

50 2 March Chen Co (DM); March Tioga Co (several). Bobolink: common thru; first 6 May Tioga Co (LD); numbers up. Red-winged Blackbird: common thru. E. Meadowlark: regular thru; first 22 March Tioga Co (AP). **YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD**: one female at various dates in May, Delhi (EM, BD). Rusty Blackbird: one 27 March Tioga Co (D/JB, RB, LBi); one 29 April Preble Swamp, Cort Co (WB); 12 May Cort Co (CCBC). Com. Grackle: common thru. Brown-headed Cowbird: common thru. N. Oriole: common thru; first 5 May Tioga Co (LD). Purple Finch: common Chen. and Otsego Co; present in fewer numbers in rest of area. House Finch: present in large numbers in Br and Tioga Cos; present but in smaller flocks in remainder of area. Pine Siskin: common in Otsego Co; scattered sparsely elsewhere in area. Still present 26 May Delhi (MC). Am. Goldfinch: common thru. Evening Grosbeak: present in spotty numbers thru; last 26 May Delhi (JDo).

Friendsville Stage, Box 1, Binghamton, New York 13903

REGION 5 - ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

PAUL A. DeBENEDICTIS

The 1984 spring season was remarkably like that of 1983 climatologically. The season was cold and wet, with late heavy snowfalls through mid-April at lower elevations and mid-May in the Adirondacks. Cold weather and rain was frequent in May. Derby Hill fans bemoaned the lack of southerly winds. Earlier parallels were also similar. The miserable spring weather followed a remarkable late February warm spell in both seasons as well.

Given these parallels, we might anticipate that the two migrations would be similar as well. This was not the case. All observers, and the spring banding operation at the Noyes Sanctuary along Lake Ontario, were unanimous that this spring's migration was one of the worst ever. There were no big days for land birds in the Syracuse area and only two dates, 18 and 22 May, were notable along Lake Ontario. The early part of the migration suffered most, and sparrows were not well represented. Arrival dates generally were average, but the bulk of most populations arrived five to ten days late. Maxima were low. The few warbler maxima in excess of 50 are in the species accounts that follow; peak counts for flycatchers, swallows, kinglets, and the commoner sparrows were similarly unimpressive. Most species that migrate at the end of the period were seen then, but few migrants were reported in June. It is not yet clear to what extent breeding populations are affected, but for the most part changes are small.

There was a marked return flight of Blue Jays and Black-capped Chickadees, a moderate flight of Red-breasted Nuthatches, Pine Siskins and Evening Grosbeaks. The last redpolls and Pine Grosbeaks of the winter were seen in early March, but no crossbills were found. Purple Martins and Cliff Swallows were scarce, and the grassland sparrows (especially Henslow's) continue in low numbers. Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, Hooded Warblers and Am. Goldfinches made very good showings, especially along Lake Ontario. More Orange-crowned Warblers were noted than usual.

The raptor flight was a mix of high overall totals resulting from sustained but low daily totals of birds passing under conditions unfavorable for producing concentrations. This season's owl banding operation at the Noyes Sanctuary produced far more Long-eared Owls than diurnal birdwatchers ever detect, and a strong N. Saw-whet Owl flight in late April to early May that lacked last spring's early spring component. More in keeping with the past decade, only two Loggerhead Shrikes were reported this spring.

The waterfowl flight can be summarized as a species - Canada Goose. Most other species were scarce, and few notable maxima were obtained. Horned Grebe remains alarmingly low, and Ruddy Duck and Bonaparte's Gull were missed this spring. Only a handful of southern herons were found, and night-herons were confined to the Snake Swamp area. Shorebirds, other than local nesters, yellowlegs and Solitary Sandpipers, were virtually nonexistent. Many of the scarcer species were missed and others found on a single date only. Habitat shortage was not a problem; perhaps there was too much habitat this season to concentrate shorebirds in the numbers we usually see in the spring.

Spring is always a time for rarities, and this season was no exception. Fish Crow was added to our Regional list, and other great rarities include Black Vulture, Swainson's Hawk, Piping Plover, Forster's Tern, Acadian Flycatcher, Summer Tanager and Yellow-headed Blackbird. Slightly less rare finds were Snowy Egret, Wilson's Phalarope, White-eyed Vireo, Kentucky Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat and Orchard Oriole. A total of 237 species plus two hybrids were reported, about average. The only real miss was Sedge Wren, but missing Worm-eating Warbler was a surprise give the showing of southern landbirds this season.

