

records, including 80 **inland Ruddy Turnstones**, 750 **Semipalmated Plovers**, 2,500 **Semipalmated Sandpipers**, and 800 **Dunlin**. Rarities found at Carlyle Lake included Piping Plover, three Black-necked Stilts, **Whimbrel** and **Ruff**. Elsewhere in the state, new high counts were set by 400 **Killdeer** at Lake Shelbyville and 87 **American Woodcock** in Knox County. The other best bird of the season besides the Curlew Sandpiper was the Snowy Plover photographed in Johnson County (see seasonal highlights and photo).

Gull diversity was unexceptional. The most unusual species identified was Little Gull, which occurred at two inland sites. Laughing Gull had not been previously found in Illinois in March, so records from four different sites in early to mid-March significantly changed that species' distribution profile. A well-studied, apparent **hybrid Laughing x Ring-billed Gull** at a site near Lake Calumet where this species has summered since 1997 (a Kentucky Fried Chicken parking lot!) hints tantalizingly at a possible first Illinois nesting record.

Making its fifth Illinois appearance, the **White-winged Dove** has been found the past three years since its occurrence in 1998. It was yet **another terrible season for cuckoos**. Goatsuckers, Chimney Swift, and Ruby-throated Hummingbird put in early appearances, but records were otherwise routine. There was little encouraging news for the declining Red-headed Woodpecker.

Flycatchers through Titmice

Among the best birds of the season was a **Say's Phoebe** at Chicago; there are but two previous spring reports of this species (including one from last year under IORC review) and seven from fall. While Scissor-tailed Flycatcher is now found annually in Illinois, it was unusually well represented in McLean and adjacent Woodford Counties, where four singles were noted 4-9 May. Very few wintering Northern Shrikes lin-

gered into the spring season.

Blue Jays are among the easiest songbirds to spot and count in their diurnal migration, but few Illinois high counts exceed 200 birds, so a flight of **886 Blue Jays in one hour** at Evanston is a significant new record. A concentration of **2,340 Cliff Swallows** is the highest number reported for that species in years. Four Black-capped Chickadees reported from Effingham County were south of their usual range.

Nuthatches through Waxwings

Red-breasted Nuthatches showed a fair scatter of winter records to central and even southern Illinois, but the return flight was exceedingly weak and effectively confined to the northeast. **Sedge and Marsh Wrens showed the worst spring passages reported in the history of this journal**; average high counts for both species are a dozen or more individuals, rather than the isolated counts of two and three found this year.

The **thrushes suffered disastrous migrations**, combining late arrivals, early departures, and very poor high counts at most sites. Even at migrant traps such as Chicago's lake-front parks, where fair numbers of thrushes can be virtually assumed on any day in the first three weeks of May, observers noted an inexplicable paucity of dates of occurrence. American Pipits had another good season. The variable early spring passage of Cedar Waxwings was fairly strong, while the May passage was the worst in recent years.

Warblers through Tanagers

Two thirds of the 36 warbler species logged boldfaced arrival dates; four of these were record early arrivals for the state. All but Mourning and Connecticut had made it as far north as Chicago's Jackson Park by 1 May. Only two species (Cape May and Black-throated Blue Warblers) showed remarkable late dates. Significant high counts were few, and no species attained all-time highs. Notably scarce were

As a printing aid, the following abbreviations have been used throughout this report:

EA = earliest arrival(s)	* = documented record	m.ob = many observers	imm. = immature(s)
MC = Maximum count(s)	IORC = Illinois Ornithological Records Committee	:ph. = photographed/videotaped	pr = pair(s)
LD = latest departure(s)	SBC = Spring Bird Count (5 May 2001)	ad. = adult(s)	subad. = subadult(s)
Btms = Bottoms	CypCrk = Cypress Creek National Wildlife Refuge (Pulaski Co)	LShel = Lake Shelbyville (Shelby/Moultrie Co)	
CA = Conservation Area	Evanston = Evanston (Cook Co)	M.Arb = Morton Arboretum, Lisle (Du Page Co)	
Co(s) = County (Counties)	Ewing P = Ewing Park, Bloomington (McLean Co)	Mermet L = Mermet Lake Conservation Area (Massac Co)	
FP = Forest Preserve	Fermi = Fermilab National Accelerator Laboratory (Du Page Co)	MidFk = Middle Fork River County Forest Preserve (Champaign Co)	
L = Lake	Fishhk = Fishhook Wildlife Management Area (Moultrie Co)	Montrose = Montrose Point, Chicago (Cook Co)	
P = Park	Grant P = Grant Park, Chicago (Cook Co)	Palos = Palos area (southwestern Cook Co)	
(N)Psv = (Nature) Preserve	GrtLakes = Great Lakes Naval Training Center (Lake Co)	Pomona = Pomona (Jackson Co)	
NWR = National Wildlife Refuge	Hennepin L = Hennepin Lake Restoration Area (Putnam Co)	Pr.Rdg = Prairie Ridge State Natural Area (Jasper Co)	
R = River	HL = Horseshoe Lake (Madison Co)	Rend L = Rend Lake (Franklin/Jefferson Co)	
SF = State Forest	IBSP = Illinois Beach State Park (Lake Co)	Rockford = Rockford (Winnebago Co)	
SP = State Park	IL = Illinois	Sang.L = Sangchris Lake State Park (Sangamon Co)	
Wds = Woods	JP = Jackson Park, Chicago (Cook Co)	Sgm Co = Sangamon Co	
Carl.C/F/B = Carlyle Lake (C=Clinton Co) / (F=Fayette Co) / (B=Bond Co)	Knox College = Green Oaks (Knox College field station) (Knox Co)	Shab.L = Shabbona Lake State Park (De Kalb Co)	
Carp.P = Carpenter Park, Springfield (Sangamon Co)	LCal = Lake Calumet area (southeastern Cook Co)	(L) Spfld = (Lake) Springfield (Sangamon Co)	
Chau = Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge (Mason Co)	Linc.P = Lincoln Park, Chicago (Cook Co)	UCCA = Union County Conservation Area (Union Co)	
Chi = Chicago (Cook Co)		Urbana = Urbana (Champaign Co)	
Clin.L = Clinton Lake (DeWitt Co)		Wash.P = Washington Park, Springfield (Sangamon Co)	
CrabOr. = Crab Orchard Nat'l Wildlife Refuge (Williamson Co)			

Transparent directionals such as e = east(ern), ne = northeast(ern), sc = south-central, etc., are used where relevant. When information on counts greater than one, on sexes, and/or on ages of birds observed is available, it is generally included in parentheses after the date of the record. No number signifies single birds. Headings for species requiring IORC review appear in **CAPITALIZED, UNDERLINED, AND BOLDFACED** fonts; records that are still under review are noted at the end of this report. Noteworthy dates and sites of occurrence and remarkably high counts for the state as a whole or for particular regions of the state are **underlined** and **boldfaced**, and some further editorial remarks are **boldfaced**.

The 1996 DeLorme *Illinois Atlas & Gazetteer* has been used as a standard for spelling of most place names. Remarks on the import of records are informed largely by Bohlen's 1989 *Birds of Illinois* and the subsequently published Illinois journals.