white chin and stripe running down the front of the neck. The wings were dark gray, the back cinnamon-drab, and the belly white. Blankespoor waded through the colony and found a second adult Tricolored Heron with young at a nest, 20 feet from the first, on the other side of the willow thicket. The second nest was 5 feet above the water in a dead willow. The 3 or 4 young were 1 to 2 weeks younger than those in the first nest.

These records are the first of the Tricolored Heron's nesting in South Dakota. Of the 3 previous sight records for the state, 1 is from Lake Whitewood in 1981, the other 2 are from NE South Dakota (SDBN 32:81, 33:85, 35:76). In July 1978, at Long Lake National Wildlife Refuge, North Dakota, a Tricolored Heron nested, although later abandoned its eggs and chicks (Lokemoen, 1979, *The Prairie Naturalist* 11:97-110).

Because of increasing water levels, the Kingsbury County heron/egret colony's location has changed 4 times during the past 4 years. Levels in the county have risen drastically since 1983 and are currently at record highs. During 1981 and 1982, an egret, heron, and ibis colony was located in cattails at Lake Whitewood (SDBN 33:84-85, 34:98). In 1983, Darrell and Lois Wells and Ken Husmann found the colony in rushes at the east end of Lake Preston (SDBN 35:52-53). In late June 1984 heavy rains flooded this colony, forcing the birds to move to an established (?) Cattle Egret colony at Lake Thompson, where they again nested in 1985 (SDBN 36:80-81, 37:84). The 1986 spring and summer again brought heavy rain to Kingsbury Co. Emergent vegetation previously used for nesting cover has been flooded out of Lakes Whitewood, Preston, and Thompson, leaving large, open expanses of water. Even with these changing water conditions, it is pleasing to know these colonial birds have found suitable sites each year. The movements of this colony in future years will be interesting to observe. Will they continue to nest in the stream thickets or move back into the rushes and cattails as they reappear? *Mark Skadsen, 1904 W 26th Street, Sioux Falls 57105.*

OBSERVATIONS OF NESTING CHIPPING SPARROWS. During the 1981 breeding season, a pair of Chipping Sparrows nested in an ornamental White Fir (*Abies concolor*) by our living-room window at our home in western Rapid City. On 1 June 1981, nest building began, and the task was completed on 4 June. The nest was 1.8 m above the ground and was next to the trunk on the house side of the tree. Principal nest materials included fine rootlets, fine dry grass, and horsehair. The cup's diameter was 5.08 cm, and its depth at the center was 3.18 cm. These data are similar to those provided by Stull (in Bent, 1968, *Life Histories of North American Cardinals, Grosbeaks, Buntings, Towhees, Sparrows, and Allies*).

Egg laying lasted from 5 to 7 June, with the completed clutch consisting of 3 pale blue eggs with dark brown spots at the large ends. According to Stull, 4 eggs are more typical for Chipping Sparrows, but 3 eggs are relatively common.

Incubation probably started on 7 June and lasted through late 18 June or early 19 June. In the morning of 19 June, the nest contained 2 downless nestlings. The third egg never hatched. The incubation period of about 13 days is within the normal range for this species (Stull).

During the nestling stage, both adults fed the young birds. Fledging occurred on 28 June, with 1 young leaving the nest several hours before the other. Thus about 10 days transpired between hatching and fledging. Stull's records for fledging range from 8 to 12 days.

During the nesting period, we saw the male feed the female only 3 times. In contrast, Stull indicates that males commonly feed their mates at the nest during incubation.

Throughout the nesting cycle the female did not flush because of our presence, even though we frequently used the door near the nest. Our presence near the fir, however, often provoked scolding from the male, or from the female if she was off the nest. Also we did not observe territorial conflict between the adults and other Chipping Sparrows. The sparrows showed distress, however, with the proximity of Common Grackles and drove off House Sparrows.

