

## BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

HARRY E. LeGRAND JR.

(All dates 1983 unless otherwise indicated)

**COMMON LOON:** Two were noted on Lake Gaston, N.C., on 1 June by Merrill Lynch, Harry LeGrand, and Karen Masson. Unusual for the mountains in summer was another seen on 4 July at Camp Rockmont in Buncombe County, N.C., by Robert Ruiz.

**PIED-BILLED GREBE:** One was observed at Fayetteville, N.C., on 25 July by Philip Crutchfield, who also saw five adults with immatures at impoundments at Pamlico Point, Pamlico County, N.C., on 30 and 31 July.

**PELAGIC TRIPS OFF SOUTH CAROLINA:** Dennis Forsythe conducted pelagic trips out of Charleston, to a distance of 60 miles offshore, on 4, 16, 24, and 31 July. He noted 2 to 10 Cory's Shearwaters on all trips but 24 July, a Greater Shearwater on 4 July, 2 to 8 Audubon's Shearwaters on each trip, and 3 to 10 Wilson's Storm-Petrels on each trip. Chris Haney spent the period from 11 to 15 July on a boat near the Continental Shelf in Georgia waters. During this period he recorded 13 Cory's Shearwaters, 2 Audubon's Shearwaters, and 17 Bridled Terns in adjacent South Carolina waters.

**GREATER SHEARWATER:** John Fussell observed one from shore at Atlantic Beach, N.C., on 12 June, and he found a dead bird at nearby Cape Lookout on 30 June.

**AUDUBON'S SHEARWATER:** Along the North Carolina coast, one was seen 30 yards from shore at Hatteras on 23 July (Paul Clyne), one was noted inside Beaufort Inlet on 15 July (John Fussell), and 11 were seen on a boat cruise along the coast between Beaufort Inlet and Cape Lookout on 16 July (Bob Holmes, Larry Crawford).

**LEACH'S STORM-PETREL:** Always a good find, two were seen approximately 43 miles SSE of Beaufort Inlet, N.C., on 18 June, as noted by Wayne Irvin.

**TROPICBIRD (SP.?):** In Carteret County, N.C., an adult was observed perched on a post at Cape Lookout on 16 June (Ginger Eisenman) and one was seen flying over the bridge from Atlantic Beach to Morehead City on 27 July (Larry Crawford).

**DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT:** This species is increasing at all seasons on inland lakes, particularly in summer. At Jordan Lake, near Chapel Hill, N.C., cormorants were seen all summer, with a peak of 22 on 2 July (Chapel Hill Bird Club). Merrill Lynch and Harry LeGrand saw 12 on 1 June at Roanoke Rapids Lake, N.C.; one was seen by Philip Crutchfield at Forest Lake near Fayetteville, N.C., on 15 and 22 June; and one was noted by Tom Howard at Falls Lake in northern Wake County, N.C., on 21 July.

**ANHINGA:** At a site where nesting may be occurring, a female was seen at Jessup's Mill Pond near Fayetteville on 21 June (Philip Crutchfield, Jarvis Hudson). Crutchfield also saw five on 17 July at Sunset Beach, N.C., where the birds probably were just postbreeding visitors.

**MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD:** The only report for the summer was an individual seen by Harry Freeman and party at Mount Pleasant, S.C., on 31 May.

**HERON ROOST:** Unusual for the piedmont was the presence of a large heron roost, as reported by Tom Howard at Lick Creek on Falls Lake, N.C. The roost was present from mid-July to late August, with the following peak counts (generally in early August): 125 Great Egrets, 100 immature and 4 adult Little Blue Herons, 40 Great Blue Herons, 25 Green-backed Herons, 6 immature White Ibises, and 2 adult Tricolored Herons.

**LITTLE BLUE HERON:** An adult was notable on 11 July at Merchant's Mill Pond State Park, N.C., as seen by Frank Enders.

