

The 2005 Big Day Report

It is our pleasure to welcome you to the 2005 summation of Big Day and Listing records. For those not addicted to the passion of Big Days, the time, financial, and personal commitments necessary to seriously conduct such an endeavor may seem bizarre or even egotistical. The elemental definition of a Big Day is a test or contest of birding skill or ability. Yet one of the main tenets of a Big Day extends far beyond bragging rights of who can identify the most species in a given period of time. Indeed Big Days are competitive, but the competition is actually between the birds and birders. The birding team may know they are present, but can they find them on the appointed day? Non-participants may feel that one must be an expert to attempt a Big Day. But this is definitely erroneous as Big Days are a learning exercise for all. Members of a Big Day team must studiously predict the habitat types each species may potentially occur in along a given route. They must understand the basic (or advanced) knowledge of timing, weather, and traffic conditions, coupled with their visual and auditory skills in identifying birds. Big Day results provide valuable information regarding the status of resident and migratory birds. It raises awareness within the birding community of the natural habitats in a region and the threats those habitats are exposed to. Big Days do make one a better birder as you no longer will be interested only in life birds, but rather will spend efforts improving skills in locating and identifying all species, even common birds. The knowledge gained studying the habitat preferences and the personalities each bird within your region displays is truly rewarding.

Congratulations go to all who attempted Big Days in 2005. The most notable records included new overall State records for Georgia (193), Oklahoma (182), and Virginia (178). The team of Beaton, Flynn, Hodges, and Horn set the new Georgia state record in 2004 with a tally of 193, besting the previous record by three. A new bar has been set in the Sooner State (182), where Woodward, Mitchell, and Carrell beat the old Oklahoma record by two. The greatest defeat of an old record was delivered by the team of Ribaudo, Gaskill, and Rieger, who upped the previous Virginia record by nine and established a new state record of 178. And in that 'oh so close' category, Kemp, Weeks, and Gross, tied the Idaho overall record. I'm sure each of those participants is still miffed they missed a single species.

Others tried their best, however, and although not establishing new state records, did push their respective Province or State Target Totals, including teams from

Quebec, Illinois, Kentucky, New Hampshire, New Mexico, and California. Note especially that two different teams in California set new County Big Day records when they snagged 217 and 215 species in Los Angeles and San Diego counties, respectively. And let us not forget that 50 new monthly records were established in 2005 for various Provinces and States. As much as I enjoyed reading the various submissions from 2005, I sincerely hope that you do as well. Here's to a successful and safe Big Day competition in 2006!

Pre-2005 Big Days

For the most part, this compilation is based on Big Day reports submitted from 2005. Big Days conducted in prior years were submitted in 2005 and have been included within this report as well (see Georgia, Missouri #1, Ohio #1, Bahamas, and Ivory Coast).

Big Day Report Submissions Past Omissions

With the multitude of Big Day reports submitted each year, it is unfortunately inevitable that a few get misplaced. This was the case with notable counts conducted by Steven Cardiff and Donna Dittmann (see Louisiana #1-3). The Cardiff/Dittmann team successfully set new monthly records in Louisiana for March and May in 2002 and 1997, respectively. I apologize for those important records being published at such a late date. Regrettably, we also overlook the publishing of an Ivory Coast Big Day completed in 2000 by Terry Witt and and N.K. Borrow and their account is now published herein.

2005 Big Day Contender's Table

% Target Total >95%

Listed in Descending Order

Area	Date	Total	Pct. TT	Rank
VA	7-May	178	108.54%	1
QC	8-May	163	103.16%	2
OK	9-May	182	102.25%	3
NH	28-May	165	100.79%	4
ID	9-Jun	176	101.01%	5
CA	1-May	217	100.46%	6
KY	6-May	172	100.17%	7

CA	24-Apr	215	99.54%	8
OR	14-May	212	99.20%	9
IL	16-May	176	98.88%	10
SC	1-May	174	98.14%	11
WV	10 May	132	96.56%	12
NM	4-May-05	183	95.16%	13
HI	11-Dec	56	95.40%	14

Explanation of Terms

Species of Note: A Species of Note is either one that you didn't expect to get but did, or one that you counted on but failed to see. In the former category are birds you considered you had virtually no chance of seeing during your Big Day. A Vagrant (V) is any species which occurs less than annually in the state, province, or country of your Big Day; a Rare (R) species is less than annual along your chosen route, but may be more common elsewhere in your state, province, or country; an Early (E) or Late (L) species is one that is Rare due to being unusually tardy or early. An (S) in the accounts indicates that the rarity or vagrant had been Staked Out prior to the Big Day. A (#) indicates an usually high number of any particular species.

In the latter category are birds that you consider virtually guaranteed, such that you did not specifically plan for them on your Big Day. These are Code 2 birds (no one should ever miss a Code 1 bird). More quantitatively, a Big Miss (M) is a species you had a 95% or better chance of seeing along your route at that time of year (i.e., you expect to see the species on at least 19 attempts out of 20), but which you inexplicably missed.

Target Totals: To compare the relative result of each individual count, a TARGET TOTAL (TT) for each province and state is calculated. The TT is the average of the top three counts for a given region, up until the end of the previous year. They can be found in the Champion Big Day summary tables. TTs are not calculated for counts that are intrinsically uncompetitive due to imposed restrictions (single-county, walking, etc); that take place outside the "ideal" time of year; or whose Grand Total is less than 75% of the TT.

Abbreviations:

CA - Conservation Area
 Co - County
 CP - County Park
 Hr - Harbor
 Is - Island
 Mtn - Mountain
 NF - National Forest
 NP - National Park
 NWR - National Wildlife Refuge
 PP - Provincial Park
 Pt - Point
 R - River
 Res - Reservoir
 SF - State Forest
 SL - Sewage Lagoon/Pond/Plant
 SP - State Park
 SWA - State Wildlife Area
 WMA - Wildlife Management Area
 WR - Wildlife Refuge/Area/Sanctuary
 WTP - Water Treatment Plant

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2005 CANADIAN BIG DAYS

NEW BRUNSWICK -18 May 05- 0630 to 2030 - Species Totals 82/82; (Team/Shared): Terrie Woodrow 82. 560 Kilometers by car, 2 kilometers by foot. Visiting: Edmunston to Cape Tormentine. Species of note: none.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND #1 -19 November 05- 0515 to 1545 - Species Totals 69/66; (Team/Shared): Dan McAskill 69, David Seeler 66. 280.3 Kilometers by car, 6 kilometers by foot. Visiting: East Point, PEI NP. Species of note: Redhead (V), Harlequin Duck (R), American Coot (R), Barn Swallow (L), Swamp Sparrow (L).

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND #2 -03 December 05- 0545 to 1520 - Species Totals 61/60; (Team/Shared): Dwaine Oakley 61, David Seeler 60. 304.3 Kilometers by car, 5 kilometers by foot. Visiting: East Point, PEI NP, Brackley. Species of note: Cattle Egret (V), Redhead (V), Northern Shrike (R), Common Grackle (L).

QUEBEC -28 May 05- 0100 to 2315 - Species Totals 163/160; (Team/Shared): David Bird 160, Rodger Titman 160, Marcel Gahbauer 163, Richard Gregson 160, Mark Dennis 163. 500 Kilometers by car, 15 kilometers by foot. Visiting: Ile Bizard, Parc Mont. Tremblant, St. Barthelemy, Trois Rivieres, Baie De Febvre, Ste. Martine, Gowan Road/Athelstan, Ste. Etienne, St. Thimothee. Species of note: Glossy Ibis (S,M,V)

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ARIZONA #1 -06 February 05- 0300 to 2100 - Species Totals 103/103; (Team/Shared): Keith A. McMullen 103, Craig Litteken 103. 327 miles by car, 2 miles by foot. Visiting: Sweetwater Wetlands, Avra Valley WTP, Saguaro NP, Mount Lemmon, Patagonia Lake SP, Madera Canyon, Green Valley WTP. Species of note: Western Grebe (R), Common Goldeneye (R,S), Neotropic Cormorant (R), Merlin (R), Inca Dove (M), Greater Roadrunner (M), Northern Rough-winged Swallow (R), Painted Redstart (R), Harris's Sparrow (V,S), Lazuli Bunting (R,S).

Both Craig and I (Keith) had business in Phoenix and decided to arrive a day early and attempt an Arizona Big Day within only the Tucson Audubon Society guide and recent posts to Surfbirds. I had previously been to the area only once before and the trip was a first for Craig. We did well considering we're not local and we realized we spent too much time in and around Tucson. We should have headed south earlier in the day.

ARIZONA #2 -4 December 05- 0345 to 2135 - Species Totals 137/134: (Team/Shared): Rich Hoyer (individual total not submitted), Jake Mohlmann (individual total not submitted), Dylan Holstein-Radin (individual total not submitted). 455 miles by car, 3 miles by foot. Visiting: Sweetwater Wetlands, Ruby Road, Nogales, Kino Springs, Patagonia Lake State Park, Whitewater Draw, Sulphur Springs Valley, Pinery Canyon. Species of note: Ross's Goose (M), Scaled Quail (M), Cattle Egret (R), Bald Eagle (R), Common Ground-Dove (R), Ruddy Ground-Dove (V), Greater Roadrunner (M), Burrowing Owl (M), Red-naped Sapsucker (M), Black-tailed Gnatcatcher (V), Lucy's Warbler (L), Rufous-crowned Sparrow (M), Lark Sparrow (M).

ARKANSAS -12 November 05- 0645 to 1715 - Species Totals 115/113; (Team/Shared): Pat Ward 113, Ken Ward 115. 289 miles by car, 4.5 miles by foot. Visiting: Centered around Brinkley, Arkansas, Chache River Complexes. Species of note: none.

This was a count conducted while basically looking for Ivory-billed Woodpeckers.

CALIFORNIA #1 (Los Angeles Co.) -24 April 05- 0000 to 2113 - Species Totals 215/212; (Team/Shared): Jon Feenstra, Todd McGrath, Mike San Miguel, Michael San Miguel, Jr. (individual totals not submitted). 535 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. Visiting: Los Angeles County. Species of note: none noted by code.

With Los Angeles County's massive population, gridlocked freeways, and out-of-control development encroaching into even the most remote corners of the country, it is nearly incomprehensible that a single team of birders could observe 215 species in one day. But that is exactly what happened on April 24, 2005 when Jon Feenstra, Todd McGrath, Mike and Michael San Miguel logged 535 miles driving to the far reaches of the county to cover all of the diverse habitats that can still be found in the county. We had hoped to have Kimball Garrett on the team but prior commitments prevented him from participating and

we can only imagine how much his skill and knowledge of the county would have added to our effort. During a birding excursion earlier in the year, the team began talking about trying to break the Los Angeles County record of 182 birds set by Kimball Garrett and Feenstra in October 2004. The only counties in California with lists greater than 200 are Monterey (208), San Diego (206), and Kern (202). We thought that Los Angeles County should be in that group so the real goal was to break 200. However, that hurdle would require some careful planning, an efficient route, including the issue of traffic once we got to the LA basin, and some thorough scouting. A major concern was how to get through the mountains, which had experienced the second wettest rainy season on record and made access a major issue. We knew that the highway was still closed past Buckhorn with up to 6 feet of snow and major washouts. It may still be another year before the roads through this section of the San Gabriel's are reopened. How were we going to get from Angeles Crest in the west to the higher elevations near Big Pine/Wrightwood without spending too much time? A good deal of luck and decent weather would also have a major impact on the final results. To provide some structure and protocol, the team would adhere to Big Day rules established by the American Birding Association.

About two weeks before the Big Day, we met to develop a strategy that included a tentative route and schedule, a list of target species, and scouting assignments. Any serious attempt that big must include stops in the mountains, north montane slopes, desert and waterfowl habitats, chaparral and the coastal plains, and estuaries and open-ocean. While we couldn't assume that any bird was a slam-dunk, we developed a list of birds and sorted them into the three categories of "can't miss", "with some scouting we should see", and it's a crap shoot or wow, that was a nice find". The total list was 244 species with about 140 of them in the "can't miss" column but with known locations where we should find each species. If we were to get to 200, we would need to stake out about 60 species. Feenstra scouted the mountains and antelope Valley, McGrath did the coast and ocean, and the San Miguel's did everything in between. Our original plan to get from the desert to the coastal plain normally was to drive straight through along State Highway 14 with no stops and a big chunk of unproductive and lost time. Instead, we decided at the last minute to get to the coast along Bouquet Canyon with several stops where we had staked an additional 10 birds. One of our primary concerns was how much time do we allow ourselves on the coast because once we leave the desert we weren't going back and if we missed too many birds there, we would not have a change to get them later.

At 10 PM, we all met at San Miguel's in Arcadia to organize our gear and find some room the 4-Runner for the mountain of food that McGrath brought - there would be no time for stops at McDonald's and Starbuck's and by 11 PM we were on our way to our first stop in Tujunga Wash at exactly midnight. Critical to a successful pursuit of 200 was strict adherence to a schedule, keeping careful track of each bird seen and what to expect at the next stop on the route. Feenstra was assigned to keep time, McGrath was

scorekeeper, Michael hung his head out the window listening for anything suspicious and Mike did most of the driving. Most Big Days start with a search for owls and this one would be no different. Our first official bird of the day was a Northern Pygmy-Owl above La Cañada and at 3 AM, with the moon occasionally breaking through the clouds in the freezing cold wind at the exit of Buckhorn Campground and 6-foot snow drifts, we found Flammulated Owl. One of the biggest surprises of the day was Spotted Owl at the trailhead to Devil's Canyon. They hadn't been reported from this location in many years and the only reason we stopped there was this is a traditional place for them. By the time we finished the night-bird portion of the trip, we had already seen six species of owls. This was a great start to our day. We then spent the next hour and a half driving to the Big Pines area, when normally, if the roads were open, we could have gotten there in less than a half hour. After surviving the 28° F temperature and 20 mph winds waiting for sunup at Grassy Hollow Campground, our first critical stakeout was Williamson's Sapsucker and we nailed it. While developing the strategy, we thought that if we left the desert with 150 species, we would have a good shot at 200. So with 164 species after Bougquet Canyon, we were in very good shape. For much of the day things pretty much fell into place.

If six owl species by 4 AM was a fortunate start, than what we found when we got to the coast was magical because we didn't miss a single expected bird and even found a Black Scoter, the "best bird" of the day. Strong northwest winds had driven the shearwaters and jaegers right to the coast and many of the birds were over the surf line.

Big misses: Virginia Rail, Greater Yellowlegs, Rock Wren, Rufous-crowned Sparrow. We were also aware of other staked-out birds, such as common Merganser, Least Bittern, Osprey, Lesser Nighthawk, California Gnatcatcher, and Rufous-crowned Sparrow., but the county isn't some nice compact little geographic entity with easy access and no traffic. Rather, it is big, 535 logged-miles of big, and given the 24-hour constraint and only about 13 hours of daylight, it is impossible to get to every known bird. Our strategy was to maximize our time and that meant missing some birds if they were out of the way or took too much time from our very tight schedule. If we started with owls, why not end the day with them. Our last bird of the day was a staked-out Barn Owl in San Dimas.

As a postscript to our adventure and testimony to the expression that "records are only made to be broken", our record for the most birds seen in any California County in 24 hours lasted all of a week. On May 1, 2005, a team of birders (Todd and David Easterla, Steve Glover, Gjon Hazard, and John Sterling) from northern California did a Big Day in San Diego County and recorded an amazing 217 species. Still 215 species in Los Angeles County sounds pretty good but knowing the competitive spirit that most birders enjoy, who knows for how long that record will stand. With the same effort and good luck and a little more planning, is 220-225 possible in the County? Hmmm, what about 2006? Naah!! We are not going to do that again...or are we?

CALIFORNIA #2 (Sand Diego Co.) -01 May 05- 0000 to 2400 - Species Totals 217/207; (Team/Shared): David

Easterla 212, Todd Easterla 214, Steve Glover 212, Gjon Hazard 212, John Sterling 214. 490 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. Visiting: Guajome Lake, Palomar Mountain SP, Lake Henshaw, Anza Borrego Desert SP, William Heise CP, Cuyamaca Res., Mission Trails, Sandrego Bay, Cabrillo NM, La Jolla Cove. Species of note: Ross's Goose (L,S), Northern Shoveler (M), Northern Pintail (L), Canvasback (L,S), Redhead (L,S), Ring-necked Duck (L), Bufflehead (L,S), Red-breasted Merganser (L), Common Loon (S), Black-vented Shearwater (L), Little Blue Heron (M), White-tailed Kite (S), Sharp-shinned Hawk (L), Red-shouldered Hawk (M), Merlin (L), Peregrine Falcon (M), Wandering Tattler (L), Wilson's Snipe (L), Long-eared Owl (S), Northern Flicker (M), Vermilion Flycatcher (R,S), Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (M), Northern Waterthrush (R), Tricolored Blackbird (S), Yellow-headed Blackbird (R).

CONNECTICUT -28 July 05- 0200 to 2130 - Species Totals 136/132; (Team/Shared): Ed Hagen 133, David Tripp, Jr. 136, Fran Zygmunt 133. 282 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. Visiting: Goshen, Cornwall, Litchfield, Woodbury, Lordship, Milford Pt., Sandy Pt., Hammonasset SP. Species of note: Red-breasted Merganser (L), Brant (L)

We lost 1.5 hours during the morning due to a dead car battery!

DELAWARE #1 -09 January 05- 0700 to 1700 - Species Totals 100/100; (Team/Shared): Alison Ellicott 100, Scott Henderson 100, France Dewaghe 100, Colin Campbell 100. 260 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. Visiting: Indian River Inlet, Rehoboth Bay, Silver Lake, Cape Henlopen SP, Prime Hook NWR, Bombay Hook NWR. Species of note: Cackling Goose (R), Eurasian Wigeon (R), Razorbill (V), Killdeer (M), Greater Yellowlegs (M), Snowy Owl (R), Short-eared Owl (R), Field Sparrow (M).

DELAWARE #2 -19 February 05- 0615 to 1730 - Species Totals 91/91; (Team/Shared): Derek Stoner 91, Judy Montgomery 91. 273 Miles by car, 3 miles by foot. Visiting: Lums Pond SP, Cedar Mill Pond, Indian River Inlet, Silver Lake, Cape Henlopen SP, Prime Hook NWR, Ted Harvey CA, Bombay Hook NWR, Port Mahon. Species of note: House Wren (L), Golden-crowned Kinglet (M), White-breasted Nuthatch (M), Brown-headed Cowbird (M), Cedar Waxwing (M).

A pre-dawn start at Lums Pond State Park gave us Great Horned Owl but no other owls responded to our tapes. So we headed down into the southern part of the state to visit a few of the major waterfowl hotspots. Driving along the highway, we picked up some nice flyover birds like Sharp-shinned Hawk and Great Black-backed Gull.

Arriving at Cedar Mill Pond around 7:30 am, we found a wonderful mixed flock of Tundra Swans, Ring-necked Ducks, Redheads, Hooded Mergansers, and Pied-billed Grebes. With half the pond covered in ice, the birds were concentrated close to our viewing point. Further south at the Rehoboth Bay, diligent scanning yielded dozens of Buffleheads, Lesser Scaup, and Brant. Nearby Haven Lake held a few Common Goldeneyes but nothing else new.

The waters at Indian River Inlet were choppy and the wind off the ocean howled fiercely, but the avian rewards were worth the minor suffering. Rafts of Black and Surf Scoters bobbed along the jetty, with a few White-winged Scoters

mixed in for good measure. Several dozen Red-throated Loons dove in the surf, joined by lesser numbers of Common Loons. On the barnacle-encrusted jetties, small flocks of Purple Sandpipers and Ruddy Turnstones fed actively.

Excited by adding all these new water birds, we continued the fun at Silver Lake with its Northern Shovelers, Ruddy Ducks, Red-breasted Mergansers, and several hundred Canvasbacks. Up at Cape Henlopen State Park, a quick stop at the feeders gave us both Brown-headed and Red-breasted Nuthatches, along with four obliging Fox Sparrows hopping around in the bare grass. A scan of the beach in the southern end of the park produced Dunlin, Sanderlings, Great Cormorant, and an adult Lesser Black-backed Gull.

At noon, we found our list at 70 species and realized we need to really push to meet our goal of 90 for the day. Fortunately, we had saved a few of our best areas for the afternoon birding. Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge gave us a number of expected species like White-crowned Sparrow, American Kestrel, and Hermit Thrush, with a bonus Winter Wren added to the mix. Strong number of waterfowl in the marsh contained species already on our list.

Driving along a hedgerow at the Ted Harvey Wildlife Area, our eyes were drawn to a small, light-brown wren. Unbelievably, it was a House Wren, which we occasionally find on Christmas Counts, but is not necessarily expected to linger into February. After documenting this great find, we scoped the nearby impoundments and located new species like Gadwall, American Wigeon, and Green-winged Teal.

Little Creek Wildlife Area gave us a nice bonus in the form of a roosting red-phase Eastern Screech-Owl, along with a Tufted Titmouse that had eluded us all day! Our quick drive through Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge was productive, with great views of two Barn Owls roosting in an old shed, a flock of Horned Larks zipping through a cornfield, and a raft of Common Mergansers out in the salt marsh.

With daylight fading quickly, we drove along Port Mahon Road in hopes of finding a few more good birds. As we passed through a dense stand of marsh grasses, a female Ring-necked Pheasant flushed and flew across the road, thus becoming our only game bird of the day. While clambering up onto a fishing pier to look over the marsh, and American Bittern flew overhead, circled, and then landed in the grass. What a sight! Crossing our fingers, we brought the scopes to bear upon the vast marsh and soon picked up a pair of Short-eared Owls dipping and turning their way through the fading light. This was a fine ending to a fine February day. Finding out that we had reached our goal and beat it by one was a thrill.

DELAWARE #3 -27 February 05- 0700 to 1600 - Species Totals 92/92; (Team/Shared): Scott Henderson 92, Jeff Holt 92, Alison Ellicott 92, Colin Campbell 92. 240 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. Visiting: Silver Lake, Rehoboth, Indian River Inlet, Holland Glade, Cape Henlopen SP, Prime Hook NWR, Slaughter Beach, Cedar Mill Creek Pond, Ted Harvey WMA, Bombay Hook NWR. Species of note:

Eurasian Wigeon (R), Harlequin Duck (R), Great Cormorant (M).

DELAWARE #4 -31 July 05- 0330 to 1830 - Species Totals 109/109; (Team/Shared): Derek Stoner 109, Judy Montgomery 109. 258 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. Visiting: Dragon Run Marsh, 1000 Acre Marsh, Milford Neck, Cape Henlopen SP, Prime Hook NWR, Ted Harvey CA, Bombay Hook NWR, Reedy Point Bridge. Species of note: Snow Goose (L), Whimbrel (R).

Looking at the Big Day record for July in Delaware, my co-worker Judy and I decided that we might be able to find the highest diversity of species in late July and potentially top the record of 102. Thusly, we set forth at 3:30am on July 31 to see what breeding birds and early fall migrants we might find in the state of Delaware. Our attempts at listening for owls and rails were challenged by a profound onslaught of mosquitoes that made night listening "interesting" to say the least. We did pick up a Great Horned Owl calling and a Sora whinnying at Thousand Acre Marsh. Our best attempts at coaxing a response from other rails were met with silence, or more accurately, the dull thrum of mosquito wings. Getting out of the area minus a few milligrams of blood, we decided to head to more friendly surroundings.

Arriving at Milford Neck Wildlife Management Area for the dawn chorus, we found few mosquitoes and lots of birds! Whip-poor-wills electrified the air with their booming calls, while we strained to pick up the early morning announcements made by Gray Catbirds, Common Yellowthroats, and Eastern Towhees.

Positioning ourselves along a creek flowing through a teeming marsh, we witnessed streams of water birds flying overhead—Wood Ducks, Black Ducks, Great Egrets, Snowy Egrets, Green Herons, and Laughing Gulls. Stands of red cedar nearby held Blue Grosbeaks, Chipping Sparrows, and Eastern Kingbirds while a Ruby-throated Hummingbird buzzed by and a flock of Cedar Waxwings passed overhead.

A quick look at Big Stone Beach showed a nice assortment of shorebirds, with Red Knots, Ruddy Turnstone, and Sanderling among the mix. Heading back through the wildlife area on dirt roads, we found such goodies as Yellow-breasted Chat (chattering like a Kingfisher), Northern Bobwhite, and Yellow-billed Cuckoo. Although we tried hard, we could not locate any of the Wild Turkeys that strut through this prime habitat.

Our southward journey brought us to Cape Henlopen State Park by 8:30 am, where good fortune came immediately in the form of a Whimbrel that flew over our heads on the way up the beach. Spotting this bird in Delaware is always a great find. Walking out onto Lighthouse Point, we scanned the large concentration of shorebirds to pick up new birds like Piping Plover, American Oystercatcher, and Black-bellied Plover. Terns hovered over the shallow water nearby before crash-diving for fish, with Caspian, Royal, Common, and Forster's all in attendance. Cranking up the scope to 60X, we scanned the ocean side of the point and found several Wilson's Storm-Petrels dancing their way along the water's surface.

Reversing course and heading back north along the Delaware Bay, our next stop at Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge yielded excellent looks at a variety of shorebirds on the mud flats, including Pectoral and Stilt Sandpipers. A lone Green-winged Teal was a nice bonus amongst the dabbling Mallards.

A short stop at the Ted Harvey impoundments gave us the expected Black Skimmers, as well as a pair of Black Terns whose plumage already was transitioning back into its basic form. Onward to Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge by mid-afternoon, at which point we knew we had a good species count, but dared not hope too hard. The refuge once-again produced, as birds like Ring-necked Pheasant, Yellow-crowned and Black-crowned Night-Herons, and Clapper Rail joined our growing list. A flock of twenty Bobolinks swayed on the tops of marsh grasses, while a lone Snow Goose stuck out like a sore thumb amongst the resident Canada Geese.

With plenty of light left, we stopped at the Reedy Point Bridge to find a Peregrine Falcon at his preferred hunting perch, and a bonus flock of Cattle Egrets in a farm field nearby. At 6:00pm, we had returned to our starting point of fifteen hours before. A quick look at our list revealed the fact that we'd seen 109 species, and we decided that after a day of sweltering July heat, we could be satisfied enough with our total to resist the temptation to try to chase rails after dusk! Remember the mosquitoes....

FLORIDA #1 -31 March 05- 0330 to 1938 - Species Totals 161/161; (Team/Shared): David Simpson 161. 575.2 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: Tiger Hammock Road, St. Mark's NWR, Appalachicola NF, Tallahassee, Merritt Island NWR, Jetty Park, Lake Poinsett. Species of note: None.