At the onset of the 1982 breeding season, a pair of Chipping Sparrows returned to the fir tree and for a few days carried new nesting materials to the old nest. Then they abandoned the site, and we removed the old nest. In June 1983, a pair of Chipping Sparrows inspected the fir for 2 days but then departed. Chipping Sparrows did not show an interest in the site during 1984 and 1985. *L. M. Baylor and Mary E. Baylor, 1941 Red Dale Drive, Rapid City 57702.*

APPARENT COWBIRD PARASITISM OF A BELL'S VIREO NEST. On 7 July 1985, Mark Skadsen and I located a Bell's Vireo nest at the Platte Creek Recreation area, along the Missouri River, in Charles Mix Co. The nest was located about 36 inches above the ground in the lower branches of a Green Ash. The nest contained 3 vireo eggs. A Brown-headed Cowbird egg (white, speckled with brown, measuring 18 x 23 mm) lay on the ground directly below the nest. The cowbird egg contained a small puncture mark that we assume was made by the adult vireo while removing the egg from the nest. The remaining eggs hatched successfully with no further cowbird parasitism.

Terres (*Audubon Society Encyclopedia of North American Birds*, 1980) indicates that the Bell's Vireo is a frequent host to cowbirds. Recently Hall (SDBN 31:71) reported on another occurrence of cowbird parasitism on this vireo species. *Dennis Skadsen, Box 113, Grenville 57239.*

LESSER SCAUP NESTING IN MARSHALL COUNTY. While conducting waterfowl nest surveys for the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, on 9 July 1986, Lana Lunde, Mike Dargatz, and I saw 4 Lesser Scaup nesting at Piyas Lake, Marshall Co., SD. The nests were found on the lake's 2 pelican/cormorant island rookeries. Female Lesser Scaup were flushed from each of the 4 nests, which were concealed in heavy vegetation. Two of the nests contained 9 eggs, the others had 6 and 10 eggs. Three nests were on the periphery of the pelican colony, no closer than 25 feet from any active pelican or cormorant nest. However, 1 nest was among 18 Common Tern nests, with some of the terns breeding 2-3 feet from the nesting scaup.

Islands on lakes with grassy or weedy cover are the Lesser Scaup's preferred nesting sites (Johnsgard, 1979, *Birds of the Great Plains*, breeding species and their distributions). The Lesser Scaup is listed as a rare to uncommon breeder in NE South Dakota (Whitney et al., 1978, *The Birds of South Dakota*). Dennis Skadsen, Box 113, Grenville 57239.

INJURED PRAIRIE FALCON NEAR BRISTOL. On 10 August 1986, staff of the Waubay National Wildlife Refuge received a phone call from Marsha Peckham, who reported an injured "hawk" 6 miles south and 7 miles west of Bristol, Day Co., SD. The next day, Assistant Refuge Manager Mike Getman and Roberts Co. Conservation Officer Doug Jones picked up the injured bird and took it to Sisseton, where Jones and Dr. Harry Burrish DVM operate a raptor recovery clinic (see SDBN 36:77). The bird suffered a broken humerus, possibly caused by a gun shot or a collision with an overhead wire. The injury was untreatable by the Sisseton clinic, so the falcon was sent to Dr. Redig of the raptor rehabilitation clinic at the University of Minnesota.

I identified the bird as an immature Prairie Falcon, an uncommon migrant in eastern South Dakota (Whitney et al., 1978, *The Birds of South Dakota*). This record is 2 days later than the earliest fall observation by Elliot on 8 August 1946 near Milbank. Dennis Skadsen, Box 113, Grenville 57239.

BREWER'S SPARROW NESTS. On 24 May 1986, field trip participants at the SDOU Spring meeting found 4 Brewer's Sparrow nests in an area about 6 miles west of Edgemont along Highway 18. The vegetation was dominated by Big Sage and Greasewood, along with other shrubs and sparse grass. One nest was discovered in Sand Sage, the others were found in

Big Sage. Three were located by flushing the incubating birds. The nests were woven grass cups about 3 inches in diameter and 1 to 1.5 feet above the ground. Three turquoise-blue eggs with dark specks were found in 1 nest, the others each contained 4 eggs. Sage Thrashers were observed in this same area, however, no nest of this species was found. *Richard and Juanita Peterson, Box 683, Custer 57730.*

BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER AT ABERDEEN. At 8 am on 1 September 1986, while driving past Melgaard Park in south Aberdeen, Brown Co., SD, Prisbe noticed the elms in the park were full of warblers. This discovery was not surprising; it had rained heavily the previous night with the passing of a cold front and the morning was overcast and misty.

