

BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

HARRY E. LeGRAND, JR.

(all dates Winter 1991-92 unless otherwise indicated;
CBC = Christmas Bird Count)

RED-THROATED LOON: An excellent inland count of nine was made at the Savannah River Site in Aiken County, S.C., on 17 December (fide Anne Waters).

RED-NECKED GREBE: Henry and Elizabeth Link observed one at Jordan Lake, Chatham County, N.C., on 29 December. This individual was seen by many observers through 15 January; Paul Saraceni saw this bird and another together at the lake on 12 January. Along the coast, single birds were seen in the surf at Bodie Island, N.C., on 15 February (Greg Massey, Steve Dinsmore, Jeremy Nance) and at Cape Hatteras point, N.C., on 17 February (Jennifer Howard).

EARED GREBE: An excellent inland total of four birds was seen from 12 to 21 February at sewage lagoons near Sumter, S.C., by Lex Glover and Evelyn Dabbs. Eric Dean observed one at a similar habitat throughout the winter, being present at least to 8 March, at Goldsboro, N.C. Another inland grebe was noted at the Coneross Creek arm of Lake Hartwell, S.C., from late January to 7 February (Peter Worthington, Lex Glover). Along the coast were single birds in North Carolina in the Brunswick River at Eagle Island on 1 December (Greg Massey, Jeremy Nance), in the Cape Fear River at Zeke's Island on 22 December (Ricky Davis), and at North Pond on Pea Island on 27 and 28 December (Todd Hass, Roger McNeill, et al.).

NORTHERN GANNET: An excellent count of 10,650 was made on the Bodie-Pea Island CBC on 28 December (fide Paul Sykes).

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN: At an impoundment at Lake Mattamuskeet, N.C., one was seen on 1 December by Kelly Davis, four were found on 29 December by Ricky Davis and Bob Lewis, and seven were seen daily at that site from 10 January to 2 March by Kelly Davis. Coastal reports in that state were two at Hatteras Inlet on 7 January (Steve Dinsmore), with the first seen there on 26 December (John Wright); two in flight over Oregon Inlet on 19 January (Ricky Davis); and one at Pea Island from 31 January (Rich Boyd, Wade Fuller, et al.) to 28 February (Dinsmore). The only report for South Carolina was two seen on 6 and 7 December at Huntington Beach SP by Mike Walker, Susan Windham, Keith Windham, and Bill Pulliam.

BROWN PELICAN: Rare as far inland as Greenville, N.C., was an adult seen by Nick Pantelidis Jr. on 19 February.

GREAT CORMORANT: An outstanding count for Oregon Inlet was 10 birds, seen by several observers on the CBC there on 28 December (fide Paul Sykes). The southernmost report for the winter was of an immature at the jetties at Sullivans Island, S.C., on 25 January (Dennis Forsythe).

CATTLE EGRET: One spent the entire winter at Cape Hatteras point (Steve Dinsmore et al.) for a very rare record at that season. For some odd reason, the species is often present in midwinter in Currituck County, N.C., and

Harry LeGrand and Mike Tove saw three egrets near Maple in that county on 2 February. Notable in winter at McClellanville, S.C., were eight counted there on 5 January by Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman, and Lex Glover.

GREEN-BACKED HERON: A straggler was seen on 8 December at Billy Dreher Island SP on Lake Murray, S.C. (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman).

GLOSSY IBIS: Robin Carter and Caroline Eastman reported an excellent winter count of 200+ Glossies coming to a roost at Savannah NWR, S.C., on 8 January.

FULVOUS WHISTLING-DUCK: A field trip of the Carolina Bird Club led by Dennis Forsythe noted one bird on 1 February at the Santee Coastal Reserve, Charleston County, S.C.