Missed the March record by two species!

FLORIDA #2 - 5 June 05- 0230 to 1900 - Species Totals 109/109; (Team/Shared): David Simpson 109, Andy Bankert 109. 377.1 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: Tallahassee area, St. Mark's NWR, Appalachicola NF, Gulf Hammock. Species of note: Common Loon (L,R).

Our car broke down, ending a promising Big Day.

FLORIDA #3 -21 August 05- 0650 to 1930 - Species Totals 27/27; (Team/Shared): David Simpson 27. 200 Miles by car, 0 miles by foot. Visiting: Palm Beach County muck farms, Fort DeSoto, Celery Fields. Species of note: Buff-breasted Sandpiper (R).

This was a Shorebird Big Day.

FLORIDA #4 -4 December 05- 0328 to 1814 - Species Totals 163/157; (Team/Shared): David Simpson 161, Alex Vinomur 159. 426.8 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: Everglades NP, Lucky Hammock, Viera Wetlands, Jetty Park, Merritt Island NWR, Scottsmoor Landing Park, Merritt Island NWR. Species of note: Snow Goose (R), Horned Grebe (M), Gadwall (M), Florida Scrub-Jay (M), Eastern Tufted Titmouse (M), Northern Waterthrush (M), Chipping Sparrow (M).

GEORGIA -27 April 04- 0000 to 2331 - Species Totals 193/182; (Team/Shared): Giff Beaton 189, Jim Flynn 186, Malcolm Hodges 191, Earl Horn 187. 875.9 Miles by car,

1.5 miles by foot. Visiting: Pine Log WMA, Kennesaw Mountain, EL Huie Land Application Facility/Newman Wetlands Center, Industrial Boulevard grass fields, River Bend WMA, East Georgia Turf Farm, Saint Simons Island, Jekyll Island, Altamaha WMA. Species of note: Ross's Goose (V,S), Northern Pintail (L,S), Ring-necked Duck (L,S), Lesser Scaup (L,S), Ruddy Duck (L,S), Pine Siskin (L,S).

Well, if it's April it must be time to strive once again for the lofty goal of a 200-bird day in Georgia, so our seasoned team of Jim Flynn, Malcolm Hodges, Earl Horn and Giff Beaton planned our assault on the record for 26 Apr 2004. We did more scouting than usual, although not on the coast, but as the day approached the forecast turned very grim with rain and thunderstorms just about statewide. So, we pushed the run back one-day and hoped that all that rain would bring birds down for us without making any of our planned stops inaccessible.

We started at midnight going into 27 April at our usual spot, a large marsh, and quickly realized that it was quite cold for late April and that not many nocturnal migrants were flying. We didn't really do very well here, though we did get all three normal rails (Sora, King, and unshared Virginia). We did not get either bittern, though a few of both are currently there, and missed Barn Owl too. This is an easy bird to miss, and we had several predawn backup spots (though none would actually come through!). We were surprised to hear a Yellow-billed Cuckoo call at about 0030, a species we often miss at this time of year, and bailed out of there at 0116 with 7 species but already feeling a bit behind with our misses.

As we headed in the general direction of our dawn spot, we hit a few known Barn Owl locations but came up empty, though we did knock off our trusty Ross's Goose. One of the many modifications for this year was to go to the top of Red Top Mountain to listen for thrushes in the pre-dawn, but we did not hear a single one. This was not good news either, as we usually get at least two and often three species of migrant thrush this way. We did pick up the other common owls and Chuck-will's-widow here, and left for Pine Log at 0505 with 13 species. We always fill up with gas before dawn to stave off getting more until as late as possible in the day, so we hit a nearby station that had provided us with a predawn singing Song Sparrow last year, and lo and behold there was one again, reducing our list of "concern species" by one early on. Of course the list was still very long!

At any rate, we hit a secondary entrance at Pine Log hoping for one of the few Bachman's Sparrows, but the bird, which had been cheerfully singing its head off before dawn three days earlier was completely silent this time. The fact that it was a very chilly 39 degrees may have been a factor there! We listened for thrushes again with the same success (none) and reluctantly gave up on the sparrow to head over to our dawn chorus area. This year we had really scouted carefully in here, so we knew exactly where many of our key species were, and once it started getting light we began to quickly move through the WMA in order to try to leave early. Even though the level of song was much lower this day than it had been scouting, we got just about all of our target species pretty quickly and did head for the exit about 15 minutes early.

There weren't many surprises in here, but a good one was hearing several calling Wild Turkeys, always a difficult species on a Big Day. We also snagged several other tough species that are very easy to miss, and in fact often missed, like White-breasted Nuthatch, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Yellow-throated Vireo, and believe it or not Downy Woodpecker and Northern Flicker. We had hoped for some lingering winter residents, but besides two very surprising Hermit Thrushes we didn't find any others. We got few migrants, but two good ones were Blackpoll Warbler (we would see these again at Kennesaw) and our only Rose-breasted Grosbeaks for the day. Though there are Red Crossbills in here and we had them while scouting, we could not find any and headed out at 0744 with 62 species, a respectable but not great start.

On our way south we also picked up some "road birds" like Barn Swallow and Rock Pigeon, and quickly tallied some Cliff Swallows also. While we were watching the swallows, I got a little too engrossed in watching swallows and managed to drift Earl's truck into the curb on the bridge. Fortunately for the rest of the day's plans, the only damage was a scrape mark on a step bumper and on we went. We dropped in on a friend's house to stop for literally 30 seconds and snag some lingering Pine Siskins and then it was on to Kennesaw, which can be kind of a "make or break" spot since it's really our only shot at tallying some trans-gulf migrants. We rolled into Kennesaw on time at 0828 with 79 species and started trying to do the near impossible: cover the whole mountain in only a few minutes while finding as many feeding flocks as possible!

Fortunately for us, many migrants were singing and this made it easier to find the flocks. We picked up several great species right in the lower parking lot, like Tennessee, Chestnut-sided, and Cape May Warblers, and started up the hill. We found another decent flock about halfway up, adding American Redstart and Blackburnian Warbler, but had our best flock up near the top. Here we added only Bay-breasted and Cerulean Warblers and Baltimore Oriole, but it was a nice flock to work through. We also found some White-throated Sparrows and a Cooper's Hawk here, both good finds, and hit the road at 0932 with 95 species, many of them good migrants we would have no more chances for if we hadn't found them here. Surprisingly, we also got our only Summer Tanagers for the day here...

Traffic was fairly light as we cruised through Atlanta down to the E L Huie ponds and Newman Wetlands Center, though we did have to backtrack a few miles due to a road closure right at the ponds. Good thing we know all those back roads down there! As we drove up into the ponds Malcolm started directing us through there based on his recent scouting trip, and we quickly gathered in almost all of his scouted species, including lingering duck species Northern Pintail, Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup and Ruddy Duck. We also ticked off a number of freshwater shorebirds, nothing remarkable except our only Pectoral Sandpiper of the day, spotted by Jim hunkered along the shore. The resident Belted Kingfisher was also there, also the only one for the day, which allowed us to skip a couple of backup spots later. A similar species in terms of difficulty was the soaring Red-shouldered Hawk, great to cross off the worry list, and a real bonus was a singing Yellow Warbler, also the only one for the day. All was not

perfect, as we missed a couple of species that had been there two days earlier that we needed like American Pipit. We made one five-minute side trip for American Coot, but ended up seeing them again on the coast. We thundered into the Newman Wetlands Center just down the road a few minutes later and proceeded to work on more scouted species, including two species that always give us fits, Hairy Woodpecker and Brown-headed Nuthatch. Fortunately, Malcolm had found nests of both so we had them easily and also picked up Swamp Sparrow and Eastern Wood-Pewee here. Though we found more Swampies on the coast this was our only pewee for the day. We bailed out of there at 1104 with 126 species, and feeling pretty good about the schedule and our prospects. We knew the tide would not be optimum at the coast, but were determined to do the best we could.

Once we fought our way out to I-75 we were only minutes away from our grassy field stop, and quickly added Grasshopper Sparrow and Eastern Meadowlark there. These were both likely to be the only ones for the day, but the future of this site is very much in doubt due to development so we will likely need to replace it in future years. Back to the interstate and heading south to Macon we kept a keen eye skyward for Broad-winged Hawks and Mississippi Kites, getting both near Macon. We usually miss one of these so it was nice to get both, and we ended up getting quite a few of each, mostly by Earl as he was scanning for Swallow-tailed Kites (fruitlessly). Having an oriole at Kennesaw allowed us to skip Central City Park, though it was tempting to run in for a chance at ground dove, and we bypassed it hoping to get the dove later. Using the time we gained by that decision, we bolted into a new sod farm right on I-16 since there had been dozens of pips there a couple of days earlier, but did not find any. We did find Horned Lark when Mal spotted one flying up the sod, and this ended up being our only one for the day.

Our next stop is an important one, River Bend WMA, as it is our only chance for many coastal plain breeders. We whipped down the poor dirt roads at speeds the truck probably was not designed for but made a few key stops where scouting had showed us the species we needed here. Many of the species we had planned for here we already had found elsewhere, but we easily added Prothonotary Warbler. Swainson's Warbler and Acadian Flycatcher were much more difficult, in the exact spots they had both been singing like crazy a couple days earlier, but we did get both and turned around to speed back out. A great bonus on the way out was a pair of Northern Bobwhite we flushed from the road, another tough get and the only ones for the day. Our count was now up to 137 and we were good with time at 1342.

Along the interstate we picked up a couple more road birds that can be tricky sometimes, Cattle Egret and Loggerhead Shrike. We next entered the East Georgia Turf Farm hoping for a few grass shorebirds, but got skunked. We also searched for Common Ground-Dove here, without luck, and also dipped on American Pipit. The only thing we added here was a good one, our only American Kestrel, but to spend 20 minutes for only one bird is kind of painful. As we always say, each Big Day is a roller-coaster ride of emotions and adrenaline, and this was a low point. Back to the interstate we went, still on

time and with 140 species. It's also about this time in each Big Day where you start eyeing what you have and what you need against the remaining spots, and every time we did this we came up a few species short for the record. Of course that didn't stop us (or even slow us down) as we made tracks toward I-95 and the coast spots. We did make another of our patented screeching stops on the shoulder as Earl plucked a Sharp-shinned Hawk out of the sky on the way back to I-16.

We started picking up some of the easy coast birds along the way and hit the wastewater treatment spot that is next on the itinerary at 1541, but this spot was a huge disappointment as we added only Merlin aside from common stuff we could have gotten anywhere. This spot is our best shot for several species we needed and never got, and we knew we wouldn't get, so what seemed like a low spot in terms of energy back at the sod farm got even lower. We thought the record was probably safe at this point, but soldiered on anyway. Normally from here we do the "Tour de Altamaha" but decided in order to get what we could out of an already-falling tide we would skip that spot until later and go straight to the beaches (which had worked so well in March). So, we wistfully watched the Altamaha go by as we headed down to Gould's Inlet at St Simons Island.

This turned out to be a good decision, as we picked up a number of good species here along with the more expected ones. The tide probably worked in our favor in this regard, since many species were still there feeding. Our best pickups here were lingering Red-breasted Mergansers and Northern Gannets, a single American Oystercatcher up on Sea Island, and a Reddish Egret hiding in the marsh on the other side of the inlet. We did not get any of these four again. We left here at 1730 to run down to Jekyll Island, our last stand for beach species, with 171 species.

Even though the tide was at least halfway to dead low, we managed to glean a couple of Marsh Wrens and Seaside Sparrows along the Jekyll Causeway. We then ran behind the Visitor Center to scan the expansive mud flat, and added Western Sandpiper. On to the island! And have course more tactical decisions. We have missed Gray Kingbird before by waiting too long, so we went to the convention center first but did not find any kingbirds out. Not too late again!! Jim managed to pull one out of the trees there so we sped down to the south end, after a massive sigh of relief. We pulled into the parking area there and were grabbing our scopes for the jog out to the beach before the truck even stopped moving... As we trotted out, we heard a couple of Painted Buntings, and then stopped out in the dunes to scan the brush for anything. Here we found our best bird of the day, a very late migrant Grasshopper Sparrow. Even though we already had this species, it was a great find and we admired it for a few, um, seconds. On to the beach, where we were pleased to see a number of gulls and terns roosting, since we still needed several of each. Sadly, almost all of them were skimmers. We did pick up a couple of tattered Herring Gulls, which would have been a miss too horrible to contemplate, but didn't get any of the several others we still needed and never did. At this point we sprinted back to the truck as fast as our exhausted selves could make it, and quickly hit a wader roost spot on

the way off the island. We added Wood Stork and both night-herons here, all needed, but missed shrike and the hoped-for early spoonbill. We put the island in our rear view and sped up the causeway with 181 species at 2046 in waning light.

We were still well shy of the record at this point, but had the Altamaha waiting. In an ideal world, we could have gone to Andrews Island for possible avocet and anything else, but we did not think we had enough light to get there and the Altamaha, so we reluctantly blew off Andrews and raced up to the Altamaha. We hit the backside first, hoping to find some water and some birds, and found both. We gleefully picked up a couple of flocks of Glossy Ibises on the way in, and then from our precarious perch on a large pile of construction dirt we found several Black-necked Stilts and then Earl somehow located a Least Bittern about two counties over for number 184. Feeling a bit buoyed by this, we drove over to the other side and ran out to the tower, swatting at the gathering clouds of thirsty insects. Bounding up the tower stairs, ok, dragging ourselves up the tower stairs, we added flyby White Ibis, some Mottled Ducks that flushed from near the tower, and then a Tricolored Heron! 187 and counting! With adrenaline on full bore, which was a good thing because we were shot physically, we started blurting out possibilities, most of which were a pipe dream and we knew it. We repeatedly scanned the treeline to the east, a known eagle roost site, but they appeared to be in for the evening until beyond all reason we spotted an adult Bald Eagle heading for the roost! Around this time Jim spotted a Common Nighthawk flying over distant Darien, and we were getting pretty serious at 189. We thought we could pick up a Barn Owl somewhere, and thought we could listen again for thrushes, but neither of those was a gimme. We had seen some Blue-winged Teal from the tower, which we didn't need, so we thought that maybe there were a couple of Green-winged Teal around as well, which we DID need. So we decided to come down and run around the perimeter looking for hiding ducks. As soon as we started this, and literally as the words "all we need now is a lingering snipe" were coming out of Earl's mouth, we flushed a couple of Wilson's Snipe! This is a species we had written off since we couldn't find any scouting, but there were 11 of them in there! Talk about a bonus species, to tie the record at 190. While running around looking for teal (no luck), we also stumbled into a calling Sedge Wren for number 191... and a new record. We still thought we could get an American Bittern there, but we tried for about a half an hour without a peep. We did hear a calling Purple Gallinule for number 192, and so we left there to head back toward the upstate for a thrush count. At this point it was 2046, pitch black, the bugs were murderous, and we were wiped out, but pleased.

Since one of us had to get back that night for work, we decided to go as far as we could get upstate to improve our chances with thrushes before the clock stopped at midnight. We stopped in Darien first where Malcolm's local knowledge came through again as he plucked a calling Barn Owl out of the nighttime sounds. This was number 193, our last species. We got as far as Metter and tried to get a response from a calling Bachman's Sparrow to no avail, and then listened for thrushes for about 30 minutes. Though two of us heard two faint calls, we were

at our unshared limit of 9 for the total and we could not add another unshared species. So, after 875.9 miles of driving, lots of caffeine and adrenaline and great birds (and bad jokes), we called it a very long day at 2331 with a new record total of 193. And with renewed enthusiasm for trying for 200 next time!

HAWAII (Big Island) -2 March 05- Hours not submitted - Species Totals 43/43; (Team/Shared): Kurt Pohlman 43, 180 Miles by car, 3.5 miles by foot. Visiting: Puu La'au, Puu Oo Trail, Hilo and Waiakea ponds, Big Island Country Club, Kona WTP, Aimakapa pond. Species of note: Glaucous Gull (R,S), Hawaiian Hawk (R).

This is not a big count but I wanted to fill in some gaps for Hawaii's Big Days.

HAWAII #2 (Hawaii County only) -20 November 05- 0600 to 1800 - Species Totals 52/50; (Team/Shared): Phil Taylor 52, Rob Stephens 51, Jeremy Morris 51, Jackie Gaudioso 50, Joanne Cooper 50. 257 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. Visiting: Hilo Ponds, Kipuka 21, Puu Laau, Waimea area, Big Island CC, Kona WTP, Aimakapa Pond, South Point. Species of note: none.

Members of the Palila Restoration Project attempted this November Big Day. We all had a great time and were pleased to record over 50 species on an experimental route.

HAWAII #3 (Hawaii County only) -11 December 05- 0620 to 1700 - Species Totals 56/56; (Team/Shared): Reginald E. David 56, Susan Wakefield-David 56, 157 Miles by Car, 3.5 miles on foot. Visiting: Hilo Ponds, Saddle Road Mile 21 Kipuka, Pu'u La'au, Waimea Hawaiian Homes farm lots, Pu'u Anahulu, Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park, and Kona WTP. Species of note: Greater White-fronted Goose (V), Cackling Goose(R), Canada Goose (V), Brant (V), Eurasian Wigeon (V), Mallard (V), Semipalmated Plover (M), Red-Billed Leiothrix (M), Lavender Waxbill (M)

We really thought we were on our way to a record Big Day on this one, but weather intervened and we missed a number of key, normally easy species on the Kona side dooming our chances of breaking the record.

IDAHO -9 Jun 2005- 0000 to 2400 - Species Totals 176/174; (Team/Shared): Bob Kemp 176, Ron Weeks 174, Steve Gross 173. 835 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. Visiting: Justice Park, Sawtelle Peak, Market Lake WMA, Mink Creek/Cherry Springs, Garden Valley, Cascade area. Species of note: Cattle Egret (R), Ruffed Grouse (M), Common Tern (R), Dusky Flycatcher (M), Black-capped Chickadee (M), Great-tailed Grackle (R, S).

A poor start and a lack of evening song left us with 176 species and a tie for the state Big Day record. The first minutes of June 9th found our Big Day team of Bob Kemp (Cincinnati, OH), Steve Gross (Houston, TX) and yours truly, Ron Weeks (Lake Jackson, TX), hiking above Justice Park near Pocatello listening for Flammulated Owls. We had high hopes given our 174 total from June 1st 2004 and our scouting finds since that time. Those hopes had been tempered somewhat by a cold week and a storm that had dumped high elevation snow in SE Idaho just one day prior. Nevertheless, we were ready to go. Big Days

always include high and lows, but we were about to experience our biggest immediate low ever. Not only could we not find the Flammulated Owl at Justice Park, but also we could not even hear a Common Poorwill on the way down. American Bittern soon became our third miss when we finally gave up on that species at Market Lake WMA. We were already considering the possibility of failure well before sunrise!

First light found us at the Sawtelle Peak radar station seeking American Pipit. It was cold and light snow was falling on top of several inches of fresh snow. There was simply no place left for a pipit to forage. I decide to try and get a bird to call by playing my MP3 player. I was befuddled when the small, attached speaker started blasting out the Rolling Stones' "She's So Cold" (definitely an appropriate song). The song continued after I pulled the cord from the player and I began to realize a radio signal from the nearby tower must have been overpowering the direct signal from my MP3 player. After that comic relief, we headed down the mountain to find it largely quiet; we later learned from Cliff Weisse that some species had retreated down to the foothills after the storm. We did add White-breasted Nuthatch, Pine Grosbeak and Three-toed Woodpecker on our way down, but missed Townsend's Solitaire and many common species such as Lincoln's Sparrow and Olive-sided Flycatcher that had been so evident before the storm. A quick check of the Henry's Lake Flats, Island Park Dam and Harriman SP netted us a few unexpected species including Red-breasted Merganser, Peregrine Falcon and Common Tern and the now-expected Northern Waterthrush to get us back on schedule with 86 species on our checklist. However in our haste, we had missed our best shots at Ruffed Grouse and Dusky Flycatcher, two more species that we would end up missing on the day. We added a nesting Cooper's Hawk and an Orange-crowned Warbler at the top of the Ashton Grade and drove into town to find Red Crossbill in the same spruces we had seen them two days before. Then it was onto St. Anthony where we lucked into Common Grackle and were treated to Wood Ducks at the home of Mike and Sheralee Lawson.

Next up was some sage country birding where we added Brewer's and Sage Sparrows along with a Ferruginous Hawk and a few Loggerhead Shrikes. That was followed by a daytime hit of Market Lake where we found our only Eared Grebe of the day, several duck species, all of our needed shorebirds except Black-necked Stilt and a surprise Cattle Egret. The only bird we had expected here that came up missing was Ring-necked Pheasant. It was then onto the Mink Creek area near Pocatello where we added many SE Idaho specialties including Gray Flycatcher, Plumbeous Vireo and Virginia's Warbler and patched several holes in our passerine list. It was now nearly 1 PM and we were headed west across the state with 149 species in the bag.

We made several quick stops on our way west. The first stop was the Pocatello Airport where we had found Grasshopper Sparrow earlier in the week. We had also found many other grassland species here while scouting including Horned Lark and Savannah and Lark Sparrows, but none more surprising than the Bobolink that Bob spotted on the fence on the way in. Unfortunately, the Grasshopper Sparrow was not doing any mid-day singing.

Another stop was near Rupert where we added the nesting Great-tailed Grackles that had been present there for some time. The long drive to Boise added only a few more species including a Northern Pintail at Indian Creek Reservoir. We arrived in Boise at just after 5 PM catching rush hour just as we had the previous year. This year we were mentally prepared and it did not seem as bad as it did before. By 6:30 PM we were at Garden Valley and Project Patch clicking off many of the species that Spencer Walters has posted over the past two years. Red-eyed Vireo, Veery, Nashville Warbler and American Redstart headed the list and we took off for the Cascade area with 170 species checked off on our list - just six shy of the state record! Next up were various locations north of Cascade where Bob had set up many central Idaho residents. The problem became evident at our first stop. It was nearly 8:30 PM and bird song had largely ceased! We moved up onward into a sunlit area and were able to add Townsend's Warbler, Varied Thrush and Golden-crowned Kinglet. The next stop yielded Red-breasted Nuthatch and a Pileated Woodpecker. We were now just one short of the record with over an hour of light left! That was when our luck turned bad again. We could not find any jays, no Olive-sided Flycatcher, no Winter Wren, etc. As the sun set, we were still one short of the record. We had shots at three scouted owls. First up was Northern Saw-whet. But despite calling for some time the woods remained silent. Next was a more responsive Western Screech-Owl that evened us with the record. Last up was Northern Pygmy-Owl. We arrived knowing it was our last shot of the day since we had no Flammulated Owl or Common Poorwill staked on the west end. We spent the rest of the day, about 15 minutes, listening in vain for the owl.

What had begun with such high hopes had ended up short of our expectations. The weather on the east end was likely the largest factor, but our flights home kept us from waiting any longer. Also a major factor was the great distance we covered which caused us to leave many species we knew were around due to time constraints - our route may simply be too long. Our efforts were aided by many Idaho birders, most notably Cliff and Lisa Weisse and Spencer Walters. We also gathered information on and access to various locations from Tim Cramer, Tim Reynolds, Kit Struthers, Mike Van Dyke and the many who post to IBLE (Idaho Birders Linked Electronically). My (Ron Weeks) apologies to those that I may have missed. We had great fun giving it a run and hope to be able to come back to try again sometime in the future.

ILLINOIS #1 -30 April 05- 0000 to 2030 - Species Totals 168/167; (Team/Shared): Keith A. McMullen 167, Dan Kassebaum 167, Christopher L. Wood 168. 422 Miles by car, 3 miles by foot. Visiting: Fort Massac SP, Crab Orchard NWR, Cypress Creek NWR, Ferne Clyffe SP, Domona Natural Area, Union Co. CA, Mermet Lake, Trail of Tears SF. Species of note: Peregrine Falcon (V), King Rail (R), Willet (R), Pine Siskin (L,S), Whip-poor-will (M), Chuck-will's-widow (M), Barn Owl (M).

We not only set the April Big Day record for Illinois, which Dan and I previously had set, but we captured 1st place in the Open Category of the 4th Annual Birding Blitz competition, part of the Southernmost Illinois Birding Festival. We raised over \$2,500 with all the other team's

efforts as well for the event and the Adopt-A-Swamp program for the Cache River area of southern Illinois.

ILLINOIS #2 -16 May 05- 0045 to 2145 - Species Totals 176/170; (Team/Shared): Vernon Kleen 171, Albert Frohlich 174, Kelly McKay 176. 243 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: Lost Mounds NWR, Spring Lake NWR, Mississippi Palisades SP, Mississippi River bottomlands. Species of note: Common Goldeneye (L), American Bittern (M), Least Bittern (M), Cattle Egret (M), Osprey (M), Northern Harrier (M), Sharp-shinned Hawk (M), Cooper's Hawk (M), Bonaparte's Gull (M), Eurasian Collared-Dove (M), both cuckoos (M), Loggerhead Shrike (M), Carolina Wren (M), Sedge Wren (M), Clay-colored Sparrow (R), Lincoln's Sparrow (M).

Sometime last March, the 2005 running of the Adams Bird-a-thon and Olympic event was set for Monday, May 16 in northwestern Illinois. That was the only date that Kelly McKay and I (Vernon) were both free of other obligations. Another central Illinois running had been considered (and some of the regular Adams Team participants did run a Big Day here on 11 May), however, with this later date, we thought a more northern location might be more productive.

About mid-afternoon on Sunday, May 15, I left for the Quad Cities. That evening, Kelly and I put together an agenda that, if the birds and weather cooperated, could be very productive. As we watched the 10 o'clock weather report, it appeared that we had selected the "right" day. An hour earlier Kelly had called Al Frohlich (the third team member) to let him know that the "official" starting time would be 1:00 a.m.

That Big Day was now here and Kelly and I had our "gear" in the care by 12:30 a.m.; Al arrived at 12:45 - so, the team was ready to start. We were very pleased that the sky was perfectly clear and that there wasn't any wind at all; however, we hadn't counted on a starting temperature of only 38 degrees (and I wished I had brought more than just a light jacket). Kelly provided the vehicle and fully expected to do all of the driving. Since the starting point was on the shoreline of the Mississippi River, we quickly recorded the day's first two species: a Mallard and Canada Goose. A short distance north we added the Whip-poor-will and Eastern Screech-Owl at traditional locations and Kelly heard a Great Horned Owl. At various marshes we were able to detect the sounds of Great Blue Herons, Wood Ducks, Blue-winged Teal, Virginia Rails, and Soras, American Coots, Barred Owls, and Marsh Wrens; at Thompson, a Sandhill Crane was observed (through the benefit of our headlights) feeding just off the road; at the Spring Lake Refuge overlook, we heard an American Woodcock, other shorebirds, and the beginning of the dawn chorus; at another location we heard Wild Turkeys.

