

during 1987 found 692 pairs in 38 colonies; 71% of the birds and 38% of the colonies were on rooftops (Paul 1987). Over one-half of Maryland's Least Tern population nested on building roofs during 1991 (Armistead 1991). The opportunistic nesting behavior of the Least Tern may result in additional rooftop colonies in North Carolina.

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#### BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

RICKY DAVIS

(All dates Spring 1993)

**RED-THROATED LOON:** Usually single birds are found inland, so somewhat surprising was the presence of two in the Greensboro, N.C. area in late March to early April with one at Lake Townsend and one on Lake Brandt (Henry Link, Herb Hendrickson).

**PACIFIC LOON:** A bird was picked up at Atlantic Beach, N.C. and was taken to a local wildlife shelter on 24 March and was released on 3 April after being photographed and measured (Paul Spitzer). Another or the same individual was observed near Cape Lookout bight on 30 April by Spitzer (fide John Fussell). Also Derb Carter found a Pacific at Figure 8 Island on 18 April which was subsequently seen by Sam Cooper and Kevin Markham. This species is very rare in the Carolinas even though records are occurring more frequently in the last couple of years. Observers should

be very cautious and give thorough details when reporting Pacific/Arctic Loons.

RED-NECKED GREBE: Reports of this species in the Carolinas are always noteworthy, thus one at Huntington Beach State Park, S.C. in late March seen by Henry Armistead, et al. was a good find. The wintering "flock" of four in the Greensboro, N.C. area was present until mid-March (Henry Link).

SEABIRD OBSERVATIONS FROM THE OUTER BANKS OF NORTH CAROLINA. Birds indicated by () were seen by only a handful of observers on these trips.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
	May 15	18	20	21	22	28	29	30	31
A off Oregon Inlet(Pterodroma Ptours)									
B off Hatteras(Robert L. Ake and party)									
C off Oregon Inlet(Virginia Museum and party)									
D off Oregon Inlet(OBServe Tours)									
E Off Oregon Inlet(OBServe Tours)									
F from Cape Hatteras Point, Buxton(Ned Brinkley)									
G off Hatteras(Pterodroma Ptours)									
H off Hatteras(Pterodroma Ptours)									
I off Hatteras(Pterodroma Ptours)									
N. Fulmar	1								
Herald Petrel					(1)				
Black-cap. Petrel	82	114	110	150	120		42	1	74
Cory's Shearwater	9	9	29	35	15	479	83	24	56
Greater Shearwater		1	5	2	2	1	6	2	6
Sooty Shearwater	2	1	6	45	40	112	7	6	4
Manx Shearwater		1				2			
Audubon's Shearwater	5	2	15	3	1		15	3	5
Wilson's St.-Petrel	875	15	150	85	70		150	20	47
Leach's St.-Petrel		5	12	3	1	1	3	2	84
Band-r. St.-Petrel			3	1					7
White-t. Tropicbird			1						
N. Gannet			1			60		9	
Red Phalarope			1						
Red-n. Phalarope	35			1	7				
Pomarine Jaeger	7	3	27	2		1	2		3
Parasitic Jaeger	3					2	2		2
Long-t. Jaeger								1	2
S. Polar Skua							1		
Common Tern	11	1					8		
Bridled Tern	2	3	6				2		
Sooty Tern	1		3						2
jaeger sp.	5					1		1	2
large storm-petrel								1	2
large shearwater						150			
small shearwater						4			

