

## BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

HARRY E. LeGRAND JR.  
(All dates 1981)

- PIED-BILLED GREBE:** Rare for early summer was an individual on Cheoah Lake, Graham County, N.C., on 15 June, as seen by Jim McConnell.
- AUDUBON'S SHEARWATER:** In Carteret County, N.C., were birds seen from a pier at Atlantic Beach on 3 July by Jim McConnell, and picked up alive in a yard at Williston on 26 July (fide Mark Shields).
- GANNET:** Late were single subadults observed at Atlantic Beach, N.C., on 6 June (Bob Holmes) and on 7 June (John Fussell).
- DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT:** Jay Carter noted eight in flight near McCain, Hoke County, N.C., on the unusual date of 1 June.
- ANHINGA:** Possibly breeding were as many as four seen at Jessup's Mill Pond near Fayetteville, N.C., from 29 May to 10 August, fide Philip Crutchfield; three seen in southeastern Craven County, N.C., on 3 July by Gene Huntsman; and 11 noted at Lay's Lake near Nakina in Columbus County, N.C., on 7 July by Jim McConnell. A female seen by Douglas McNair at Johns Pond in Scotland County, N.C., on 10 June was considered a nonbreeder.
- MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD:** An immature was seen over Pawleys Island, S.C., on 2 June by Margaret Cely, and another (of unspecified sex and age) was noted near Cape Lookout, N.C., by Lloyd and Martha Davidson on 25 June.
- CATTLE EGRET:** One was noteworthy near Southern Pines, N.C., on 7 July (Jay Carter). Jim McConnell reported a possible heronry at Lay's Lake in Columbus County on 7 July. At least 200 Cattle Egrets, some carrying nesting material in their bills, were noted, as were 30 Little Blue Herons, 12 Snowy Egrets, seven Great Egrets, and an unspecified number of Least Bitterns and White Ibises.
- REDDISH EGRET:** A very good find was an individual seen by Fran and Wayne Irvin on 21 June at the Cedar Island, N.C., ferry landing.
- SNOWY EGRET:** Gail Whitehurst saw one at the Falls of the Neuse dam in northern Wake County, N.C., on 12 July.
- LOUISIANA HERON:** One was uncommon at Jordan Reservoir in eastern Chatham County, N.C., on 1 August, as seen by the Chapel Hill Bird Club.
- WOOD STORK:** Ricky Davis first noted individuals (five) at the summering site near Sunset Beach, N.C., on 23 June.
- WHITE IBIS:** A good post-breeding count was 40 immatures at Jordan Reservoir on 13 July (Bill and Margaret Wagner).
- SNOW GOOSE:** Eleven was a good total at Pea Island, N.C., on 9 July, as reported by Allen Bryan.
- MISSISSIPPI KITE:** For the third consecutive summer, a pair nested in Cayce, S.C., across the street from Jimmy Beatty's home. Douglas McNair saw two adults in southwestern Richmond County, N.C., on 26 July, but unfortunately found none there or in adjacent Anson County in May or June (when the presence of adults would more likely indicate the possibility of breeding). A very rare visitor was an adult seen well at Jordan Reservoir on 13 July by Bill and Margaret Wagner.
- SHARP-SHINNED HAWK:** Douglas McNair saw an immature at Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge, N.C., on 4 June.
- COOPER'S HAWK:** One was noted by Paul Hamel near Anderson, S.C., on 14 June, and an immature was seen by Mike Schultz and Jim McConnell near Durham, N.C., on 3 August.