By dawn (5:30 a.m.) we were on the road that traverses the north side of Mississippi Palisades SP and our list had reached 40 species and we were still pretty much on planned schedule. This turned out to be a very productive road and the dawn chorus was quite pleasing (despite the less than 40 degree temperature); each stop provided new species. Here we added Ruby-throated Hummingbird, a variety of sparrows, Eastern Towhee, some warblers,

vireos, and thrushes, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, American Crow and Blue Jay, Black-capped Chickadees, Tufted Titmice, and White-breasted Nuthatch. By 7:00 a.m. we were on the road on top of the hill east of the park and were only three species short of 100—which was phenomenal since our self-proclaimed standard for an outstanding day is 100 species by 8:00 a.m. The next hour was spent along this road where we continued to add new migrants, including Orange-crowned Warbler. It was here that we found a singing Henslow's Sparrow next to the road, heard Pileated Woodpeckers, and encountered a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. The 8:00 a.m. total had reached 108 species.

Once in the park, we added the resident species: Cerulean, Hooded, Yellow-throated, Worm-eating, Kentucky, Warblers, Northern Parula, Louisiana Waterthrush, Ovenbird, and Acadian Flycatcher. About 9:00 a.m., while still in the park, we decided to call the Lost Mound Refuge office to verify that someone was scheduled to meet us with the key to let us in and that we would be arriving there about 10:00 a.m. (since Lost Mound was to be a huge component in the success of the day). Unfortunately, Monday's staff had not been informed of the arrangement and we lost 45 minutes of good birding time in the Palisades getting the Lost Mound arrangement worked out.

We did arrive at Lost Mound shortly before 10:00 a.m. and did manage to find most species we sought during the 2.5 hours there. The most notable finds were: American White Pelican, Bald Eagle, Upland Sandpiper, Bell's Vireo, Northern Mockingbird, Lark, Savannah, and Grasshopper Sparrows, Blue Grosbeak, Western Meadowlark, and Orchard Oriole. Two we knew were present, but missed, were Northern Harrier and Loggerhead Shrike (and these misses came back to haunt us later).

After lunch, the first stop was Spring Lake Refuge; from here on the waterbirds "fell into place". The refuge overlook produced shorebirds (including a Wilson's Phalarope) and our only Northern Bobwhites. Once in the refuge interior (arrangements for the key worked as planned here), we started our growing list of waterfowl with Mute Swan and Northern Shoveler; we also added Yellow-headed Blackbird, Common Moorhen, Great Egret, and Green Heron and had a spectacular view of a Clay-colored Sparrow. By 3:00 p.m. we were at 160 species—only 17 short of the Olympic record. We probably had an Osprey here too, but decided it was just too far away to be fully confident.

At Thompson, we added Northern Pintail, Common Goldeneye, and Canvasback; at the Lock & Dam we found Common Mergansers, a Common Loon, and Herring Gulls. Then, would you believe, we finally saw some Rock Pigeons (species number 167). At the County Line Marsh (Whiteside and Rock Island counties), we added Dickcissel (#170), and Ring-necked Pheasant (#171). At Moline, we found Caspian Terns (#172), Gadwall (#173), and Ring-necked Duck (#174). In Rock Island, we searched for the staked out American Black Duck (to no avail) and then moved on to the treatment plant at Aledo (in Mercer Co.) where there was supposed to be a Bufflehead and Ruddy Duck. If the Bufflehead was present, we did not find it, but a female Hooded

Merganser (#175) and the Ruddy Duck (#176) were there. By now it was about 8:45 p.m. and we had just tied the record. So, what might still be findable to set a new Olympic record? We tried and tried, especially for the bitterns. Finally, at 9:45 p.m., we concluded our endeavor. We headed back to Kelly's place and arrive there at 10:45 p.m. knowing we had selected the "right" day (even though tying the record). End result: 176 species in five counties (17 species of waterfowl, 16 species of shorebirds, 4 species of terns, 4 species of vireos, 31 species of warblers, and 12 species of sparrows); 243 miles driven and some walking.

So what more might we have gotten? Another goose or swan, the staked out American Black Duck, Green-winged Teal, another grebe, either bittern, any of the three small herons/egrets, Osprey, Northern Harrier, Sharp-shinned Hawk or Cooper's Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Merlin or Peregrine Falcon, King Rail, another plover or two, Stilt Sandpiper, Wilson's Snipe, more of the less common shorebirds, Bonaparte's Gull, some of the less common gulls, Eurasian Collared-Dove, either cuckoo, another owl, Chuck-will's-widow, more of the *Empidonax* flycatchers, the known Loggerhead Shrike, any of three more vireos, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Carolina Wren, Sedge Wren, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Mourning or Connecticut Warblers, Summer Tanager, Lincoln's Sparrow, and Pine Siskin.

We especially thank Kelly McKay for doing all the driving in his POV and Al Frohlich for being a much-appreciated team member. We certainly thank the refuge staff at Lost Mound NWR and Spring Lake NWR for permitting private access to these very productive sites. And, obviously, we thank everyone who supported the bird-a-thon team with either a direct contribution or a pledge per species. The bird-a-thon goal was to raise \$2000 for the continuance of quality educational programs at, and sponsored by, the Adams Wildlife Sanctuary for children in Sangamon and surrounding counties.

KENTUCKY #1 - 03 February 01- 0500 to 1800 hours - Species Totals 102/95; (Team/Shared): Brian Leibacher 96, Mark Monroe 100, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. 99. 240 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: Riverqueen, Gibraltar, and Sinclair Units of Peabody WMA area, Muhlenberg Co., Barkley Lake and Dam, Lyon/Livingston Co's, Kentucky Lake and dam, Marshall/Livingston Co's, Cypress Creek Nature Preserve, Marshall Co., and Long Point Unit of Reelfoot NWR and environs, western Fulton Co. Species of Note: Greater White-fronted Goose (R,S), Merlin (R,S), Lesser Black-backed Gull (R), Le Conte's Sparrow (R).

This was the first serious February Big Day attempt for Kentucky, so attaining the century mark was quite gratifying. A taped call of Eastern Screech-Owl was used to draw in passerines during the day and solicit a reply before dawn.

KENTUCKY #2 - 30 April 03 - 0400 to 2130 - Species Totals 174/174; (Team/Shared): Mark Monroe 174, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. 174. 245 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: Sinclair WMA and environs, Muhlenberg Co., Barkley Lake and Dam, Lyon/Livingston Co's, Kentucky Lake and Dam, Marshall/Livingston Co's, Obion

WMA, Long Point Unit Reelfoot NWR and environs, western Fulton Co. Species of Note: Pied-billed Grebe (M), American White Pelican (L-injured), American Bittern (R), Merlin (R), Willet (R), Chuck-will's-widow (M), Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (R), Blackburnian Warbler (M), Painted Bunting (V). Comments: An exceptional day for late April resulted in an excellent species count. A taped call of Eastern Screech-Owl was used to draw in passerines during the day and to solicit a reply before dawn. Taped calls were also used to solicit calls from rails.

KENTUCKY #3- 06 May 03- 0400 to 2130 hours - Species Totals 172/169; (Team/Shared): Lee McNeely 169, Mark Monroe 172, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. 172. 250 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: Sinclair WMA and environs, Muhlenberg Co., Barkley Lake and Dam, Lyon/Livingston Co's., Kentucky Lake and dam, Marshall/Livingston Co's., and Obion WMA and Long Point Unit Reelfoot NWR and environs, western Fulton Co. Species of Note: Pied-billed Grebe (M), American White Pelican (L-injured), American Bittern (R), Merlin (R), Willet (R), White-winged Dove (V), Belted Kingfisher (M), Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (R), Philadelphia Vireo (M), Fish Crow (M), American Redstart (M), Painted Bunting (V), Bobolink (M).

An exceptional day other than a few misses of hoped-for species. A taped call of Eastern Screech-Owl was used to draw in passerines during the day and to solicit a reply before dawn. Taped calls were also used to solicit calls from rails.

KENTUCKY #4- 30 August 03- 0430 to 1930 hours - Species Totals 130/129; (Team/Shared): Mark Monroe 130, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. 129. 200 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: Sinclair WMA and environs, Muhlenberg Co., Land Between the Lakes, Lyon Co., Barkley Lake and dam, Lyon/Livingston Co's., Kentucky Lake and dam, Marshall/Livingston Co's., sandbars along the Mississippi River near Laketon, Carlisle Co., Westvaco WMA, Hickman Co., and western Fulton Co. including the Long Point Unit of Reelfoot NWR. Species of Note: Olive-sided Flycatcher (R), Marsh Wren (E), Lark Sparrow (R).

This was the first serious effort at an August Big Day for Kentucky and probably represents a relatively credible baseline. A taped call of Eastern Screech-Owl was used to draw in passerines during the day and to solicit a reply before dawn.

KENTUCKY #5 -21 September 03- 0530 to 1900 hours - Species Totals 123/118; (Team/Shared): Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. 123, Matt Stickel 120, Ben Yandell 121. 145 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: Sinclair WMA and environs, Muhlenberg Co., Land Between the Lakes, Lyon Co., Barkley Lake and dam, Lyon/Livingston Co's., and Kentucky Lake and dam, Marshall/Livingston Co's. Species of Note: Merlin (R), Virginia Rail (E), Yellow Warbler (L), Henslow's Sparrow (L), Orchard Oriole (L).

Unforeseen afternoon rain showers dampened the day and the species total, but the total probably represents a relatively credible baseline for September. A taped call of Eastern Screech-Owl was used to draw in passerines during the day and to solicit a reply before dawn. Taped calls were also used to solicit calls from rails.

KENTUCKY #6 -01 October 03- 0600 to 1930 hours - Species Totals 118/117; (Team/Shared): Jonathan Dunn 118, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. 117. 150 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: Land Between the Lakes, Lyon Co., Barkley Lake and dam, Lyon/Livingston Co's, Kentucky Lake and dam, Marshall/Livingston Co's, and Camp Mine #11, Union Co. Species of Note: Buff-breasted Sandpiper (L), Swainson's Thrush (M), House Sparrow (M).

A taped call of Eastern Screech-Owl was used to draw in passerines during the day. No owls were sought before or after daylight.

KENTUCKY #7 -09 November 03- 0600 to 1930 hours - Species Totals 100/99; (Team/Shared): Mark Monroe 100, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. 100, Matt Stickel 99, Ben Yandell 100. 150 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: Sinclair WMA and environs, Muhlenberg Co., Land Between the Lakes, Lyon Co., Barkley Lake and dam, Lyon/Livingston Co's, Kentucky Lake and dam, Marshall/Livingston Co's. Species of Note: Sora (L), Tree Swallow (L), Sedge Wren (L), Henslow's Sparrow (L), Le Conte's Sparrow (R).

This was the first serious effort at a November Big Day for Kentucky and probably represents a relatively credible baseline. A taped call of Eastern Screech-Owl was used to draw in passerines during the day and to solicit a reply before dawn. Taped calls were also used to solicit calls from rails.

KENTUCKY #8 -30 December 03- 0630 to 1830 hours - Species Totals 102/102; (Team/Shared): Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. 102, Matt Stickel 102. 210 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: Sinclair and Riverqueen Units of Peabody WMA and environs, Muhlenberg Co., Lake Peewee, Hopkins Co., Barkley Lake and dam, Lyon/Livingston Co's, Kentucky Lake and Dam, Marshall/Livingston Co's, West Kentucky WMA and environs, McCracken Co., Ballard WMA and environs, and Ballard Co. Species of Note: Black Vulture (M), Greater White-fronted Goose (RS), Snow Goose (M), Green-winged Teal (M), Cooper's Hawk (M), Merlin (RS), Northern Bobwhite (M), Virginia Rail (RS), Sandhill Crane (R), American Woodcock (RS), Long-eared Owl (RS), Winter Wren (M), Spotted Towhee (R), Le Conte's Sparrow (RS), Lapland Longspur (M), Rusty Blackbird (M), Brewer's Blackbird (R).

This was the first serious December Big Day attempt for Kentucky, so attaining the century mark was very gratifying. A taped call of Eastern Screech-Owl was used to draw in passerines during the day and solicit a reply before dawn; a taped call of Virginia Rail was used to solicit a reply.

KENTUCKY #9 -23 August 05- 0830 to 1710 - Species Totals 41/41; (Team/Shared): William Friel 41. 35 Miles by car, 3 miles by foot. Visiting: Bernheim Forest Arboretum. Species of note: Downy Woodpecker (M).

KENTUCKY #10 -28 August 05- 0600 to 1630 - Species Totals 77/77; (Team/Shared): Phillip Casteel 77, Francis Fekel 77. 245 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: Land Between the Lakes, Kentucky and Barclay Lake Dams. Species of note: Chimney Swift (M), Northern Mockingbird (M).

Noting the lack of an August Big Day record for Kentucky, Phillip Casteel and I (Francis) decided to remedy the situation. The fact that we were Tennessee birders heading across the border to poach on Kentucky territory only added spice to the situation. By 6 AM, we had crossed the state line and could officially begin our Big Day. However, we continued along I-24 for nearly another hour before reaching our target area, the Land Between the Lakes near the Barkely and Kentucky Lakes dams.

As we pulled off I-24, we noted flock after flock of Cattle Egrets heading out for the day. We quickly added a potentially tough wilderness bird, a House Sparrow, before picking up a more pleasing find, an American Kestrel. As we headed south into the Land Between the Lakes region between the Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers, it began to rain lightly. The next several hours were spent stopping numerous times along the Kentucky Lake Scenic Drive, an out-of-the-way road that followed the waters edge. The road presented us with easy access to a nice mix of woods, meadows, and river overlooks. Mixed flocks of birds were seen at several locations, highlighted by nine species of warblers, including Blackburnian, Magnolia, Yellow-throated, and American Redstart.

We next reached several boat ramp areas where we picked up our only shorebirds of the day, Killdeer and Pectoral Sandpiper. Little Blue Heron and several immature Black-crowned Night-Herons added to the variety. We had a late lunch and found we had a modest total of 68 species.

After lunch, as temperatures rose to over 90°F and the birds became less active, our total slowly increased. The Bison and Elk area produced Wild Turkey and Broad-winged Hawk. Stops at both dams gave us several more species and we inched past 75.

Having a significant drive ahead of us to reach Nashville, we decided not to stay for dark but left about 3 PM with several major misses, including Northern Mockingbird, Chimney Swift, and no swallows. We went through heavy showers on I-24 and decided to exit the interstate for gas just before the Tennessee border. We made a brief foray searching for enough species to reach a total of 80, but could only find a small flock of Northern Rough-winged Swallows for a final total of 77 species, a modest, but respectable target for Kentucky birders to break.

KENTUCKY #11 -16 September 05- 0700 to 1500 - Species Totals 85/83; (Team/Shared): Phillip Casteel 83, Jan Shaw 85. 240 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: Land Between the Lakes, Kentucky and Barclay Lake dams. Species of note: Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (V).

KENTUCKY #12 -29 November 05- 0900 to 1630 - Species Totals 39/39; (Team/Shared): William Friel 39. 35 Miles by car, 5 miles by foot. Visiting: Bernheim Forest. Species of note: Wilson's Snipe, Bald Eagle (no importance codes submitted).

LOUISIANA #1 -28 April 97- 0600 to 2245 - Species Totals 193/192; (Team/Shared): Steven W Cardiff 192, Donna L Dittmann 193. 360 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: St. Gabriel, Baton Rouge, Whiskey Bay Road, rice fields region, Creole area, Rutherford Beach, Cameron, Lacassine Pool, East Jetty, Holly Beach. Species

of note: Surf Scoter (R), Swainson's Hawk (R), Glaucous Gull (V,S), Western Kingbird (R), Yellow-rumped Warbler (L), Le Conte's Sparrow (L), Yellow-headed Blackbird (R), Least Bittern (M), Western Sandpiper (M), Gull-billed Tern (M), Blackpoll Warbler (M), Swainson's Warbler (M), Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow (M), Seaside Sparrow (M), Swamp Sparrow (M).

LOUISIANA #2 - 03 May 97- 0500 to 2030 - Species Totals 189/186; (Team/Shared): Steven W Cardiff 187, Donna L Dittmann 188. 360 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: St. Gabriel, Baton Rouge, Atchatalaya Basin, Eunice, Jennings, Oak Grove, Rutherford Beach, Cameron area, Johnson's Bayou area, Sabine Pass. Species of note: Magnificent Frigatebird (R), American Wigeon (L), Swainson's Hawk (R), Merlin, Glaucous Gull (V,S), Black-throated Blue Warbler (R), Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler (L), Canada Warbler (R), Yellow-headed Blackbird (R), Swallow-tailed Kite (M), American Golden-Plover (M), Gull-billed Tern (M), Veery (M), Seaside Sparrow (M).

LOUISIANA #3 -30 March 01- 0430 to 2200 - Species Totals 176/172; (Team/Shared): Steven W Cardiff 175, Donna L Dittmann 174, M. Mark Swan 173. 292 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: St. Gabriel, Whiskey Bay Road, S. Acadia Parish, Creole area, Rutherford Beach, Cameron, Lacassine Pool, Holly Beach, Sabine Pass. Species of note: Rufous Hummingbird (L), Acadian Flycatcher (E), Eastern Phoebe (L), Golden-crowned Kinglet (L), Clapper Rail (M), King Rail (M), Semipalmated Plover (M), Chimney Swift (M), Eastern Bluebird (M), Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow (M).

LOUISIANA #4 (Cameron Parish) -01 May 05- 0545 to 2000 - Species Totals 176/174; (Team/Shared): James V. Remsen 176, Phred Benham 176, Devin Bosler 175, Justin Bosler 174. Miles by car not submitted, 3 miles by foot. Visiting: Lacassine NWR, Sweet Lake area, Cameron Prairie NWR, Willow Island, Broussard Beach, Cameron, East Jetty area, Peveto Beach woods, Sabine Pass, Holly Beach. Species of note: Black Scoter (R,L), Black-whiskered Vireo (V), Crested Caracara (R), Pileated Woodpecker (M), Barred Owl (M), Sora (M), Eastern Screech-Owl (M), Blackpoll Warbler (M), Wood Duck (M), American Avocet (M), Western Sandpiper (M).

We had a total of 30 Bay-breasted Warblers. There was a poor showing of raptors, which is typical for such a date in southern Louisiana. Other notables included two Swainson's Hawks and a total of four Black Terns. All plover species, with the exception of Piping Plover were found. Overall, it was a good day for shorebirds with a total of 29 species, with semi-misses being Marbled Godwit and Long-billed Curlew. Notable was a flock of 18 Lesser Scaup on the Gulf of Mexico. It was a good day in the grosbeak and bunting category.

LOUISIANA #5 -31 July 05- 0500 to 2100 - Species Totals 149/148; (Team/Shared): Steven W Cardiff 148, Donna L Dittmann 148, Paul E. Conover 149. 332 Miles by car, 0.5 miles by foot. Visiting: St. Gabriel, Baton Rouge, Atchatalaya Basin, rice fields region, Creole area, Rutherford Beach, Cameron, Johnson's Bayou, Sabine Pass. Species of note: Lesser Scaup (R), Swainson's Hawk (R,S), American Avocet (M), Lesser Black-backed Gull (R), Common Ground-Dove (R), Northern Parula (M),

American Redstart (M), Swainson's Warbler (M). On Sunday, July 31st, Paul Conover, Donna Dittmann, and I set out to break the Louisiana Big Day record for the month of July.

The only published July Big Day was conducted on 19 July 1997 by Rosemary Seidler, Roger Breedlove, and Jean and Jeff Trahan. They started in pinewoods habitat in the Alexandria area, moving south to Sherburne WMA, the rice fields, Lacassine NWR, and Cameron Parish, then owling back up to Alexandria. Their effort was handicapped by car trouble, costing them about 3+ hours, and they didn't get to Rutherford Beach until 7 PM. Still, their 131 species was a very respectable total for mid July, and we knew that it would be a challenge to beat.

We decided to time our Big Day at the end of the month, which meant that we would probably miss some breeding species (now quiet, molting, and more secretive), and we decided not to try for pinewoods species and cover a shorter distance. But we expected to cancel those out by picking up more early migrants. Glancing at a checklist, I predicted that we should get about 134 "guaranteed" species with a reasonable effort, and there were quite a few "probable" bonus species that we had a fair chance of finding. We did no advance scouting except that Conover did some recon for shorebird fields between Rayne and Kaplan. We decided to start at our yard on Pecan Drive in eastern Iberville Parish, so Paul drove over the night before so that we would be ready to go early Sunday morning. Beyond that, our possible route and timing were pretty much "play-it-by-ear."

By 5 AM on the 31st we were out in the yard and quickly got Barred Owl and Great Horned Owl. Out at the back ditch, we were delighted when a bonus Eastern Screech-Owl responded to our imitations. As it started getting light, the dawn chorus was mainly limited to cardinals, and we knew that we would have our work cut out for us getting the inland songbirds. By 7 AM we hit the road with about 25 species, including our only House Finch and Pileated Woodpecker; we added our only Eastern Bluebirds as we drove along Pecan Drive. Next stop was the LSU campus for Am. Robin. Our staked-out robins near the Museum were no-shows, but we were rewarded with a bonus Cooper's Hawk. We proceeded to cruise around campus and then along Lakeshore Drive, ticking off flicker (bonus), Wood Duck, Mallard, Purple Martin and, finally, one American Robin. Heading west from Baton Rouge by a little after 8 AM, our next definite stop was Whiskey Bay Road/Sherburne WMA. A quick stop at the I-10 Ramah exit produced Northern Rough-winged Swallow but not much else. Onward to Whiskey Bay, where we covered north to about a mile above Happytown Road and then backtracked to the freeway. We scored most of the easy Atchafalaya Basin species, plus what would turn out to be our only Caspian Terns of the day (flying north up the pilot channel!), but we were disappointed to miss Swainson's Warbler, American Redstart, Northern Parula, and Yellow-throated Warbler, all of which had been on my "can't miss" list. Swallow-tailed Kite was a bonus, but we were starting to sweat-it over missing Red-shouldered and Broad-winged Hawks, Anhinga, etc. And it was already 10 AM....

Continuing west, our next definite target was Paul's staked-out shorebird fields in the rice country south of Rayne. Fortunately, the birds started to cooperate and we added Anhinga, Red-shouldered, and Broad-winged from the freeway in the Henderson-Lafayette area. The first shorebird field (on Tan Road just west of Hwy. 700) was a great stress-reliever, with a fairly good diversity of peeps, both yellowlegs, both dowitchers, Semipalmated Plover, bonus Glossy Ibis, and a bonus Swainson's Hawk soaring off to the SE. Another set of fields on Highway 35 a mile north of Highway 699 was packed with birds but the only new species were Black-bellied Plover and singing Dickcissels. Closer to the junction of 35 and 699 were flooded fields with spectacular numbers of *Plegadis*, hundreds of Roseate Spoonbills, and numbers of Wood Storks off to the west (soaring and perched in trees). We probably should have explored west on 699 (where we probably would have gotten American Avocet and possibly other species), but we opted to continue south on 35 then west on Dennis Road to check an abandoned house for possible Barn Owls. Sure enough, Paul glimpsed a Barn Owl in the house, but it wouldn't show itself for Donna or me (this ended up being the only species not seen and/or heard by all observers!). As we prepared to get back in the vehicle Paul spotted a bonus Common Ground-Dove speeding down the road.

Working our way over to Highway 13 and down to Highway 14, we proceeded to work west across the southern rice country, hoping for good fields with whistling-ducks, etc. It was now approaching noon and, although our count was at 99 species (including a Cardiff-only Yellow Warbler that flew in front of the car near Kaplan), we were starting to have our doubts about even tying the record. It didn't help that we saw zero new species between Kaplan and Bell City. With stress levels back on the rise and time starting to run short, we scrapped possible runs into Lacassine NWR or Cameron Prairie NWR. At Bell City we short-cutted west on Rossignol Road hoping for Scissor-tailed Flycatcher. No Scissor-taileds, but we started to regain some momentum with Orchard Oriole and Blue Grosbeak, and we had a major stroke of luck when a Bobwhite called along Fruge Road. Heading south on Hwy. 27, it was approaching 1:30 PM and we were starting to debate what to do once we hit the coast.

But first things first. On the wires along the highway near the Cameron Parish line: Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Common Nighthawk. A few stops in the marsh from Gibbstown Bridge to Creole tacked-on Fulvous Whistling-Duck and our only Gull-billed Terns, Belted Kingfisher, Purple Gallinule, Pied-billed Grebes, and Osprey.

Finally hitting the coast about 2 PM, we made a brief check of the Rutherford Motel Woods without detecting any migrants. There obviously hadn't been much rain in the area and there were no pools of water in the woods, which did not bode well for waterthrushes, etc. We were now within about 20 species of at least tying the record, so we started a "countdown to victory" to keep psyched-up. Still undecided about the most efficient use of our remaining 6+ hours, we made a snap decision to drive down to Rutherford Beach and at least check the salt cedar clump at the beginning of the beach. This was a good

move, as we quickly picked up Brown Pelican, Willet, Royal Tern, and Great-tailed Grackle. Paul lured a bonus Prairie Warbler into view, followed by Paul and Donna locating a Least Flycatcher and some catch-up Yellow Warblers. We had thirteen species to go. Taking this burst of birds as an omen, we decided to make a speed run along the entire length of Rutherford Beach, gambling that we would be able to exit at the Broussards Beach entrance. Quickly checking shorebirds and gull/tern flocks along the beach, we racked-up Ruddy Turnstone, Sanderling, Sandwich Tern, Common Tern, Snowy Plover, Wilson's Plover, Black Tern, Spotted Sandpiper, Ring-billed Gull, and bonus Lesser Black-backed Gull. Three species to go and closing on 4 PM. Luckily, we were able to extricate ourselves from the beach (through the piles of garbage dumped on the road by locals) without any flat tires. With mud flying, we raced to a pit stop at the Cam-Mart, then headed to East Jetty. Along the way, a quick scan of the Cameron Sewage ponds produced a bonus female Lesser Scaup. Only two species away.... Arriving at the jetty parking area, we breathed a sigh of relief at the sight of mudflats covered with birds, and there was the sense that we could start to relax and enjoy things. Scoping from the very nice observation platform, I don't remember the exact sequence of new species, but we quickly noted Black Skimmer and Reddish Egret, and gradually added Piping Plover, Long-billed Curlew, Whimbrel, Herring Gull, and Least Tern. There were also two more immature Lesser Black-backed here, giving us four for the day (!). Rather than being elated at having broken the record, I think I was more perturbed that there was not a single Am. White Pelican to be seen (another of my "guaranteed species").