- EARED GREBE:** There were three reports of this rare but regular species this spring with the best count being the seven that wintered at a Sumter, S.C. sewage pond and were present until April (Lex Glover, Evelyn Dabbs, Harrold and Velma Blevins). One at Lake Crabtree near Raleigh, N.C. on 18 March was observed by Doug Shadwick. Also a winter plumaged bird was photographed by Sam Cooper and Kevin Markham at Aurora, N.C. on 7 April.
- HORNED GREBE:** Late were two at Portsmouth, N.C. through May (Steve Dinsmore) and one at Cape Hatteras also to the end of May (Harry LeGrand, Mike Tove, Steve Dinsmore).
- NORTHERN FULMAR:** Two off of Cape Lookout, N.C. 3 April were seen by Allen Bryan. A little late were one found dead on Portsmouth Is. 13 May by Steve Dinsmore and one off Oregon Inlet 15 May by Mike Tove, et al.
- BLACK-CAPPED PETREL:** This species was seen in usual numbers on almost all offshore trips in North Carolina. Three found off of Charleston, S.C. 29 May, by Lex Glover, Steve Patterson, et al. were somewhat more noteworthy.
- HERALD PETREL:** The only report for this spring was of one seen by one person on a 22 May trip off of Oregon Inlet (OBServe Tours).
- GREATER SHEARWATER:** Ned Brinkley counted an astonishing 221 flying past Cape Hatteras point on 3 June. This species has been more evident in North Carolina waters this season than in the past several years.
- MANX SHEARWATER:** This species was reported on one offshore trip in May; on the 18th off of Hatteras (Bob Ake, et al.). More surprising were two on the 28th and two on 3 June seen from shore at Cape Hatteras Point by Ned Brinkley!
- CORY'S SHEARWATER:** On 3 June, Ned Brinkley observed a large movement of shearwaters flying past Cape Hatteras Point with a total of 866 Cory's being most impressive.
- WILSON'S STORM-PETREL:** The high count for the spring occurred somewhat early on 15 May with 875 being seen off of Oregon Inlet by Mike Tove, et al.
- BAND-RUMPED STORM-PETREL:** This species was seen on several trips off of North Carolina with a peak of 7 being seen off Hatteras 31 May by Mike Tove, et al.
- LEACH'S STORM-PETREL:** This species seemed unusually common this spring with a record count of 84 being tallied off of Hatteras on 31 May by Mike Tove, et al.
- WHITE-TAILED TROPICBIRD:** An immature off Oregon Inlet, N.C. on 20 May by the Virginia Museum party was the only spring report.
- NORTHERN GANNET:** Twelve seen from Cape Hatteras Point on 31 May by Andrew Fix was a good count for this late in the season.
- BROWN PELICAN:** Russ Tyndall found two at a sandpit north of Greenville, N.C. on 20 March for a rare "inland" record.
- GREAT CORMORANT:** One photographed at the west end of Lake Phelps, N.C. this spring by John Fussell was an unusual inland record for this mostly coastal species. Also one was a little late at Huntington Beach State Park, S.C. on 25 May by Jack Peachey.

- ANHINGA:** Two were seen soaring over Chapel Hill and Durham, N.C. on 2 May by several lucky observers. This species is quite rare in this region of the state.
- LEAST BITTERN:** Always good finds, two were seen inland this spring: one in a clearcut ditch(!) near Tarboro, N.C. on 1 May by Ricky Davis and one on the Durham, N.C. spring count on 25 April by Norm Budnitz and Bryan Bomberg.
- YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON:** For the third year in a row, nesting occurred in a Winston-Salem, N.C. park, with four young fledging, (Ramona Snavely, et al.). Also an adult was photographed at Jackson Park, Hendersonville, N.C. in April by Wayne Forsythe for a rare record.
- REDDISH EGRET:** This species was again present in North Carolina this spring with 2 near Harker's Island 28 May by Paul Spitzer, fide John Fussell, and a breeding plumaged dark phase bird at Drum Inlet in early May by Steve Dinsmore.
- MUTE SWAN:** Eric Dean found 6 free-flying birds at the Goldsboro Wastewater Treatment Ponds on 26 April. These "apparently wild" birds left the following morning!
- RING-NECKED DUCK:** A female lingered through May at Lake Louise, Weaverville, N.C. as noted by Ruth Young.
- COMMON EIDER:** Reports of this species were numerous with one to three birds found in the Cape Hatteras area all season (m. ob.); one at the Whalebone pier, Nags Head until mid-March (Ricky Davis, John Wright); three at Ft. Fisher on 3 April (Ralph Widrig); four at Cape Lookout in late April and early May (Paul Spitzer et al.); four at Portsmouth on 21 April (Steve Dinsmore); and one at Murrell's Inlet, S.C. on 18 April (Reg Daves, et al.).
- WHITE-WINGED SCOTER:** One at Greensboro, N.C. on 13 March as noted by Henry Link was locally uncommon.
- BLACK SCOTER:** Steve Dinsmore found 3 late birds at Portsmouth on 11 May.
- HOODED MERGANSER:** A female with 6 young were seen in the Lumber River north of Fair Bluff, N.C. on 12 May by Tom Howard. This species is an irregular breeder in the Carolinas.
- COMMON MERGANSER:** Good counts of this species were 11 on Lake Gaston on 28 March (Roger McNeill) and 27 at Falls Lake on 14 March (Steve Dinsmore and Jeremy Nance). One also lingered at Jordan Lake to be found on the Spring Count on 9 May (Barbara Roth).
- RED-BREASTED MERGANSER:** There were also excellent counts of this Merganser in the Raleigh area in March with 30 at Lake Crabtree on the 25th (Doug Shadwick), 11 at Lake Wheeler on the 28th (Ricky Davis), and 45 at Jordan Lake on the 28th (Ricky Davis). Could these totals be related to the "Blizzard" of '93 in mid-March grounding early migrants?
- RUDDY DUCK:** A late bird was found at Lake Mattamuskeet by Allen Bryan on 28 May.
- TURKEY VULTURE:** An individual of this species was found at Portsmouth on 16 May for a locally unusual record (Steve Dinsmore).
- SWALLOW-TAILED KITE:** As usual, kites were present in the Buxton, N.C. area with up to 5 present during late May (Eric Barbee, fide Steve