- BALD EAGLE:** Rare for the Sandhills region was an adult seen by Jay Carter and Fred Yelverton in western Hoke County on 10 July.
- MARSH HAWK:** A good count of five was reported at Cedar Island on 22 June by John Fussell and Wayne and Fran Irvin. At least one was present in June and July at Jordan Reservoir (Allen Bryan et al.).
- OSPREY:** Uncommon for the mountains were several seen at Lake Julian near Asheville, N.C., on 30 July by Gail Whitehurst. One was out of season in early June at Clemson, S.C. (Harry LeGrand, Alan Avakian).
- AMERICAN KESTREL:** Perhaps indicative of nesting was an adult male seen flying from a road sign pipe over I-40 near the Greensboro, N.C., airport on 30 May (Wayne Irvin). Very rare near the coast was a pair seen carrying anoles into a woodpecker hole on Old Fort Road in I'On Swamp, NE of Charleston, S.C., on 17 May (Perry Nugent, Steve Compton); presumed nesting was reported from this site last year. At Winston-Salem, N.C., two fledglings were found on the ground in town on 24 and 30 May, hand-reared, and later released (Ramona Snavelly, Phil Page). Jay Carter, Tim Stamps, and others reported kestrels on seven dates from 2 June to 2 July at five sites in western Fort Bragg, N.C., with a group of five (a family party?) on 1 July.
- SORA:** An early migrant was seen by Harry LeGrand at a farm pond near Pendleton, S.C., on 25 July.
- BLACK RAIL:** Allen Bryan saw one at Jordan Reservoir on 27 June, after the rail had come to a taped call. As the species has been noted there for three consecutive summers, breeding is strongly suspected.
- BLACK-NECKED STILT:** Conclusive nesting was reported from North River marsh near Beaufort, N.C. An egg was found by Wayne Irvin on 6 June, and three pairs were present all summer, with three juveniles seen with one of the pairs (fide John Fussell). Fussell also noted post-nesting individuals at Davis, N.C., with six on 26 July and nine on 2 August.
- AMERICAN AVOCET:** Very rare inland was one noted by Brainard Palmer-Ball at a small pond SE of Clayton, N.C., on 25 July.
- WHIMBREL:** A high total for June was 13 observed on the 17th at Beaufort, N.C., by John Fussell.
- LONG-BILLED CURLEW:** Mike and Barb Homoya saw one on 5 June at Hatteras Inlet, N.C.
- UPLAND SANDPIPER:** Rare inland in fall were three at the Lumberton, N.C., airfield on 17 July (Douglas McNair) and two along the Neuse River at the Durham—Wake County border on 2 August (Jim McConnell). Three were early on 7 July at the New Hanover County, N.C., airport (Ricky Davis).
- WILLET:** A good inland find was one noted by Eloise Potter and John Erickson at a farm pond near Bunn, Franklin County, N.C., on 4 July.
- SPOTTED SANDPIPER:** Ricky Davis noted a “singing” individual, perhaps indicating the presence of a territory, along the South Fork New River near Weavers Ford in Ashe County, N.C., on 4 June.
- RUDDY TURNSTONE:** One noted by the Chapel Hill Bird Club at Beaverdam Reservoir in northern Wake County on 18 July was rare for the piedmont.
- WILSON'S PHALAROPE:** Rather early fall migrants were one at Pea Island on 30 and 31 July (Allen Bryan) and two at Davis, N.C., on 2 August (John Fussell, Brainard Palmer-Ball).
- COMMON SNIPE:** One on 5 August was several weeks early in northern Durham County, N.C., as noted by Jim McConnell.

- SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER:** Eloise Potter and John Erickson saw an early individual near Bunn, N.C., on 4 July.
- WESTERN SANDPIPER:** Rare for Durham County was one along the Neuse River on 3 August (Jim McConnell, Mike Schultz), and one was early near Bunn on 4 July (Eloise Potter).
- LEAST SANDPIPER:** A first Carteret County, N.C., record for June was a bird at Cedar Island on 22 June (John Fussell et al.). Rather early inland were one seen at Clemson on 6 July by Harry LeGrand, and four seen by John Sneed and Eloise Potter on 9 July near Bunn.
- DUNLIN:** John Fussell observed two at Beaufort, N.C., on 17 June. The species is rare on the coast in that month.
- STILT SANDPIPER:** At an impoundment near Davis, John Fussell and Wayne Irvin noted 35 on 12 July and 65 on 26 July.
- RUFF:** An outstanding find was one, considered to have been an adult female, at North River marsh near Beaufort on 31 July. John Fussell and Brainard Palmer-Ball saw the large, white, oval patches on the sides of the tail and a diamond-shaped patch of black feathers on the breast.
- POMARINE JAEGER:** Seldom reported in July, one was seen by Dave Lee and Wayne Irvin off Oregon Inlet, N.C., on 8 July.
- RING-BILLED GULL:** Unusual midsummer sightings were two in a field near Valle Crucis, Watauga County, N.C., on 4 June (Ricky Davis), and one at Clemson on 9 and 18 July (Alan Avakian).
- FORSTER'S TERN:** Tom Haggerty saw a rare and early migrant near Clayton, N.C., on 27 July. The bird, in winter plumage, was injured and was picked up at a farm pond.
- ROSEATE TERN:** One in full breeding plumage, and described in detail, was seen at a pond on Pea Island on 6 June by Mike Homoya.
- SOOTY TERN:** Unusual was an adult seen sitting with other terns at Cape Lookout, N.C., on 18 June (Skip Prange).
- BLACK TERN:** Inland reports for "early fall" were single birds in North Carolina near Smithfield on 5 July (Tom Haggerty), in eastern Durham County on 29 July (Jim McConnell), and at Lake Julian near Asheville on 30 July (Gail Whitehurst).
- BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO:** Tom Haggerty saw an adult feeding another adult, perhaps a courtship activity, on Potato Hill in Watauga County, N.C., on 25 July. He heard another singing at nearby Blowing Rock on 26 July.
- SAW-WHET OWL:** Three were heard calling on Roan High Knob, N.C., on 27 June, as noted by Herb Wilson and Bruce Lord.
- WHIP-POOR-WILL:** Philip Crutchfield reported as many as eight birds in the Fayetteville and Fort Bragg areas of North Carolina from April to August. Apparently outside the known breeding range was one calling 6 miles S of New Bern, N.C., on 18 June (John Fussell).
- GRAY KINGBIRD:** Rare was an individual noted by Woody Martin just NE of Atlantic, N.C., on 22 June.
- EASTERN PHOEBE:** In Richmond County, N.C., near the edge of the breeding range, Douglas McNair found phoebes to be widely distributed during the summer in the piedmont, but only sparingly distributed in the coastal-plain portion of the county.
- OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER:** One was seen in a locust-maple thicket at the edge of an upland meadow on Hanging Rock Mountain, Watauga County, N.C., on 7 June (Philip Crutchfield, Kevin Mason). Although breeding is conceivably possible at this site, no evidence (such as singing) was reported.

- HORNED LARK:** Ricky Davis and Steve Leonard found four pairs on Pond Mountain, Ashe County, N.C., on 3 June; and Edmund Taylor saw at least six birds, including singing males, at Reidsville in Spartanburg County, S.C., in early July. Jay Carter reported two near Maxton, N.C., on 19 June. Douglas McNair noted unprecedented numbers for the North Carolina coastal plain in summer: 14 pairs in the Sandhills portion of Richmond County, four pairs at the Laurinburg-Maxton airfield in Scotland County, and eight or nine adults plus young at the Lumberton airfield in Robeson County. McNair also had Horned Larks in the piedmont in Anson and Montgomery counties in that state during the summer.
- TREE SWALLOW:** An immature was a fairly early migrant at Fayetteville on 11 July (Philip Crutchfield et al.).
- BANK SWALLOW:** Fall arrivals were observed as early as 19 July at Fort Macon State Park, N.C. (John Fussell, Robert Hader) and 22 July at Long Beach, N.C. (Jay Carter, Tim Stamps).
- BARN SWALLOW:** Most unusual was an individual in total albinistic plumage near Winston-Salem on 16 July, as noted by Ramona Snavelly and Kay and Joe Bergey.
- CLIFF SWALLOW:** As many as five pairs were seen at the US 74 bridge over the Pee Dee River in Richmond County on 28 June by Jim McConnell, who saw a pair feeding young there on 7 July. Two small nesting colonies were observed by Harry LeGrand during the summer under bridges over the Tugaloo River in western Oconee County, S.C.
- PURPLE MARTIN:** Philip Crutchfield reported as many as 3000 post-breeding birds at one site in the Fayetteville area in early August.
- COMMON RAVEN:** Sightings in Ashe County, N.C., were four over the community of Brown on 3 June (Ricky Davis) and three at Bluff Mountain on 11 July (Jim McConnell).
- FISH CROW:** One or two were noted by Jim McConnell at Durham on several occasions all summer. The species is quite rare in that area after the spring season.
- HOUSE WREN:** A pair made a nesting attempt (but with no offspring produced) at Fayetteville, being seen by Henry Rankin from 7 May into August.
- CEDAR WAXWING:** The first nesting record for South Carolina was reported by Sidney Gauthreaux from the Oconee Nuclear Station a few miles N of Seneca. Two nests, one under construction, were noted in the same tree, and four adults were observed, all on 2 June. The habitat was scattered, planted Sugar Maples on the grounds of the station. A rare North Carolina piedmont breeding record was made when Fred and Sally Hill found a fledgling sitting on a sidewalk in Forsyth County on 3 July. Other summer sightings were of one at Chapel Hill on 27 June (Marc Eisdorfer) and two at Southern Pines on 17 July (Jay Carter).
- LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE:** Unusual for Ashe County was one seen near Weavers Ford on 3 June, at an elevation of 2500 feet, by Ricky Davis. A number of observers, especially in the piedmont, reported on the continued decline of this species as a breeder.
- SOLITARY VIREO:** Douglas McNair noted four singing males on territory on Morrow Mountain, Stanly County, N.C., on 23 May, and another singing on that date along the Richmond-Montgomery County line. All birds were in mixed pine-hardwood forests.
- PROTHONOTARY WARBLER:** The first indication of breeding in the North Carolina mountains was a male singing vigorously on 14 June where West Buffalo Creek enters Lake Santeetlah in Graham County (Jim McConnell).
- SWAINSON'S WARBLER:** Jim McConnell noted six birds at four sites in north-western Graham County in June; and on 15 and 16 June an empty nest was found