Prisbe birded for over an hour before locating a Black-throated Gray Warbler. The most striking field mark was the bird's broad white superciliary stripe that ended abruptly behind the eye. The warbler had a chunky, upright posture, unlike the many Black-and-White Warblers flitting alongside. Furthermore, the back appeared to be nearly uniform gray, unlike the Black-and-whites' white-striped backs. The Black-throated Gray Warbler had two white wing bars and black cheeks. The throat was dusky, mottled with black and the underparts were white. The flanks were marked with 2 rows of stripes.

Prisbe watched the bird for about 3 minutes from distances as close as 20 feet before he ran to call Tallman to confirm his identification. Tallman arrived at 10:30 am and he and Prisbe quickly located the bird. Never staying still long enough in the open to allow photography, the warbler flew from tree to tree across the park. The only field mark not certainly confirmed by both observers, who were able to study the bird for about 5 minutes, were the bird's yellow lore spots.

Other birds in the flock included many Black-and-White Warblers, Orange-crowned Warblers, American Redstarts, a Chestnut-sided Warbler, a Mourning Warbler, Red-eyed and Warbling Vireos, a Least Flycatcher and a Northern Oriole, and several Black-capped Chickadees. (Swainson's Thrushes, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Northern Waterthrushes, Ovenbirds, and a Golden-winged Warbler were also observed during the day elsewhere in Aberdeen). Only 3 other South Dakota records for the Black-throated Gray Warbler are cited in *The Birds of South Dakota* (1978): 2 in the spring (Sioux Falls and Oahe Dam), and 1 in August (Rapid City). *D. George Prisbe, 1309 S Lincoln, Aberdeen 57401 and Dan A. Tallman, Northern State College, Aberdeen 57401.*

PURPLE FINCH AND DARK-EYED JUNCO RECOVERIES. On 11 November 1985, during a heavy influx of Purple Finches into our area, I captured a banded finch whose number, 850-51366, I did not recognize as my own. According to the Banding Office, the bird was banded on 1 December 1984 near Cedar Falls, Iowa, about 360 miles SE of Aberdeen.

On 14 October 1985, I banded a Dark-eyed Junco (1720-21799) that was subsequently recovered at Lawrence Kansas. Lawrence is about 500 miles SSE of Aberdeen. *Dan Tallman, Northern State College, Aberdeen 57401.*

LEUCISTIC AMERICAN ROBIN IN CHARLES MIX CO. On 23 March 1985, I observed a leucistic American Robin at the Platte Creek Recreation Area, along the Missouri River, in Charles Mix Co. The bird was among 300+ robins that had wintered in the area. About 85% of the bird's plumage was white, with some black feathers on the abdomen, breast, throat, and around the eyes. The tail and wings had solid white plumage and the only orange feathers were 2 patches on its sides.

Terres (*Audubon Society Encyclopedia of North American Birds*, 1980) reports albinism as common in the American Robin. Recently reports of leucistic robins have appeared in Blankespoor (SDBN 34:41); and Rogge and Rogge (SDBN 36:76) reported a robin that completely lacked white. Finally, George Prisbe (pers. comm.) reported a white-faced robin with several white primaries in Brown Co. during the 1986 summer. *Dennis Skadsen, Box 113, Grenville 57239.*

BOOK REVIEWS

Shorebirds: an identification guide by Peter Hayman, John Marchant, and Tony Prater. Houghton Mifflin Co.: Boston. 1986. Hardbound 412 pp. \$35.00.

The cover flap touts this book as "a new generation of field guides." This statement is true--no serious birder should be without either this guide or its companion volume, *Seabirds* by Peter Harrison, also published by Houghton Mifflin.

Shorebirds covers the waders of the world, except the herons, cranes, and ibis. First impressions of the book are immediately favorable, no doubt because of its handsome color illustrations. (These paintings are better than the

merely adequate illustrations in *Seabirds*.) The plates are full of identification data. A whole page is devoted to variously plumaged Dunlins; White-rumped and Baird's Sandpipers share a page, showing many more plumages than would be found in a typical field guide.

Second impressions of the book, however, are often less enthusiastic when one realizes all the world's shorebirds are included in this text. While North American birders probably need pointers on separating Pectoral from Sharp-tailed Sandpipers, the inclusion of species like Cox's Sandpiper, known only from southern Australia since the bird's discovery in 1982, is trivial and makes for confusing and cluttered plates. As is, the plates tend to be hard to decipher. Species are not separated by spaces or lines. They are identified by numbers and letters (i.e., 190b = juvenile Semipalmated Sandpiper). The result of different species and plumages scattered across the pages is the need to constantly consult the text opposite each plate. Some drawings, such as flying *Calidris* on Plate 81, are not labeled, leaving the reader to guess to which species drawings refer. One problem with plates containing only a few species is that a wider, instantaneous comparison is difficult. This problem is partially addressed, however, by 2 plates of small sandpipers ("peeps").