Contributors: Lorraine Aust, Dorothy Crumb, Paul DeBenedictis, Robert L. Evans, John Hanyak, Lynn D. Hemink, Gene Huggins, Ruth Knight, Jeanne Lally, Gary Lee, Robert L. Long, George Maxwell, David Muir, Robert L. Post, Margaret S. Rusk, F. G. Scheider, Roy Slack, Gerald A. Smith, Betty Starr, and Magdalena Stooks.

Abbreviations: arr-arrival; DH-Derby Hill, Oswego Co; LOL-Lake Ontario littoral, Oswego Co; LSB-Little Sodus Bay and vicinity, Cayuga Co; NS-Noyes Sanctuary near Nine Mile Point, Oswego Co; NYSARC-report submitted to New York State Avian Records Committee; Onon-Onondaga; PSS-Peter Scott Swamp, Oswego Co; SP-Sandy Pond, Oswego Co; StMC-St. Mary's Cemetery, DeWitt, Onon Co; Syr-Syracuse.

LOONS-DUCKS: Red-throated Loon: singles DH 12-15 April and LSB 19-22 May. Com. Loon: arr 2 April DH, max 35 LOL 3 May, last 26 May Skaneateles L; DH total 57, low. Horned Grebe: only four reports 8 March to 3 May. Red-necked Grebe: a dozen reported including ten Onon L 12 April and one Chitting Pond 14-21 April. Double-crested Cormorant: arr 5 April LOL, max 46 there 18 May; five Otisco L 8 May is a high count away from L Ontario. Am. Bittern: arr DH 19 April. Least Bittern: one PSS 19 May only report. Great Blue Heron: arr DH 20 March. Great Egret: singles Nine Mile Creek 22 May, Oswego 23 May. Snowy Egret: one Oswego 23 May (LH). Cattle Egret: singles town of Vernon 9 May (Mary Felle *vide* MS) and Snake Swamp 10 May (JH). Green-backed Heron: arr DH 23 April. Black-crowned Night-Heron: up to 27 Snake Swamp after late March. Tundra Swan: last Bonta Bridge 25 March. Snow Goose: last white morph DH 26 April, last blue morph DH 28 April. Brant: 600 LOL 18 May only report. Canada Goose: last count > 1000 on 3 May. Wood Duck: arr DH 22 March. Green-winged Teal: arr DH 22 March. Mallard: last count > 100 on 5 April. N. Pintail: max 144 Duck Lake 1 April, last PSS 28 April. Blue-winged Teal: arr DH 22 March. N. Shoveler: arr DH 22 March, last Pennellville 22 April. Gadwall: last PSS 19 May, where possibly nesting. Am. Wigeon: last PSS 6 May. Canvasback: last