MUTE SWAN: Bill Daughtridge observed an adult (of unknown origin) with a flock of Tundra Swans in Albemarle Sound, N.C., near the mouth of the Alligator River, on 11 January. [As I have not previously received a report of the species from this location, and as the swan was seen with Tundra Swans, the bird in question might have been a migrant from farther north.—HEL]

SNOW GOOSE: Ruth and Jerry Young saw three (one blue and two white) birds in flight over Fairview, Buncombe County, N.C., on 7 December. Robert Hader noted five blue-phase geese at Raleigh, N.C., on 7 December; and Dennis Forsythe noted one at Charleston, S.C., also on that date.

BRANT: Extremely rare inland was an immature carefully studied at Falls Lake, Durham County, N.C., on 1 December by Ricky Davis and on 7 December by Steve Dinsmore. Somewhat inland were two Brants seen in a field just southeast of Lake Mattamuskeet on 29 December (Bob Lewis, Ricky Davis). In South Carolina, one was seen from late December to 29 January at Huntington Beach SP (Lex Glover et al.) and another was seen for much of the winter at Raccoon Key in Cape Romain NWR (Bill Pulliam).

GREEN-WINGED (EURASIAN) TEAL: A male, undoubtedly the bird present a year ago, was at Calico Creek near Morehead City, N.C., on 15 December (fide John Fussell).

EURASIAN WIGEON: In the tidewater portion of North Carolina, one was shot by a waterfowl hunter in an impoundment near the mouth of the Bay River, Pamlico County, N.C., on 4 January (fide Mark Thompson); and two were seen at Lake Mattamuskeet from 29 December (Bob Lewis, Ricky Davis) to 23 January (Steve Dinsmore). Coastal individuals in that state were reported from Bodie Island, Pea Island, Cape Hatteras point, and Davis during the winter. The only South Carolina report was one seen at Bear Island Wildlife Management Area on 22 February by Charles Walters and party. All sightings involved male wigeons.

GREATER SCAUP: Inland sightings were an immature male at Lake Wheeler near Raleigh on 9 December (Jeremy Nance) and five males at the Savannah River Site, S.C., on 17 December (Anne Waters). Notable for southern South Carolina were six observed at the Savannah spoil site in Jasper County on 16 February (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman).

- COMMON EIDER:** Kevin Hennings noted single females on 7 December at Ocracoke and Cedar Island in North Carolina. At the latter site, an immature male was observed from 26 December (John Fussell et al.) to at least 18 April (John Wright, Paula Wright). Two immature males were present from 21 December into March at jetties at Wrightsville Beach, N.C. (Sam Cooper, John Brunjes). In South Carolina, an immature male was present in the Huntington Beach-Murrells Inlet area from 7 December to 22 February (Bill Pulliam, Lex Glover, et al.).
- KING EIDER:** There was just a single winter report—a surprising group of two immature males and four females seen at Oregon Inlet on 29 December by Steve Dinsmore, John Fussell, and party.
- HARLEQUIN DUCK:** The female seen at Cape Hatteras in late November was last noted on 7 December by Marcia Lyons, Kevin Hennings, and others. The only other North Carolina report was a female seen on 4 January at Masonboro Inlet by Sam Cooper. One was present for several weeks at Murrells Inlet, S.C., during the winter; Robin Carter and Caroline Eastman saw it on 3 January.
- OLDSQUAW:** Always of note inland were a male at Jordan Lake on 5 December (Steve Dinsmore) and two males at the Savannah River Site on 26 February (Howard Zippler).
- COMMON MERGANSER:** As many as three mergansers were present from mid-December into March at the Riverbend Steam Plant in eastern Gaston County, N.C. (fide Heathy Walker). A female was present at the tidal pond at Cape Hatteras point from 27 December (John Wright et al.) to 23 February (Steve Dinsmore et al.).
- TURKEY VULTURE:** Robert Hader had an excellent local count of 43 Turkey Vultures in view at one time at a landfill east of Raleigh on 3 December.
- BALD EAGLE:** An excellent midwinter count was six adults and 21 immatures at Jordan Lake on 12 January, as tallied by Wojtek Krol and others. Rare in the mountains was an adult seen at Lake Toxaway, N.C., on 1 January by Bill Duyck and party.
- NORTHERN GOSHAWK:** An adult was found shot near Denver, N.C., on 10 January and was turned in to the Carolina Raptor Center for rehabilitation (fide Taylor Piephoff).
- BROAD-WINGED HAWK:** Exceptionally rare in midwinter in the Carolinas, an immature was observed by Gilbert Grant in his yard in Sneads Ferry, N.C., from 17 to 19 January.
- ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK:** There was only one report for the winter season, without details provided. [Readers are reminded to provide thorough details on reports of this species, because Red-tailed Hawks (and perhaps other species) are frequently misidentified as this species.—HEL]
- GOLDEN EAGLE:** Rich Boyd, Bob Holmes, and party saw one, believed to be a sub-adult, flying over open farmland near Lake Mattamuskeet on 1 February. The only other winter report was an adult seen by Vernon Waters and others at the Savannah River Site from 17 December to 2 January.
- MERLIN:** Jeanine Zenge saw one in her yard near Chapel Hill, N.C., on 23 December and 2 January; it caught a Dark-eyed Junco on the former date. Paul Saraceni saw one at Jordan Lake on 15 December, and Bob Holmes saw another at New Bern, N.C., on 20 January. A very good count away