Plates of particular interest to South Dakotans include those of Western and Semipalmated Sandpipers and Short-billed and Long-billed Dowitchers. Opposite each plate is a short description of the depicted plumages and a range map. This arrangement is an improvement over *Seabirds* that has maps at the end of the book. The 89 plates are followed by almost 200 pages of text. Here are included descriptions of plumages, voices, habitats, ranges, measurements, subspecies, and references to the technical literature. The only omission I detected was how to tell eastern from western races of the Solitary Sandpipers (the western race can be identified by its mottled inner primary webs, in contrast to the dark-primaried eastern birds).

Shorebirds begins with a short introduction, appropriate for a book aimed at advanced birders. The section of shorebird silhouettes, however, is probably superfluous. The text is well designed, without the bizarre paragraph initials prevalent in *Seabirds* (i.e., SS for similar species). Also mercifully lacking from *Shorebirds* is all but a passing reference to the word "jizz." Jizz is the process by which an advanced birder does not have to explain to beginners how he identifies rare birds. Jizz refers to a bird's overall shape and demeanor. But, if such stuff can

not be accurately put into words, I can not believe a bird has been accurately observed. I should note, however, that even in *Seabirds*, a phrase such as "heavier jizz" is usually explained, making the use of the word redundant in the first place.

I think the ideal book for advanced birders would be yet more restricted in geographical scope, with paintings of species in as many shades of plumage as possible--for example, a molting yellowlegs with muddy feet. The argument against a book restricted to just North America, is that shorebirds (and seabirds) are notorious vagrants. Ruffs almost certainly occur in South Dakota more often than the single state record implies. I believe an observer using this shorebird guide could make a reliable Ruff identification (one that could be difficult using standard books). And, of course, anyone travelling beyond the continent without this book and its companion simply can not be classified as a serious birder. In conclusion, *Shorebirds* is an absolutely first-rate book. The price is reasonable but birders should beware: they will also find themselves purchasing *Seabirds*. Dan Tallman, Northern State College, Aberdeen 57401.

THE 1986 SUMMER SEASON

by Bruce Harris
Box 605, Clear Lake SD 57226

The summer was generally very wet and windy. By August, most of the state was well over average annual rainfall. Devastating hail hit various places in the eastern part of the state. More importantly, water tables were full and continued rising in much of the east, causing flooding of many areas. Colonial birds especially were adversely affected by this high water and many had to move due to flooding and high winds.

This season was outstanding. We found first nesting records for the Tricolored Heron, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, and Ruby-throated Hummingbirds (although the latter 2 nests were abandoned). Skadsen found the second nest for Le Conte's Sparrow, Peterson discovered a family of Common Mergansers, and ibis were found in 2 new areas. Other uncommon nest records include: Three-toed Woodpecker, Swamp Sparrow, and

Brewer's Sparrow. Among the uncommon birds listed are Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Black Duck, Caspian Tern, and Cerulean Warbler. A Special thanks to Monica Jonwalbach for sharing her work on Piping Plovers and Least Terns.

The following abbreviations are used in this report:

Badlands National Monument (BNM)
Custer State Park (CSP)
Newton Hills State Park (NMSP)
Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge (SLNWR)
Waubay National Wildlife Refuge (WNWR)

Observers cited in this report:

Jocie L. Baker (JLB)	Lana Lundie (LL)
Gil Blankespoor (GB)	Everett Montgomery (ECM)
Ralph L. Bryant (RLB)	Marjorie J. Parker (MJP)
Mike Dargatz (MD)	Richard A. Peterson (RAP)
John M. Gilman (JMG)	George Prisbe (DGP)
Marjorie Glass (MG)	Rex Riis (RR)
Ken Graupmann (KG)	Steve Van Sickle (SVS)
Bruce K. Harris (BKH)	Dennis R. Skadsen (DRS)
Lee A. Harris (LAH)	Mark S. Skadsen (MSS)
Randy Hill (RH)	Gary J. Stava (GJS)
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Nelda J. Holden (NJH)	Erika J. Tallman (EJT)
John Jave (JJ)	George Vandell (GV)
Monica Johwalbach (MJ)	Nat R. Whitney (NRW)
Karen Kronner (KK)	John Wilson (JW)
Michael Melius (MMM)	

COMMON LOON--4 June, WNRW, 1 (LL). 25 July, WNWR, 2 (LL).