LSB 7 April. Redhead: ditto. Ring-necked Duck: last Poolsbrook 6 May. Greater Scaup: max 450 Oswego 19 March, last Poolsbrook 27 April. Lesser Scaup: last DH 19 April. Oldsquaw: max 60 Oswego 8 March, then one DH 29 April. White-winged Scoter: last LOL 21 May. Com. Goldeneye: last LSB 7 April. Bufflehead: last Poolsbrook 10 May. Hooded Merganser: last migrants about 7 April. Com. Merganser: max 110 LOL 22 March, last DH 14 April. Red-breasted Merganser: last LSB 22 May.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: See table for DH summary; total counts for Turkey Vulture, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk and Red-tailed Hawk are new highs, as are maxima for Sharp-shinned Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk and Golden Eagle. Two each of Bald and Golden Eagle reported away from DH. Rarer raptors reported include the Region's third **BLACK VULTURE** on 2 April and sixth **SWAINSON'S HAWK** on 30 April at DH (GAS, NYSARC) and four Peregrines there 12 April and 11 May plus one found mortally wounded NS 12 May. Virginia Rail: arr Syr 26 April. Sora: arr Clay Marsh 1 May. Com. Moorhen: arr DH 19 April. Am. Coot: arr LSB 24 March, last Poolsbrook 19 May. Semipalmated Plover: only two reports 20-24 May. **PIPING PLOVER:** three SP 21 May (FGS, NYSARC) are first Regional spring report since 1978. Greater Yellowlegs: arr Pennellville 7 April, max 18 there 19 April, last Lysander 18 May. Lesser Yellowlegs: arr Pennellville 15 April, max 24 there 10 May, last Lysander 18 May. Solitary Sandpiper: arr Pennellville 21 April, strong flight through 18 May. Spotted Sandpiper: arr Pennellville 21 April. Upland Sandpiper: arr DH 23 April, scarce. Ruddy Turnstone: one SP 26 May. Sanderling: one SP 24-26 May. Semipalmated Sandpiper: one SP 24 May. Least Sandpiper: arr Pennellville 6 May, max 26 on 13 May, last SP 26 May. Pectoral Sandpiper: only about ten reported 3-13 May. Dunlin: one Pennellville 8 April (FGS, RK, JH) early, last seven SP 24 May. Short-billed Dowitcher: seven Poolsbrook 19 May. Com. Snipe: arr Pennellville 22 March. Am. Woodcock: arr Pompey 18 March. Wilson's Phalarope: female Pennellville 28 April (FGS) is tenth modern spring Regional record. Ring-billed Gull: max 3,500 DH 5 April, very low. Iceland Gull: last Oswego 10 March. Glaucous Gull: last Oswego 12 March. Great Black-backed Gull: last count > 100 Oswego 14 March. Caspian Tern: arr Selkirk Shores State Park 12 April. Common Tern: arr DH 9 May. **FORSTER'S TERN:** adult DH 15 April (GAS, NYSARC) is third and earliest Regional spring record. Black Tern: arr DH 3 May.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Black-billed Cuckoo: arr Camillus 19 May. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: arr StMC 23 May. Snowy Owl: last (at feeder catching birds!) DH 9 March. Short-eared Owl: singles town of Mexico 4 March and DH 17 April. Long-eared Owl: 13 banded NS, most 1-15 April. N. Saw-whet Owl: 27 banded NS, most in April, including record late on 19 May; three others found elsewhere late March to late April. Com. Nighthawk: arr Clay 2 May. Whip-poor-will: arr NS 29 April. Chimney Swift: arr DH 17 April, ties record early. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr DH 11 May. Red-headed Woodpecker: arr DH 28 April, scarce. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: arr Syr 9 April, scarce all spring but at least two males drumming Camillus valley in May, an unusual potential nesting locality. N. Flicker: arr DH 8 April, max 80 there 28 April, last migrants about 18 May.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Olive-sided Flycatcher: arr LOL 18 May. E. Wood-Pewee: arr LSB 20 May. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: arr two sites 22 May. **ACADIAN FLYCATCHER:** one singing LSB 22 May (FGS) is seventh Regional record. Alder Flycatcher: arr StMC 6 May (JH) record early. Willow Flycatcher: arr StMC 6 May (JH) early. Least Flycatcher: arr StMC 28 April. E. Phoebe: arr DH 7 April. Great Crested Flycatcher: arr StMC 29 April. E. Kingbird: arr DH 28 April, max 55 LOL 24 May. Purple Martin: arr DH 4 April, low all season. Tree Swallow: arr DH 22 March, max 2,000 there 10 May. N. Rough-winged Swallow: arr DH 12 April. Bank Swallow: arr DH 14 April. Cliff Swallow: arr DH 14 April, low all season. Barn Swallow: arr DH 12 April, max 2,000 there 10 May. Blue Jay: migrants conspicuous after 27 April, max 1,800 DH 11 May. Am. Crow: 31,975 past DH in March and April. **FISH CROW:** one DH 28 April (FGS, GAS, mob, NYSARC) with Am. Crows - is Regional first. Black-capped Chickadee: strong return flight, 132 banded NS, 75-150/day