**CATTLE EGRET:** Uncommon for inland North Carolina were six in northeastern Beaufort County and three in eastern Martin County on 2 June (Merrill Lynch et al.); two at Raleigh on 6 June (Wayne Irvin); one at Jordan Lake on 7 July (Bill and Margaret Wagner); and three at Fayetteville on 23 July (Philip Crutchfield).

**SNOWY EGRET:** In late July, at least two individuals were found at each of several sites: in South Carolina near Townville (Sid Gauthreaux, Anna Ross); and in North Carolina at Fayetteville (Philip Crutchfield), Falls Lake (Ricky Davis), and Jordan Lake (Davis).

**TRICOLORED HERON:** Three was an excellent inland count at Jordan Lake, as noted by Bill and Margaret Wagner on 28 July. Two were also seen by Sid Gauthreaux, Paul Hamel, and others on 7 August near Townville, S.C.

**BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON:** Quite unusual was an immature seen at Clemson, S.C., on 29 July by Douglas McNair. The heron was feeding at midnight on cockroaches on a sidewalk at Clemson University.

**YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON:** As many as two were seen at a pond at Winthrop College in Rock Hill, S.C., this spring (Albert Conway et al.). Well inland in North Carolina, though not suggestive of breeding, were singles at Winston-Salem on 9 July (Elizabeth Conrad et al.), in central Halifax County on 12 July (Frank Enders), and at Jordan Lake on 31 July (Ricky Davis). Two were observed on 4 July at Falls Lake, near Durham, by Jim McConnell and Mike Schultz.

**LEAST BITTERN:** Jim McConnell noted three on 4 July on Little Lick Creek at Falls Lake, approximately 2 miles E of where they were seen last year.

**AMERICAN BITTERN:** This species is very poorly known as a breeder in eastern North Carolina. Four seen or heard at Lake Mattamuskeet by Allen Bryan on 3 June suggest a breeding population at that locality.

**GLOSSY IBIS:** Rare inland were as many as three seen at Jordan Lake during July and August by Bill Wagner and others. Eleven were seen at a pond near Fayetteville on 1 July by Bob McMillan.

**WHITE IBIS:** Adults are seldom seen in the piedmont; thus, surprising were 14 to 15 adults seen flying in a line at Charlotte, N.C., on 14 July by Harriet Whitsett.

**TUNDRA SWAN:** Allen Bryan observed an out-of-season swan at Lake Mattamuskeet on 29 July.

- RING-NECKED DUCK:** Rare for midsummer were individuals seen at Pea Island, N.C., on 24 July (Paul Clyne) and near Raleigh on 31 July (Ricky Davis).
- LESSER SCAUP:** A female was observed at Lake Mattamuskeet on 4 June by Allen Bryan, and Philip Crutchfield noted a male at a pond in Sunset Beach, N.C., on 17 July.
- SURF SCOTER:** This species is very rarely seen in summer. Therefore, unusual was a first-year male seen by Skip Prange at Harkers Island, N.C., on 18 July.
- BLACK VULTURE:** Notable for the mountains was one found by Harry LeGrand in northern Alleghany County, N.C., on 14 June.
- SWALLOW-TAILED KITE:** North of the breeding range was one seen by Ben Warren (fide Bob Holmes), near New Bern, N.C., on 3 July.
- MISSISSIPPI KITE:** For a North Carolina record, 36 birds, all apparently adults, were observed at the eastern tip of Halifax County on 3 June by Merrill Lynch, Harry LeGrand, and Karen Masson.
- SHARP-SHINNED HAWK:** An immature was observed by Harry LeGrand in south-eastern Durham County, N.C., on 18 June, and Wayne Irvin saw one, perhaps an early migrant, in Lenoir County, N.C., on 9 July.
- COOPER'S HAWK:** Rare during the breeding season in central North Carolina were individuals near Ringwood in Halifax County on 19 June and 5 July (Merrill Lynch), in northern Wake County on 25 June (Harry LeGrand), and near Southern Pines on 7 July (Jay Carter).
- BROAD-WINGED HAWK:** John Cely noted a pair on 10 June at Sandhills State Forest in Chesterfield County, S.C., near the edge of the breeding range.
- BALD EAGLE:** Quite unexpected was the successful nesting of a pair during the winter and spring on the Broad River in Newberry County, S.C., according to John Cely. One young was fledged. A few nonbreeding individuals were seen inland in North Carolina this summer at Roanoke Rapids Lake, Falls Lake, the Pee Dee River, and Jordan Lake (where five were seen from 23 to 31 July, fide Bill Wagner).
- NORTHERN HARRIER:** John Fussell saw four or five this summer in coastal Carteret County, N.C., during June and July, but he considered them probable nonbreeders. A female was observed by Harry LeGrand, Merrill Lynch, and Karen Masson in northeastern Beaufort County, N.C., on 2 June; and an adult male was seen on 20 July in western Fort Bragg, N.C., by Jay Carter.
- OSPREY:** A pair was seen at Falls Lake in early summer (until 15 July), but Tom Howard found no evidence of nesting. Single birds were also of interest at Clemson on 11 June (Douglas McNair) and at Jordan Lake on 2 July (Anson Cooke et al.).
- PEREGRINE FALCON:** Rare in summer was an individual seen at Morehead City, N.C., on 12 June by Wayne and Fran Irvin, and presumably the same bird in that general area on 24 July (Wayne Irvin). [I suspect that the bird was one raised through the Cornell University hacking project.—HEL]
- AMERICAN KESTREL:** Ricky Davis noted two adults, and an apparent immature