- from the immediate coast was four noted by Rich Boyd and party from Mesic to Hobucken in Pamlico County, N.C., on 17 December.
- WILD TURKEY:** Kelly Davis observed a hen with two young at the western end of Mattamuskeet NWR, N.C., on 15 July 1991 for a first refuge record. She also saw an adult pair there on 15 January. [The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission has recently stocked turkeys into many parts of the state, including western Hyde County, Brunswick County, and other coastal counties where formerly either extirpated or absent.—HEL]
- YELLOW RAIL:** Continuing a recent series of similar records, Robin Carter and Caroline Eastman heard one calling from a Carolina bay in Clarendon County, S.C., on 28 December and 25 January.
- SORA:** Kevin Hennings and others heard one calling at a marsh in a quarry in southern Rocklenburg County, N.C., on 15 December, and another was noted at Rocky Mount, N.C., on 23 February by Ricky Davis.
- SANDHILL CRANE:** Harry LeGrand observed one in fields east of Nebraska, Hyde County, N.C., on 29 December; and it was seen by other birders through 10 February, when noted by Kelly Davis.
- BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER:** Unusual inland in winter was one seen by Anne Waters at Par Pond at the Savannah River Site on 17 December.
- WILSON'S PLOVER:** One was somewhat early on 26 February at Portsmouth Island, N.C. (Suzanne Wrenn, Jackie Howard).
- PIPING PLOVER:** Rick Murray and party reported an adult Piping with a chick at Waites Island, S.C., on 29 May 1991, perhaps the first conclusive evidence of breeding of the species in that state.
- SPOTTED SANDPIPER:** One wintered at the Twin Lakes area of Sunset Beach, N.C., as noted by Rick Murray. One was notable also at Huntington Beach SP on 29 January (Jack Peachey).
- LONG-BILLED CURLEW:** Lex Glover counted five curlews on 2 February at Raccoon Key in Cape Romain NWR, S.C., and one again spent the winter at Fort Fisher, N.C., as seen by Ricky Davis and others.
- HUDSONIAN GODWIT:** The bird seen in November at Huntington Beach SP remained to 7 December, for a very rare winter record for the United States. Bill Pulliam observed the godwit on that date.
- LEAST SANDPIPER:** One seen by Steve Dinsmore on 7 December at Falls Lake, N.C., was rather late. At sites where the species winters, notable high counts were 40+ on 23 January at Goldsboro (Eric Dean) and 22 on 17 December at the Savannah River Site (Anne Waters, George Reeves).
- PECTORAL SANDPIPER:** Rather late were three seen by Jeremy Nance and Greg Massey at Eagle Island, N.C., on 1 December. On the other hand, 26 early migrants was a good count on 29 February in southern Pitt County, N.C. (John Wright et al.).
- PURPLE SANDPIPER:** The newly-constructed jetty at Oregon Inlet provided habitat for a locally good count of nine during the winter, as reported by Rich Boyd and party on 31 January and by Steve Dinsmore on 23 February.
- STILT SANDPIPER:** An excellent early winter count of 12 birds was made by George Reeves at the Savannah spoil site in Jasper County on 11 December. One seen by Sam Cooper and Kevin Markham was quite early on 29 February at Eagle Island.