RED-NECKED GREBE--3 broods on WNWR.

EARED GREBE--Codington Co., Goose Lake, 300 nests in colony (BKH, DRS, JMG).

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN--1 June, Roberts Co., Drywood Lake, 567 Nest (BKH, DRS, MSS). 5 June, Marshall Co., Piyas Lake, 795 total on 2 islands (DRS, MSS).

5 June, Waubay Lake, 740 nests (DRS, MSS). 1 July, Codington Co., Grass Lake, 300 (BKH). 14 June, N Waubay Lake, 1 nest (DRS, LL, MD).

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT--5 June, Piyas Lake, 274 nests total on 2 islands (DRS, MSS). 5 June, E Waubay, 252 nests on island, 17 on shore (DRS, MSS). 1 June, Roberts Co., N Drywood, 151 nests (BKH, DRS, MSS). 1 July, Codington Co., Grass Lake, 80+ nests, most with eggs or very small young (BKH). 19 June, Lake Preston, 125 nests in flooded cottonwood (BKH). 20 July, Jackson Co., Kadoka Lake, 8 nests (KG).

AMERICAN BITTERN--Day Co., 2 nests (fide DRS).

LEAST BITTERN--24-26 June, SLNWR, 3 (RH).

- GREAT BLUE HERON--1 June, N Drywood, 7 nests on ground (DRS, MSS, BKH). 5 June, Piyas Lake, 5 nests (DRS, MSS). 1 July, Deuel Co., Coteau Lake, ca. 30 nests (BKH). 7 July, Lake Andes, 6 nests with young (JJ). 20 July, Jackson Co., Kadoka Lake, 14 young (KG).
- GREAT EGRET--7 July, Lake Andes, 15 nests with feathered young (JJ). 13 July, Lake Preston Creek, adult working with sticks in colony (MSS). 13 July, Rush Lake, 1 in egret colony and 4 on Little Rush Lake but nesting not verified (BKH, DRS).
- SNOWY EGRET--18 June, Hughes Co., 1 (DAT, EJT). 7 July, Lake Andes, 20 nests with young (JJ). 13 July, Lake Preston Creek, ca. 15 pairs nesting in colony (MSS). 13 July, Rush Lake, 10 adults and at least 15 fledged young (BKH, DRS).
- LITTLE BLUE HERON--7 July, Lake Andes, 1 nest with feathered young (JJ). 20 July, Lake Preston Creek, 4 nests with young photographed (MSS). 26 July, Lake Preston Creek, 14 adults but only 1 nest still with young (MSS).
- TRICOLORED HERON--see General Notes, this issue.
- CATTLE EGRET--1 July, Grass Lake, ca. 10 pair in mixed colony (BKH). 3 July, Aurora Co., White Lake, 5 adults in willows but nests not observed (SVS). 3 July, Faulk Co., Cottonwood Lake, ca. 25 nests in willows (ECM, DAT). 7 July, Lake Andes, 90 nests with feathered young in willows (JJ). 13 July, Day Co., Rush Lake, 29 adults with fledged young (BKH, DRS). 13 July, Lake Preston Creek, ca. 15 pair, all young fledged 26 July (MSS).
- BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON--Lake Andes, 360 nests (JJ).
- YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON--Mid-June 1985, Kingsbury Co., Thompson Lake, photo. (JW). 21 July, WNWNR (DGP).
- WHITE-FACED IBIS--1 July, Grass Lake, 9 adults and 2 nests (BKH). 11 July, Goose Lake, ca. 6 adults, 4 nests, all with eggs (BKH, JMG, DRS). 27 July, Day Co., Hedke Pass, 35, nesting not confirmed (DRS et al.). No nesting reported at SLNWR despite spring reports.
- SNOW GOOSE--19 June, Lake Preston Creek area, 1 cripple (BKH).
- WOOD DUCK--17 June, Pennington Co., 4 on Cheyenne River (MMM).
- AMERICAN BLACK DUCK--1 July, Grass Lake, no nest found (BKH).
- GADWALL--15 August, WNWNR, very late hatch (LL).
- CANVASBACK--29 July, Minnehaha Co., 7 in female or basic plumage (MSS).
- LESSER SCAUP--7 June, Haakon Co. (JLB). 9 July, Piyas Lake, 4 nests (DRS, MD, LL).
- HOODED MERGANSER--8 June, Faulk Co., 1 female (MMM).
- COMMON MERGANSER--14 June, Pennington Co., Canyon Lake, brood of 5, few other state nesting records (RAP).
- RUDOY DUCK--31 July, Meade Co., female with downy young (NRW).
- TURKEY VULTURE--13 July, Yankton Co. (SVS).
- OSPREY--1 June, Stanley Co. (KK). 1 June, Yankton Co. (KK). 24 July, CSP (NRW).
- SHARP-SHINNED HAWK--15 July, Pennington Co. (RAP). 27 July, Pennington Co. (RAP).
- COOPER'S HAWK--24 July, Custer Co. (MJP). 18 and 30 July, E Pennington Co. (MG).