- begging for food in flight, on 19 June at the Oxford-Henderson Airport in eastern Granville County, N.C. Jay Carter found two excited adults in western Fort Bragg on 5 July, at the same site where breeding occurred last year; and Dick Brown reported birds nesting in downtown Charlotte and a nest with two young in Iredell County, N.C. There were also June sightings for Halifax County (Merrill Lynch), Greensboro, N.C. (Harry LeGrand), and Raleigh (LeGrand).
- KING RAIL:** Perhaps indicative of breeding were two heard and seen at Falls Lake, near Durham, by Ricky Davis on 23 July.
- AMERICAN COOT:** Out of season was a coot observed by Ricky Davis at Jordan Lake on 25 June.
- BLACK-NECKED STILT:** A new nesting site for North Carolina was found at Brant Island in Fort Macon State Park. John Fussell discovered a nest with four eggs on 13 June, but the nest later failed.
- AMERICAN AVOCET:** Thirty were counted by James Clark at a spoil pond in southern Beaufort County, S.C., adjacent to the Savannah River, on 31 July. John Fussell noted one at an impoundment at Davis, N.C., on 17 July, and three were there on 31 July.
- PIPING PLOVER:** A southern extension of the breeding range was documented when Philip Crutchfield observed seven birds, including a pair with a chick, at Sunset Beach, N.C., on 17 July. Rare inland was an individual at Lake Mattamuskeet on 29 July (Allen Bryan).
- BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER:** Harry LeGrand and Merrill Lynch saw two in breeding plumage at Lake Gaston on 1 June; whereas Ricky Davis noted one in partial breeding plumage at Jordan Lake on 31 July.
- MARBLED GODWIT:** Rare for June were six at Portsmouth Island, N.C., on the 18th (John Fussell), and Fussell had 15 there on 22 July.
- WHIMBREL:** Seldom seen inland, a flock of 20 seen circling overhead on 3 June by Frank Enders was notable in central Halifax County, N.C. Also rare was one seen by Ricky Davis at Falls Lake on 30 July.
- LONG-BILLED CURLEW:** Apparently regular in fall at Portsmouth Island, three were seen on 22 July and two on 23 July by John Fussell.
- LESSER YELLOWLEGS:** A late spring migrant was seen by Allen Bryan on 4 June at Lake Mattamuskeet.
- SPOTTED SANDPIPER:** One was seen by Merrill Lynch and Harry LeGrand at Lake Gaston on 1 June.
- RUDDY TURNSTONE:** Scarce inland was an individual observed by Ricky Davis at Raleigh on 31 July.
- WILSON'S PHALAROPE:** Individuals were sighted at Portsmouth Island on 25 July (John Fussell, Fred Patton) and at Raleigh on 31 July (Ricky Davis), in addition to four at Fort Macon State Park on 29 July (Fussell, Derb Carter).
- AMERICAN WOODCOCK:** One was seen on 19 June by Rick Knight at Carver's Gap, along the North Carolina-Tennessee border just east of Roan Mountain. The species occurs regularly in the spruce-fir zone, especially in grassy spots, in North Carolina.

- SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER:** A good inland count was ten, as reported by Ricky Davis at Falls Lake on 30 July.
- LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER:** Bill Hilton observed two fairly early individuals in breeding plumage at Huntington Beach State Park, S.C., from 12 to 15 July.
- RED KNOT:** Good summer counts, both at Portsmouth Island, were 105 on 17 June and 188 on 22 July (John Fussell).
- SANDERLING:** John Fussell counted 1943 along a 17-mile stretch of beach on Portsmouth Island and Core Banks on 24 July.
- WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER:** A good inland count for autumn was four seen by Ricky Davis at Falls Lake on 30 July.
- BAIRD'S SANDPIPER:** The only report for the summer season was an individual seen by Sid Gauthreaux and party near Clemson on 31 July.
- STILT SANDPIPER:** Excellent counts of this rather uncommon migrant were 155 at Pea and Bodie Islands on 28 July (Allen Bryan), 80 at Davis, N.C., on 31 July (John Fussell, Brainard Palmer-Ball), and 11 at Lake Mattamuskeet on 29 July (Bryan).
- RUFF:** Very rare for North Carolina, though being seen with increasing frequency in recent years, was a Ruff found by John Fussell at an impoundment at Davis on 17 July.
- CURLEW SANDPIPER:** John Fussell saw two individuals in nearly full breeding plumage at Portsmouth Island on 23 July. One had been seen on the previous day.
- POMARINE JAEGER:** Seldom seen "on land" was an individual resting on the shore of Bogue Sound at Morehead City on 5 June (John Fussell).
- SKUA (SP.?):** Wayne and Fran Irvin noted one approximately 40 miles SE of Beaufort Inlet, N.C., on 13 June. The plumage was uniform medium brown. [Skuas seen off the Carolina coast in the summer are likely to be South Polar Skuas. However, because skuas are rare in our area, because the identification of the two species in the North Atlantic (South Polar and Great) is difficult, and because the seasonal distribution of them is still uncertain, observers should provide as many details as possible on the plumages of birds seen in the Carolinas.—HEL]
- HERRING GULL:** Apparently the first nesting by the species on a barrier island in North Carolina occurred at Portsmouth Island in late June. John Fussell found two nests with eggs, and he saw a large, flightless bird with adults there in late July.
- BONAPARTE'S GULL:** An adult was seen all summer at Brant Island at Fort Macon State Park by John Fussell.
- GULL-BILLED TERN:** Presumably postbreeding visitors were seven noted by Allen Bryan at Lake Mattamuskeet on 29 July.
- FORSTER'S TERN:** Somewhat early were two migrants seen by Ricky Davis at Falls Lake on 30 July.
- COMMON TERN:** Ricky Davis saw one at Falls Lake on 3 July, and Dan Cohan and Tim Stewart noted three at Lake Hartwell, S.C., on 21 July.
- ROSEATE TERN:** Excellent finds were one at Cape Lookout, N.C., on 30 June and