- RUFF:** Out of season was one carefully studied by Bob Lewis and Ricky Davis at an impoundment at Mattamuskeet NWR on 29 December. Steve Dinsmore and John Wright observed the bird on the following day, and it was last reported on 4 January by Dick Brown. [Thorough details have been submitted to the N.C. Bird Records Committee.—HEL]
- LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER:** Bob Lewis observed a good total of 40 at Lake Mattamuskeet, apparently a regular wintering locale, on 29 December.
- POMARINE JAEGER:** One was studied in comparison to a Parasitic Jaeger at Nags Head, N.C., on 19 January by Ricky Davis.
- PARASITIC JAEGER:** Two were noted by Ricky Davis at Nags Head on 19 January.
- LITTLE GULL:** After a winter (1990-91) of a lack of reports, the species was reported in usual numbers during this winter (1991-92) along the North Carolina coast. An adult was seen on 19 January at Nags Head by Ricky Davis, two were noted over the ocean at Avon on 15 February by Steve Dinsmore, four were seen at Cape Hatteras point on 16 February by Dinsmore and party, and one was seen at the last-named site on 29 February by Dinsmore.
- COMMON BLACK-HEADED GULL:** The adult returned to winter again at Morehead City, being reported at least to 9 February (Todd Hass). Others, all along the North Carolina coast, were seen at Wanchese on 19 January (Jeremy Nance, Steve Dinsmore), at Masonboro Inlet on 14 February (Sam Cooper), and at Cape Hatteras point on 15 February (Nance, Dinsmore, Greg Massey).
- THAYER'S GULL:** An individual in first-winter plumage was seen by Brian Patteson, Ned Brinkley, and others at Cape Hatteras point on 27 December. [Patteson submitted photos to me for documentation.—HEL]
- ICELAND GULL:** John Fussell observed an adult in flight over Morehead City on 10 January, for the only report of the winter.
- LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL:** Steve Dinsmore counted 14 birds on the beach from Cape Hatteras point to Hatteras Inlet on 29 February, for an extremely high (though not unexpected) count for the Carolinas. Locally rare were two adults seen by Ricky Davis at Masonboro Inlet, N.C., on 20 December, and an adult seen by Dennis Forsythe at Sullivans Island, S.C., on 25 January.
- GLAUCOUS GULL:** One was notable at the harbor at Wanchese, N.C., on 18 and 19 January, as seen by Steve Dinsmore and Jeremy Nance.
- GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL:** Rarely encountered in the piedmont, one in first-year plumage was observed by Paul Saraceni at Jordan Lake on 20 January.
- BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE:** Very rare in South Carolina was a sub-adult seen near the jetty at Huntington Beach SP on 20 December by Lex Glover and Bob Wood. Along the North Carolina coast, one was seen on the beach at Masonboro Inlet on 20 December (Ricky Davis), two were seen at the Cape Hatteras lighthouse on 27 December (Todd Hass, Roger McNeill), one was seen over the surf at Nags Head on 19 January (Davis), and one was seen on the beach on 20 February near Waves (Jackie Howard, Suzanne Wrenn).