DH early May. Red-breasted Nuthatch: up to four/day 4 April-24 May. Brown Creeper: to seven/day 8 April to about 3 May. House Wren: arr DH 29 April. Winter Wren: migrants scarce 8 April to 18 May. Marsh Wren: arr DH 3 May. Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr Syr 9 April, last SP 21 May. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr DH 14 April, last LSB 22 May. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr two sites 28 April. E. Bluebird: DH total 19, low, last on 6 May. Veery: arr 29 April NS. Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr 20 May StMC. Swainson's Thrush: arr DH 7 May, last Syr 31 May. Hermit Thrush: arr StMC 13 April, last LOL 22 May. Wood Thrush: arr Clay 2 May. Am. Robin: max 2,000 DH 21 April. Gray Catbird: arr StMC 29 April. Brown Thrasher: arr three sites 27 April. Water Pipit: migrants 8 April to 21 May. N. Shrike: last Albion 25 March. **LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE**: singles DH 14 April and LOL 22 April.

VIREOS-WARBLERS: White-eyed Vireo: singles StMC 6 and 19 May. Solitary Vireo: arr Syr 18 April, last LOL 21 May. Yellow-throated Vireo: arr StMC 11 May. Warbling Vireo: arr DH 5 May. Philadelphia Vireo: arr StMC 19 May, max 9 SP 24 May. Red-eyed Vireo: arr Clay 12 May. Blue-winged Warbler: arr StMC 11 May. Golden-winged Warbler: arr TRIGMA 13 May. "Brewster's" Warbler: about six reported after 17 May. "Lawrence's" Warbler: one Camillus 31 May. Tennessee Warbler: arr StMC 3 May. Orange-crowned Warbler: about seven reported 12-19 May much better than average. Nashville Warbler: arr StMC 29 April, last about 22 May. N. Parula: arr Clay 2 May, last SP 24 May. Yellow Warbler: arr Clay 27 April. Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr Syr 30 April. Magnolia Warbler: arr Syr 8 May. Cape May Warbler: arr Clay 2 May, last LSB 22 May. Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr NS 28 April. Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr Syr 18 April, max 460 LOL 18 May, last SP 24 May. Black-throated Green Warbler: arr NS 28 April. Blackburnian Warbler: arr Clay 2 May. Pine Warbler: arr DH 17 April, last LOL 12 May. Palm Warbler: arr DH 29 April, last NS 19 May. Bay-breasted Warbler: arr LOL 19 May. Blackpoll Warbler: arr two sites 22 May. Cerulean Warbler: arr Camillus 12 May. Black-and-white Warbler: arr Syr 30 April, last LSB 22 May. Am. Redstart: arr Clay 2 May, max 94 LSB 22 May. Ovenbird: arr StMC 30 April. N. Waterthrush: arr Clay 27 April. Louisiana Waterthrush: arr Fabius 17 April. Kentucky Warbler: singles StMC 19 and 23 May, LSB 22 May. Mourning Warbler: arr two sites 22 May. Com. Yellowthroat: arr Clay 2 May. Hooded Warbler: arr 17 May StMC. Wilson's Warbler: arr LOL 19 May. Canada Warbler: arr Shackham Rd. 12 May. Yellow-breasted Chat: one NS 12 May, two males Camillus valley after 27 May.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: SUMMER TANAGER: females Canastota 9-12 May (DWC, JL, NYSARC) and Camillus 27 May (FGS, NYSARC) are third and fourth Regional records. Scarlet Tanager: arr Syr 17 May. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr two sites 6 May. Indigo Bunting: arr Camillus 12 May. Rufous-sided Towhee: arr StMC 27 April. Am. Tree Sparrow: last DH 9 May. Chipping Sparrow: arr DH 21 April. Field Sparrow: arr DH 14 April. Vesper Sparrow: arr DH 12 April. Savannah Sparrow: arr DH 12 April. Grasshopper Sparrow: arr LOL 18 May. Henslow's Sparrow: only report Clay 6 May. Fox Sparrow: migrants 23 March to 4 May. Song Sparrow: arr Syr about 12 March. Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Camillus valley 2 May, last LOL 24 May. Swamp Sparrow: arr DH 5 April. White-throated Sparrow: last about 24 May. White-crowned Sparrow: unexceptional flight 3-22 May. Dark-eyed Junco: arr about 14 April, last Camillus valley 27 May, late. Bobolink: arr DH 28 April. Red-winged Blackbird: max only 9,000 DH 28 April, low. E. Meadowlark: arr Pennellville 22 Mar. **YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD**: male Pennellville 17-19 April (DWC, FGS, NYSARC) is sixth Regional record. Rusty Blackbird: arr Bolivar 31 May, last LOL 19 May. Com. Grackle: max only 2,000 DH 29 April. Brown-headed Cowbird: max 3,000 DH 28 April. Orchard Oriole: two males near Camillus 19 and 31 May. N. Oriole: arr DH 3 May. Pine Grosbeak: last NS 4 March. Purple Finch: arr DH 12 April. Com. Redpoll: last DH 26 March. Pine Siskin: arr Syr 2 April, max 35 LOL 18 May, last there 21 May. Am. Goldfinch: max 1,000 LOL 18 May. Evening Grosbeak: return flight began about 13 April, max 1,450 DH 9 May, last SP 21 May.