- two there on 1 July, as seen by John Fussell et al. The birds were in full breeding plumage, but no evidence of nesting was found.
- SOOTY TERN:** Wayne Irvin observed four approximately 30 miles S of Beaufort Inlet, N.C., on 18 June.
- BRIDLED TERN:** From one to three were noted by Dennis Forsythe on three pelagic trips off Charleston in July.
- CASPIAN TERN:** At Lake Mattamuskeet, Allen Bryan noted two on 3 and 4 June and six (including four young birds) in late July. Two were at Jordan Lake on 25 June and again on 31 July (Ricky Davis), and two were also at nearby Falls Lake on 4 July (Jim McConnell).
- BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO:** Unusual was one heard calling near Jordan Lake by Bill and Margaret Wagner on 4 July. Another was seen in a hedgerow 5 miles E of Whitakers in northern Edgecombe County, N.C., on 3 June (Harry LeGrand, Merrill Lynch).
- COMMON BARN-OWL:** One, apparently a nesting bird, was seen on several occasions in June and July at Jordan Lake by members of the Chapel Hill Bird Club. Rare for Carteret County, N.C., in summer was another seen by John Fussell and party at Portsmouth village on 19 June.
- WHIP-POOR-WILL:** Near the edge of the breeding range were three heard by Philip Crutchfield at Fayetteville on 23 July.
- RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER:** On 25 May, Merrill Lynch and Julie Moore found adults feeding young at a nest 5 miles E of Columbia, N.C., and at two nests on the southern part of mainland Dare County, N.C.
- WESTERN KINGBIRD:** Extremely rare for early spring were two studied well at Kings Mountain State Park, S.C., on 28 March by Bill Hilton and party. The full details include the yellow underparts and the black tail with white outer tail feathers.
- SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER:** A pair again nested in northern Laurens County, S.C., as reported by John Cely. An adult was seen on the nest on 17 May; the nest was in a walnut tree in a yard, less than 0.25 mile from last year's site.
- WILLOW FLYCATCHER:** Ramona Snavelly noted four birds, including two singing on territory, along Salem Creek in Winston-Salem, N.C., on 8 June and later dates. Willows have occurred along this creek for several summers.
- ALDER FLYCATCHER:** This species is rapidly undergoing a breeding range expansion in the higher elevations of the North Carolina mountains. In addition to several found, as expected, at Roan Mountain in Mitchell County by Rick Knight, a record state count of eight singing males plus another pair was made by Douglas McNair on 20 June at an established site in Shining Rock Wilderness Area in southern Haywood County. McNair also discovered a new summer station when he found two singing males at 6500 feet on the southeastern side of Balsam Cone Mountain, 2.5 miles N of Mount Mitchell, Yancey County, on 26 June. The habitat at the last site consisted of spruce, fir, and deciduous saplings, but blackberries were absent.

**HORNED LARK:** Rick Knight found an adult and a juvenile on Round Bald, just east of Roan Mountain, on 21 June. Near the eastern edge of the breeding range in North Carolina were two males in northern Edgecombe County on 3 June (Harry LeGrand, Merrill Lynch), a pair at Darlington in central Halifax County on many dates from April to July (Frank Enders), and a pair in the latter county just southeast of Glenview in May and June (Lynch, Karen Masson).

**BANK SWALLOW:** A very early migrant was observed by John Fussell at Cape Lookout, N.C., on 2 July.

**CLIFF SWALLOW:** Nesting again occurred under one or two bridges at Jordan Lake, fide Bill Wagner. Merrill Lynch counted 67 active nests on 1 June at bridges over Lake Gaston, and Douglas McNair noted eight pairs breeding at the NC 109 bridge along the Anson-Richmond County line, N.C., in mid-May.

**COMMON RAVEN:** A pair seen by Douglas McNair at Table Rock mountain, Pickens County, S.C., on 19 and 20 March was showing courtship behavior and defending a ledge. However, the birds did not nest there, according to McNair. The species has not been known to nest in the state for several decades.

**FISH CROW:** P.R. Ford saw and heard one at High Point, N.C., on 10 July. In South Carolina, Paul Hamel noted a few at Lake Keowee, in Newry, during the summer, as did Albert Conway at Rock Hill and Catawba. These localities are near the inland edge of the species' range.