We left the jetty with 138 species and close to 4 hours of daylight remaining. Now we starting thinking about trying for 150, and we began another countdown. A quick detour through Cameron netted White-winged Dove. Eleven to go. Arriving at the ferry landing, our luck continued, as the ferry seemed to be waiting just for us and then departed almost immediately. We cruised along Holly Beach watching for anything obviously new, but did not want to invest time scanning every flock as we already had all the expected shoreline species. Continuing on to the BRAS Sanctuary, we were descended upon by merciless hordes of deerflies (this really is something that should be experienced by everyone!). Somehow, in between swatting at deerflies and mosquitoes and dodging spider webs, we were able to find a flock of migrant Black-and-white Warblers and our only Yellow-billed Cuckoo, plus another Least Flycatcher. Now at 141, 9 to go... Considering our remaining options, we decided on a speed-run to Sabine Pass, arriving about 6-6:30. We saw several Clapper Rails on our approach to the bridge, but we were initially disappointed by the lack of any swallows in the vicinity of the Cliff/Cave Swallow breeding colony. Donna, however, quickly salvaged things by spotting a bonus American Oystercatcher, followed by a couple of passing Cliff Swallows. Backtracking a short distance east, we had singing Marsh Wrens and squeaked-up a Seaside Sparrow; 146 species, 4 to go, about an hour and a half of daylight left... At this point we were running out of steam and our easiest birds within striking distance were Least Bittern and King Rail, with chances for Am. Coot, Blue-winged Teal, etc. So, we decided to head back east, re-check Holly Beach hoping for something like a frigatebird, then re-cross

the ferry and end up in the marshes behind the courthouse. No luck along Holly Beach, then we had to wait for the ferry, but we still arrived behind the courthouse around sunset. We quickly saw several Least Bitterns and heard several King Rails. Now what? As the light faded, we checked various ponds without success, then parked and watched for birds moving around at dusk. Our last species and number 149 for the day was a formation of about a dozen Canada Geese spotted by Paul as they tried to slip silently by moving east to west. Alas, 150 was not to be had, but now there's something to shoot for next time.

So, there you have it, perhaps a bit long-winded, but I thought it might help spice-up the summer doldrums and get everyone motivated for the fall migration. We stayed in Cameron overnight, re-checking (on August 1st) Rutherford Beach and then working our way back via Lacassine Pool. The only species seen that we didn't see the previous day were a Gray Catbird along Fruge Road, and a probable Willow Flycatcher along the road to Lacassine Pool. FYI- for anyone heading to the Johnson's Bayou area with their heart set on a Young's Grocery cheeseburger, it appears that they had another fire in the building and are currently closed.... Bummer.

LOUISIANA #6 -18 December 05- 0800 to 1900 - Species Totals 101/101; (Team/Shared): Charlie Lyon 101, Richard Gibbons 101. 35 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. Visiting: Natchitoches CBC circle. Species of note: none.

This was a normal CBC day with the goal in mind to try for the December Big Day record of 95 species in Louisiana. We were surprised to have passed the century mark with such a casual attempt.

MAINE #1 -27 May 05- 0415 to 2300 - Species Totals 131/130; (Team/Shared): Robert M. Milardo 130, Judy K. Markowsky 130, Bruce Barker 131. 250 Miles by car, 4 miles by foot. Visiting: Greater Bangor area, Penjajawoc Marsh, Mount Desert Island. Species of note: Red-throated Loon (L), Merlin (R), Carolina Wren (R), Northern Shoveler (R), Great Blue Heron (M).

This was our 21st Big Day and fifth highest to date.

MAINE #2 -28 May 05- 0345 to 2200 - Species Totals 141/134; (Team/Shared): Jerry Smith 139, Clay Hardy 138, John Wyatt 139, Jim Hinds 138. 285 Miles by car, 4 miles by foot. Visiting: Greater Bangor area, Downeast Coast. Species of note: Red-necked Grebe (L), Black-headed Gull (R), Red-throated Loon (L), Red-bellied Woodpecker (R,S).

This is the sixth year that this team has participated in a birdathon to raise money for our local Audubon center, but is the first year we have submitted our results as an ABA Big Day. We were prompted to submit our results because we have broken (by one species) the local record for counts away from southern Maine (where much higher birdathon counts are possible). Currently, there are four major teams competing for this "northern" Maine record. We did not find any spectacular birds in this year's count, but we did decrease to a relatively small number the number of expected birds missed and we had no big misses. Our shorebird count this year was relatively low at 10 (last year we had 17) and we missed a few species

because of intermittent rain, so we think that 150 species for this count might just be possible.

MARYLAND -6 August 05- 0520 to 2010 - Species Totals 99/98; (Team/Shared): Maren Gimpel 98, Dan Small 99. 220 Miles by car, 8 miles by foot. Visiting: Bluestem Farms, Chestertown, Centerville, Ruthsburg, Tuckahoe SP, Denton, Berlin, Assateague SP, Assateague Island National Seashore, Deal Island WMA. Species of note: Sedge Wren (S), Bobolink (S), Dickcissel (S).

The day started out great! We reached 90 species by 1230 including our staked out Sedge Wren, Bobolink and Dickcissel. Things started to turn sour when we decided to hike into the good shorebird spot on Assateague Island National Seashore (where we had never been). We ended up walking 4 hours, never finding the mudflats let alone any shorebirds or early ducks. Upon our return to the car we decided to head for Deal Island WMA, which had been mentioned recently as a good spot for ducks and marsh birds. When we arrived, however, we found it closed for several weeks for dike maintenance. The afternoon added only 9 birds to the total and was terrible for morale. The moral is to spend more time scouting before we undertake our next Big Day.

MASSACHUSETTS -29 January 05- 0500 to 1700 - Species Totals 83/81; (Team/Shared): Richard Frechette 82, Scott Spangenberg 82, Frances Doyle 81, Dave Rowell 81, John Woolf 81. Mileage not submitted. Visiting: Boxford SP, Gloucester Harbor, Rockport. Salisbury SP, Joppa Flats. Species of note: Eastern Towhee (L), Eared Grebe (V), Field Sparrow (L).

It was Superbowl Saturday and teams from across the country were ready to rumble. The annual Superbowl of Birding, sponsored by the Joppa Flats Center of the Massachusetts Audubon Society found our team, The Monadnock Merlins, deep in the snow covered forest counting down the time to the official start at 5AM. For the next twelve hours we would search the woods, fields, harbors and beaches of Essex County in quest of the Joppa Cup.

After owling in Boxford State Forest, we quickly picked up the woodland birds such as Brown Creeper and Golden-crowned Kinglet before setting out for Gloucester Harbor. Along the way a Common Raven sailed across the highway. The harbor was a goldmine with six gull species and all of the bay ducks. The Eared Grebe, now in its ninth year at Niles Beach cooperated nicely as did the Peregrine Falcon, which has taken up its winter residence on the city hall tower.

The minus four degree temperatures at the starting gun warmed nicely with brilliant sunshine by mid morning. A male King Eider in Rockport was resplendent in the morning light. The treat of the morning was a Common Murre not more than thirty feet from shore. Thick-billed Murre, Razorbill and Black Guillemot completed our day's list of alcids. We missed the Dovekie located by another team.

As we traveled north to Newburyport, we stopped to admire a Rough-legged hawk sailing over the frozen marsh in Essex and watched Hooded Mergansers feeding in the Periwinkle River. After stops at feeders in Newbury for

Carolina Wren and typical feeder birds we found our way to the chain bridge in Newburyport for Common Merganser, Great Blue Heron and Double-crested Cormorant. Then it was off to Salisbury State Park for the evening owl show. As soon as we arrived a Short-eared Owl sailed across the marsh and interacted with a Northern Harrier hunting for a bedtime snack.

As time was running out, we searched the ice-encrusted salt marsh for a Snowy Owl. Dave pointed to an upright white object, which we discounted as another ice chunk. Just then the object took flight and perched on top of the Parker River Bridge and peered down at us with its large, yellow eyes. It was 5 PM, and time to relax and socialize at the post Superbowl party. Fittingly, as the tired and hungry teams assembled at Joppa Flats, a pair of Great Horned Owls dueted outside the hall.

The weather was beautiful, the birds were outstanding, the company was great and the competition was stiff. At the end of the day we had won the Joppa Cup, and set a new Massachusetts January Big Day Record. More to the point, we had a blast. The Superbowl of Birding is an annual event and the New England coast in January is the place to be. Come on and join us next year.

MICHIGAN #1 -29 January 05- 0500 to 1810 - Species Totals 75/75; (Team/Shared): Tom Kemp 75, Matt Kemp 75, Craig Nilsson 75, Steve Stockford 75. 191 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. Visiting: Onsted State Game Area, Monroe Co., Lake Erie Metro Park, Detroit River. Species of note: Glaucous Gull (R), Hairy Woodpecker (M), Brown Creeper (M).

MICHIGAN #2 -10 December 05- 0515 to 1715 - Species Totals 83/82; (Team/Shared): Tom Kemp 82, Steve Stockford 83. 190 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. Visiting: Onsted State Game Area, Monroe Co., Lake Erie Metro Park, Detroit River. Species of note: Sandhill Crane (L), Killdeer (L), Willet (R,L), Dunlin (L), Gray Catbird (L), Cedar Waxwing (M).

MISSOURI #1 -30 April 04- 0400 to 1930 - Species Totals 155/155; (Team/Shared): Joe Eades 155, Jim Malone 155. 330 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: Pike Co. (Clarence Cannon NWR), Lincoln Co. (B.K. Leach CA, Cuivre River SP), St. Charles Co. (Busch CA, Riverlands Migratory Bird Refuge), St. Louis Co. (Creve Coeur Lake). Species of note: Western Grebe (V), Peregrine Falcon (R), King Rail (R), Black-necked Stilt (V,S).

This is a new Missouri record for April.

MISSOURI #2 -09 May 05- 0600 to 1800 - Species Totals 104/100; (Team/Shared): Ryan Douglas 104, Phil Wire 100. 190 Miles by car, 5 miles by foot. Visiting: Pershing SP, Fountain Grove CA, Thompson River Wetlands, Swan Lake NWR, Big Creek CA. Species of note: American Avocet (R), Hudsonian Godwit (R).

MISSOURI #3 (Boone Co.) -07 July 05- 0530 to 2130 - Species Totals 86/86; (Team/Shared): Chadwick D. Rittenhouse 86. 82 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: Eagle Bluffs CA, Columbia Regional Airport, Thomas S.

Baskett Wildlife Research and Education Center. Species of note: Eurasian Collared-Dove (S), Upland Sandpiper (S), Chuck-will's-widow (S).

MISSOURI #4 - 03 December 05- 0415 to 1700 - Species Totals 93/93; (Team/Shared): Joe Eades 93, Jim Malone 93. 230 Miles by car, <one mile by foot. Visiting: Pike Co. (Clarence Cannon NWR), Lincoln Co. (B.K. Leach CA, Winfield Dam, Cuivre River SP), St. Charles Co. (Riverlands Migratory Bird Refuge, Busch CA), St. Louis Co. (Creve Coeur Lake). Species of note: Great Egret (L), Prairie Falcon (V), White-winged Scoter (R), Merlin (R), Greater Yellowlegs (L).

Deteriorating weather with rain and fog after 3 PM shut down a reasonable shot at 100 species.

MISSOURI #5 (Boone Co.) -20 December 05- 0600 to 1800 - Species Totals 73/71; (Team/Shared): Chadwick D. Rittenhouse 71, Christopher L. Merkord 73. 162 Miles by car, 2.5 miles by foot. Visiting: City of Columbia wetland cells, Eagle Bluffs CA, Rock Bridge SP, Thomas S. Baskett Wildlife Research and Education Center - University of Missouri, Bradford Farms - University of Missouri. Species of note: Virginia Rail (L), Trumpeter Swan (R).

MONTANA -04 September 05- 0600 to 1950 - Species Totals 118/116; (Team/Shared): Ed Harper 118, Robin Wolcott 117, John Parker 117. 180 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. Visiting: Bozeman, Sourdough Trail, Cottonwood Res., Battle Ridge CG, Belgrade, Trident, Headwaters SP, Harrison Res. Species of note: Horned Lark (M).

The idea of doing a September Big Day in Montana was intriguing to the three of us. One learns so much about the distribution and migratory movements of birds by doing Big Days that the idea was irresistible to us. And besides, the existing record of 86 birds seemed in need of improvement. Our day went fairly well, although we did not stay on schedule, falling behind and missing Ennis Lake, our last scheduled, but potentially a productive stop. We were delayed nearly one hour at Trident by a fierce thunderstorm that sent us scrambling back into our vehicle where we waited out the wrath of the storm. The lightning was way too close! With winds and blustery weather thwarting our search at a potentially productive vagrant trap along the Missouri River, we certainly lost a few species. We finished feeling good about our route and for a new route with little advance scouting, we did reasonably well. The lingering euphoria has us thinking of yet another September Big Day, but this one restricted entirely to the Bozeman latilong.

NEW HAMPSHIRE #1 -21 May 05- 0000 to 2130 - Species Totals 146/146; (Team/Shared): Iain MacLeod 146, Rob Woodward 146. 350 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. Visiting: Washington, Hillsboro, Concord Airport, Pawtuckaway SP, Exeter WTP, Seabrook/Hampton Harbor, Pease International Tradeport, NH Seacoast. Species of note: None.

Rob and I (Iain MacLeod) tried a southern route that included the Monadnock Highlands rather than a long trip to the White Mountains. We did okay but missed several of those key northern species.

NEW HAMPSHIRE #2 -28 May 05- 0000 to 2130 - Species Totals 165/165; (Team/Shared): Iain MacLeod 165, Rob Woodward 165, Eric Masterson 165. 500 Miles by car, 5 miles by foot. Visiting: Pondicherry NWR, Trudeau Road, Concord Airport, Pawtuckaway SP, Exeter WTP, Seabrook/Hampton Harbor, Pease International Tradeport, NH Seacoast. Species of note: Pied-billed Grebe, Tennessee Warbler, White-crowned Sparrow, Wilson's Warbler, Little Blue Heron, Brant.

Rob and I (Iain MacLeod) decided to try again and added a new team member. We did the usual northern (boreal) route and did much better than last week coming closer to the one-day New Hampshire record than we have in a long time with 165 species.

NEW HAMPSHIRE #3 -30 August 05- 0330 to 1900 - Species Totals 114/114; (Team/Shared): Mathew Kemp 114. 300 Miles by car, 4 miles by foot. Visiting: Mt. Jefferson, Whitefield, Concord, New Hampshire coast, Durham. Species of note: Jaeger species (R).

NEW HAMPSHIRE #4 -28 Mar 04- 0400 to 2000 - Species Totals 90/90; (Team/Shared): Iain MacLeod 90, Rob Woodward 90, Dan Fallon 90. Miles by car ?, miles by foot ?. Visiting: Concord, Manchester, Salem, Exeter, coast. Species of Note: Spotted Towhee (V,S), Bohemian Waxwing (V), Barrow's Goldeneye (R)

NEW JERSEY (Bergen Co.) -05 May 05- 0330 to 1830 - Species Totals 93/89; (Team/Shared): Richard Ryan 91, Herb Stein 91, Jeddu Keil 91. Mileage not submitted. Visiting: Bergen Co. Wildlife Center, Allendale Celery Farm, Campgaw and Ramapo CPs, Palisades Interstate Park, De Korte SP, Ramapo College Campus. Species of note: Lincoln's Sparrow (E), Worm-eating Warbler (M).

This is a Big Day that HAS BEEN CONDUCTED FOR 55 YEARS with only a few short gaps. I participated in the first. We got about 108 species and did it without an automobile. This year, with a brand new car, we got 93. The lower list, despite greater mobility, reflects the extent of habitat destruction, almost total, that has taken place over the years in Bergen Co. New Jersey is the most densely populated state and Bergen Co. is in the most densely populated quadrant of New Jersey. New Jersey is more densely populated than China or India. That said - on with the narrative.

Two of our regulars, Joe Zygala and Glenn Mahler, were elsewhere. Joe was in the Rio Grande Valley and Glen in south Jersey. Herb Stein recruited a couple he had birded with in Guatemala as replacements. Sudawan Keil added nothing in terms of species and did not do all the walks, but her good humor and very pleasant disposition kept our spirits up. Jeddu Keil had sharp eyes and was a good addition to the group.

For the first time in many years we did not start at 3:30 a.m. at Skyland Drive. We chose to skip Skyland entirely as it has become progressively less productive. Starting instead at the Bergen Co. Wildlife Center, we picked up Eastern Screech-Owl. The next stop was a sanctuary known as the Allendale Celery Farm. Its many acres of cattail marsh were less productive than usual due to the early date (forced by work schedules) and very cold, wet

spring. It was 40 degrees when we started out and a strong northwest wind persisted throughout the day.

Prothonotary Warbler, Sora and Virginia Rail, and American Bittern had been heard the day before, but were silent for us. When we left the sanctuary, we had less than 50 species. The next stop, Campgaw CP, was also a disappointment. Even the resident House Finches were absent. Finally, at Ramapo Reservation, we got a break. Both waterthrushes were seen and heard. More surprising was the presence of four of the brown thrushes: Wood, Swainson's, Veery, and Hermit, each in at least modest numbers. The weed fields near Ramapo College are beginning to enter the next stage of succession and the expected Savannah Sparrow and Eastern Meadowlark were missing. We did get a Field Sparrow for the first time in 11 years. Next came Palisades Interstate Park, where we missed Worm-eating Warbler for the first time in 20+ years. The final stop was De Korte SP, where we picked up over 20 new species, most of them common, including a singing Indigo Bunting, the only one of the day. At the ponds, there was a male Northern Shoveler, our first in ten years. The last bird of the day was the best—an early Lincoln's Sparrow hopping in the grass with several Savannah's, White-throat's, and a White-crowned at the edge of the employee parking lot.

On the way to De Korte, we stopped to see a species that should be added to the New Jersey list shortly, if not already on it. In the early 1970s, or perhaps before, a colony of Monk Parakeets began nesting on the Edgewater Police Station. The colony has grown considerably beyond the 8-10 original birds. Now flocks of 70 nest along Route 5 and in Fort Lee. As soon as we got to Edgewater, while still in the moving car, I saw a few on the sidewalk of the busiest street in town. Many of the residents approached us volunteering information about the parakeets. They appear to have become town mascots.

NEW MEXICO -04 May 05- 0145 to 2030 - Species Totals 183/179; (Team/Shared): Jim Black 180, Bill West 182, Charlie Black 182, Bernard Foy 179. 345 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: Black Range, Mangas Springs, Red Rock WMA, Burrow Mountains, Hillsboro, Caballo Lake SP, Socorro, Bosque del Apache NWR. Species of note: Rose-breasted Grosbeak (V), Cassin's Vireo (R), Downy Woodpecker (R), Snow Goose (L), Savannah Sparrow (L), Sandhill Crane (L).

Although still far short of the May 1997 record, our total is the third highest reported for New Mexico. The weather was excellent with no wind to speak of. Although we missed a certain number of wintering birds because of the late date, we did very well with migrants and were fortunate to find a stunning male Rose-breasted Grosbeak in a tree near the flight deck of Bosque del Apache NWR.

NORTH CAROLINA -02 February 05- 0600 to 1800 - Species Totals 94/94; (Team/Shared): David Lenat 94. 200 Miles by car, 4 miles by foot. Visiting: Lake Phelps, Scuppernon River (Creswell and Columbia), Alligator River Wildlife Refuge at Milltail Road, Manteo, Oregon Inlet, Bodie Pond, Pea Island North Pond, Hatteras Point and Salt Pond. Species of note: Red-throated Loon, Common Eider, White-winged Scoter, Common

Merganser, American Avocet, American Pipit, Snow Bunting (Importance Codes not submitted).

This was basically a repeat of a February Big Day attempt in 2004. This increases the February record from 88 to 94 species, but it is still well under the potential number for this month.

NORTH CAROLINA #2 - 08 December 05- 0600 to 1800 - Species Totals 89/89; (Team/Shared): David Lenat 89. 220 Miles by car, 4 miles by foot. Visiting: Creswell/Lake Phelps, Alligator River Wildlife Refuge at Milltail Road, Oregon Inlet, Bodie Pond, Pea Island North Pond, Hatteras Point. Species of note: Common Merganser, American Avocet, White Pelican, Brant, White-winged Scoter (Importance Codes not submitted).

NORTH CAROLINA #3 - 21 December 05- 0630 to 1500 - Species Totals 89/89; (Team/Shared): David Lenat 89. 160 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. Visiting: Roper, Creswell/Lake Phelps, Alligator River Wildlife Refuge at Milltail Road, Manteo, Oregon Inlet, Bodie Pond, Pea Island North Pond. Species of note: Brant, Clay-colored Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow (Importance Codes not submitted).

The prior NC December record of 84 species reflected the very few Big Day attempts during winter for the state of North Carolina; most Big Days have been conducted during spring or fall migration. Although these Big Day attempts sets a new state record, it included many "misses" of species that should be easy to find in December.

OHIO #1 - 11 July 04- 0011 to 2140 - Species Totals 141/140; (Team/Shared): Tom Kemp 140, Steve Stockford 141. 440 Miles by car, one mile by foot, 6 miles by bike. Visiting: Williams Co., Oak Openings, Lake Erie marshes, Mohican SF, Holmes Co. Species of note: scaup, spp. (L), Wilson's Phalarope (R), Canada Warbler (R), Blue Grosbeak (R).

OHIO #2 -14 May 05- 0500 to 1700 - Species Totals 112/112; (Team/Shared): H. Thomas Bartlett 112. Zero Miles by car, 0 miles by foot. Visiting: Magee Marsh Wildlife Area. Species of note: none.

This was a Big Sit for the International Migratory Bird Day.

OHIO #3-01 August 05- 0250 to 2215 - Species Totals 135; (Team/Shared): Tom Kemp 135. 416 Miles by car, 2 miles by bike. Visiting: Killbuck Marsh, Mohican SF, Holmes Co., Lake Erie marshes, Oak Openings, Williams Co. Species of note: Sharp-shinned Hawk (R).

OHIO #4 -05 Sep 2005- 0500 to 1830 - Species Totals 138/136; (Team/Shared): Tom Kemp 136, Elliot Tramer 138. 110 Miles by car, 3 miles by foot. Visiting: Oak Openings, Lake Erie marshes. Species of note: Marbled Godwit (R), Buff-breasted Sandpiper (R), Common Nighthawk (M).

OHIO #5 -01 October 05- 0530 to 1830 - Species Totals 121/117; (Team/Shared): Tom Kemp 119, Elliot Tramer 119. 85 Miles by car, 3 miles by foot. Visiting: Oak Openings, Lake Erie marshes. Species of Note: Marbled Godwit (R), Hudsonian Godwit (R), Brown-headed Cowbird (M).

OKLAHOMA -09 May 05- 0000 to 2242 - Species Totals 182/174; (Team/Shared): Jimmy Woodard 182, Terry Mitchell 176, Bill Carrell 176. 780 Miles by car, 3.5 miles by foot. Visiting: Tallgrass Prairie Preserve, Chouteau WMA, Redbud Valley, Apache WTP, Mohawk Park, Keystone Dam, Sooner Lake, Salt Plains NWR, Cimarron Co., Optima Dam. Species of note: Canvasback (L), Hooded Merganser (L), Mountain Plover (R), Wilson's Snipe (M), Western Screech-Owl (M,S), Black-chinned Hummingbird (M), Vermilion Flycatcher (R), White-breasted Nuthatch (M), House Wren (M), Sedge Wren (M,S), Sage Thrasher (L), Pine Warbler (R), Louisiana Waterthrush (M,S).

From the sublime to the insane: a week of birding crammed into 24 hours. Terry, Jimmy, and I (Bill) set a new Oklahoma Big Day record with 182 species!

The sublime: Standing on a gravel road on the Tallgrass Prairie with a star show overhead, lightning on the horizon, lightning bugs in the grass, and as midnight strikes, Henslow's Sparrow, Chuck-wills'-widow, and Yellow-billed Cuckoo. The insane: Flying down county roads in the Panhandle, successfully dodging pheasants and Mourning Doves...not so successfully dodging a State Trooper east of Guymon (the brief delay netting the only Northern Harrier of the day and a warning for Terry).

After a law-abiding interval, we found ourselves barreling down a dirt road between Keyes and Boise City (after picking up Mountain Plover, a lifer for me), dodging a slow truck in town and a slower train west of it. We rolled into Black Mesa SP just in time to snag the five species needed for the record: Say's Phoebe, Cassin's Kingbird, Wild Turkey, Vermilion Flycatcher, and Canyon Towhee. We threw in a Common Poorwill south of Kenton for good measure, but struck out on the Western Screech-Owl at the Cimarron River Bridge.

In between, the good and breaks probably evened out: missing a Sedge Wren that had been heard 18 hours earlier, lightning curtailing our efforts at Chouteau, a Mourning Warbler right next to the road in Redbud Valley, a Broad-winged Hawk miles west of Keystone Dam after all hope of that species was gone, no Red-bellied Woodpecker until we reached Salt Plains, a construction delay near Buffalo, Black-headed Grosbeak at a residence in Keyes (but not the Green-tailed Towhee, Lazuli Bunting, and Wilson's Warbler that were there the next morning!).

All in all, a worthy effort for the first-ever attempt at this Big Day route. In the end, it was Jimmy's scouting and back-roads knowledge in the Panhandle that allowed us to finish strong after a slow start.

I understand that Messrs. Arterburn, Cox, and Kaufmann are going to attempt a southern Big Day route in 06' and the best of luck to them, though I believe that the best shot at a 200+ day for Oklahoma is the Tulsa to Black Mesa route. All it would take is a few more positive breaks and somehow finding that extra hour or two of daylight at the end to bring it within the realm of possibility. Hey, if Kansas can do it, so can we! Any takers?

OREGON #1 -24 March 05- 0430 to 2130 - Species Totals 107/106; (Team/Shared): Quinton Nice 107, Jeff Brubaker 106. 250 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: Yaquina

Bay, Devil's Lake, Baskett Slough NWR, Livermore Road, McGuire Reservoir. Species of note: none noted.