- RAZORBILL:** The only report of an alcid for the season was a Razorbill noted from shore just off Oregon Inlet on 29 December (Steve Dinsmore, Bob Holmes).
- BARN OWL:** Rarely reported from the mountains, there were two sightings made in the Brevard, N.C., area. Betty McIlwain flushed one from a shed on 17 October, and Erica Parmi saw one in flight on the evening of 14 December.
- GREAT HORNED OWL:** Formerly thought to be absent at Pea Island, this species nested on an Osprey platform at North Pond, where Steve Dinsmore saw a Peregrine Falcon diving at an owl on 23 February. Also on this date, Betty McIlwain found a nest of owls at her home near Brevard.
- SNOWY OWL:** A most surprising report, considering the mild winter, was one found dead on US 70 at Goldsboro in January by John Fussell. Eric Dean "researched" the report and discovered that it had been seen alive at the Seymour Johnson base on 16 November by personnel at the base, and that it was apparently hit and killed by a car around 10 January.
- LONG-EARED OWL:** Harold Hilton found one dead on US 176 about 8 miles east of Holly Hill, S.C., on 29 February (fide Dennis Forsythe). The specimen was given to Forsythe at The Citadel.
- SHORT-EARED OWL:** At a site first located during the previous winter, Ricky Davis observed 18 owls flying over a field at dusk just west of Lake Phelps, N.C., on 19 January. One was rare in the piedmont, where seen in flight over Jordan Lake on 27 January (Paul Saraceni), and another was notable near Aurora, N.C., on 24 and 25 February (Kevin Markham).
- NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL:** Only infrequently reported in winter, though it apparently winters over much of the Carolinas, one was heard calling at 4:30 pm on 7 December along the Davidson River in the Coon Tree area of Transylvania County, N.C. (Ruth Young).
- CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW:** Gilbert Grant found a dead individual on a road at North Topsail Beach, N.C., on 22 February. The wings were salvaged as a study skin and were deposited at Coastal Carolina Community College.
- WHIP-POOR-WILL:** John Fussell observed one on a road at dusk at Fort Macon SP, N.C., on 11 and 12 January.
- RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD:** An adult male was present at the feeders of Barbara Hoots in Cary, N.C., from late December to 23 February. Ken Knapp, Robert Hader, and others observed the hummingbird. An immature or female *Selasphorus* hummingbird was seen at a feeder at Tryon, N.C., from mid-October to early March, as reported by Simon Thompson.
- HORNED LARK:** Ricky Davis reported an excellent total of 105 larks near Red Hill, Edgecombe County, N.C., on 12 January.
- TREE SWALLOW:** Two seen by Paul Saraceni on 15 December at Jordan Lake provided a rare piedmont winter record.
- NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW:** The species was seen again at a quarry at New Bern, N.C., during the winter. John Fussell and Bob Holmes noted one on 16 December, and it was seen there on 21 December by Eric Dean and Gene Howe.
- BANK SWALLOW:** Perhaps a first winter record for North Carolina was one seen at a quarry at New Bern on 16 December by John Fussell and Bob Holmes.

FISH CROW: Robin Carter and Caroline Eastman estimated at least 50,000 flying to a roost near the Savannah spoil area on 8 January.

COMMON RAVEN: A good local count was 16 ravens seen in view at one time by Rick Knight at Roan Mountain, N.C., on 30 January.

MARSH WREN: One was seen in a marsh in southern Mecklenburg County, N.C., on 15 December by Kevin Hennings.

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER: This species appears to be wintering farther inland than it did only a few years ago, perhaps owing to mild winters. Most surprising was a count of four birds on 8 February at Goldsboro (Gene Howe); others well inland in midwinter were single birds at Jordan Lake on 11 January (Len Pardue) and near Aurora on 15 January (Sam Cooper).

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE: A good find at any season in the mountains, three shrikes were seen on the New River, N.C., CBC on 21 December, as compiled by James Coman.

WHITE-EYED VIREO: Eric Dean observed one on the late date of 11 January at Goldsboro.

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER: Winter sightings from the piedmont were of individuals seen by Jeremy Nance near Raleigh on 9 December, by Heathy Walker at Charlotte on 13 December, and by Lex Glover and Bob Wood in Anderson County, S.C., on 2 January.

NORTHERN PARULA: An excellent find was one seen by Eric Dean on the Greenville, N.C., CBC on 22 December.