Dinsmore). Dinsmore also found birds at Portsmouth with one on 30 April, two on 2 May, and 2 on 11 May. Phil Spivey and John Brunjes found one in Brunswick County, N.C. on 12 March, a somewhat early record (fide Eloise Potter).

**MISSISSIPPI KITE:** This species seems to be increasing somewhat with birds being found in Halifax County on 23 May (Ricky Davis), Goldsboro on 31 May (Eric Dean), Cedar Island on 24 April (John Fussell, et al.), and Pea Island, N.C. on 28 May (Andrew Fix and Dan Hayes, fide Steve Dinsmore). In South Carolina, two were seen at Magnolia Gardens, Charleston on 22 May by Simon Thompson, and an impressive group of 40+ were found near the Great Pee Dee River, Marlboro County on 23 May by Bob Wood.

**BROAD-WINGED HAWK:** A pair seen copulating near Parksville, S.C. on 28 April provided a rare local breeding record (Anne Waters). Rare migrants were observed at Portsmouth by Steve Dinsmore with 4 on 11 May and one on 25 & 27 May. Simon Thompson reported that the best count in the Tryon area this spring was of 20 on 14 April.

**BALD EAGLE:** An immature flying north over Tryon on 20 May was a locally uncommon occurrence (Simon Thompson).

**PEREGRINE FALCON:** Inland reports this spring included one over Eno River State Park, N.C. on 23 March (Scott Hartly) and one east of Conway, S.C. on 12 April (Jack Peachey). A late bird was found at Portsmouth on 19 May by Steve Dinsmore and Jeremy Nance.

**MERLIN:** Somewhat late were two on 12 May and one on 13 May at Portsmouth (Steve Dinsmore), and one at North Pond, Pea Island on 14 May by Ricky Davis.

**BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER:** A breeding plumaged bird was found in a field in Winston-Salem, N.C. on 19 May (Ramona Snavelly, Reggie Burt, et al.) for the only inland report.

**SEMI-PALMATED PLOVER:** At Portsmouth, Dinsmore had an impressive peak count of 825 on 11 May.

**BLACK-NECKED STILT:** This species seems to be reported more frequently than in the past, with possible breeding birds found at several sites. John Fussell found one at Piney Island on 25 May; Fussell, Steve Dinsmore, and Paul Spitzer found 8 at Davis Impoundment in May; and a pair was calling at Portsmouth on 7 May (Steve Dinsmore). Four Stilts at Southport, N.C. on 31 March were unusual (John Fussell), as was one at Huntington Beach State Park, S.C. on 26 May, seen by Jerry Johnson. The most amazing report though, was the count of 200+ at the Savannah River Spoil Site on 29 May by Graham Dugas et al. This must be a record count for the Carolinas.

**AMERICAN AVOCET:** The count of 35 to 40 at the Savannah River Spoil Site on 29 May was an excellent total for spring (Graham Dugas, et al.).

**UPLAND SANDPIPER:** The only reports received for the spring were 2 at the Cherry Hospital grounds, Goldsboro in April (Eric Dean), 5 at a Guilford County airport on 17 April (Henry Link), and an early migrant at the Savannah River Spoil Site on 1 April (Lex Glover and Pat McDowell).