NORTHERN GOSHAWK--2 June, Custer Co. (MJP). 12 and 27 July, Pennington Co., nest with young (RAP).

BROAD-WINGED HAWK--27 June, Roberts Co., (BKH).

FERRUGINOUS HAWK--10 April-10 June, Faulk Co., nesting (MMM).

GOLDEN EAGLE--13 March, Custer Co. nesting on powerline crossbars (MMM).

MERLIN--30 June and 3 July, Custer Co. (MJP).

RUFFED GROUSE--Pennington and Custer Co., 3 broods during season (RAP).

SHARP-TAILED GROUSE--7 June, Faulk Co., 1 feigning injury (MMM).

NORTHERN BOBWHITE--12 June, Union Co. (BKH). 8 July, NHSP, 3 calling (MSS).

PIPING PLOVER--Missouri River, 179 adults, 30 nests, 14 young (MJ). No plovers found on Cheyenne River.

AMERICAN AVOCET--10 June, Pennington Co. (JLB). 11 June, Marshall Co., 2 nests (DRS, JWK, RLB).

LONG-BILLED CURLEW--15 June, Pennington Co., 18 (MMM). 17 June, Stanley Co., 3 (DAT). 23 June, Shannon Co., 14 (RAP).

HUDSONIAN GODWIT--5 June, Roberts Co. (BKH).

MARBLED GODWIT--8 June, Haakon Co. (JLB). 13 June, Day Co., 5 (DRS).

SANDERLING--1 June, Roberts Co., Drywood Lake, 3 (BKH). 4-6 June, Yankton Co., 20 (KK).

DUNLIN--4-6 June, Yankton Co, 10 (KK).

COMMON SNIPE--1 June, Pennington Co. (JLB). 29 June-3 July, Custer Co., winnowing male (RAP).

FRANKLIN'S GULL--3 June, Codington Co., Goose Lake, large colony established but apparently dispersed by several severe storms; when checked on 11 July, only 15+ immatures and 1 flightless fledgling (BKH, JMG, DRS).

RING-BILLED GULL--1 June, Roberts Co., Drywood Lake, 34 nests, 60% with full clutches (DRS, MSS, BKH). 14 June, Day Co., Waubay Lake, 936 nests, most hatching; colony moved to north from south end of lake due to flooding (DRS, MSS, LL). 15 June, Bitter Lake, 675 nests on site not used since 1950's (DRS).

CALIFORNIA GULL--1 June, Roberts Co., Drywood Lake, 1 (BKH). 5 June, Piyas Lake, 2 nests (DRS). 14 June, Waubay Lake, 7 adults with 2 nests (DRS). 15 June, Bitter Lake, 7 nests (DRS). 16 June, Dahe Dam (RR, DAT).

CASPIAN TERN--11 July, Codington Co., Goose Lake, 1 (BKH, DRS, JGM). 26 June 1985, SLNWR, 1 (RH).

COMMON TERN--1 June, Drywood Lake, 10 nests with 1-2 eggs (DRS, MSS, BKH). 5 June, Piyas Lake, 2 nests (DRS). 14 June, Waubay Lake, 10 nests (DRS).