**HOUSE WREN:** Very notable for the western coastal plain in summer were three singing birds at Enfield, N.C., on 19 June (Merrill Lynch) and several at Fayetteville all summer, including singing males (Philip Crutchfield, Henry Rankin).

**SEDGE WREN:** For the second consecutive year, Philip Crutchfield and party noted large numbers of this species in Pamlico County, N.C. On 29 July, they heard 20+ singing in marshes at Pamlico Point, and they had 25+ singing in the James Creek and Oyster Creek area of the county on 30 July. The species is not known to breed in the Carolinas. More field work in these and other marshes in tidewater North Carolina is badly needed to clarify the species' status, as late-summer singing by Sedge Wrens is not necessarily indicative of breeding.

**AMERICAN ROBIN:** Tom Reeves reported on a rare nesting by robins at Charleston, noting two adults and three juveniles in a yard on 5 July.

**HERMIT THRUSH:** This species is extending its summer range into the mountains of North Carolina. On Roan Mountain, where one was found in June several years ago, Lance Peacock heard one singing on 16 June, and Rick Knight had one to three singing birds from 10 June to 8 July (though only one was on the North Carolina side of the mountain). A major range extension was detected by Douglas McNair. He found three, and maybe four, singing birds at 6400+ feet on Mount Mitchell on 26 June. Though nesting may well be occurring, no definite evidence of breeding (other than territorial males) has yet been reported.

**CEDAR WAXWING:** In North Carolina (outside of the known breeding range) were three at Lake Gaston on 1 June (Harry LeGrand, Merrill Lynch), one in central Carteret County on 5 June (John Fussell), and four at South Mountains State Park on 8 June (Paul Hart). Ricky Davis noted an early migrant at Jordan Lake on 31 July.

**SOLITARY VIREO:** Paul Hart had three singing males at South Mountains State Park on 8 June. Harry LeGrand observed adults feeding juveniles at two places in Umstead State Park, near Raleigh, in May and June; these vireos continue to be fairly common in summer at the park.

**WARBLING VIREO:** One on territory during the spring at Camp Rockmont, near Swannanoa, N.C., was found again on 15 June by Robert Ruiz; however, no conclusive evidence of breeding was observed. A new breeding season site of the species was noted by Harry LeGrand, who saw two singing birds along the New River a few miles north of Sparta, N.C., on 14 June.

**BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER:** This species is quite rare during the breeding season in the eastern piedmont of North Carolina. Therefore, a good count was three singing birds in eastern Warren County on 1 June (Merrill Lynch, Harry LeGrand). Three were found at Hall Swamp in Martin and Beaufort Counties, in the North Carolina coastal plain, on 28 May and 2 June by Lynch.

**SWAINSON'S WARBLER:** Though within the breeding range, individuals were uncommon on 5 June along Bawdy Creek in Johnston County, N.C. (Harry LeGrand), and on 21 June near Fayetteville (Philip Crutchfield, Jarvis Hudson).

**WORM-EATING WARBLER:** In the North Carolina coastal plain, six singing birds were heard by Merrill Lynch on the Jamesville Breeding Bird Survey on 28 May, and he had seven birds in Hall Swamp (Martin and Beaufort Counties) on 2 June. Allen Bryan heard another at Lake Mattamuskeet on 4 June. The species was also noted in that state's piedmont in Uwharrie National Forest during June (Jay and Lois Garner, Stanley Alford). Several were also at Crowders Mountain State Park, N.C., from April to June, including an agitated pair on 12 June (Paul Hart).

**BLUE-WINGED WARBLER:** One of the very few summer records for South Carolina was a bird found singing by Douglas McNair on 17 June. It was in shrubs along a stream at Mountain Rest, Oconee County, at an elevation of 1750 feet.

**YELLOW WARBLER:** Rare for the northeastern piedmont were singing birds found by Merrill Lynch and others at Lake Gaston on 1 June and near Tillery (in Halifax County) on 19 June.