CAPE MAY WARBLER: This species was observed twice in North Carolina during the winter: at Lake Mattamuskeet on 29 December (Eric Dean) and along NC 43 near the Warren-Halifax County line on 9 February (Ricky Davis).

PRAIRIE WARBLER: This species has become regular near the North Carolina coast in December, but few birds probably overwinter. This, noteworthy was one seen by John Fussell on 9 February at Morehead City.

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER: Good midwinter sightings were individuals seen on 8 February at Goldsboro (Gene Howe) and on 24 February at Lake Mattamuskeet (Rich Boyd).

HOODED WARBLER: Out of season, and a first winter record for South Carolina, was a male seen at Columbia on 21 January by Oleta LaBorde and Molly Bonnell. Bob Wood photographed it on the following day.

WILSON'S WARBLER: Individuals, males in each case, were observed at four sites during the winter. In North Carolina, Paris Trail saw one in Chowan County near the mouth of the Yeopim River on 5 February and for about a week thereafter. In South Carolina, one was along the Saluda River in Lexington County on 8 and 9 December (Tom Hankins, Robin Carter), one was present at Huntington Beach SP from 26 December into March (Tim Kalbach, Lex Glover, et al.), and one was at Savannah NWR on 16 February (Carter, Caroline Eastman).

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT: Normally quite rare in winter in the Carolinas, the species was observed on many occasions. In North Carolina, singles were seen on 8 December near LaGrange by Gene Howe and Betty Grady, on 16 December at New Bern by John Fussell, and on 5 January in Wilmington by Sam Cooper; and three were tallied on the Mattamuskeet NWR CBC on 29 December (fide Allen Bryan). In South Carolina, Bill

- Hilton Jr. banded one near York on 1 December, and he recaptured it on the following day.
- WESTERN TANAGER:** An adult male was present at Don Watts' feeder in Goose Creek, S.C., from 26 December through the remainder of the winter. Lex Glover, Robin Carter, and other birders observed the tanager in January. Another bird, considered to be a female, was seen by Pete Laurie eating berries in his yard at Johns Island, S.C., on 12 January.
- BLUE GROSBEAK:** Quite rare in winter were two winter-plumaged males seen by Rick Murray and party near the Santee River delta, S.C., on 26 December.
- PAINTED BUNTING:** Allen Bryan observed a female or immature (a "green" bird) in central Carteret County, N.C., on 15 December. Quite a surprise was a flock of three "green" buntings seen by Ricky Davis at Fort Fisher on 22 December, and another "green" bird was seen in February at a feeder in Emerald Isle, N.C., by Mary Batten. An adult male was noted by Brenda Tucker at her feeder at James Island, S.C., from 11 to 15 January.
- DICKCISSEL:** There were just two winter reports for the Carolinas. Surprisingly, both came on the same CBC, as Ricky Davis and Jeremy Nance each saw birds in the Morehead City area on 15 December.
- CLAY-COLORED SPARROW:** Single birds were found at four sites in eastern North Carolina, where the species probably winters sparingly. Jeremy Nance saw one near Morehead City on 15 December, Eric Dean saw one near Greenville on 22 December, Sam Cooper saw one near Aurora on 15 and 22 January, and Dean saw another south of LaGrange on 18 January.
- VESPER SPARROW:** Seldom seen in winter in central North Carolina were six observed by Ricky Davis near Red Hill in Edgecombe County on 12 January.
- LARK SPARROW:** Ricky Davis observed one at a sand pit near Rocky Mount, N.C., on 12 January, for a very rare inland record.
- GRASSHOPPER SPARROW:** Single individuals of this easily overlooked species were observed in North Carolina on 22 December by Eric Dean near Greenville and on 26 December by Ricky Davis near Edenton.
- LE CONTE'S SPARROW:** Ricky Davis noted one near Edenton on 26 December; this bird was seen in November by Allen Bryan. Robin Carter and Caroline Eastman noted single birds at two locales in South Carolina—at the edge of a salt marsh at Huntington Beach SP on 4 January and in a short grass habitat near Barnwell on 18 January.
- LINCOLN'S SPARROW:** Two were seen by Nathan Dias and others at Magnolia Gardens, S.C., from 9 November to 1 February. The only other South Carolina sighting was made by Robin Carter and Caroline Eastman at Fairview Farms in Spartanburg County on 7 January. In North Carolina, four were tallied on the Greenville CBC on 22 December by Eric Dean and others, three were seen by Dean near LaGrange on 18 January, one was seen in Carteret County by Allen Bryan on 15 December, one was noted near Southport by Jeremy Nance on 22 December, and one was seen near Lake Mattamuskeet by John Wright on 29 December.
- WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW:** Locally rare were coastal plain sightings of two birds at Cape Hatteras point on 18 January (Steve Dinsmore, Jeremy Nance), and single birds near Mayesville, S.C., on 18 January (Evelyn