FORSTER'S TERN--Rush Lake, ca. 20 pairs and 3 nests (BKH, DRS). Codington Co., Goose Lake, ca. 30 pairs and 11 nests (BKH, JMG, DRS). Grass Lake, ca. 20 pairs (BKH). Lake Preston floodlands, 30+ adults (BKH).

LEAST TERN--Missouri River drainage, 391 adults, 84 nests, 63 young, of these, 43 adults, 14 nests, and 20 young on Cheyenne River (MJ). Pennington and Meade Co., Cheyenne River, 21 adults, 1 nest with 2 eggs (MMM).

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO--17 June, Pennington Co. (MMM).

BARRED OWL--10 August, Lawrence Co., Spearfish Canyon, 1 calling (BKH).

SHORT-EARED OWL--2 August, Deuel Co. (BKH).

COMMON POORWILL--10 July, Custer Co. (MJP).

WHIP-POOR-WILL--12 June, Union Co. (BKH). 12 July, NHSP, 2 calling (MSS).
RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD--7 June, Marshall Co., Buffalo Lake, pair coming to feeder (DRS). 8 June, NHSP, pair feeding on sapsucker drillings (MSS). 29 July, Roberts Co., Sodak Park, female on nest 20 feet in Dak; on 19 August the nest, the first for South Dakota, was found deserted (DRS).
LEWIS' WOODPECKER--17 June and 10 July, Custer Co., carrying food (MJP).
YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER--8 June, NHSP, pair carrying food (MSS). 29 June, Roberts Co., immature (BKH).
RED-NAPED SAPSUCKER--26 June, CSP, female (NRW).
THREE-TOED WOODPECKER--9 August, Lawrence Co., Spearfish Canyon, both adults feeding young in nest (BKH, LAH). 2 and 15 July, Pennington Co., Cold Creek and Crook Tower areas (RAP).
BLACK-BACKED WOODPECKER--15 July, Pennington Co. (RAP). 30 July, Custer Co. (RAP).
OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER--13 June, McPherson Co., very late migrant (DAT, OGP).
EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE--28 July, Roberts Co., female feeding 3 fledged young (BKH).
YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER--9 June, Brown Co., late migrant banded (DAT).
LEAST FLYCATCHER--1 June, Pennington Co., 2 calling (JLB). June to 13 July, Day Co. (BKH, ORS). 4 July, Lawrence Co. (RAP).
SAY'S PHOEBE--27 May, BNW, incubation on first of 2 clutches, second clutch fledged 4 August (MG).
GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER--17 June, Uahe Dam (DAT).
SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER--June, Beadle Co., details lacking (fide GV).
PYGMY NUTHATCH--26 July, Custer Co., 3 (RAP).
HOUSE WREN--31 July, WNWR, 8 active nests in bluebird boxes (DRS).
SEdge WREN--17 July, Roberts Co. (DGP).
EASTERN BLUEBIRD--WNWR, 18 nests in boxes (DRS). Reported widely elsewhere.
SWAINSON'S THRUSH--8 June, Brown Co., late migrant banded (DAT).
WOOD THRUSH--15 July, NHSP, nest and young (MSS).
AMERICAN REDBIN--3 May, Minnehaha Co., nest with 4 young, very early (GB, MSS).
NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD--18 June, Jackson Co., 1 (DAT).
YELLOW-THROATED VIREO--8 June, NHSP, 6 singing birds (MSS). All season, Big Stone Lake (BKH).
YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER--21 June, Custer Co., rattlesnake eating Audubon's Warbler (MJP).
BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER--1 June, Brown Co. (DGP).
CERULEAN WARBLER--5 June, NHSP, 1 singing (MSS).
AMERICAN REDSTART--8 June, NHSP, 3 pair (MSS).
OVENBIRD--15 July, NHSP, singing (MSS, BKH).
COMMON YELLOWTHROAT--23 July, Day Co., WNWR, adult with food (DRS).
YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT--8 June, NHSP, seen and heard (MSS).
SCARLET TANAGER--12 June, NHSP, pair (BKH, MSS, NJH, DJH).
BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK--1 June, Roberts Co., along Big Stone Lake (GJS).
RUFIOUS-SIDED TOWHEE--5 June, NHSP, spotted race defending territory against unspotted race; 6 in 50-foot radius, all agitated and calling (MSS).
BREWER'S SPARROW--25 May, Fall River Co., 4 nests (SDDU).