**WHIMBREL:** John Fussell saw an aberrant individual at Bird Shoal near Beaufort, N.C. on 15 May which had white on the upper back and shoulder.

Observers should be cautious in reporting such birds as the European race has a white back also.

**LONG-BILLED CURLEW:** The Ft. Fisher, N.C. bird was last seen for the season on 8 April by Ralph Widrig.

**BAR-TAILED GODWIT:** The Portsmouth flats seem to be the best spot in the Carolinas for finding this rare shorebird. Steve Dinsmore found and photographed two birds on 23 April, with one of these birds still being found until 9 May. This is the second spring record for the state, following one bird at the same area last year.

**SEMI-PALMATED SANDPIPER:** An amazing total of 10,000+ was estimated at the Savannah River Spoil Site on 29 May by Graham Dugas et al. One wonders: if there were this many Semis around, how many of the other peeps were present?!

**WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER:** Paul Spitzer counted 100 at Davis Impoundment on 31 May for an excellent local total.

**CURLEW SANDPIPER:** Steve Dinsmore found one on 12 May and another on 24 May at Portsmouth for the only spring N.C. reports. In South Carolina, where decidedly less common from year to year; one bird on 15 & 16 May and another individual on 27 May were found at the Yawkey Wildlife Center, Georgetown County by Lex Glover, Jim Lyons, John Cely, Donna and Dennis Forsythe, Nathan Dias, et al.

**SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER:** The only inland report came from Eric Dean who found 5 at the Goldsboro Wastewater Treatment Ponds on 3 May.

**RED PHALAROPE:** The Morehead City, N.C. area had several records with one found dead at Ft. Macon on 14 March (John Fussell), a breeding plumaged bird on Shackleford Banks on 2 May (Paul Spitzer, et al.), and an injured bird which later died, at Ft. Macon on 16 May (fide Randy Newman). In South Carolina, a bird was present at Huntington Beach State Park from the 18th to the 22nd of March (the Doyles, fide Henry Armistead; Jack Peachey). The only offshore report occurred off Oregon Inlet on 20 May by Ken Bass, Mike Austin, and Jim Beard.

**RED-NECKED PHALAROPE:** A male and female in breeding plumage were found at the Savannah River Spoil Site on 29 May by Graham Dugas, et al.

**WILSON'S PHALAROPE:** The only reports came from the Core Banks area with one male on 9 May at Drum Inlet, one male photographed on 9-11 May at Portsmouth, and a female at Portsmouth on 21 May (Steve Dinsmore).

**POMARINE JAEGER:** There were the usual scattering of onshore reports, but the best count came off of Oregon Inlet on 20 May when Ken Bass, Mike Austin, and Jim Beard had a total of 27.

**PARASITIC JAEGER:** From shore, a good count of 8 at Cape Hatteras Point on 31 May was seen by Andrew Fix. But even better were the 15 (mostly Parasitics) jaegers observed at Ft. Fisher by Ralph Widrig on 13 March during the "Blizzard" of '93!

**LONG-TAILED JAEGER:** The only reports this spring were one on 30 May and two on 31 May off Hatteras by Mike Tove, et al. This jaeger has been harder to come by the last couple of seasons.