Educational Communications and Studies, Upstate Medical Center,
766 Irving Avenue, Syracuse, New York 13210

Derby Hill Hawk Migration Totals - 1984

Species	Arrival	Max - Date	Last	90% Date Range*	Total
Turkey Vulture	23 Feb	161 - 2 Apr	27 May	31 Mar - 29 Apr	1,600
Osprey	4 Apr	78 - 28 Apr	28 May	15 Apr - 12 May	342
Bald Eagle	23 Feb	4 - 20 Mar	20 May		22
Northern Harrier	17 Feb	74 - 14 Apr	28 May	21 Mar - 9 May	914
Sharp-shinned Hawk	16 Mar	3,019 - 28 Apr	28 May	14 Apr - 11 May	11,582
Cooper's Hawk:	23 Feb	64 - 17 Apr	25 May	21 Mar - 6 May	676
Northern Goshawk	17 Feb	36 - 22 Mar	7 May	15 Mar - 26 Apr	174
Red-shouldered Hawk	15 Mar	127 - 22 Mar	11 May	22 Mar - 22 Apr	964
Broad-winged Hawk	17 Apr	16,582 - 28 Apr	28 May	27 Apr - 27 May	39,673
Red-tailed Hawk	17 Feb	1,233 - 17 Apr	28 May	20 Mar - 27 Apr	8,166
Rough-legged Hawk	17 Feb	45 - 28 Apr	11 May	5 Mar - 29 Apr	563
Golden Eagle	22 Mar	22 - 22 Mar	5 May		22
American Kestrel	16 Mar	57 - 13 Apr	25 May	21 Mar - 29 Apr	435
Merlin	1 Apr	9 - 12 Apr	30 Apr		26
Grand total (including unidentified, rarities):					66,409

* Dates between which 90% of all birds passed Derby Hill.

REGION 6 - ST. LAWRENCE

KENNETH L. CROWELL and GERALD A. SMITH

If we had April weather in February, January descended in March. The mean temperature for the first half of the month was 9° F and the mean monthly temperature in Canton was 19° F - ten degrees below normal. The low for the month was -24° F on 8 March, and 22 March was the only day when the temperature in Canton exceeded 50° F. Precipitation was less than half of normal at 1.08 in. Snowfall for the month ranged from seven inches in eastern St. Lawrence Co. to 58 inches at Highmarket on Tug Hill. Major snowstorms occurred on the 14th and 30th, the latter accompanied by the strongest winds of the month. Other wind storms occurred 1, 6-7, 11-12, 17-19, 23-25 and 29-30 March. April was generally mild with temperatures slightly above normal. Extreme temperatures ranged from 16° F at Wanakena on the 1st to 81° F at Massena on the 28th. Fewer than half the days had frost, the last occurring at Canton on the 23rd. Precipitation was about normal (3.67 inches at Canton) with a maximum of 1.28 inches falling on 17 April. Light snow fell on the 8th. A brief cold snap was followed by two weeks of mild, dry weather. There were thunderstorms and local hail on the 17th. The month's coldest weather came during the third week, followed by mild temperatures leading to thunderstorms and high winds on the 28th. May weather was variable, with a distinctly cool, wet flavor. The month began with snow flurries. There were a few spells of two or three warm days,