Since there was no record listed for a Big Day for March in Oregon, Jeff Brubaker and I decided it was a worthy objective for a day on Spring Break. We had found over 90 species on a December trip with Floyd Schrock a little over a year earlier, so we were hoping for a little help from the beginning of spring migration to push us over 100. We decided to concentrate on the coast and Willamette Valley since we are both unfamiliar with the Cascades and anything farther east.

We got a nice rush of species at sunrise on Yaquina Bay, and we worked the coast north from there. We chose to skip Yaquina Head for the sake of time, but then Boiler Bay was quite slow, so we missed several ocean species we were counting on. The highlight at Devil's Lake was finding ourselves surrounded by several Virginia Rails at close range, although we did have to explain to a state policeman why we were standing beside the road holding a CD player and binoculars.

We crossed the Coast Range along the Little Nestucca River and Highway 22, but there were very few birds at any of the stops we made. We were rewarded by a Barn Owl and several other species when we stopped by Linda Fink's farm in Grand Ronde.

Once across the mountains, our next major stop was Baskett Slough NWR. Unfortunately the weather turned against us, and we talked more about the rain than the birds while driving through the refuge. As we headed north on Livermore Road, the sun came back out, and so did the birds. The highlight of the day was having five raptor species in view at one stop, including a Rough-legged Hawk and Prairie Falcon.

After a few scattered stops around Polk and Yamhill counties in the late afternoon, we headed back up into the Coast Range for some evening owling. The biggest relief of the day was finding a single Lesser Scaup at sunset on McGuire Reservoir. The pygmy-owls and saw-whets were quite vocal at dusk, but our CD player died before we could try for a screech-owl. A Great Horned Owl on the drive home was #107 and our final bird of the day.

OREGON #2 -2 May 05- 0300 to 1800 - Species Totals 137/135; (Team/Shared): Don Munson 137, Jim Rogers 135, Terry Wahl 137. 125 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. Visiting: None submitted. Species of note: White-winged Scoter (M), Black Turnstone (M), Surf-bird (M), Eurasian Collared-Dove (V, S).

OREGON #3 -14 May 05- 0015 to 2355 - Species Totals 212/209; (Team/Shared): Tim Janzen 212, Jay Withgott 211, Noah Strycker 210, Hendrik Herlyn 211. 616 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: Siletz Bay, Yaquina Bay, Black Butte Ranch, Indian Ford, Hatfield Lakes, Cabin Lake, Fort Rock, Summer Lake. Species of note: Tundra Swan (L,S), Hooded Merganser (R), Common Goldeneye (L), Burrowing Owl (R), Long-eared Owl (R), Ruby-crowned Kinglet (M), Least Sandpiper (M).

On May 14, Hendrik Herlyn, Noah Strycker, Jay Withgott, and I ran a Big Day starting at Corvallis and ending at Summer Lake. We found a total of 212 species on the Big

Day, which is tied for the third highest Big Day total in Oregon up to this point. We started off the day in less than desirable weather conditions with heavy rain falling in Corvallis as we departed. Fortunately, the rain subsided quite a bit within the next hour, but the rain still hampered our ability to do owling. Our first significant bird was a late Tundra Swan that we got by spotlight at McFadden Marsh south of Corvallis. I had found this bird on the afternoon of May 13 while scouting for the Big Day. While owling, we found a Barred Owl in Lincoln County along North Beaver Creek Road.

We began our birding at dawn in the foothills east of Siletz bay in a light rain. We found many of the expected species, but the rain suppressed bird activity and helped contribute to us missing species such as Mountain Quail, Green Heron, Varied Thrush, and Pileated Woodpecker that are generally reliably found in this area in good weather. We were pleased to find that Swainson's Thrushes had come in good numbers in the past week or so and we also noted three vocalizing Olive-sided Flycatchers, which were also recent arrivals. Fortunately, the rain subsided over the next several hours allowing us to do sea watches from the Inn at Spanish Head and from Boiler Bay. We found a Black Turnstone and a Wandering Tattler on the rocks below the Inn at Spanish Head. Shorebirds were in low numbers at Siletz Bay, but we did hear a Black-bellied Plover and a Semipalmated Plover fly over. Two late Cackling Geese remained at Siletz Keys where Jay and I had seen them on May 3.

At Boiler Bay, we were surprised to find a Peregrine Falcon perched on the rocks right in front of us no more than 40 feet away. Seabird movements were slower than they had been the last time I had been to Boiler Bay a week earlier, but we still found small numbers of migrating loons and scoters. We saw at least three late Brant flying by and saw several distant Sooty Shearwaters. At Beverly Beach north of Newport, we found three Marbled Godwits. We were quite a bit behind "schedule" when we left the coast at 11 AM, but we still had a reasonably good species total of 118 species at that point. At Philomath, we lost time by going to the Philomath Sewage Ponds where the Red-necked Phalarope and the Blue-winged Teal Hendrik and I had seen there on May 7 were nowhere to be found.

In the Cascades and in the Sisters area, we found most of the expected species reasonably efficiently. We found a White-headed Woodpecker and a Red-breasted Sapsucker at Black Butte Ranch, but were disappointed that we couldn't find any Red-naped Sapsuckers there or at Calliope Crossing on Pine Street north of Sisters. At Hatfield Lakes near Bend, we were surprised to find a Black Tern and several White-faced Ibises. A Red-necked Phalarope, a female Hooded Merganser, and male Blue-winged Teal were also there. At Horse Ridge east of Bend we quickly found Clark's Nutcracker, Rock Wren, and Canyon Wren that Noah was able to get to respond with proficient use of his iPod. Jay heard an Ash-throated Flycatcher there as well and we also heard one just west of Horse Ridge in the juniper forest there. North of Fort Rock, we saw a Burrowing Owl at the same location that our Birdathon team had found five on April 30.

We reached Summer Lake at about 8 PM, about ½ hour behind "schedule" and quickly took the tour loop on the

refuge. I found a late female Common Goldeneye, but we were unable to find the male Eurasian Wigeon that I had seen there on May 13 while scouting for the Big Day. We got most of the expected species at Summer Lake, but ran out of light before seeing any of the six Great Egrets or the Long-billed Curlews I had seen while scouting on May 13.

From Summer Lake, we went up to Winter Ridge to listen for Common Poorwill. While listening to several Common Poorwills that were calling, we were shocked to hear a pair of Long-eared Owls calling to each other as well as a nearby Northern Saw-whet Owl. We also found a Flammulated Owl south of Silver Lake. This was our eighth owl species of the day. We finished the Big Day off just before midnight with three Yellow Rails that we heard calling at Klamath Marsh along the Silver Lake Road near Mile Post 7.

PENNSYLVANIA #1 -31 March 05- 0330 to 1900 - Species Totals 88/88; (Team/Shared): Ted Drozdowski 88. 210 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. Visiting: Struble Lake, Honeybrook WTP, Kurtz's Fish Farm, Marsh Creek SP, Wildwood Lake, Susquehanna River, Fort Hunter, Stoney Creek Valley, Middle Creek WMA. Species of note: Little Gull (R), Lesser Black-backed Gull (S), Northern Flicker (M).

In early March, Mike Tanis and I attempted a big day, however we got a late start and things didn't go as well as planned. It was then obvious to Mike and I that a March big day in PA should always be done as late in the month as possible. March 31 finally arrived and Mike was on vacation, so I had to go it alone.

I left the house at 0330 and my first bird was a singing Song Sparrow in my back yard. The day almost started off with disaster as I was driving along in the darkness and a deer ran out in front of my van. I swerved and still don't know how I missed it, but it sure woke me up and got my adrenaline pumping. I got my Eastern Screech Owl on my second try, then I went to a couple of new spots that looked like they would be good for Barred Owl but they were not. I didn't realize how early the cloudless sky would lighten, so I hightailed it out to our favorite Barred Owl site, which last November gave us a Great Horned and NOT a Barred Owl. The owls had switched up again and the Barred Owl could be heard off in the woods just a minute after I got there.

My dawn site would be Struble Lake in Chester County. Timing was good as it was just now light enough to ID birds. Northern Cardinal was heard singing as I put my scope on the flock of gulls, the water was flat and I quickly located the adult Lesser Black-backed Gull that I staked out the day before. The only other gulls I could find were Ring-billed and Herring Gulls. No Great Black-backed here, or anywhere else on the day. Other birds quickly added were Tree Swallow, Common and Hooded Mergansers, Wood Duck, Lesser Scaup, Green-winged Teal, Belted Kingfisher, and a small flock of 8 Snow Geese. Blackbirds were now making some noise and I picked up the 3 common flocking species: Brown-headed Cowbird, Common Grackle and Red-winged Blackbird. I scanned the fields for Northern Harriers and Short-eared Owls but only came up with a Red-tailed Hawk. I did well with sparrows here; White-throated, Field, American Tree, Song

and White-crowned. I walked around the south side of the lake for a better vantage of the gulls and I picked up Eastern Bluebird and Phoebe, and a very unexpected Eastern Meadowlark, only the second I've seen at Struble Lake.

On my way to the Honeybrook treatment plant, I stopped on Homestead Road to get my Horned Lark and also picked up my first of many Killdeer for the day. The treatment plant gave me my target bird, Northern Shoveler, along with Ring-necked Duck, American Wigeon and Fish Crow. At nearby Kurtz's Fish Farm I found that my 3 Bufflehead had left, replaced by a single Greater Scaup.

My next stop was Marsh Creek SP for Common Loon and hopefully the Red-necked Grebe that I found the previous day. There wasn't much waterfowl left on the lake, just some American Coots, Ruddy Ducks, Common Mergansers, and 4 Common Loons. The big grebe was nowhere in sight. As I scanned the lake one last time I heard a yelping noise and looked up to see a nice adult Bald Eagle flying overhead. It was now 0830 and time to go. Luck was still with me as I picked up a Sharp-shinned Hawk and an Osprey while driving out of the park.

My original plan was to work my way south through Chester County to Nottingham County Park and Octoraro Reservoir for passerines, then to go north along the Susquehanna River to the Conjohela Flats for waterbirds, and to finish up at Middle Creek WMA.

I knew I had done very well so far, and it was only 0830. As I was driving out of the little town of Eagle, I could feel the westbound PA turnpike pulling at me from the other direction. Although I had wanted to include the Harrisburg area of the Susquehanna River in my big day, I just couldn't fit it into the route. There had been a lot of good waterfowl around Harrisburg that I did not have yet, including at least 7 different Little Gulls. I was really torn between my original route and getting on the turnpike and scrapping the rest of my planned route.

Since I hadn't quite made up my mind, I pulled into the parking lot for the Struble Trail and ran into the woods to use the facilities. Here I picked up a Dark-eyed Junco, Tufted Titmouse, and a Fox Sparrow. I got back to the van and added up my total. Fifty-eight species and it wasn't even 0900! The record (mine) was only 66. I decided to scrap the remainder of my route and got on the turnpike and headed west. The only new species I picked up on the 75-minute drive was Black Vulture, a common bird that we sometimes miss on big days. This was a good omen indeed.

I got to Fort Hunter along the Susquehanna and there were hundreds of Bonaparte's Gulls flying and riding the swollen river. It only took a minute to pick out a Little Gull. This was a life bird for me.

Next stop was Wildwood Lake where I hoped to pick up at least the Red-necked Grebe and Blue-winged Teal that was there yesterday. I worked the north end of the lake but only picked up Great Egret. On the south end of the lake I got both the grebe and teal, plus Rusty Blackbird, American Black Duck, Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers, White-breasted Nuthatch and a beautiful Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.

I left Wildwood Park to go scope out the river at Front Street. The river was very flooded with lots of floating debris. I was watching several groups of gulls riding debris on the fast moving river. Some gulls had a small piece of debris to themselves, and larger pieces of debris had 4 or 5 gulls lined up and taking a free ride. It was then that I saw something that almost caused me to laugh out loud.

Double-crested Cormorants are comical looking birds to begin with; here was a single disheveled looking cormorant riding a piece of debris with a thick 3 foot high pole sticking straight up out of the debris. The cream-colored pole was about 8 inches in diameter and had red and yellow markings on it like the kind you see marking underground pipelines and such. The commandeered craft entered some turbulent water and captain cormorant was trying hard to keep from falling off the ship through the rapids. It was at this time that I realized I would not be launching my kayak downstream at the Conjohela Flats. The flats would be completely underwater, which would mean no early shorebirds. And unlike the cormorant, I would be in trouble should I fall out of my boat.

The sky had now fully clouded over and it was cold and windy on the river, but at least the light was still good. Other birds riding the torrents of water were White-winged Scoter, Red-breasted Merganser, and others that I already had like Bufflehead, Ring-necked Duck, and Greater Scaup.

Since I had a little time before I had to leave for Middle Creek, (WOW! Extra time on a Big Day!) I headed north a few miles to the Stoney Creek Valley in search of some missing passerines. A stop for Swamp Sparrow proved fruitless. I was hoping to pick up possibly 6 species here, but Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, and Winter Wren were not to be had. I finally picked up a Brown Creeper, Golden-crowned Kinglet, and a big fat Black-capped Chickadee. This bird had all field marks of a big northern Black-capped. (Mike and I normally bird the chickadee hybrid zone, so we often get stuck with just a chickadee species instead of both Carolina and Black-capped Chickadee.) Today the luck continued and I got both chickadees. I left Stoney Creek at 1530 for the hour plus ride to Middle Creek.

When I got to Middle Creek, the place initially looked deserted, no Snow Geese or Tundra Swans, no cars or other people. But I had 81 species and two hours of daylight left. Could I get to 90 species? I thought I had a chance.

After driving to another viewing area, I finally picked up a couple of Tundra Swans over in a grassy field. I turned back to the water and there was a Horned Grebe very close to me swimming away in nice breeding plumage. All was quiet as I watched the grebe swim away and then "Tu-Tu-Tu"! Bingo, Greater Yellowlegs, a very early bonus bird.

I walked the trail out to Willow Point knowing there wasn't much waterfowl left to get, but I still needed Gadwall. Out at the point I soon locked onto some very distant ducks. After walking to the edge of the water and fiddling with my scope I could make out the 4 birds: 3 wigeon and 1 Gadwall! It was just that kind of day. As I drove the tour

route, I noticed several more Eastern Meadowlarks. At stop 3 I finally got my kestrel, right where I expected one to be. I worked some thickets and finally pulled up a couple of Eastern Towhees and two bad looking feral cats. While driving around I caught a quick silhouette of a raptor that quickly flew into the forest. It looked like it could have possibly been a Red-shouldered Hawk. So I waited a few minutes hoping to see the bird again in hopes of getting a positive ID, but the bird was gone so I continued on my way. My final stop at dusk was to be Stop 3 (again) to wait for Northern Harrier and Short-eared Owl, which have been seen regularly at dusk working the fields. As I waited for it to get dark, I noticed that the sky looked very bizarre, in fact, one of the strangest skies I can remember seeing. It looked like a blanket of yarn that was starting to unravel. I could only think of the turbid sky over Los Angeles in the recent movie, "The Day After Tomorrow," right before all the tornados completely destroyed the city. As I split my time from watching the fields and the creepy sky, I heard my last bird of the day: a Ring-necked Pheasant. The bird called a few more times, and soon it became too dark to really see. The wind had picked up and I was cold. No harrier, no owl. Middle Creek was for a moment a very lonely place. Nonetheless, I felt extremely satisfied as I climbed into my van. My goal for the day was 80 species and I finished with 88. I didn't really think that 90 species was possible in March and obviously it is. One hundred species in March in PA is probably about the limit.

PENNSYLVANIA #2 -26 September 05- 0500 to 1900 - Species Totals 98/97; (Team/Shared): Billy Weber 98, Judy Weber 97. 100 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. Visiting: Gracedale (Northampton Co.), Green Pond (Northampton Co.), Monocacy Nature Center (Northampton Co.), Koch Wildlife Refuge (Northampton Co.), Nockamixon SP (Bucks Co.), Green Lane Res. (Montgomery Co.). Species of note: Eastern Screech-Owl (M), Barred Owl (M), Common Grackle (M).

PENNSYLVANIA #3 -11 December 05- 0430 to 1700 - Species Totals 70/69; (Team/Shared): Derek Stoner 70, Judy Montgomery 69, 190 Miles by car, 4 miles by foot. Visiting: Octorara Res., Muddy Run Res., Speedwell Forge Lake, Middle Creek WMA. Species of note: Lincoln's Sparrow (L), Red-winged Blackbird (M), Common Merganser (M), Field Sparrow (M).

Due to the fact that we would not be able to participate in any Christmas Counts in Pennsylvania this season, my co-worker Judy Montgomery and I decided to make a Big Day Run through Lancaster County. We decided to primarily bird in areas that are part of the Southern Lancaster County and Lititz Christmas Count circles, both excellent birding areas that I enjoy exploring during the winter.

We began our (early) morning at Octorara Reservoir, where the conditions were ripe for owling—cold, clear, and quiet. Canada Geese honked sporadically from the lake and an Eastern Screech-Owl announced his presence voluntarily, but no other owls could be coaxed into revealing themselves.

Reaching the Muddy Run Reservoir at 6:00 am, we were greeted with the booming calls of Great Horned Owls. As

dawn revealed itself, we scanned the huge expanse of open water on the reservoir. Tundra Swans, Buffleheads, and dozens of American Black Ducks could be seen along the edges, while a few Wood Ducks rocketed over our heads - always a nice surprise in December. A pair of adult Bald Eagles sitting side-by-side on a nearby power tower was an unexpected bonus. We could not relocate a Common Loon seen on the reservoir earlier in the week.

Down on the Susquehanna River, an incredible blanket of fog had reduced visibility to about 50 yards. Despite this limitation, we picked out a few Bonaparte's Gulls amongst the more common wintering gulls resting on a rocky outcrop. A short drive through the local fields and forests around Muddy Run padded our list nicely with the expected songbirds, as well as some nicer finds like Red-breasted Nuthatch, Hermit Thrush, and Brown Creeper.

Heading north through Lancaster County farm country, we found a cut cornfield with dozens of Horned Larks flying about, trying to scrounge up food from underneath a couple inches of snow. A male Rusty Blackbird feeding on kernels of corn was a great find. A quick stop at a small but productive farm stream gave us good looks at Wilson's Snipe, Killdeer, and Belted Kingfisher.

By mid-afternoon, we made it to Speedwell Forge Lake, which typically hosts good concentrations of waterfowl in December. Finding the whole place locked up in ice, we could only move on to Middle Creek Wildlife Area, where we hoped to finally rack up a few more duck species. Upon arriving at the large reservoir and finding it 99-percent frozen, we could easily scan through the birds concentrated in the remaining open water, which was the size of an Olympic swimming pool.

A tight knot of twenty-nine Northern Shovelers swam in a counter-clockwise circle trying to stir up food amongst the Tundra Swans and Canada Geese crowding the pool. Although we tried hard, we did not find any new duck species other than the shovelers. The Common Mergansers and other diving ducks had probably departed with the early freeze-up, or been pushed out to the rivers.

We decided to try a short walk through the fields behind the Middle Creek Visitor's Center, where we found the best bird of the day—a Lincoln's Sparrow. An unexpected find this late in the fall, the well-studied sparrow gave us great looks in the late afternoon sunlight. A Gray Catbird and Fox Sparrow in nearby hedgerows helped us pad our list of songbirds.

With dusk falling quickly, we decided to call it a day and look at our checklist. Finding a satisfying total of 70 species, we realized that our day had brought us a good variety of birds and we could be happy with such a total on a cold December day with ice covering most of the major bodies of water. Even a couple big misses like Red-winged Blackbird and Field Sparrow could not taint an excellent day afield—and we knew the Christmas Counters would have plenty of great birds around to count.

SOUTH CAROLINA -1 May 05- 0001 to 2100 - Species Totals 174/170; (Team/Shared): Robin Carter 173, Dennis Forsythe 173, Steve Calver 172. 530 Miles by car, 2 miles

by foot. Visiting: Lake Warren, Chester, Enoree WMA, Lynches Woods CP, Congaree NP, Orangeburg sod farms, Walterboro, Savannah NWR, Savannah spoil site. Species of note: American Wigeon (L), Pied-billed Grebe (M), Cattle Egret (M), American Coot (M), Piping Plover (R), Ruby-throated Hummingbird (M), Belted Kingfisher (M), House Wren (M), Cedar Waxwing (M).

Dennis Forsythe and I (Robin Carter) have been doing South Carolina Big Days together since 1986. We were joined this year by a new team-member, Steve Calver. Steve does shorebird surveys at the Corps of Engineers Savannah Spoil Site. He arranged access to this wonderful birding location for our 2005 spring Big Day. This is such a great spot that the strategy of the Big Day was to get whatever we could in the rest of the state but have at least three hours of time at the end of the day at the spoil site. We did just this. We did very well at the spoil site, but not enough of Steve's stakeouts at the spoil site came through for us to break the record of 179 species. We ended up with 174, good, but not good enough for a record.

The day before the 1 May Big Day I drove down to Charleston from Columbia to pick up Dennis at his house. Then we drove over to the Savannah NWR where we rendezvoused with Steve. Steve lives in Savannah, GA. His wife kindly dropped him off at the refuge so Dennis and I would not have to drive into the city.

The team assembled, we drove a few miles north, to Hampton, for a late supper / early breakfast before settling in, parked on the roadside by the great freshwater marsh at Lake Warren, our midnight starting spot.

Waiting for midnight at Lake Warren was miserable (due to the intermittent rain, heat, and humidity), but also wonderful, due to the great frog chorus there. Midnight finally came. All we heard over the frogs were a few Common Moorhens. No rails answered our calls or clapping. We left Lake Warren and drove over to a back road over the Coosawhatchie River. Here we got an Eastern Screech-Owl to answer after a few minutes of whistling an imitation of its call, but we heard nothing else except a few Chuck-will's-widows.

Our backup freshwater rail spot was the small marsh just west of Fairfax. Here we had better luck, getting answers from a couple of King Rails and a Sora. Then it was on

to the huge agricultural fields near Ulmer. Here we heard our only Whip-poor-will of the night. We stopped along US 301 where it crosses the Salkehatchie River and finally heard a Barred Owl and a Yellow-crowned Night-Heron.

After getting the Barred Owl we went into serious traveling mode. We followed U.S. Highway 301 north to Orangeburg, then picked up I-26 and I-77 for a two-hour drive to our pre-dawn spot in the Piedmont farmlands of northern Chester County. Here we easily heard our stakeout Barn Owls, but dipped on the other night birds we were hoping for. We did get Veery and Swainson's Thrushes by their call notes, but our usual Grasshopper Sparrow spots got us nothing. The sparrows were not singing in the wet, sometimes rainy, cool night.

At about 4:30 AM we found ourselves in the parking lot of the Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant on the south side of Chester. Here we heard the calls of our only

Northern Rough-winged Swallows of the day. We played the song of the Song Sparrow for about five seconds and immediately got a response from the stakeout Song Sparrow, here on the southern edge of its breeding range in South Carolina.

We hurried to our dawn spot at Enoree Waterfowl Management Area in Sumter NF in Newberry County. Here we got a number of stakeout species, such as Wild Turkey and Blue-headed Vireo, as well as a couple of migrants (Magnolia Warbler and Northern Waterthrush). Then it was on to our main warbler spot, Lynches Woods CP on the edge of the city of Newberry. Dennis and I managed to pick out a Grasshopper Sparrow in a pasture along the way, but Steve missed it. We got a fair number of migrants at Lynches Woods, and also a lingering Ruby-crowned Kinglet. We left Lynches Woods at about 9:00 AM and headed down the hill towards the Coast Plain.

When we left the Piedmont our list total was 92 species, but we did not know this.

We had decided to avoid totaling up the list until after the Big Day was over. This cuts down on the pressure, and cuts out a bit of that sinking feeling that we used to get at mid-day when it was becoming obvious that we would not break the record. After all, since we were going to the Savannah spoil site it did not really matter exactly how well we were doing. We knew we had a chance to break the record if the spoil site paid off.

Our next stop was Congaree National Park. Here we got our only ticks of the day for Prothonotary Warbler, Swainson's Warbler, and Kentucky Warbler. Then it was on to Calhoun County. We stopped near the courthouse in St. Matthews for our stakeout Eurasian Collared-Doves.

From St. Matthews we got on I-26 and drove to the Orangeburg sod farms. Here we found the usual Horned Larks, but we had already picked up this species in Calhoun County. At the adjacent industrial park we got two exclusives - Pectoral Sandpiper and Wilson's Snipe.

By the time we got to I-95 at about 1:00 PM our list total was 112 species, but we did not know this at the time. Our next stop was the new Great Swamp Nature Preserve near Walterboro. This was planned to be a backup spot for Neotropical migrants and also a stakeout for Hairy Woodpecker. It worked just as planned. In a few minutes we had found our only Hairy Woodpecker and Gray-cheeked Thrush of the day, as well as our only Little Blue Heron and Red-shouldered Hawk.

From Walterboro we drove through the great old-growth pine woods along Black Creek Road, picking up the expected Bachman's Sparrow and our only White-breasted Nuthatches of the day. Then it was back to I-95. We got our only Wood Stork of the day soaring over I-95 at Yemassee. But time was getting away from us. We got off the interstate and visited Dawson Creek Landing on the Coosawhatchie River. I had found a Bald Eagle there while scouting. Bingo. The eagle was in a pine tree about a mile south along the salt marsh. Thus buoyed by finding a

long shot we tried another one. About 10 years ago I had found Red-cockaded Woodpeckers in a bit of pine woods near Ridgeland. We drove slowly along the edge of these woods, listening. Stop! There it is! Sure enough the woodpeckers were still there, even though the habitat is now marginal at best.

From Ridgeland the original plan was to run over to the Port Royal Boardwalk Park to pick up salt-water species. Time was running out. We decided not to go all the way into Port Royal, but to stop at the Broad River estuary and tick off as many salt-water species as we could in a half hour. We got very lucky here and found a small group of Piping Plovers. Other exclusive species at our rather lame salt-water stop were Brown Pelican, Osprey, Black-bellied Plover, Whimbrel, Short-billed Dowitcher, Royal Tern and Forster's Tern. We missed Sanderling and Ruddy Turnstone.

We got to Savannah NWR at about 5:00 PM. Here we quickly picked up a few stakeouts (Purple Gallinule) and expected migrants (Yellow Warbler). We missed Cedar Waxwing and also American Coot, even though we had found these species there the day before and we found them there the next day. That's the way it is on a Big Day.