- SOUTH POLAR SKUA:** One off Hatteras 18 May (Bob Ake, et al.) and another off Oregon Inlet 29 May (Mike Tove, et al.) were the only offshore reports. Surprisingly, there was an onshore sighting with Ned Brinkley observing a bird flying close to shore and on the water at Cape Hatteras Point on 3 June.
- GREAT SKUA:** This species is very rare in North Carolina waters, thus an individual which was photographed 30 miles east of Cape Lookout on 3 April by Allen Bryan was exciting.
- LAUGHING GULL:** Uncommon inland transients were found at Goldsboro on 24 April by Eric Dean and at Jordan Lake on 9 May by Mike Schultz et al.
- LITTLE GULL:** Early March is often the best time to find this rare gull in Bonaparte's Gull flocks along the coast, so one at Cape Hatteras Point on 7 March by Russ Tyndall was not unexpected.
- COMMON BLACK-HEADED GULL:** An adult in breeding plumage was photographed by Sam Cooper and Kevin Markham at the Aurora Ferry landing on 7&8 April for a rare record of this plumage in North Carolina.
- RING-BILLED GULL:** An unusual occurrence was of one flying over the Blue Ridge Parkway at the US 276 exit on 8 May by Lex Glover et al. This species is rarely recorded from the upper elevations of the mountains.
- GLAUCOUS GULL:** The only spring report was of one first-winter plumaged bird at the Dare County landfill on 9 April by Steve Dinsmore.
- LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL:** This species continues to be found in North Carolina through late spring with a first summer individual at Portsmouth on 25 May (Steve Dinsmore). In South Carolina this species is increasing also, and several birds at the Horry County landfill during March and April were noteworthy (Jack Peachey).
- SABINE'S GULL:** A very early migrant was found 30 miles east of Cape Lookout on 13 April by Bob Holmes. This bird was in breeding plumage and must have been a pleasant surprise for the observer!
- ROSEATE TERN:** As usual, the Cape Hatteras Point area had reports of this species with two there on 16 May (Ricky Davis) and three on 19 May (Bob Ake, et al.). Also a color banded bird was seen at Portsmouth on 11 May by Steve Dinsmore and another bird was a New Drum Inlet on 15 May (Steve Dinsmore and Jeremy Nance).
- ARCTIC TERN:** On a trip off of Cape Lookout on 13 April, Bob Holmes found an extremely early Arctic. This was the only report for the whole spring season, with none being found during the normal late May to early June migration period!
- SOOTY TERN:** The dependable bird at the Cape Hatteras Point tern colony was first seen on 16 May by Ricky Davis.
- BLACK TERN:** The only inland migrants reported were 5 at Goldsboro on 4 May as noted by Eric Dean.
- RAZORBILL:** This species was noted more than usual during the winter period and this trend continued into early spring. One was seen flying north on 18 March and another on 20 March at Ft. Fisher by Ralph Widrig. Also on the 20th of March, one was observed flying north at Figure Eight Island by Derb Carter. This possibly was the same bird seen that day at Ft. Fisher!
- BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO:** This species was reported several times in North Carolina with singing birds noted at Brevard on 7 May (Bob Holmes, et

- al.), Jordan Lake on 9 May (Barbara Roth), Alligator River on 14 May (Haven Wiley and Todd Hass), Goldsboro on 15 May (Eric Dean), Chimney Rock Park on 16 May (Simon Thompson), and near Atlantic on 27 May (John Fussell).
- COMMON BARN-OWL:** A nest with 5 eggs was found in northern Guilford County during May (Herb Hendrickson) and was being monitored for success.
- NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL:** This species was found several times during the spring in the Devil's Courthouse area of the Blue Ridge Parkway in May. On the 5th, Bob Holmes and Wade Fuller heard three and saw one of these.
- CHIMNEY SWIFT:** A count of 100 on 2 May at Portsmouth was an unusually large number for that area in spring (Steve Dinsmore).
- RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD:** An adult male was present at a Beaufort, N.C. feeder from late March to about 18 April as reported by Dick Meelheim, Larry Crawford, John Fussell, and others.
- OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER:** This rare migrant was found three times in North Carolina with one (heard only) at Mt. Mitchell State Park on the early date of 25 April by Russ Tyndall; one photographed in a Greensboro yard on 7 May (Henry Link, fide Roger McNeill); and one seen and heard near Salem Lake, Winston-Salem, 20-23 May by Lloyd Ramsey et al.
- EASTERN KINGBIRD:** One was a little early at Cape Lookout on 30 March as seen by Paul Spitzer.
- GRAY KINGBIRD:** In North Carolina many years go without a single report of this rare species-this spring was different, there were two birds found! One was at Sunset Beach in early April and was seen by Russ Tyndall, Roger McNeill, Todd Hass and several other observers. Another was at Portsmouth on 24&25 May (Steve Dinsmore). Both birds were photographed to document the sightings.
- SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER:** On 23 May, Paul Boone observed one near Campobello, S.C. and on the 27th of May one was seen near Broad River in Chester County, S.C. by Tim Kalbach. These two locations are not too far from each other and these sightings could easily represent one individual.
- HORNED LARK:** During the whole spring season, two or 3 near Hubert, Onslow County, N.C. were very unusual for an area so near the coast. The birds acted territorial and appeared to be nesting (John Hammond).
- NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW:** A very unusual occurrence was one at Portsmouth 25 May as noted by Steve Dinsmore. This species does not nest in that area and the date was late for a migrant.
- CLIFF SWALLOW:** This species continues to increase as a breeder at inland lakes, with 100+ nests found at High Rock Lake Dam and bridges on 27 April by Steve Coggin. There were many other reports of nesting activity throughout the Carolinas. Also the species was found at several coastal sites as migrants such as Cape Hatteras Point, Portsmouth, and Cedar Island.
- FISH CROW:** The presence of 7 on 1 May at a Forsyth County landfill provided a 3rd county record (Bill, Susan, and John Hammond). Not quite as far inland were 3 at Lake Tillery on 8 April as seen by Harry LeGrand.