- along the Cheoah River, with three birds (one an apparent juvenile) nearby. Douglas McNair discovered two singing birds in Scotland County, and three at two places in Robeson County, on 30 May.
- CERULEAN WARBLER:** In Graham County on 15 June, Jim McConnell found a singing bird just above the dam of Fontana Lake, and five near Tuskegee.
- LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH:** Significant reports, apparently of territorial birds, were of one singing along the Cape Fear River at Elizabethtown, N.C., on 24 May (Douglas McNair); one singing at Otter Creek near Croatan in Craven County, N.C., on 9 and 11 June (John Fussell); and a nonsinging bird in Jones County, N.C., 8 miles SW of New Bern, on 10 June (Fussell).
- BOBOLINK:** Ricky Davis flushed a silent male from tall grass near Weavers Ford, N.C., on 4 June. Nesting, or possible nesting, has occurred on several occasions previously in the northwestern corner of the state. Presumed migrants on 3 June were a male at Derby and a female at Norman, both in Richmond County (Douglas McNair).
- NORTHERN ORIOLE:** A male was seen and heard in June in northern Alamance County, N.C., by Allen Bryan.
- SCARLET Tanager:** Douglas McNair noted a few in the breeding season in Anson and Richmond Counties, and seemingly far out of range was an individual seen singing on territory by McNair at Hog Creek in Robeson County on 30 May.
- ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK:** Robert Ruiz observed a pair all of June in his yard at Swannanoa, N.C. (2265 feet). Most breeding birds are found in that state above 3500 feet in elevation.
- INDIGO BUNTING:** Quite high in elevation during the breeding season were a male at the rhododendron gardens on Roan Mountain, N.C., and two singing on nearby Jane Bald, on 27 June (Herb Wilson, Bruce Lord).
- DICKCISSEL:** A female was seen at Columbia, S.C., on 18 May by Jimmy Beatty, Lex Glover, and John Paquet; however, it was not seen on later dates.
- HOUSE FINCH:** This species probably bred for the first time at Fayetteville. Adults were seen by Philip Crutchfield and Henry Rankin from 29 June to August, with a pair plus three immatures noted on 17 August.
- AMERICAN GOLDFINCH:** Near the edge of the breeding range were as many as six individuals noted in the Fayetteville area during the summer by Philip Crutchfield.
- RED CROSSBILL:** Rare for South Carolina in summer was a female seen by Steve Cox in Greenville on 2 July.
- GRASSHOPPER SPARROW:** Ricky Davis noted an adult and a possible juvenile at the New Hanover County, N.C., airport on 30 July.
- BACHMAN'S SPARROW:** Rather rare for the Columbia area was a singing bird seen by John Cely in June at the Congaree Swamp National Monument.
- SONG SPARROW:** The southern breeding limit of the Atlantic race was extended south to Cedar Island, where John Fussell and Wayne Irvin found 10 territorial males in 3 miles near the ferry terminal on 22 June. Two recently fledged young were also seen.
- CORRIGENDA:** The Red-cockaded Woodpeckers in Johnston County, N.C. (Chat 45:52), were at Smithfield, and not near Four Oaks as reported. The Nashville Warbler near McCain, N.C. (Chat 45:53) was seen by Jay Carter and Tim Stamps (not Tom Howard).