

I confirmed breeding of Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*) at 4 Ellis County and 1 Woodward County locations. This species probably breeds more commonly in Oklahoma than previous confirmations would indicate; there have been only 12 prior breeding records (M. Howery pers. comm.).

Other observations of note from northwestern Woodward County included Pileated Woodpeckers (*Dryocopus pileatus*) at a few locations, including 3, presumably a family, on 20 June, 15 km west of their westernmost known Oklahoma breeding location (Reinking 2004), and a 2nd-year (non-breeding) Common Loon (*Gavia immer*) heard and seen on Fort Supply Lake on 22 June. A Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) was singing at a small pond south of Fort Supply Lake on 1 July; Gray Catbirds (*Dumetella carolinensis*) were calling in June and July at 2 locations around Fort Supply Lake; a small Great Blue heronry (*Ardea herodias*) still had 3 active nests on 1 July by a wetland south of Fort Supply Lake; and there were Yellow-breasted Chats (*Icteria virens*) at several locations. The Oklahoma Breeding Bird Atlas indicates that the latter 4 species are absent or thinly distributed in this area of the state (Reinking 2004).

*Acknowledgements*—I thank the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation for funding (State Wildlife Grant T-22 to the Oklahoma Biological Survey)

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*Submitted 5 April 2007; accepted 1 November 2007.*

**Fall Nesting Killdeer in McCurtain County, Oklahoma.**—On 15 December 2004 at 1300 h, I (B.A. Heck III) observed 2 adult Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*) with 2 downy young. The Killdeer were in a wet lawn area by a leaking water piper at the edge of an asphalt parking lot in Valliant, McCurtain County, Oklahoma. When I approached, the adults retreated about 10 m and the young crouched. From approximately 1 m, I observed that the dorsal plumage of the young was about 50% down feathers and 50% adult feathers. On 17 December at 1400 h, I observed 1 adult Killdeer for about 40 min in the same area, but no young were observed. On 24

December at 1725 h and on 25 December at 0535 h, I observed 2 adult Killdeer roosting within 3 m of the original observation site, but no young were observed.

Weather in this area during the first one-half of December was abnormally mild with 10 days above 15° C and 2 nights below 0° C, but freezing rain on 23 December and a low temperature of -8° C resulted in a 4 cm crust of ice covering the ground (Oklahoma Department of Agriculture Forestry Station, Broken Bow, OK). The ice cover, which remained for 2 days, prevented normal feeding by Killdeer, exemplified by an adult Killdeer observed 24 December by B.A. Heck, Jr. pecking the frozen carcass of a chicken flattened by vehicle traffic in the same parking lot.

Fall and winter nesting of Killdeer in the U.S. has been reported previously 6 times; Little Rock, Arkansas was the farthest west (about 114 km east of Valliant), and the latest nesting attempt was in mid-December in South Carolina (Smith, K., et al. 1999. Additional records of fall and winter nesting by Killdeer in southern United States. *Wilson Bulletin*. 111: 424–426). This winter nesting is the farthest west nesting of Killdeer reported to date. A nesting chronology can be determined by using data from Jackson and J. A. Jackson. (2000. Killdeer [*Charadrius vociferous*] *The Birds of North America*, No. 517 [A. Poole and F. Gill, eds.] *The Birds of North America, Inc.*, Philadelphia, PA.) In Mississippi, the mean time reported for egg-laying was 5.5 days; the mean time for incubation was 25.1 days; and prejuvenal molt was completed in about 17 days (the juvenile molt on these 2 birds appeared to be about one-half completed, or 9 days). Based on these time frames, we estimate that nesting was initiated about 27 October, and the juvenile Killdeer were about 9 days old when I observed them.

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*Received 8 June 2007; accepted 1 November 2007.*

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The *Bulletin of the Oklahoma Ornithological Society* (ISSN 0474-0750) is published quarterly in March, June, September, and December in Norman, Oklahoma. Co-editors, Bryan Coppedge (to whom manuscripts should be directed), Science and Mathematics, Tulsa Community College, 7505 West 41st Street, Tulsa, OK 74107-8633 e-mail: bcoppedg@tulsacc.edu; Jeffrey F. Kelly, University of Oklahoma; and David M. Leslie, Jr., U.S. Geological Survey. Subscription is by membership in the Oklahoma Ornithological Society: \$15 student, \$25 regular, \$35 family, \$40 or more sustaining, per year; life membership, \$500. Direct questions regarding subscription, replacement copies, back issues, or payment of dues to Don Glass, OOS Membership/Circulation Chair, P.O. Box 2931, Claremore, OK 74018.