

details submitted. One immature at Carlyle L. CLI 18 May (1996.017); the description is too sketchy to evaluate. This was one of two birds at this site (so published in MJIB 5:145 and in AFN 50:287); the description of the second bird, an adult, was found acceptable.

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*): Two at Sand L. MAS 6 May (1995.009). The descriptions are too brief to confirm the identification. The record is published as a single bird (at "Havana") in MJIB 4:149 and in AFN 49:257.

Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus*): One, four miles east of Carlyle CLI 25 Jan (1995.035). Possibly correct, but the description does not diagnostically exclude all plumages of Peregrine Falcon (especially immature of the subspecies *tundrius*) or Gyrfalcon. The record is published in MJIB 4:115. One at IBSP LAK 27 Apr (1996.097). Several key field-marks not seen. The record is published in MJIB 5:145.

Gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*): One immature at Rock Island ROC 22 Dec (1996.062). This bird would have been a CBC first for Illinois. The description is too sketchy to rule out other falcons or even accipiters. The record is included in the Davenport, Iowa, CBC in AFN 51:454.

Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*): One female at WLL 1 May (1995.030). Likely correct, given the expertise of the observer, but the Committee felt after two rounds of voting that the minimal description did not convincingly rule out yellowlegs. The record is published in MJIB 4:151 and in AFN 49:258.

Pomarine Jaeger (*Stercorarius pomarinus*): One light morph juvenile at Springfield SAN 8 Sep (1995.058). An extremely early date for this species, and details submitted are largely impressionistic (albeit by an expert field observer) and do not satisfactorily eliminate Parasitic Jaeger. The record is published in AFN 50:62 (and retracted in AFN 50:957). One at Carlyle L. CLI 20 Mar (1996.020). The Committee felt that the bird was too distant for positive species identification within this most difficult genus, and reasons for eliminating other species of jaegers were not provided. One on the Mississippi R. above Dam #26-R (Mel Price Dam) MAD 25 Sep (1996.076); again, too distant ("300-400 yards") for positive identification and elimination of other jaeger species. One immature at Clinton L. DEW 1 Dec (1996.078). Seen briefly at very close range, and likely correct; however, the characteristic "double-crescent" on the underwing of this species was not seen, and other plumage details are wanting from the description as well. The last two entries are published as Pomarines in MJIB 6:74.

Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*): One at Montrose Harbor beach, Chicago COO 20 Nov (1996.075); most likely this species, but other species of jaegers could not be safely eliminated by the description. Accepted by the Committee as "jaeger, sp?", but published as Parasitic Jaeger in MJIB 6:74.

Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*): One juvenile at La Salle Lake Fish Hatchery ponds LAS 17 Sep (1995.059). Review of photographs of this bird proved it to be a Parasitic Jaeger, and the Committee accepted the record as that species (see above).

California Gull (*Larus californicus*): One adult at Clinton L. DEW 25 Feb (1995.036); possibly correct, but some key field-marks were not visible at the great distance of observation, and this gull is perhaps best left unidentified. The record is published in MJIB 4:116 and in AFN 49:154. One adult at L. Shelbyville SHE 10 Nov (1996.081), at a distance of "500 yards"; many Committee members felt that a hybrid or a Lesser Black-backed Gull could not be safely eliminated by the description. Published in MJIB 6:74.

Western Gull (*Larus occidentalis*): One subadult at Gillson Park, Wilmette COO 27 Nov and 3 Dec, and at Scabby/Rainbow Beach, Chicago COO 28-29 Nov (1995.041). Exhaustive descriptions and photographs were taken of this controversial bird, and the documenters are to be commended for providing thorough information, which allowed outside reviewers to assess the record with care. Nearly all reviewers agreed the bird was not a Western Gull, but rather a Great Black-backed Gull, possibly with some hybrid characters. They judged the bird's overall size, and in particular its bill size, to be too large for a Western Gull and within the range of variation for Great Black-backed.

Sabine's Gull (*Xema sabini*): One juvenile at Montrose Harbor beach, Chicago COO 16 Sep (1996.098). Some Committee members felt that immature Bonaparte's Gull was not eliminated by the sketchy description; overall, the description is too vague to evaluate. The record is published in MJIB 6:74.

Anna's Hummingbird (*Calypte anna*): One subadult female at Carbondale JAC 17-29 Sep (1990.020). This bird was fully documented by five capable observers, and several clear photos were taken. The written descriptions are convincing, but the photos do not support the identification; in particular, expert reviewers of the photographs maintained that the bird was diagnostically not Anna's Hummingbird, but rather appeared to be an immature male Ruby-throated Hummingbird *Archilochus colubris*. This record is published as hypothetical in Robinson 1996:180.

Violet-green Swallow (*Tachycineta thalassina*): One old record of a male of *T. t. lepida* collected in the Calumet region COO 4 May (1897.001); see Bohlen 1989:122. The fact that a subspecific determination was provided by a competent ornithologist suggests that the identification was correct; however, the specimen cannot be located and no description of any sort was included with the publication of the record in Coale 1925.

Sprague's Pipit (*Anthus spragueii*): One two miles east-northeast of Colfax McL 4 Oct (1996.082). Possibly correct, but little concrete detail is offered on shape or