We got to the Savannah spoil area at about 5:30 PM or so, with a lot of daylight left for this great spot. We left my Honda Accord hybrid near the entrance and transferred to Steve's jeep for the bone-rattling drive over the rough dikes of the spoil site. When we got to the spoil site our total was 145 species (unknown to us at the time), which meant that we had to find 35 species to get to 180 and a new record — a lot, but possible, if Steve's stakeouts were findable.

We didn't quite make it. Too many stakeouts were not findable, but we did find a lot of good stuff at the spoil site. Here are the species that we only found at the spoil site: American Wigeon, Mottled Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Ruddy Duck, Northern Bobwhite, Least Bittern, Snowy Egret, Tricolored Heron, Green Heron, Black-crowned Night-Heron, White Ibis, Glossy Ibis, Merlin, Virginia Rail, Wilson's Plover, Black-necked Stilt, American Avocet, Spotted Sandpiper, Western Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, White-rumped Sandpiper, Stilt Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher, Wilson's Phalarope, Gull-billed Tern, Black Skimmer, Great Horned Owl and Marsh Wren.

We left the spoil site at about 9:00 PM. The Big Day was over, another good effort that did not break the record. Steve went home. Dennis and I headed for a motel in Hardeeville.

The next day, on the way home, Dennis and I found four species that we missed on the Big Day — Cattle Egret, American Coot, Marbled Godwit, and Cedar Waxwing. Wait till next year!

TEXAS -30 October 05- 0345 to 2100 - Species Totals 176/173; (Team/Shared): Brad Lirette 173, Ron Weeks 176. 415 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. Visiting: Choke Canyon SP, Victoria area, Bay City area, San Bernard NWR, Quintana/Surfside, Follet's Island, and San Luis Pass. Species of note: Greater White-fronted Goose (M), Black-necked Stilt (M), Pileated Woodpecker (M), Winter

Wren (S), Wilson's Warbler (M), Palm Warbler (M), Green-tailed Towhee (S).

This marks the 6th time we have run this route and 3rd try for October (5th for Ron). On October 30, 2005, we started our much-anticipated Big Day in search of owls at 3:45 AM. We easily found Barred, Great Horned, and Eastern-Screech Owls in Live Oak County, and then quickly headed off to McMullen County in search of Common Pauraque and Common Poorwill. No luck on the Poorwill, but a calling Common Pauraque was a welcome addition.

We then headed into the Calliham unit of Choke Canyon SP for Barn Owl, which was found with considerable searching. We then headed over to our starting point to wait for dawn and ducks. As suspected, our starting point at 75-acre lake was not as good as in the past due to the SE wind the previous night. We did manage a few species including Sandhill Crane, Marsh Wren, and Black-bellied Whistling-Duck.

We then headed to the dump station where we were able to get Golden-crowned Kinglet, Audubon's Oriole, Great Kiskadee, Olive Sparrow, and Green Jay among others. We then headed to a different spot on the reservoir, and hit the jackpot with Canvasback, Ring-necked Duck, American Wigeon, Blue-winged Teal, Mottled Duck, and Least Grebe.

Buoyed by our early success, we headed to the boat launch where we picked up Lincoln's Sparrow, Harris' Hawk, and Wild Turkey. As we exited the Calliham unit, Ron spied a Yellow-headed Blackbird feeding in a large blackbird flock. Our next stop was the brush country along HWY 72 where we quickly picked up Cactus Wren, Curve-billed Thrasher, Black-throated Sparrow, Pyrrhuloxia, White-crowned Sparrow, and Green-tailed Towhee.

We then headed over to the South Shore unit of Choke Canyon SP where we were able to locate Green-winged Teal, Wilson's Snipe, Spotted Sandpiper, Green Kingfisher, Vermilion Flycatcher, and Nashville Warbler.

We left South Shore and the Choke Canyon area 20 minutes ahead of schedule and with around 93 species of birds. Our route then took us back towards HWY 59. On the way we found Lark Sparrow, Eastern Bluebird, Field Sparrow, and a small flock of Lesser Goldfinches.

At a private residence near Victoria, we were able to pick up Winter Wren, Buff-bellied Hummingbird, White-throated Sparrow, Downy Woodpecker, and Inca Dove. We then cruised to Matagorda County where we visited another private residence for our staked Pine Warbler. We then continued to a private ranch near Bay City where we found Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Long-billed Dowitcher, and Wood Duck.

At San Bernard NWR we found a soaring Bald Eagle, Boat-tailed Grackle, Peregrine Falcon, Gull-billed Tern, King Rail, and an Osprey. As we exited the refuge we spied a White-tailed Kite, a nemesis bird that we had always missed on previous attempts. We then cruised to Peach Point to find Gray Catbird.

By this time we had used up our extra time, and headed to Freeport in desperate need of shorebirds, gulls, and terns. At the Freeport Storm Levee, we found Lesser Scaup and Marbled Godwit. Our attempt to drive straight to Bryan Beach was thwarted by soft sand, so we headed to a different entrance point where we were able to access the beach without getting the car stuck. On the beach, we picked up Piping Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, and Ring-billed Gull. After walking out towards a previously productive sand flat, things looked bleak. The plovers were nowhere to be found, but just as we were turning to go, a Semipalmated Plover caught my eye. Upon closer inspection, there were at least 8 birds together, and very near them were many Snowy Plovers. We then headed over to a different spot and were able to find Short-billed Dowitcher. We then headed to Quintana Neotropical Bird Sanctuary (NBS) and Xeriscape Park. At NBS, we found Brown Thrasher, Indigo Bunting, Chipping Sparrow, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, and White-winged Dove.

We left Quintana, and passed through Freeport to find Monk Parakeet and Eurasian Collared-Dove. We then traveled down to Bluewater Highway to San Luis Pass. Along the way we found Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow, and Clapper Rail. We were down to our last 45 minutes of daylight, and missing several key birds. We drove down Bluewater Highway unsure of our total, and needing to clean up some potentially huge misses.

Lady Luck and Ron's expert scouting pulled us through as we collected Long-billed Curlew, Reddish Egret, and Roseate Spoonbill. We then crossed over to San Luis Pass where we found Royal Tern, Black Skimmer, Herring Gull, Sandwich Tern, and Common Tern. We then rolled back to Follet's Island and located a Seaside Sparrow just as the last remnant of visible light was fading over the horizon. After dark, we stopped for some food and hit a local freshwater marsh to find Sora and Virginia Rail. We then counted up the species and realized that we needed two birds to tie the North American record. After several failed attempts to locate any additional species, we called it a night and returned back home for a much needed shower and some rest.

VERMONT -26 March 05- 0530 to 1545 - Species Totals 48/47; (Team/Shared): Allan Strong 48, Ted Murin 47, Dick Parks 47. 131 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: Champlain Valley from Burlington to Dead Creek WMA. Species of Note: None.

Although at one time there seemed to be a count for Vermont's March spot, it disappeared a few years back. After filling in the blanks for January and February, we decided to take advantage of the lack of action in March and throw a number up on the board. Unfortunately commitments prevented us from birding at the end of the month when an actual lasting record might be set. So, we were forced to settle for the 13th, which didn't provide any help in the way of early migrant passerines. We ended up with an average, maybe even below average day of birding, but perhaps we'll take another crack at it next year.

VIRGINIA #1 -30 March 05- 0900 to 2000 - Species Totals 89/89; (Team/Shared): Terrie Woodrow 89. 18 Miles by

car, 6 miles by foot. Visiting: Chincoteague Island, Town of Chincoteague and causeway, Chincoteague NWR. Species of note: none.

VIRGINIA #2 -01 April 05- 0900 to 2030 - Species Totals 94/94; (Team/Shared): Terrie Woodrow 94. 21 Miles by car, 6 miles by foot. Visiting: Chincoteague Island and causeway, Town of Chincoteague, Chincoteague NWR. Species of note: none.

VIRGINIA #3 -07 May 05- 0015 to 2315 - Species Totals 178/170; (Team/Shared): Marc Ribaldo 173, Kurt Gaskill 177, Jay Keller 175, Richard Rieger 174. 550 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: Prince William Co. (Julie Metz Wetlands, North Fork Wetlands, Cedar Run Wetlands, Nokesville, Cockpit Pt, Leesylvania SP, Occoquan Bay NWR), Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel, Chincoteague NWR. Species of note: Cattle Egret (M), Piping Plover (M), Black-bellied Plover (M), Least Tern (M), Black-billed Cuckoo (R), Barn Owl (R), Eastern Wood-Pewee (M), Red-breasted Nuthatch (L), Brown-headed Nuthatch (M), Swainson's Thrush (M), Cerulean Warbler (R).

The idea for a Virginia Big Day had been kicking around in our minds for a while. Prince William Co. in northern Virginia offers a good combination of wetlands, farmland, woods, and open water in rather close proximity. Over the years, we routinely had mornings in early May with between 110 and 130 species, without the benefit of shorebirds, long-legged waders, or ducks. Would it be possible to use the traditionally slow time in early afternoon to drive the 3 hours to the coast to come up with a really big list? We decided to give it a try, using our knowledge of the hot spots in Prince William Co. to piece together a morning route without the benefit of intense scouting, and then hightailing it to the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel near Norfolk and ending up in Chincoteague NWR. Our goal was to get to Chincoteague before the Wildlife Drive closed to vehicles, about 6:30 p.m. Success depended on a reasonable number of migrants and a problem-free drive to the Bridge-Tunnel.

We met at Kurt's house in Alexandria around midnight. An unusually later northeaster had passed through the day before leaving behind a cold, north wind, so we did not expect a great flight night. However, the sky was clear and the predicted strong winds had not materialized. We left our rendezvous a bit past midnight and headed a short distance to Dyke Marsh (Fairfax Co.). Here we were met by the sound of cars on the George Washington Parkway, but no birds. We then drove to Tyson's Corner and the traditional Common Nighthawk spot. The building lights were out, but we found Common Nighthawk over a nearby parking lot. Motoring on to Prince William Co., we headed for Neabsco Creek on the east side of Julie Metz Wetlands, where we heard a King Rail as we got out of the car. Nothing else, so we went to the Metz parking lot and managed a brief call from a Least Bittern, plus a distant Barred Owl. To our delight, an Eastern Screech-Owl whinnied as we got back into the car. We then headed to Joplin Road that bisects Prince William Forest Park. Here two of us heard a distant Whip-poor-will.

Continuing on, we stopped along Parkgate Road in Nokesville hoping for Bobolink. Nope, just a few Northern Mockingbirds. A little further on we stopped and

quickly heard a Black-billed Cuckoo. Then we heard a peculiar insect-like noise that went on and on. We were trying to figure it out when we heard the scream of a Barn Owl and Rich caught the bird going into a silo, backlit by the lights of Manassas. The unidentified noise, which cut off when the owl entered the silo, was apparently the begging calls of young owls. Sweet!

We next headed to North Fork Wetlands. Here we heard Virginia Rail and Sora, another Barred Owl, a Wild Turkey, and Great Horned Owl. It was just past 3:00 a.m. and we had finished off the freshwater rails and all the owls. Great! We sped back to Nokesville and went to our Grasshopper Sparrow spot, picking up the target bird plus American Woodcock. The next stop was Cedar Run Wetlands, which added Wood Duck, Wilson's Snipe, and Swamp Sparrow. A nearby stop added Louisiana Waterthrush, White-throated Sparrow, plus common edge birds as the sky started to lighten. We headed to another spot for Eastern Meadowlark, then back to Parkgate Road, where we picked up American Kestrel, several dozen Bobolinks, plus a White-crowned Sparrow at a feeder. Pre-dawn was now over and off we sped to a critical spot, Possum Pt./Cockpit Pt. in Dumfries.

A good omen was a Northern Harrier flying over Route 1. Arriving at about 6:30 a.m., we had a fantastic three hours tallying migrants and breeders. We added over 90 species to our list. Highlights were Lesser Scaup, Bald Eagle, Osprey, Solitary and Spotted Sandpiper, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, an amazing Red-breasted Nuthatch, Veery, Warbling Vireo, Scarlet and Summer Tanager, Baltimore and Orchard Oriole, Blue and Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and 23 species of warbler, including Nashville, Cerulean, Wilson's, and over 100 Yellow-rumped.

We then headed to nearby Leesylvania SP where we added Ruddy Duck, Black and Turkey Vultures, Purple Martin, and Chipping Sparrow. Our second stop at Metz Wetlands added Red-shouldered Hawk, both yellowlegs, and Forster's Tern, and we were treated to the fantastic sight of hundreds of Chimney Swifts swirling over the marsh. Our next stop was the Occoquan River, where we found Common Merganser, Belted Kingfisher, Caspian Tern, and Broad-winged Hawk. Nearby Occoquan Bay NWR added Prothonotary Warbler and Cooper's Hawk.

It was now 12:15 p.m. Our morning was over and after we gassed up, we headed to I-95 for our run to the coast. We had 133 species and we were feeling pretty good. However, traffic reared its ugly head and gave us a good slap in the face. Congestion and accidents on the route between Woodbridge and Hampton added almost an hour to our planned travel time. Disaster? Not quite. While stuck in traffic before the Hampton Road tunnel, we were able to add Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, Green Heron, Common Tern, and Cedar Waxwing. We finally made the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel toll station at about 4:00 p.m. We had about 4 hours of daylight left, but only 2.5 to make the Wildlife Drive, which was about 70 miles away.

We stopped at islands 1, 3, and 4 of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel. We quickly found Common Loon, Great Cormorant, Northern Gannet, Brown Pelican, Black Scoter, American Oystercatcher, Pectoral Sandpiper, Purple Sandpiper, Ruddy Turnstone, Bonaparte's Gull, and

Royal Tern. Fisherman Island netted Boat-tailed Grackle. At the scenic overlook were many Red-breasted Mergansers.

We went to Ramp Road on the eastern shore of Virginia NWR and found Gadwall, Northern Bobwhite, and Pine Warbler. After leaving the refuge and heading north, we lucked into a Horned Lark flying alongside the car. The late time and high tides forced us to skip our large shorebird spot at Oyster and to hope for the best at Willis Wharf. High tides had covered the flats, but a single Marbled Godwit mixed in with dozens of Willets was still hanging around in the flooded marsh. What a break!

We continued our dash north and finally reached the causeway to Chincoteague. Frantic action. Tricolored Heron, Little Blue Heron, Glossy Ibis, Clapper Rail, buckets of Whimbrel, Black Skimmer, Seaside Sparrow, Short-billed Dowitcher, Semipalmated Plover, Black-necked Stilt, and Dunlin were added to the list. And then our final piece of luck; the Wildlife Drive in Chincoteague NWR was still open despite it being 6:45 p.m. Black-crowned Night-Heron, American Wigeon, Northern Shoveler, Green-winged Teal, and Marsh Wren were tallied. We headed for Tom's Cove and passed a Chuck-will's-widow calling at 7:50 p.m. We had nothing new at the Cove. We looked over the surf, which was quite heavy and awe-inspiring, and again had nothing new. The light finally failed us and we took our first real break and stopped for dinner.

We finished dinner around 10:00 p.m. There were still two hours left in the day, so we headed to Saxis Marsh to try for Black Rail and Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow. Lots of Virginia Rails and a few Seaside Sparrows and Marsh Wrens were calling, but nothing new. At 11:15 p.m., we called it quits.

Given the weather, generally late migration, and the traffic problems, we were extremely pleased with our results. It was a great day. But it could have been better. We are convinced the time lost in transit cost us a number of species at Chincoteague we easily found the next morning, including Cattle Egret, Black-bellied Plover, Piping Plover, Least Tern, and Brown-headed Nuthatch. The generally late migration hurt us in terms of thrushes and flycatchers, and maybe a few more species of warblers.

WASHINGTON #1 (Kitsap Co.) -5 February 05- 0500 to 1700 - Species Totals 112/112; (Team/Shared): George Gerdts 112, Brad Waggoner 112, Eugene Hunn 112, Jamie Acker 112. 65 Miles by car, 3 miles by foot. Visiting: Restoration Point on Bainbridge Island, Manzanita Road on Bainbridge Island, Liberty Bay in Poulsbo, Chico Creek Estuary, Island Lake, Kitsap Lake. Species of note: Barn Swallow (E).

While perusing the 2005 Big Day and List Report, I (George Gerdts) noticed that Big Day records for Washington State for several of the late fall and early winter months seemed reasonably attainable. Thus, an idea was born. Four of us (George Gerdts - recorder, Eugene Hunn, Brad Waggoner, and Jamie Acker) would try for the Washington State January Big Day record of 105 species. Our chosen date was to be the first Saturday in January, the 8th. Weather is a critical component of any Big Day attempt, so when January 8 dawned with hard rain and a strong southwest wind with little or no improvement promised the rest of the day, we canceled

our attempt and set our sights instead on February 5, the first Saturday in February. The February record of 104 seemed equally attainable, yet some of our confidence was eroded when we realized how fickle the weather could be. Bolstering our hopes, though, was the knowledge that we had to find one less species to break the record, and February 5th had one hour and 6 minutes more daylight than January 8 in which to attempt it. Needless to say, the weather and the birds were extremely cooperative on February 5, especially the owls recorded before dawn and the Western Scrub-Jays that were seen by all shortly before sunset at 5 PM, bringing our total number of species seen to 112!

Our early morning owling effort was fantastic. Hours and hours of owling Bainbridge Island over many years by Jamie Acker paid off handsomely as we tallied five species of owls. It is often difficult to actually see owls and one must usually be happy with "heard-only" experiences. However, the Barn Owl was the only owl we did not see. It was especially nice to observe and then hear a pair of Great Horned Owls dueting!

A stop at Brad Waggoner's house prior to our Restoration Point survey yielded Wood Duck, Varied Thrush, and White-throated Sparrow. We were fortunate to see the sparrow as we were almost ready to give up on the sparrow so as not to fall behind "schedule". But two frenetic minutes of searching produced the bird and we happily headed to Restoration Point at the south end of Bainbridge Island at 8 AM.

Enroute to Restoration Point, a fly-over Common Raven near the head of Blakely Harbor was a welcome sighting. Ravens in Kitsap Co. are not always easy birds to find. Walking Restoration Point was productive as always, with Marbled Murrelet, Virginia Rail, Anna's Hummingbird, and Lincoln's Sparrow as the highlights.

At 11 AM, we left Restoration Point and commenced a rapid sampling of a number of Bainbridge Island venues for some carefully selected target birds. A few birds that cooperated during our travels included: Sharp-shinned Hawk, Red Crossbills, and Red-breasted Sapsucker near Toe Jam Hill, a Merlin in the Weaver Road neighborhood, and a Greater White-fronted Goose at the Wing Point Golf Course. Three of our Bainbridge Island stops were especially successful. Murden Cove gave us Spotted Sandpiper, Greater Yellowlegs, and Northern Pintail. A visit to Lee and Kirk Robinson's place on Timberland Road was so successful it almost seemed choreographed! In a tree above the feeders were Band-tailed Pigeons and the "birdy" woods to the east of their property yielded Brown Creeper and Hutton's Vireo. Our last Bainbridge Island stop was at the Manzanita Bay Road End. We not only saw our Eared Grebe and Long-tailed Duck "targets", but we also recorded a male Hairy Woodpecker and a male Townsend's Warbler in the area. We couldn't resist doing a little "bird watching" here as we got great scope looks at a Sharpie plucking away at a freshly killed House Finch. Leaving Bainbridge Island at 2 PM, we "ticked off" species number 95 with a most obliging, "staked out" Peregrine Falcon perched on top of the tower near the Agate Pass bridge.

Poulsbo and the vicinity surrounding Liberty Bay yielded our hoped-for Ruddy Duck along with both scaup species, but we were unable to locate a Canvasback, a species seen in Liberty

Bay regularly, albeit in very low numbers. Sharp-eyed Brad Waggoner spotted our biggest surprise bird of the day. Flying characteristic loop-the-loops over Poulsbo just north of the Marine Science Center were three Barn Swallows—amazing for the 5th of February. Barn Swallows don't normally arrive in Washington in any numbers until the 1st of April, although in recent winters there have been more reports of Barn Swallows "out of season". Two American Dippers were near the entrance bridge at Valley Nursery, and Wilson's Snipe and Marsh Wren cooperated along Stottlemeyer Road. Virginia Loop's continuing Ross's Goose along with a Downy Woodpecker across the street, brought us to 104 species for the day, tying the record. Island Lake north of Silverdale put us over the top with American Coot and Pied-billed Grebe.

At about 3:45 PM, we checked for Semipalmated Plover near Old Mill Park in Silverdale, but we were unable to find one. The Chico Creek Estuary yielded Gadwall, Black-bellied Plover, Dunlin, and Least Sandpiper. Prior to seeing the Western Scrub-Jay in East Bremerton, a Ring-necked Duck at Kitsap Lake brought our total to 111 species! At Kitsap Lake, the weather finally turned, as a light rain started to fall. We were so fortunate to have had the rain hold off until the end of the day. Without good weather, the logistics of Big Day birding simply does not work.

As with any Big Day attempt, there are going to be a few common birds that elude even the most ardent searchers. We missed Cooper's Hawk, Sanderling, Ring-necked Pheasant, Hermit Thrush, Bushtit, and Yellow-rumped Warbler. The Bushtit was particularly frustrating as we thought we heard some Bushtit calls at a few stops, but we were not able to find the birds. Oh well, it's always best to leave a few for another day.

All in all, it was quite an enjoyable day with some great birding companions. We didn't travel very far (only 65 miles) and we were able to find all of our species within a single county, Kitsap County. Having set the new standard for a Big Day in February in Washington State, we hope our efforts will spur some more friendly competition with other birding groups in other sections of Washington who want to enjoy a day of intense birding without the logistical nightmare of mounting a state-wide assault on the likes of the May record (201 species).

As I write this account, we are hoping for good weather for our 2006 attempt to break the record of 104 species recorded in Washington State in January.

WASHINGTON #2 (Wahkiakum Co.) -14 May 05- 0545 to 2100 - Species Totals 121/121; (Team/Shared): John F. Gatchet 121, Mike Denny 121. 113 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. Visiting: Cathlamet, Puget Island, Julia Butter Hansen NWR, Skamokawa, Grays River, Altoona, Elochoman Valley. Species of note: Barred Owl (R), Western Kingbird (V), Townsend's Solitaire (R), Yellow-breasted Chat (V).

I (John Gatchet) was doing a Big Year in Wahkiakum County and needed a partner for a Big Day that would allow me to boost my list and utilize my to-date exploration experience. Mike Denny was willing to come from distant Walla Walla, Washington as he wanted to enjoy some of the birding spots I had been telling him about in the state's smallest county. We had a great day of

birding in this area that is not known for species diversity, but rather the exploration of Lewis and Clark. It was one of those perfect days as far as timing because there were 25 species that we found only once on the route. It would be extremely difficult to match this total, as we located some difficult to find species such as California Quail, Rock Pigeon, and the afore-mentioned species of note.

WEST VIRGINIA #1 -26 March 05- 0830 to 1655 - Species Totals 61/61; (Team/Shared): Terrie Woodrow 61. 223 Miles by car, 0.5 miles by foot. Visiting: Morgantown, Monongahela NF. Species of note: none.

WEST VIRGINIA #2 -10 May 05- 0300 to 2315 - Species Totals 132/131; (Team/Shared): John Blomberg 131, Matt

Orsie 132, John Tharp II 132. 452 Miles by car, 2 miles by foot. Visiting: Canaan Valley NWR, Blackwater Falls SP, Cheat Mountain, Stonewall Jackson Lake, Greenbottom WMA, Robert C. Byrd Lock and Dam, McClintic WMA, Parkersburg area. Species of note: Black Crowned Night Heron (R,S), Black Vulture (M), Ring necked Duck (L), Brown Creeper (M), Alder Flycatcher (E), Louisiana Waterthrush (M).

WYOMING -06 October 05- 0500 to 2030 - Species Totals 76/76; (Team/Shared): David Simpson 76. 250 Miles by car, one mile by foot. Visiting: Mt. Jelms, Pole Mountain (Medicine Bow NF), Lake Hutton NWR, Laramie area. Species of note: none.

2005 INTERNATIONAL BIG DAYS

ARGENTINA -6 December 05- 0630 to 1830 - Species Totals 120/120; (Team/Shared): Francis Toldi 120, John Toldi 120. 507 Kilometers by car, 7 kilometers by foot. Visiting: Iquazu NP, roadside Highways 12, 105, 14, Road 40, Esteros del Ibera. Species of note: Chilean Flamingo, Ochre-breasted Pipit, Chestnut Seedeater, Blackish Blue Seedeater.

This was another "accidental" Big Day. We were on a birding trip in Argentina and realized at the end of the day that we had a fairly high total for Argentina. It is highly likely that we saw or heard a number of other common species, but simply didn't happen to make note of them in our field notes for the day. Certainly with a little planning and intention, we could have added another 25 species or so.

I am mainly submitting this for the record, and with the hope that it stimulates some local Argentine birders to run this route, or one similar to it. With greater skill (especially of local bird vocalizations) and better knowledge of precise locations for harder-to-find species, this total could be greatly increased, perhaps doubled. It is a nice route, which covers at least two totally different habitats and the possibility for additional species at quick stops along the way. The driving is all on good roads, except for the very end where a 4-WD would be helpful and could result in an additional 10-15 species. The long stretch of highway between the two major locations can easily be covered in the warm part of the afternoon when bird activity is minimal anyway.

ARUBA -12 March 05- 0645 to 1845 - Species Totals 72/72; (Team/Shared): Steven Mlodinow 72. 44 Kilometers by car, 5 kilometers by foot. Visiting: Bubali Marsh, Malmax, California Lighthouse, Tierra del Sol Golf Course. Species of note: none.

Having arrived in Aruba the previous afternoon, my wife and I followed what had become tradition and met our first sunrise at Bubali, checking out the first the small sewage treatment pond, which was full of sleepy-eyed White-cheeked Pintail and Blue-winged Teal. We then drove to the far corner of the marsh (which takes all of 3-4 minutes) and climbed up the observation platform. From the top, you can survey the entire marsh, which unfortunately is now most covered by cattails and a kind of water-lettuce type plant. The one area of open water is fairly distant. A few moorhens poked around the edges desultorily. A Pied-billed Grebe with two mostly full-grown

young popped up and down. We could see the huge Neotropic Cormorant roosting area, which included a few Great and Cattle Egrets. Several of the cormorants appeared to be sitting on nests and one of the Great Egrets looked to be a juvenile. A new cut through the trees bordering the pond revealed a small group of fishing Snowy Egrets and Tricolored Herons. One of the Snowies, however, wasn't a Snowy - it was a Little Egret with two long head plumes blowing about in the wind. We'd found one of these Old World herons at Tierra del Sol Golf Course two years ago for a first ABC (Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao) record, and quite possibly, this was the same individual.