- COMMON RAVEN:** A northern Forsyth County quarry has hosted a nesting pair of Ravens for several years in a row, and this year 4 young fledged successfully (Ramona Snavely).
- RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH:** In a winter season which produced very few reports of this species, a surprise was one found at Carolina Beach State Park on 17 April by a Carolina Bird Club field trip.
- GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET:** One singing on territory near Buck Creek, Clay County, on 10 May was possibly a first "summer" record for the county (Harry LeGrand). The elevation was 3500 feet.
- EASTERN BLUEBIRD:** Russ Tyndall found a bluebird at Ivester Gap in the Shining Rock Wilderness Area on 7 May for a high (5680') elevation record.
- VEERY:** A very late date for this species was one banded by Bill Hilton at York, S.C. on 2 June.
- AMERICAN PIPIT:** There's nothing like a good snowstorm to stress out ground-feeding birds such as pipits! The March "Blizzard of 93" was no exception. In Guilford County, N.C., where pipits are normally hard to come by, several hundred birds appeared along cleared roadsides (Herb Hendrickson, Henry Link) and at least 100 remained at an airport into early April (Henry Link).
- SOLITARY VIREO:** LeGrand found singing birds at several sites in Montgomery and Moore counties this spring which shows a good population for this lower Piedmont area.
- "BREWSTER'S" WARBLER:** This hybrid of the Blue-winged and Golden-winged Warblers was reported twice: one near the Tar River in Nash County on 28 April (Ricky Davis), and one at Pea Island on 16 April by Len and Esther Pardue. The Pea Island bird was an unusual find for the Outer Banks in spring.
- NASHVILLE WARBLER:** The only report received for the season was of one singing along the Parkway south of Ashville on 7 May by Ricky Davis.
- CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER:** A locally rare spring transient was found at Eagle Island near Wilmington on 23 May by Sam Cooper and Bob Merrick. Also locally noteworthy were 2 singing males on territory at Chimney Rock Park during mid-May by Simon Thompson.
- MAGNOLIA WARBLER:** A late migrant was banded at York, S.C. on 2 June by Bill Hilton.
- CAPE MAY WARBLER:** A bird found near Lynn, N.C. on 1 March was most certainly an overwintering individual instead of being an early migrant (Simon Thompson).
- YELLOW-RUMPED "AUDUBON'S" WARBLER:** Always a good find in the Carolinas, one was seen in Edgecombe County on 25 April by Ricky Davis. The bird was a female with a very obvious, bright yellow throat.
- PINE WARBLER:** One to two were present in early March at Ruth Young's feeder in Fairview, N.C. for a locally uncommon occurrence.
- CERULEAN WARBLER:** Rare transients were one at Raleigh on 6 May (Steve Dinsmore and Jeremy Nance) and one along the Tar River in Nash County on 3 May (Ricky Davis). Exciting was the discovery of a female sitting on her nest over the Parkway north of Ashville on 7 May by Ricky Davis. Very few nests of this species have been found by observers in the

state. The Tryon, N.C. area has a rather healthy population of breeding Ceruleans with 8+ at White Oak Mountain on 8 May (Harry LeGrand and CBC group).

**BLACK AND WHITE WARBLER:** An early migrant was found at Buxton, N.C. on 22 March by Keith and Diane Andre. A rare record was of a singing male acting territorial in the Green Swamp area of Brunswick County, N.C. on 30 May (Ricky Davis). In South Carolina, the species seems to be doing well as a breeder in the Piedmont counties of Abbeville and McCormick, as noted during Atlas Block work done by Tim Kalbach and Anne Waters.

**AMERICAN REDSTART:** Lex Glover found 2 singing males in the Congaree National Monument, Richland County, S.C. on 31 May. The breeding limits of this species are spotty in the Coastal Plain of both Carolinas.