- LARK SPARROW--23 June, Jackson Co., nest with 2 cowbird and 3 sparrow eggs (RAP).
- BAIRD'S SPARROW--7 June, Faulk Co., 1 singing (MMM). 13 June and 26 July, McPherson Co. (DAT, DGP).
- LE CONTE'S SPARROW--6 August, Day Co., adult with food and fledged young (DRS).
- SONG SPARROW--14 May, Day Co., adult with food (DRS).
- SWAMP SPARROW--3 August, Deuel Co., agitated adults with food, fledgling calling but not seen (BKH).
- CHESTNUT-COLLARED LONGSPUR--24 May, Fall River Co., nest with 4 eggs (NRW). 4 June, Deuel Co., nest with eggs (DJH). 8 June, Faulk Co., 2 nests each with cowbird eggs (MMM).
- BOBOLINK--21 June, Pennington Co., 2 (NRW). 17 and 29 June, Custer Co., 4 and 6 birds (RAP).
- CASSIN'S FINCH--3 and 30 July, Pennington and Custer Co. (RAP). Custer Co., sporadic at feeder (MJP).
- RED CROSSBILL--12 July, Roberts Co. (BKH). 16 July, Deuel Co. (BKH). Custer Co., 30+ at feeder (MJP). Very common in Black Hills this summer, 61 trapped in 4 days (NRW).
- PINE SISKIN--Nest in Brookings, Deuel, Codington, and Roberts Co. 2 June, Brown Co. (DGP).
- EVENING GROSBEEK--21 June, Pennington Co., Roubiaux Lake, 1 (NRW).

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<input type="checkbox"/> Red-tailed Grackle	<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-winged Teal
<input type="checkbox"/> Horned Grebe	<input type="checkbox"/> Common Teal
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-necked Grebe	<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Shoveler
<input type="checkbox"/> Least Grebe	<input type="checkbox"/> Gadwall
<input type="checkbox"/> Western Grebe	<input type="checkbox"/> American Wigeon
<input type="checkbox"/> Clark Grebe	<input type="checkbox"/> Aransas
<input type="checkbox"/> American White Pelican	<input type="checkbox"/> Redhead
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown Pelican*	<input type="checkbox"/> King-billed Duck
<input type="checkbox"/> Double-crested Cormorant	<input type="checkbox"/> Oldsquaw
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Cormorant*	<input type="checkbox"/> Lesser Scaup
<input type="checkbox"/> American Osprey	<input type="checkbox"/> Lesser Scaup
<input type="checkbox"/> Least Tern	<input type="checkbox"/> Common Eider*
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Blue Heron	<input type="checkbox"/> Cinnamon
<input type="checkbox"/> Osprey	<input type="checkbox"/> Black Scoter
<input type="checkbox"/> Snowy Egret	<input type="checkbox"/> Salt Scoter*
<input type="checkbox"/> Cattle Blue Heron*	<input type="checkbox"/> White-winged Scoter
<input type="checkbox"/> Tricolored Heron*	<input type="checkbox"/> Common Goldeneye*
<input type="checkbox"/> Cattle Egret	<input type="checkbox"/> Lesser Goldeneye*
<input type="checkbox"/> Green-winged Heron	<input type="checkbox"/> Butorhead
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-crowned Night-Heron	<input type="checkbox"/> Hooded Merganser
<input type="checkbox"/> Lesser-crowned Night-Heron	<input type="checkbox"/> Common Merganser
<input type="checkbox"/> White Ibis*	<input type="checkbox"/> Red-crowned Merganser
<input type="checkbox"/> Whooping Crane	<input type="checkbox"/> Rusty Duck
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Stork*	<input type="checkbox"/> White Ibis
<input type="checkbox"/> Florida Yellowlegs*	<input type="checkbox"/> Osprey
<input type="checkbox"/> White Ibis	<input type="checkbox"/> American Golden-billed Merg*
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<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Duck	<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Goshawk
<input type="checkbox"/> American Black Duck	<input type="checkbox"/> Broad-winged Hawk*
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sharp-shinned Hawk
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Published by
SOUTH DAKOTA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION
Editor: Dr. Dan Tallman
NSC Box 740
Aberdeen, S.D. 57401

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