With that fine rarity under our belts, we headed off to walk the trees that border Bubali's west side. Again, the Golden (Yellow) Warbler and Northern Waterthrush numbers were stunning: 140 of the former and 35 of the latter. And as previously, the Golden Warblers went nuts over pishing, flitting over our heads, chipping loudly, chasing each other about, and often coming within 5-10 feet. Among them, as previously, was a scattering of neotropical migrants (beyond the waterthrushes). This year there seemed to be more. Actually, there seemed to be more of almost everything. They'd had a very wet December and January. Dragonflies formed swirling swarms, butterflies flopped about hither and yon, the countryside was greener, and there were more wet spots. Better yet, there were no more mosquitoes. It was horrid for the mid-winter tourist trade, great for us. We reaped the benefits. The first "neotrop" was a Northern Parula. Interestingly, when Voous' *Birds of Netherlands Antilles* was published in 1983, there were only 10 records from the ABC Islands and none from Aruba. Regular visits by myself and Jeff Wells, North American birders not afraid to pish, revealed that Northern Parulas are not rare, which is particularly odd since they're vagrants in Venezuela, Trinidad and Tobago, and the southern Lesser Antilles. So, why are they in Aruba?

The next neotrop vagrant was an island 4th for Aruba and the first for us: a glorious citron yellow, blue-gray, and white Prothonotary Warbler. By morning's end, we'd seen FIVE more. And so the morning went. Partly cloudy skies, a moderate breeze, no biting insects, and dozens of Golden Warblers, Bananaquits, Northern Waterthrushes, plus a few endlessly charming and often-loud Caribbean Parakeets. There was also a Groove-billed Ani or two, a few Tropical

Mockingbirds, plus numerous “vagrants”: four Northern Parulas, three Chestnut-sided Warblers (two previous Aruba records), two Cape May Warblers (three previous Aruba records), an Ovenbird, a Louisiana Waterthrush (two previous Aruba records), TEN Common Yellowthroats, and an American Redstart. Almost all were extremely cooperative.

We continued up-coast to the Malmok area. One of the wrecked ships has drifted close to shore and is not much used for a roost anymore. The “German Wreck”, barely visible, lies where the highway splits - one part headed towards Tierra del Sol Golf Course and another towards California Lighthouse. An adult Brown Booby was roosting on a small pyramid of rusting metal protruding from the azure sea. As we watched, another booby flew in. We’d already identified it, when it developed a furious itch, causing it to scratch vigorously exposing bright orange feet: an immature Red-footed Booby. We then looked at the salt pans across the street. Not much except an early Collared Plover (though at sunset the previous night, it had been packed with yellowlegs).

We continued our way up the leeward coast to California Lighthouse (we have no idea how a lighthouse at the northern tip of Aruba was named “California”). Usually, low-lying fingers of limestone sticking into the sea here provide great roosts for terns, but beyond the usual scattering of Royals, we saw just four Cayenne/Sandwich Terns (one Cayenne, two Sandwich, one with mixed features), and we saw those on only that day.

We ended day one at that magical place, the Tierra del Sol Golf Course. Over our last two visits, this spot provided the ABC’s first Little Egret and Red-breasted Blackbird, nesting Southern Lapwing, Aruba’s first and second records of Green-winged Teal, and the third record of Northern Pintail. As in 2004, our descent to the pond was greeted by a pair of agitated Southern Lapwings; not as hysterical as last year, but clearly agitated. We suspect that, since we were two weeks later than last year, there were no young out but just a nest. Another plover also vigorously performed distraction displays - a Killdeer - a rare breeder on the ABCs. The Killdeer chick, tiny as a cottonball, was pretty easy to find. Surveying the small pond, we saw hundreds of yellowlegs (probably many of the same birds that had been at the nearby Malmok flats the previous night), a few Stilt Sandpipers, many Black-necked Stilts, and Blue-winged Teal. Many species showed evidence of breeding: at least a couple Caribbean Coot chicks, many Common Moorhen chicks/nearly full-grown immatures, several broods of Pied-billed Grebes ranging from full-size to half-size, and a couple of broods of White-cheeked Pintail, including a group of 10 fluffballs. Though there were some egrets about, the Snowy Egret rookery on the pond’s far side was unoccupied. Hundreds of Neotropical Cormorants stood about on giant elephant-gray boulders, wings outstretched, uttering a continuous stream of piggy grunts. On the back edge, hanging with the teal and pintail, was a Lesser Scaup and two Ring-necked Ducks, the latter a first for Aruba. As I was filming them, my camera flashed a red warning: EJECT TAPE. Well, the tape wouldn’t eject. I was standing merely 100 yards from where my Panasonic had died two years ago. Another videocam was D.O.A at Tierra del Sol Golf Course, clearly the Bermuda Triangle for these instruments. At least my Panasonic had the politeness to die on the last day, not the

first. And as had happened that first time, a mega appeared immediately after the camera died: A Limpkin, Aruba’s second. Of course, it gave great views. Our final rarity was American Coot, two adults this year. It is not clear how rare these are on the ABCs as Voous chose to essentially lump American with Caribbean Coot. He may, in the end, be taxonomically correct, but even as a subspecies, they’re worth tracking.

BAHAMAS -24 January 01- 0715 to 1700 - Species Totals 80/80; (Team/Shared): Steven Mlodinow 80. 98 Kilometers by car, 5 kilometers by foot. Visiting: Nicholls Town, San Andros Airport, Lowe Sound, Lighthouse Marina. Species of note: none.

BHUTAN -22 February 05- 0630 to 1800 - Species Totals 96/92; (Team/Shared): Gail Mackiernan 94, Peter Clement 94, Barry Cooper 93, Rosemary Jagus 93, Anthony Quinn 92, Hishey Tshering 92. 50 Kilometers by car. Visiting: Shemgang Camp, road above Shemgang, Tingtibi. Species of note: Rufous-necked Hornbill (E), Pin-tailed Green Pigeon, Firetailed Myzornis, Cutia.

This was not a formal Big Day, but a representative, productive day in the southern mountain and subtropical Sal forests of this beautiful country. We were greeted at dawn by a huge bird flock moving through our campsite, as well as visits by the endangered Golden Langur monkey. The middle of the day was spent on highland roads above Shemgang, searching (unsuccessfully) for Beautiful Nuthatch, but rewarded with many other species. In the late afternoon, a drive into the controlled area below Tingtibi (near the Indian border) yielded species not encountered elsewhere.

One exciting thing about birding in the virtually untouched forests of Bhutan is the large number of individuals seen of most species, e.g., 50 White-crested Laughingthrushes together, a flock of 30 Gray-headed Parrotbills, and 10 Cutias in one tree! A focused Big Day could easily break the 100 species mark.

GREECE -28 September 05- 0715 to 1730 - Species Totals 77/76; (Team/Shared): Pat Ward 76, Ken Ward 77). 276 Kilometers by car, 2.5 kilometers by foot. Visiting: Aegean Sea, Tow River basins, coast, several marshes, two fields near our hotel near Thessa/Onica. Species of note: 11 raptors, 11 shorebirds, 21 waterbirds.

IVORY COAST -27 December 00- 0600 to 1800 - Species Totals 73/73; (Team/Shared): Terry Witt 73, N.K. Borrow 73. 80 Kilometers by car, 7 kilometers by foot. Visiting: Comor NP. Species of note: Forbes Plover, Four-banded Sandgrouse, White-fronted Black Chat, Baka Indigobird, Togo Paradise-Whydah, Brown-rumped Bunting.

This was not a true Big Day effort, but a fine day of birding in this remote West African park. The best sighting of the day was an enormous Nile Crocodile that had just finished ingesting an entire subadult Hippopotamus!

QATAR - 8 November 05- 0600 to 1600 - Species Totals 43/43; (Team/Shared): Bruce Halladay 43, Ian Halladay 43. 70 Kilometers by car, 2 kilometers by foot. Visiting: Al Khor, Al Dhakira, The Corniche at Doha, Al Wakra. Species of note: none.

ABA CHAMPION TOP TEN BIG DAYS CANADIAN PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES

EXPLANATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING TABLE:

2005 Target Total = the average of the three highest Big Day totals for each state up to the end of 2005.

Totals have been adjusted in some cases to reflect the 95% rule.

ALBERTA (2005 Target Total=167)

178	31-May-01	T. Palath, P. Pratt, T. Hince
163	24-May-96	B.Elder, B.Maybank, B.Storms
163	30-May-04	Y.Attia, J.Allair, P.Bulman
160	29-May-00	B.Carroll, B.Ritchie, T.Thormin
156	27-May-98	B.Carroll, B.Ritchie, P.Marklevitz, T.Thormin
156	28-May-99	B.Carroll, B.Ritchie, P.Marklevitz
155	27-May-95	R.Carroll, B.Ritchie, R.Chabayeo
153	24-May-98	B.Elder, B.Storms, C.Scialfa
150	1-Jun-95	B.Elder, M.Harrison, B.Storms
150	15-Jul-96	T.R.Kemp, M.Kemp
150	29-May-99	B.Elder, C.Scialfa

BRITISH COLUMBIA (2005 Target Total=187.7)

196	23-May-95	R.Cannings, B.Maybank, A.Jaramillo, T.Plath
187	23-May-98	T.Plath, K.McPherson, M.Force, D.Tyson
180	12-May-97	T.Plath, M.Bentley
177	21-May-86	R.Cannings, M.Force
174	21-May-95	R.Cannings, B.Maybank, A.Jaramillo, G.Sirk (Okanagan)
168	19-May-96	R.Cannings, Russell Cannings, B.Maybank, F.Cooke, M.Force (Okanagan)
167	22-May-88	R.Cannings, M.Gebauer, X.Lambin, L.Rockwell (Okanagan)
164	26-May-85	R.Cannings, R.Howie, M.Collins (Okanagan)
163	29-Apr-02	T. Plath, J. Osterhold, D. Knopp
163	21-May-00	R.Cannings, A.Bezener, L.Neish, R.Foxall

MANITOBA (2005 Target Total=200.3)

205	23-May-87	R.F.Koes, G.Grieff, R.Tkachuk, G.Holland
202	1-Jun-04	K.DeSmet, A. Walley
198	21-May-88	R.F.Koes, D.Fast, P.Taylor, G.Holland
198	21-May-94	R.F.Koes, D.Fast, G.Grieff, P.Taylor
198	28-May-94	R.F.Koes, G.Grieff, P.Taylor, R.Tkachuk
196	27-May-89	R.F.Koes, D.Fast, G.Grieff, P.Taylor
195	23-May-98	R.F.Koes, D.Fast, G.Grieff, P.Taylor
194	29-May-82	D.Fast, P.Taylor, H.Lane, D.Hatch
193	24-May-80	R.F.Koes, G.Grieff, G.Holland, I.Ward, P.Hamel
193	27-May-99	R.F.Koes, D.Fast, G.Grieff

NEW BRUNSWICK (2005 Target Total=120.0)

136	6-Jun-92	J.Edsall, D.Gibson, D.Miles
124	1-Jun-91	J.Edsall, P.Pearce, D.Gibson
100	26-Aug-89	B.Maybank, B.Dalzell
82	18-May-05	T.Woodrow
75	13-Sep-98	T.Woodrow, F.Woodrow (single-island)
20	20-Mar-01	T.Woodrow, F. Woodrow

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR (2005 Target Total=92.3)

106	2-Sep-84	B.Maybank, R.Burrows, M.Masse
93	17-Jul-98	C.Stevens II, L.Bateman, J.Briffett, M.Vassallo
78	20-May-84	B.Maybank, R.Burrows
78	13-Oct-85	B.Maybank, B.Mactavish
76	7-Jun-86	B.Maybank
64	29-Aug-87	B.Maybank
38	26-Mar-95	B.Maybank, B.Mactavish
31	26-Apr-97	B.Maybank, B.Mactavish, K.Knowles, J.Wells, P.Linegar
27	28-Feb-87	B.Maybank, B.Mactavish, J.Wells
27	18-Dec-85	B.Maybank, M.Dufresne

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES (2005 Target Total=55.0)

64	18-Jun-98	P.Hamel, M.Hearne
54	18-Jun-95	R.Tymstra, D.Parsons
47	24-Jun-93	R.Tymstra, D.Parsons
41	18-Aug-91	D.M.Forsythe, C.Kersting
40	19-Aug-90	D.M.Forsythe, J.Lasley
40	13 Aug 98	E.Burroughs, C.Burroughs
37	18-Aug-88	R.M.Odear, C.Bender, P.Landry

NOVA SCOTIA (2005 Target Total=143.0)

145	21-Jun-99	S.Yetman, C.Stevens Jr.
144	10-Jun-98	F.Lavender, C.Stevens Jr, S.Yetman
140	5-Jun-94	B.Maybank, F.Lavender, J.Waldron
137	6-Jun-92	B.Maybank, F.Lavender, J.Taylor, K.McKenna
137	5-Jun-93	B.Maybank, F.Lavender, J.Taylor, K.McKenna, C.Brennan
135	1-Jun-91	B.Maybank, F.Lavender, J.Taylor, B.Sarty
131	26-May-89	B.Maybank, F.Lavender
123	29-May-93	B.Maybank, R.Foxall
121	9-Jun-71	E.L.Mills, D.W.Finch
118	31-May-98	B.Maybank, M.Newell, W.Atwood

NUNAVUT

36	10-Jul-04	R.Knapton, C.Sidler, C.Kersting, T.Molter
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ONTARIO (2005 Target Total=193.3)

200	29-May-99	T.Hince, P.D.Pratt
194	24-May-94	T.Hince, P.D.Pratt
186	11-May-79	A.Wormington, T.Hince, D.Sunderland, M.Runtz
182	18-May-96	M.Bain, R.Tozer, D.Barry (Durham region)
181	28-May-94	M.Bain, D.Beadle, B.Henshaw (Durham region)
180	17-May-80	A.Wormington, P.D.Pratt, D.McCorquodale
180	22-May-93	R.Tozer, D.Tozer, D.Barry, M.Carney (Durham region)
180	3-Jun-97	T.Hince, P.Pratt
178	20-May-95	M.Bain, D.Barry, M.Carney, P.Holder (Durham region)
173	22-May-77	R.Curry, A.Wormington, B.Wylie

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND (2005 Target Total=122.0)

141	6-Jun-04	R.Cooke, E.Marcum, D.Seeler
128	28-May-94	R.Cooke, D.G.Stewart, B.Maybank
121	29-May-93	R.Cooke, D.McAskill, B.Bowerbank, R.Palmer, L.Thomas, J.Watts
117	31-May-92	R.Cooke, D.McAskill, R.Palmer, S.Stevenson
109	3-Jun-95	R.Cooke, D.G.Stewart, G.MacDonald
108	2-Sep-91	R.Cooke, D.McAskill, B.Bowerbank
104	21-Aug-85	B.Maybank, S.Tingley
100	13-Aug-84	P.Lehman, J.Langham
69	19-Nov-05	D.McAskill, D.Seeler
62	3-Dec-05	D.Oakley, D.Seeler

QUÉBEC (2005 Target Total=163.3)

166	2-Jun-03	T. Hince, P.Pratt
163	28-May-05	D.Bird, R.Titman, M.Gahbauer, R.Gregson, M.Dennis
161	27-May-02	O. Barden, N. Barden
158	28-May-88	G.Gendron, D.Ruest
155	22-May-93	J.Lachance, A.Côté, G.Lemelin
155	3-Jun-94	G.Gendron, D.Ruest
153	28-May-84	G.Gendron, Y.Gauthier, T.Rheinallt

152 31-May-85 G.Gendron, D.Ruest, Y.Gauthier, T.Rheinallt
 151 27-May-86 C.Vachon, G.Bouchard, L.Messely
 147 1-Jun-95 G.Gendron, D.Ruest

SASKATCHEWAN (2005 Target Total=166.7)

174 21-May-88 R.Kreba, B.Ewart, T.Herriot, C.Pollock
 165 23-May-87 R.Kreba, B.Ewart, T.Herriot, L.Bjorklund
 161 5-Aug-99 P.A.Stutesman
 160 1-Jun-86 C.Escott, H.Lane
 141 26-May-95 T.Herriot, B.Maybank
 78 4-Sep-90 B.Korol, G.Wapple
 70 21-Jul-96 T.R.Kemp

YUKON TERRITORIES (2005 Target Total=73.3)

82 23-Jun-92 T.Greenfield
 71 25-Jun-99 P.Hamel, M.Hearne
 67 22-Aug-92 R.Cannings
 59 10-Aug-94 R.H.Johnson, S.Johnson
 50 7-Jul-91 B.Maybank
 40 26-May-92 R.H.Johnson, S.Johnson, L.Johnson
 38 14-Jun-02 D.C.Chaffin
 33 14-Aug-98 E.Burroughs, C.Burroughs
 29 12-May-97 D.C.Chaffin

ABA CHAMPION TOP TEN BIG DAYS US STATES

EXPLANATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING TABLE:

2005 Target Total = the average of the three highest Big Day totals for each state up to the end of 2005.

Totals have been adjusted in some cases to reflect the 95% rule.

ALABAMA (2005 Target Total=186.0)

202 24-Apr-83 M.Brown, C.D.Cooley
 181 23-Apr-91 G.D.Jackson, R.A.Duncan, W.J.Bremser, P.Tetlow
 175 16-Apr-88 R.A.Duncan, P.Tetlow, J.Pfeiffer, K.Wright
 172 16-Apr-84 M.Brown, C.D.Cooley, J.Tucker
 171 22-Apr-83 G.D.Jackson, L.Peavler
 170 24-Apr-85 G.D.Jackson, J.V.Peavy Jr.
 167 30-Apr-83 G.D.Jackson, J.V.Peavy Jr.
 166 13-Apr-02 L. Gardella, S. Reed, G. Beaton, S. McConnell
 166 16-Apr-82 M.Brown, C.D.Cooley
 166 17-Apr-87 G.D.Jackson, J.V.Peavy Jr., C.D.Cooley

ALASKA (2005 Target Total=106.3)

110 16-May-98 G.J.Tans, R.Foley, D.F.Delap
 105 18-May-96 G.J.Tans, R.Foley, H.H.S.Scott, J.Scott
 104 22-May-94 G.J.Tans, R.Foley, H.H.S.Scott
 104 22-May-93 G.J.Tans, R.Foley, H.H.S.Scott
 102 19-May-95 G.J.Tans, R.Foley, H.H.S.Scott
 98 24-May-86 D.F.Delap, S.Wulkowicz
 98 27-May-87 M.R.Dalton, M.C.T.Smith
 98 21-May-97 G.J.Tans, R.Foley, D.F.Delap
 92 21-May-90 D.F.Delap, P.Kline, C.Kline
 88 15-May-99 D.F.Delap, P.Kline, C.Kline

Using Commercial Aircraft (2003 Target Total=117.3)

125 4-Jun-93 M.R.Dalton, M.C.T.Smith
 119 6-Jun-92 M.R.Dalton, M.C.T.Smith
 108 23-May-89 M.R.Dalton, M.C.T.Smith

ARIZONA (2005 Target Total=196.7)

199 25-Aug-98 J.Withgott, J.Taylor, C.Gordon, G.Rosenberg
 196 18-Aug-92 D.Stejskal, K.Kaufman, G.Rosenberg, C.Benesh, W.Russell
 195 18-Aug-89 J.Coons, D.Stejskal, G.Rosenberg, J.Kingery
 191 27-Apr-84 K.Kaufman, D.Stejskal
 190 30-Apr-77 D.Stotz, T.Parker, S.Parker
 185 28-Apr-90 S.Ganley, R.Ferguson, D.Stejskal, B.Norton
 182 26-Apr-98 J.Withgott, J.Taylor, C.Gordon
 178 4-May-97 J.Withgott, J.Taylor, F.Gallo
 177 4-May-77 B.Bates, J.Bates, G.Baker, D.Stotz, D.Wharton
 172 13-Aug-84 K.Kaufman, S.Suter, R.Taylor

ARKANSAS (2005 Target Total=164.3)

168 9-May-99 K.Nichols, B.Verser
 165 8-May-99 J.R.Wilson, M.Greene

160 9-May-92 G.Knight, S.Knight, J.R.Wilson
 154 9-May-98 J.R.Wilson, M.Greene
 153 8-May-99 K.Nichols, L.Nichols
 150 2-May-92 G.Knight, J.R.Wilson
 145 11-May-97 K.Nichols, B.Verser
 142 5-May-92 J.Withgott
 140 30-Apr-88 M.Davis, M.F.Hodges Jr, T.Schiefer
 120 8-May-87 M.David, G.Knight

CALIFORNIA (2005 Target Total=221.0)

231 29-Apr-78 J.Dunn, K.Garrett, V.Remsen, R.Webster
 217 01-May-05 D.Easterla, T.Easterla, S.Glover, G.Hazard
 215 24-Apr-05 J.Feestra, T.McGrath, M.San Miguel, M.San Miguel, Jr.
 209 26-Apr-86 J.Parmeter, B.Keelan
 208 1-May-99 J.Sterling, S.Terrill, S.Rovell (single-county)
 207 25-Apr-76 J.Dunn, K.Garrett, P.Lehman, V.Remsen
 202 1-May-82 D.Roberson, B.D.Parmeter, L.C.Binford, J.Parmeter, K. Van Vuren (single county)
 201 26-Apr-74 V.Remsen, L.C.Binford, K.Barrett, R.Stallcup
 201 2-May-75 L.C.Binford, R.Stallcup, B.D.Parmeter, G.L.Bolander
 200 25-Apr-78 J.Dunn, V.Remsen (single-county)
 200 26-Apr-97 S.Rovell, S.Terrill, T.Easterla, J.Sterling (single-county)

Using Chartered Aircraft/Helicopters

243 28-Apr-84 D.Roberson, L.C.Binford, J.Langham, B.D.Parmeter, J.Parmeter
 235 30-Apr-83 D.Roberson, L.C.Binford, J.Langham, B.D.Parmeter, J.Parmeter, R.T. Peterson

COLORADO (2005 Target Total=191.0)

204 4-May-00 C.L.Wood, T.Leukering, L.Semo
 192 10-May-97 S.J.Dinsmore, R.L.Bunn
 177 15-May-94 J.Kellner, C.L.Wood
 176 1-Aug-98 C.L.Wood, B.K.Percival, T.Leukering
 174 13-May-89 W.Leitner, L.Halsey, C.Haynie, D.Nelson
 174 6-May-95 P.Sandstrom-Smith, C.Smith
 171 10-May-97 P.Sandstrom-Smith, C.Smith
 166 13-May-95 R.L.Bunn, T.Leukering, B.Maynard
 165 15-May-88 J.Cairo, B.Prather, J.Prather
 163 18-May-95 J.F.Barber, W.Lisowsky

CONNECTICUT (2005 Target Total=177.0)

186 20-May-94 E.Hagen, B.Devine, B.Root, M.Szantyr, C.Wood, G.Hanisek
 173 19-May-92 E.Hagen, B.Devine, B.Root, M.Szantyr, D.Tripp

172 18-May-90 E.Hagen, B.Devine, B.Root, M.Szantyr
 170 19-May-89 E.Hagen, B.Devine, B.Root, M.Szantyr, C.Wood
 170 17-May-92 S.Mayo, T.McGrath, K.Murphy, D.Rosgen
 168 21-May-93 E.Hagen, B.Devine, B.Root, M.Szantyr, C.Wood
 167 22-May-88 F.W.Mantlik, F.Purnell, T.Baptist
 164 18-May-86 S.Kellogg, C.Withgott, Jay Withgott, James Withgott
 163 18-May-90 F.W.Mantlik, T.Baptist, L.Bevier
 162 18-May-86 M.Szantyr, D.Varza, B.Devine, F.W.Mantlik

DELAWARE (2005 Target Total=194.7)

199 15-May-97 D.Cutler, J.Armstead, C.Perry, H.Brokaw
 195 13-May-97 A.P.Ednie, J.White, E.Short, J.Gordon
 190 16-May-95 D.Cutler, J.Armstead, C.Perry, H.Brokaw
 188 11-May-95 N.J.Pulcinella, A.N.Guarente, J.Lockyer, J.Ginaven
 186 11-May-95 A.P.Ednie, J.White, K.Zeitler, M.Barnhill
 186 14-May-81 C.Perry, H.Armistead, D,B&H Cutler, J.Gordon
 182 15-May-96 N.J.Pulcinella, A.N.Guarente, J.Lockyer, J.Ginaven
 172 14-May-93 N.J.Pulcinella, A.N.Guarente, J.Lockyer, J.Ginaven
 172 14-May-96 A.P.Ednie, K.Zeitler, B.Lego, E.Short
 166 10-May-93 A.P.Ednie, C.Campbell, J.Swertinski, J.White

WASHINGTON, D.C. (2005 Target Total=125.7)

134 6-May-89 D.Czaplak, G.Gough, O.Janni, M.Jennison
 126 2-May-81 D.Czaplak, F.Hayes, B.Hayes
 117 3-May-86 D.Czaplak, G.Gough, M.O'Brien
 116 5-May-84 D.Czaplak
 113 9-May-98 B. Swift, O. Janni, M. Parr
 113 1-May-93 O.Janni, M.O'Brien, G.Gough
 112 2-May-92 O.Janni, G.Gough
 111 9-May-87 D.Czaplak
 106 7-May-88 D.Czaplak, G.Gough
 102 4-May-85 D.Czaplak
 102 19-May-84 D.Czaplak

FLORIDA (2005 Target Total=172.3)

179 23-Apr-83 R.Carter, S.Howell, C.Nesmith, G.Graves
 173 15-Apr-04 D.Simpson
 172 18-Apr-04 D.Simpson
 171 10-Apr-71 J.Edscorn, D.Edscorn, P.J.Fellers
 171 26-Apr-04 D.Simpson
 170 3-May-04 D.Simpson
 167 21-Apr-87 R.A.Duncan, S.Duncan, L.Duncan, B.Bremser
 166 14-Apr-73 J.B.Edscorn, P.J.Fellers, H.B.Herbert, K.Edscorn
 166 13-Apr-04 D.Simpson
 165 2-May-03 D.Simpson

GEORGIA (2005 Target Total=188.7)

193 27-Apr-04 G.Beaton, J.Flynn, M.F.Hodges, E.Horn
 190 25-Apr-02 G. Beaton, J. Flynn, T. Egan
 183 24-Apr-96 P.W.Sykes Jr., G.Beaton, M.F.Hodges Jr., B.Blakeslee
 181 27-Apr-95 P.W.Sykes Jr., C.Perry, M.F.Hodges Jr.
 176 27-Apr-94 P.W.Sykes Jr., C.Perry, M.F.Hodges Jr.
 174 1-May-03 G.Beaton, J.Flynn, E.Horn
 174 1-May-97 G.Beaton, J.F.Flynn, M.F.Hodges Jr.
 173 30-Apr-93 P.W.Sykes Jr., C.Perry, T.Leukering
 169 27-Apr-91 P.W.Sykes Jr., B.Dunning, C.Perry, P.Yaukey
 168 24-Apr-00 G.Beaton, J.F.Flynn, P.W.Sykes Jr.