**PROTHONOTARY WARBLER:** One at Jackson Park, Hendersonville on 18 April (Wayne Forsythe) and one at Lake Adger, north of Tryon on 26 May (Simon Thompson) were rare local records.

**SWAINSON'S WARBLER:** What must have been one of the earliest records for North Carolina (away from the southeastern coast); was of a singing Swainson's in northeastern Edgecombe County on 4 April (Ricky Davis).

**WORM-EATING WARBLER:** Coastal Plain populations of this species are always of interest, thus a singing male in the Francis Marion National Forest on 28 May provided a locally uncommon record (Lex Glover).

**KENTUCKY WARBLER:** A singing male in Buxton woods near Cape Hatteras on 1 June was perplexing as to what it was doing there on that date (Paul Sykes).

**WILSON'S WARBLER:** One at Freedom Park, Charlotte on 7 May (Kevin Hennings) and one at Beaver Lake Sanctuary, Asheville on 8 May (Ruth Young) were the only reports for the spring.

**YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT:** Obviously a migrant, one at Portsmouth in late April and early May provided an unusual record for that locality (Steve Dinsmore).

**BLUE GROSBEAK:** An early migrant was found at Zebulon, N.C. on 5 April by Ricky Davis.

**INDIGO BUNTING:** Many observers reported on the apparent abundance of this species across the Carolinas; with Bill Hilton of York, S.C. banding far above his average for the spring.

**PAINTED BUNTING:** A rare record for the Outer Banks of North Carolina occurred on 11 April when a pair showed up at a feeder in Frisco as noted by Betty Rahn.

**DICKCISSEL:** The only report received was of 3 birds at the Cherry Hospital area near Goldsboro, N.C. (Eric Dean). The birds (2 males and one female) were present from 15 May through the period and were apparently attempting to nest.

**BACHMAN'S SPARROW:** Good local records for Piedmont South Carolina were singing birds near Ware Shoals, Greenwood County (Pete Worthington), near Jonesville, Union County on 23 May (Tim Kalbach), and near Waterboro, Laurens County on 19 May (Tim Kalbach).

**AMERICAN TREE SPARROW:** A single individual of this species was found near Falls Lake on 14 March by Steve Dinsmore. Any record of this species in North Carolina is very noteworthy.

**VESPER SPARROW:** This hard to find sparrow was reported three times in North Carolina with two near Jordan Lake on 8 April by Len Pardue, 7 at Tryon on 20 March by Simon Thompson, and one at Fairview on 27 March by Ruth Young.

**LARK SPARROW:** One bird at Piver's Island near Beaufort, N.C. on 1 April was seen by Paul Spitzer for a rare spring record.

**LINCOLN'S SPARROW:** A rare spring record for the Piedmont was one at Mason Farm, Chapel Hill, N.C. on 3 April by Len and Esther Pardue and Pat Coin.

**SNOW BUNTING:** Russ Tyndall found 6 at Cape Hatteras Point on 7 March for the only spring report. These were obviously part of the flock that wintered there.

**BOBOLINK:** During the period of 5-20 May, a male and 3 females were in a western Forsyth County field (Tom Mowbray, m. ob.). The male was defending a territory, showing possible breeding activity. On the locally unusual side, a flock of five at Portsmouth on 15-19 May was seen by Steve Dinsmore.

**NORTHERN ORIOLE:** A nesting pair located in a southern Greensboro area during May was pushing the breeding limits east (Herb Hendrickson).

**PURPLE FINCH:** This species had an influx of individuals in mid-March as noted by banders in South Carolina. Lex Glover banded good numbers in Lugoff between 28 March and 4 April, while Bill Hilton reported how they "came on strong" in March at York.

**RED CROSSBILL:** Three were seen flying over Heintooga parking area in the Smokies on 21 May by Roger McNeill for the only spring report.

**PINE SISKIN:** It was a "non-winter finch" year, but singles were noted at two separate feeders in the Greensboro area in March (Jean McCoy, Herb Hendrickson); a single at a feeder in Mayesville, S.C. through mid-April (Lex Glover); and two at Tryon on 20 April (Simon Thompson).

Spring reports (March through May, 1994) for Briefs for the Files should be sent to the "Briefs" editor (for address see front inside cover) by May 20, 1994.