Dabbs et al.), near Wilmington on 9 February (Sam Cooper), and at Buxton on 22 February (Dinsmore).

LAPLAND LONGSPUR: Three birds were seen by Ricky Davis in northern Edgecombe County on 12 January. Elsewhere, single individuals were noted at Fort Fisher on 22 December (fide Davis), near Aurora on 7 January (Sam Cooper), near Barnwell, S.C., on 18 January (Robin Carter, Caroline Eastman), and at the Charlotte Motor Speedway near Harrisburg, N.C., on 22 February (Taylor Piephoff).

SNOW BUNTING: At least six were found at Cape Hatteras point on 21 November by Neal and Pat Moore and Keith and Diane Andre. Elsewhere, three were observed at Bird Shoal at Beaufort, N.C., on 15 December by Sam Cooper and Kevin Markham, and three were also seen at Sunset Beach, N.C., from 21 January (Rick Murray) to 18 February (Kevin Hennings).

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD: An immature male was found at Charleston on 13 October by Dennis Forsythe and party. Doris Kingdon observed and photographed an adult male at her feeder near New Bern from 1 March to 6 April, and she saw a female there on 7 March.

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD: Records of this very common Western species have been accumulating in recent years, probably because of a greater scrutiny of blackbirds by Carolina birders. In North Carolina, the only sighting was of a flock of up to seven birds at Cherry Hospital near Goldsboro from 2 December to the end of February (Eric Dean et al.). At Goat Island near Lake Marion, S.C., a traditional wintering site, as many as five birds were seen during the winter by Robin Carter and others. Other reports in the latter state were a pair seen by Simon Thompson at Landrum on 21 December and a female seen by Nathan Dias at Magnolia Gardens on 14 March.

NORTHERN (BULLOCK'S) ORIOLE: An adult male was seen and photographed by Avril Nicholson and other birders at a feeder in Hilton Head Island, S.C., from 4 to 12 February.

PURPLE FINCH: Bill Hilton Jr. reported that he banded only 114 during the winter (through 24 March). He typically banded from 400 to 600 per winter in the mid-1980's. [This and other cardueline finch species have dramatically decreased as winter visitors to the Carolinas in the past ten years, perhaps owing to an increasing number of feeders in more northerly states and provinces that retain the birds for the winter.—HEL]

PINE SISKIN: Rick Knight had an excellent count of 300 siskins at Roan Mountain on 30 January.

CORRIGENDA: The immature male *Selasphorus* hummingbird present at Lancaster, S.C., during the winter of 1990-91 (Chat 56:13) should be considered as "*Selasphorus* sp.?", rather than "probable Rufous", according to an observer (Lex Glover). A bird reported as a Brewster's Warbler hybrid in South Carolina in June 1990 (Chat 55:65) has been determined to be a hybrid of some sort, but not a Brewster's (fide Barny Dunning). A copy of the description of the bird was sent by Douglas McNair to Kenneth Parkes, an expert on the Blue-winged Warbler/Golden-winged Warbler complex. A Blue-winged Warbler was probably one of the parents, especially since the song of that species was heard in the field by Dunning.