**CERULEAN WARBLER:** Dick Brown and Joey Cochran had three or four singing males at Chimney Rock Park, N.C., on 1 June, and Cochran heard the birds there through June. Brown, along with Bob Kluttz, saw and heard a male at the Blue Ridge Assembly at Black Mountain, N.C., in late June. Though a number of new breeding-season stations have been found in the North Carolina mountains in recent years, many gaps in the range, either real or apparent, are still present.

**SCARLET Tanager:** Notable for the Sandhills was a male seen and heard on 27 June at Weymouth Woods preserve, Southern Pines, N.C., by Jarvis Hudson.

**HOUSE FINCH:** There were several reports this summer from Asheville and vicinity (Buncombe County), fide Robert Ruiz; nesting is probably occurring there. Frank Enders found a nest, plus three adults, in downtown Roanoke Rapids, N.C., from April to June. House Finches were noted by Carr Speight feeding young in his yard in Rocky Mount, N.C., from 4 to 8 July. Philip Crutchfield and Henry Rankin reported as many as 12 birds at one place in Fayetteville this summer, and five at another.



- AMERICAN GOLDFINCH:** This species was noted in increased numbers in many areas of the piedmont and upper coastal plain of North Carolina during the summer, including 12+ seen by Philip Crutchfield and party in northeastern Fort Bragg on 23 July.
- RED CROSSBILL:** Douglas McNair observed a flock of nine adults, including a pair undergoing courtship activities, 1 or 2 miles E of Richland Balsam (Jackson-Haywood County line), N.C., on 20 June.
- GRASSHOPPER SPARROW:** A good count for the mountain region was 14, noted singing by Harry LeGrand in eastern Alleghany County, N.C., on 14 June. Rick Knight found another in the mountains at Bakersville, N.C., on 15 June. Rare for Fayetteville were three probable breeders on 23 July, seen by Philip Crutchfield.
- LARK SPARROW:** Lark Sparrows bred near Derby, Richmond County, N.C., in 1981, but there were no reports of the birds last summer. However, in 1983 Douglas McNair found single (nonsinging) birds at two sites near Derby on 17 and 18 May; whereas Ricky Davis had a singing male, apparently on territory, on 25 June at the same site. Thus, breeding may have occurred again this summer.
- BACHMAN'S SPARROW:** This species is apparently absent from the northern coastal plain of North Carolina as a breeder; thus, of note was a singing bird 1.5 miles SE of Glenview in Halifax County on 31 May (Merrill Lynch, Harry LeGrand). The bird was still present in mid-June (Allen Bryan). The habitat consisted of a clump of saplings within a large weedy field.
- DARK-EYED JUNCO:** One of the few breeding-season records for South Carolina was an individual observed singing from 18 to 20 June at Caesar's Head (elevation 3000 feet) by Douglas McNair.
- LAPLAND LONGSPUR:** Perhaps a record count for North Carolina was the 30 to 33 longspurs seen by Douglas McNair at the Laurinburg-Maxton airfield on 22 December 1982. [This species is certainly not as scarce in the Carolinas as the literature indicates. Inland birders should look for Laplands where flocks of Horned Larks occur. The above birds were seen in a flock of 100 larks. Such flocks are generally found in extensive plowed fields, as well as at airports. Along the coast, where the larks are quite rare, look for longspurs in short-grass habitats and in dunes.—HEL]

## Newspaper Gleanings

In Duncan, British Columbia, a nighthawk with a broken wing was unable to migrate to South America. It took 4 days of diplomacy to get around the laws covering transportation of migratory birds, but the bird was taken aboard an airplane as carry-on luggage.

In Nantucket, a Western Reef Heron (which resembles a Little Blue) was spotted last spring. Experts decided this bird had not escaped from a zoo, and bird watchers came from far and near. Daphne Gemmill wrote in the *Plain Dealer* that she traveled 1000 miles in 3 days, just to see the bird. This writer is hearing reports that the 600 Club is passe. "Many observers have seen 700 species in North America," he has been told.—LCF