HAWAII (2005 Target Total=57.7)

O'ahu only

59 27-Oct-85 A.Engilis, A.Newman, B.Pitman, L.Spear
 59 26-Sept-04 R.E.David, S.Wakefield-David
 58 26-Sep-93 R.Pyle, A.Engilis, T.McCafferty
 57 20-Nov-04 K.Pohlman
 56 2-Feb-00 K.Pohlman
 56 11-Dec-05 R.E.David, S.Wakefield-David
 54 26-Sep-81 R.Pyle, P.Donaldson, M.Ord, C.Vinsonhaler
 53 1-Feb-04 R.E.David, S.Wakefield-David
 52 23-Oct-76 R.Pyle, M.Ord, R.Shallenberger
 52 16-Sep-79 R.Pyle, M.Ord

52 24-Jan-04 R.E.David, S.Wakefield-David
 52 28-Mar-04 R.E.David, S.Wakefield-David
 52 20-Nov-05 P.Taylor, R.Stephens, J.Morris, J.Guadosio, J.Cooper

Multi-island, using commercial aircraft

81 19-Oct-87 R.Pyle, R. David, A. Engilis

IDAHO (2005 Target Total=175.0)

176 11-Jun-99 J.F.Gatchet, T.Edwards
 176 9-June-05 B.Kemp, R.Weeks, S.Gross
 173 12-Jun-99 C.H.Trost, J.Paruk, M.Collar
 169 12-Jun-98 C.H.Trost, W.E.Harper
 168 6-Jun-98 C.H.Trost, J.Paruk, R.Clark, M.Collar
 167 17-Jun-97 J.F.Gatchet, D.L.Edwards
 158 18-Jun-91 W.E.Harper, C.H.Trost, S.M.Scott, J.Tinsley
 158 21-Jun-97 W.E.Harper, C.H.Trost, S.M.Scott
 157 7-Jun-98 J.F.Gatchet, D.Lawrence
 157 9-Jun-01 M. Collar, D. Mead, J. Moodie, C. Trost

ILLINOIS (2005 Target Total=178.3)

184 17-May-97 J.O'Brien, R.Hughes, D.Mandell, S.Bailey, S.Mlodinow, S.Patti
 176 16-May-05 V.Kleen, A.Frohlich, K.McKay
 175 9-May-94 V.M.Kleen, H.D.Bohlen, R.Randall, M.Ward, P.M.Ward
 175 5-May-97 K.A.McMullen, D.Kassebaum, J.DeNeal
 175 13-May-97 V.M.Kleen, H.D.Bohlen, M.Ward, P.M.Ward, T.Ward
 174 11-May-96 J.O'Brien, R.Hughes, D.Mandell, S.Bailey, S.Mlodinow, S.Patti
 173 6-May-86 R.Q.Randall, H.D.Bohlen, P.M.Ward, R.Mudd
 173 13-May-95 J.O'Brien, R.Hughes, D.Mandell, S.Patti
 172 10-May-89 V.M.Kleen, H.D.Bohlen, P.M.Ward, S.Robinson
 171 16-May-98 J.O'Brien, R.Hughes, D.Mandell, S.Bailey, S.Mlodinow, S.Patti
 170 11-May-74 P.M.Ward, H.D.Bohlen, T.Crabtree, V.M.Kleen, W.V.O'Brien,

INDIANA (2005 Target Total=178.7)

189 16-May-04 J.McCoy, B.Grube
 188 15-May-99 K.J.Brock, E.M.Hopkins, S.F.Jackson, J.A.Haw, B.Jackson, J.Cassady
 176 17-May-96 K.J.Brock, E.M.Hopkins, S.F.Jackson, J.A.Haw, B.Jackson, J.Cassady
 172 10-May-88 K.J.Brock, E.M.Hopkins, S.F.Jackson, J.A.Haw, B.Jackson
 170 17-May-03 J.Cassady, J.McCoy, B.Grube, B.Palmer-Ball
 170 17-May-93 K.J.Brock, E.M.Hopkins, S.F.Jackson, J.A.Haw
 167 16-May-03 L. Casebere, C. Chapman, C. Hedge, R. Hedge
 166 14-May-90 K.J.Brock, E.M.Hopkins, S.F.Jackson, J.A.Haw
 165 10-May-79 K.J.Brock, E.M.Hopkins, T.T.Cable, A.Bruner
 160 11-May-78 K.J.Brock, E.M.Hopkins, T.T.Cable, J.T.Underborn

IOWA (2005 Target Total=196.3)

204 13-May-96 P.C.Petersen, B.Blevins, D.Moeller
 195 7-May-92 P.C.Petersen, B.Blevins
 190 11-May-95 P.C.Petersen, B.Blevins, D.Moeller
 186 11-May-93 P.C.Petersen, B.Blevins, D.Moeller
 183 10-May-94 P.C.Petersen, B.Blevins, D.Moeller
 182 11-May-90 S.J.Dinsmore, G.Brown, A.Fix
 182 8-May-91 P.C.Petersen, B.Blevins, D.Moeller
 173 8-May-90 P.C.Petersen, B.Blevins, D.Moeller
 171 10-May-86 S.J.Dinsmore, G.Brown, E.Munson
 171 11-May-96 S.J.Dinsmore, B.Engelbreiten

KANSAS (2005 Target Total=213.3)

225 13-May-02 M.Robbins, R.McNeil, M.Rader
 220 13-May-03 M. Robbins, R. McNeill, S. Patti, M. Rader
 210 10-May-00 C.D.Hobbs, S.Patti, M.Robbins, M.D.Rader
 205 14-May-96 C.D.Hobbs, S.Patti, M.Robbins, T.Peterson, R.Prum
 204 11-May-97 C.D.Hobbs, S.Patti, M.Robbins, R.Prum, V.Laux
 200 12-May-91 C.D.Hobbs, M.McHugh, S.Patti, G.L.Pittman
 178 9-May-86 C.D.Hobbs, M.McHugh, M.Cooksy, K.Hollinga

172 11-May-84 C.D.Hobbs, M.McHugh
171 3-May-97 P.C.Wedge, D.Seibel, G.L.Pittman, M.McHugh
164 29-Apr-99 M.D.Rader, S.Seltman
158 28-Apr-90 D.Seibel, G.L.Pittman, P.Rasmussen, P.C.Wedge

KENTUCKY (2005 Target Total=173.0)

176 6-May-02 M.Bierly, M.Monroe, B.Palmer-Ball, Jr.
172 6-May-03 L.McNeely, M.Monroe, B.Palmer-Bell, Jr.
171 7-May-97 B.Palmer-Ball Jr., J.Elmore
168 6-May-96 B.Palmer-Ball Jr., B.L.Monroe Jr., M.Monroe, R.Healy Jr., D.Parker
168 6-May-99 B.Palmer-Ball Jr., B.L.Monroe Jr., M.Monroe, D.Parker
165 7-May-92 B.Palmer-Ball Jr., J.T.Erwin, D.Parker, C.B.Elmore
165 6-May-00 B.Palmer-Ball Jr., J.Elmore, M.Monroe, D.Parker
162 7-May-90 B.Palmer-Ball Jr., J.T.Erwin, D.Parker
159 6-May-98 B.Palmer-Ball Jr., J.Elmore, D.Parker
156 5-May-88 B.Palmer-Ball Jr., J.T.Erwin, D.Parker
156 9-May-89 B.Palmer-Ball Jr., J.T.Erwin

LOUISIANA (2005 Target Total=201.3)

209 25-Apr-01 C. Witt, D. Christian, J. Weckstien
202 21-Apr-87 V.Remsen, S.W.Cardiff, D.L.Dittmann, T.Parker
193 28-Apr-97 S.W.Cardiff, D.L.Dittmann
193 18-Apr-01 C. Witt, D. Christian, R. Moyle, J. Weckstien
189 3-May-97 S.W.Cardiff, D.L.Dittmann
183 26-Apr-80 P.MacKenzie, B.Crider
182 17-Apr-85 P.MacKenzie, M.Swan
178 27-Apr-96 S.W.Cardiff, D.L.Dittmann
176 18-Apr-84 P.MacKenzie, M.Swan, D.Krider
176 30-Mar-01 S.W.Cardiff, D.L.Dittmann
176 1-May-05 J.V.Remsen, P.Benham, D.Bosler, J.Bosler

MAINE (2005 Target Total=168.7)

178 22-May-99 L.R.Brinker, D.Ladd, W.Sheehan, R.Lambert
165 19-May-96 L.R.Brinker, D.Ladd, W.Sheehan, R.Joseph
163 22-May-93 L.R.Brinker, R.Humphrey, D.Ladd, W.Sheehan
162 21-May-94 L.R.Brinker, R.Humphrey, D.Ladd, W.Sheehan
141 28-May-05 J.Smith, C.Hardy, J.Wyatt, J.Hinds
140 21-May-95 W.Howes, W.Sumner
140 28-May-00 R.M.Milardo, J.K.Markowsky, B.Barker
138 24-May-93 R.M.Milardo, J.K.Markowsky, B.Barker
133 25-May-90 R.M.Milardo, J.K.Markowsky, B.Barker
132 31-May-03 B.Duchesne, S.Duchesne, L.Vernon, N.Larson
132 28-May-95 R.M.Milardo, J.K.Markowsky, B.Barker

MARYLAND (2005 Target Total=201.7)

206 18-May-96 M.O'Brien, J.O'Brien, P.Pisano, O.Janni
206 18-May-98 M.O'Brien, P.O'Brien, P.Pisano, O.Janni, W.Russell
193 26-May-99 M.J.Illiff, A.Farnsworth
189 6-May-95 M.O'Brien, P.O'Brien, P.Pisano, O.Janni
188 17-May-90 M.O'Brien, P.O'Brien, L.Davidson, P.Pisano, G.Gough
186 14-May-88 M.O'Brien, P.O'Brien, L.Davidson, P.Pisano
185 12-May-89 M.O'Brien, P.O'Brien, L.Davidson, P.Pisano, G.Gough
182 18-May-91 M.O'Brien, P.O'Brien, L.Davidson, G.Gough
181 10-May-86 M.O'Brien, P.O'Brien, L.Davidson, P.Pisano, G.Gough
177 1-Jun-92 M.O'Brien, P.Pisano, O.Janni

MASSACHUSETTS (2005 Target Total=159.3)

185 22-May-04 P.Trimble, J.Trimble, V.Laux
162 27-May-02 Barrett Lawson, Bob Lawson, S.Wheelock
161 25-May-87 G.d'Entremont, D.Brown, S.J.Dinsmore
155 15-May-99 S.Wheelock, Barrett Lawson, Bob Lawson, K.Rodman
154 20-May-02 S. Kellogg, T. Swochak, J. Weeks, J. Zepko
154 25-May-80 R.Stymeist, T.Lawrence
152 5-Jun-99 S.Wheelock, D.Furbish
150 21-May-04 S.Kellogg, T.Swochak, J.Zepko, J.Weeks
147 17-May-04 S.Kellogg, T.Swochak, J.Zepko, J.Weeks

143 19-May-03 S.Kellogg, J.Weeks, J.Zepko

MICHIGAN (2005 Target Total=194.3)

203 26-May-95 R.J.Weeks, T.R.Kemp, B.Kemp
191 20-May-92 T.R.Kemp, B.Kemp, T.Walsh, R.J.Weeks
189 6-Jun-00 K.S.Thomas, B.Murphy
185 27-May-93 R.J.Weeks, T.R.Kemp, B.Kemp
184 29-May-94 J.Reinoehl, B.Bouton, A.Byrne, J.Granlund
183 21-May-91 T.R.Kemp, B.Kemp
182 21-May-89 T.R.Kemp, B.Kemp
179 22-May-91 R.J.Weeks, T.Walsh
178 19-May-89 R.J.Weeks, T.Walsh, C.Francke
176 26-May-90 T.R.Kemp, B.Kemp

MINNESOTA (2005 Target Total=193.3)

204 26-May-02 A.Hertzel, P.Svingen
192 21-May-83 K.R.Eckert, P.Egeland, H.Kyllingstad, T.Savaloja
184 23-May-85 K.R.Eckert, P.Egeland, H.Kyllingstad, P.Backstrom
183 19-May-73 K.R.Eckert, P.Egeland, H.Kyllingstad, T.Savaloja
182 27-May-86 K.R.Eckert, P.Egeland, H.Kyllingstad, F.Lesher
181 18-May-74 K.R.Eckert, P.Egeland, H.Kyllingstad, T.Savaloja, K.Martell
181 23-May-81 K.R.Eckert, P.Egeland, H.Kyllingstad, S.Millard
181 18-May-99 P.Svingen, A.Hertzel (single-county)
179 22-May-76 K.R.Eckert, P.Egeland, H.Kyllingstad, T.Savaloja, B.Jansen
178 25-May-84 K.R.Eckert, P.Egeland, H.Kyllingstad, K.Camburn

MISSISSIPPI (2005 Target Total=172.7)

175 16-Apr-89 T.Schiefer, M.F.Hodges Jr.
172 23-Apr-83 J.Toups, E.Johnson, C.Roemer
171 2-May-89 J.Toups, C.Cassibry, G.Morgan, J.Pennell
165 28-Apr-79 L.Gates, J.Toups
158 7-May-03 S.Dinsmore, P.Barbour
156 5-May-86 J.Toups, D.King, C.Roerner
153 4-May-78 L.Gates
140 28-Mar-85 J.Toups, M.F.Hodges Jr, D.Ruple
134 30-Apr-89 T.Schiefer, M.F.Hodges Jr.
132 3-May-86 M.Davis, G.C.Knight

MISSOURI (2005 Target Total=196.0)

208 11-May-91 P.McKenzie, T.Barksdale
192 11-May-91 D.A.Easterla, M.B.Robbins, T.B.Easterla
188 11-May-90 D.A.Easterla, M.B.Robbins, T.B.Easterla
177 11-May-89 D.A.Easterla, M.B.Robbins, T.B.Easterla
174 14-May-88 T.Barksdale, M.Corder, R.Brundage, W.Leitner
169 15-May-79 D.A.Easterla, M.B.Robbins, T.Barksdale
166 15-May-75 D.A.Easterla, M.B.Robbins
166 11-May-78 D.A.Easterla, M.B.Robbins
164 16-May-78 D.A.Easterla, M.B.Robbins
164 9-May-00 D.A.Easterla, J.Hilsabeck, K.Goslee (single county)

MONTANA (2005 Target Total=176.6)

192 2-June-03 B.Kemp, R.Weeks
181 4-Jun-02 R.Weeks, B.Kemp
175 10-Jun-00 J.Rogers, D.Casey, S.Jones, S.Casey, J.Marks, B.Petty
174 6-Jun-92 J.Rogers, D.Casey, S.Jones, S.Casey
174 16-Jul-99 S.J.Dinsmore, A.S.Fix, T.Hanks
172 5-Jun-99 D.Casey, J.Marks, B.Petty, J.Rogers
170 6-Jul-98 S.J.Dinsmore, J.G.Jorgensen, J.Sullivan
162 9-Jul-91 W.E.Harper, S.M.Scott
161 8-Jun-96 D.Casey, S.Casey, A.Dumin, P.Bodewald
159 1-Jun-91 J.Rogers, D.Casey, S.Jones, S.Casey

NEBRASKA (2005 Target Total=170.0)

203 14-May-03 S.J.Dinsmore, R.Silcock, A.Brees
175 14-May-00 S.J.Dinsmore, J.Fontaine, R.Silcock
173 12-May-99 S.J.Dinsmore, J.Fontaine, D.C.Ely
162 15-May-93 M.A.Brogie, P.Wickham
157 20-May-89 S.J.Dinsmore, R.Silcock
150 12-May-90 M.A.Brogie, B.Huser

148 8-May-99 J.Sullivan, M.Orsag, E.Bachel
146 13-May-89 B.J.Rose, D.Rose, R.Rose
143 18-May-84 T.Bray, B.Padelford, T.Kent, R.Silcock
142 16-May-81 B.J.Rose, S.Rose

NEVADA (2005 Target Total=152.0)

162 10-May-97 L.A.Neel, G.Chisholm, K.Geluso, B.Flores
150 3-May-96 L.A.Neel, G.Chisholm, K.Geluso, B.Flores
144 14-May-78 G.Clifton, K.Knittle
139 26-Mar-04 P.Ward,K.Ward
136 15-May-95 R.Schlageter, J.J.Eidel, S.Mills
133 19-Jun-77 E.W.Tillay, G.Clifton, K.Knittle
133 11-May-94 C.Titus, R.McArthur, R.Rucker (single-county)
132 8-May-93 C.Titus, R.McArthur, J.Kaplan, R.Rucker
129 4-May-96 J.J.Eidel, A.Gubanich, B.Moore, A.Gross
127 11-Jul-76 E.W.Tillay, G.Clifton, K.Knittle

NEW HAMPSHIRE (2005 Target Total=166.0)

170 27-May-97 P.D.Hunt, S.Mirick, A.Strong, D.Strong
165 28-May-05 I.MacLeod, R.Woodward, E.Masterson
163 24-May-96 P.D.Hunt, S.Mirick, M.Suomala
158 30-May-04 I.MacLeod, G.Robbins, R.Woodward
156 25-May-02 S.Mirick, J.Lawrence, P.Lacourse, D.Donsker
156 23-May-99 P.D.Hunt, A.Strong, D.Strong
156 21-May-00 R.Woodward, I.MacLeod, G.Robbins
153 19-May-02 I.MacLeod, G.Robbins, R.Woodward
153 27-May-02 I.MacLeod, G.Robbins, R.Woodward
151 26-May-94 P.D.Hunt, P.Marra, M.O'Brien
151 4-Jun-96 P.D.Hunt, T.Johansen, D.Strong

NEW JERSEY (2005 Target Total=225.0)

229 11-May-96 D.Womer, C.Aquila, D.Dendler
225 13-May-95 T.Hince, P.D.Pratt, B.Dilabio
221 13-May-95 D.Womer, C.Aquila, D.Dendler
218 15-May-99 D.Womer, C.Aquila, D.Dendler
218 14-May-94 D.Womer, C.Aquila, D.Dendler
215 15-May-93 T.Hince, P.D.Pratt, B.Dilabio
211 10-May-97 D.Womer, C.Aquila, D.Dendler
210 19-May-90 P.Pacinski, P.Dunne, L.Dunne, R.Radis, D.Freiday
210 14-May-94 P.Pacinski, P.Dunne, L.Dunne, R.Radis, D.Freiday
210 14-May-94 T.Hince, P.D.Pratt, B.Dilabio

NEW MEXICO (2005 Target Total=193.7)

200 3-May-97 B.R.Zimmer, J.Paton
198 6-May-99 B.R.Zimmer, J.Paton
183 4-May-05 J.Black, B.West, C.Black, B.Foy
179 11-May-96 B.Neville, D.Emkalns, J.Paton
178 30-Apr-04 J.Black, B.West, B.Foy
177 31-Aug-92 B.R.Zimmer, J.Gordon
173 4-May-91 J.Parmeter, A.Kraynik, L.Gorbet
170 10-May-84 K.Zimmer, B.R.Zimmer
170 11-Sep-86 B.R.Zimmer, J.Donaldson
169 1-May-94 D.Emkalns, C.Rustay

NEW YORK (2005 Target Total=196.0)

202 18-May-03 D.Harris, B.Klick
201 26-May-02 D.Tetlow, J.Barry, K.Fox
195 22-May-99 K.C.Griffith, K.Fox, D.Tetlow
192 25-May-97 B.E.Ewald, M.Davids, K.Fox, D.Tetlow
181 18-May-92 R.J.Kurtz, H.McGuinness, A.Baldelli
179 23-May-93 J.Skelly, D.Tetlow, M.Davids
175 24-May-02 D.Harris, B.Klick
173 19-May-74 T.Davis, P.Lehman, D.Finch, R.Smart
173 19-May-86 K.Griffith, M.Davids, C.Taylor
173 19-May-02 Jessi Barry, Jim Barry,K.Griffith

NORTH CAROLINA (2005 Target Total=175.0)

184 3-May-87 J.M.Lynch, D.Carter, J.Fussell, R.Davis, A.Bryan
174 6-May-93 S.J.Dinsmore, J.Nance
167 20-Apr-87 J.Nance, G.Massey
157 3-May-03 R. Van Epps, T. Piephoff, J. Pippen, B. Carlson

156 4-May-81 M.Tove, J.Fussell, R.Davis
155 5-May-02 T.Piephoff, R. VanEpps
151 7-May-99 C.A.Eley, G.Brown
140 6-May-80 S.Graves
126 8-May-76 R.Carter, C.M.Eastman, A.Capparella
120 23-Apr-77 R.Carter, S.Alford
120 27-Apr-00 C.H.Gambill, R.Gambill, L.Gambill

NORTH DAKOTA (2005 Target Total=158.0)

167 17-May-81 D.O.Lambeth, S.O.Lambeth, G.S.Lambeth
154 23-May-92 D.O.Lambeth, S.O.Lambeth, P.Svingen, K.Risen
153 19-May-79 D.O.Lambeth, S.O.Lambeth, G.S.Lambeth
150 18-May-80 D.O.Lambeth, S.O.Lambeth, G.S.Lambeth, J.F.Kelly
131 7-Aug-04 K.Corliss, M.Otnes
127 14-May-78 D.O.Lambeth, S.O.Lambeth, G.S.Lambeth
126 8-June-03 C.Ellingson, C.Talkington
122 23-Jul-77 K.J.Zimmer, B.R.Zimmer
118 23-May-76 K.J.Johnson, A.G.Johnson
118 7-Aug-99 P.A.Stutesman

OHIO (2005 Target Total=191.7)

205 11-May-87 J.Pogacnik, J.K.Alexander
186 10-May-85 J.Pogacnik, J.K.Alexander, M.Anderson
184 11-May-02 D.Sanders, J.McCormac, B.Master
182 16-May-92 T.R.Kemp, M.Anderson, E.Tramer, S.Lauer, C.Anderson
179 9-May-81 T.Bartlett, B.Peterjohn, D.Tumblin, E.Pierce
173 19-May-78 T.Thompson
173 14-May-97 B.F.Master, M.Dawson
172 14-May-96 B.F.Master, M.Dawson
171 13-May-95 B.F.Master, M.Dawson
170 14-May-94 B.F.Master, M.Dawson, S.Smith

OKLAHOMA (2005 Target Total=179.7)

182 9-May-05 J.Woodward, T.Mitchell, B.Carrell
180 3-May-01 J. Cox, J. Arterburn, K. Kaufman
177 4-May-96 J.A.Cox, K.Kaufman, J.Arterburn
177 29-Apr-99 M.B.Kamp, J.Loyd, P.L.Seibert
169 2-May-96 M.B.Kamp, J.Loyd, P.L.Seibert
167 1-May-93 J.Woodard, T.Mitchell, B.Griffen
161 3-May-92 M.Droege, D.Verser, M.Vogh
160 5-May-90 G.Guinan, S.Metz
154 4-May-91 S.Metz, D.King, T.Moses
154 9-May-94 J.Withgott, J.Norman

OREGON (2005 Target Total=213.7)

216 11-May-02 T. Janzen, T. Love, D. Mandell, C. Roberts
213 12-May-01 T. Janzen, T. Love, F. Schrok, S. Steinberg
212 10-May-86 J.Gilligan, D.Fix, S.Hein, D.Irons
212 14-May-05 T.Janzen, J.Withgott, N.Strycker, H.Herlyn
208 9-May-01 C. Miller, D. Mandell, T. Janzen
206 13-May-97 T. Janzen, C. Miller, D. van den Broek
206 13-May-03 T.Janzen, H.Herlyn, M.Miller, R.Hoyer
200 8-May-95 G.Gillson, T.Janzen
175 17-July-04 D.Irons, N.Strycker
171 12-May-84 S.Summers, James Carlson, S.Gordon

PENNSYLVANIA (2005 Target Total=170.3)

178 15-May-99 J.G.Fedak; J.Horn
170 15-May-98 T.R.Kemp, B.Kemp, G.M.Links
163 12-May-89 T.Amico, D.Heathcote, S.Santner, B.Schutsky, E.Witmer
161 16-May-87 J.D.Peplinski, B.Peplinski, T.Schiefer
159 17-May-97 T.R.Kemp, B.Kemp, G.M.Links
157 12-May-78 D.Snyder, D.Steadman, J.Stull, S.Stull
157 7-May-83 G.Wilhelm, D.Hoskins, M.Starker
156 20-May-78 N.J.Pulcinella, J.Miller, C.Richards, K.Richards
154 12-May-90 J.D.Peplinski, B.Peplinski, T.Schiefer
151 19-May-83 F.Haas, B.Haas

RHODE ISLAND (2005 Target Total=152.3)

159 19-May-84 R.M.Bushnell, R.A.Conway, H.Willoughby
 154 29-May-03 S.Wheelock, Bo.Lawson, Ba.Lawson
 151 15-May-83 R.M.Bushnell, R.A.Conway, H.Willoughby
 147 17-May-80 R.M.Bushnell, R.A.Conway, H.Willoughby, G.Gerds
 147 15-May-82 R.M.Bushnell, R.A.Conway, G.Gerds
 144 12-May-79 R.M.Bushnell, R.A.Conway, H.Willoughby, G.Gerds
 141 15-May-76 R.M.Bushnell, R.A.Conway, H.Willoughby
 141 13-May-78 R.M.Bushnell, H.Willoughby, G.Gerds
 132 17-May-77 S.C.Tsagarakis, H.Willoughby
 131 14-May-77 R.M.Bushnell, R.A.Conway, H.Willoughby

SOUTH CAROLINA (2005 Target Total=177.3)

179 28-Apr-92 R.Carter, R.Clark
 177 1-May-89 R.Carter, D.Forsythe, S.Thompson
 176 26-Apr-98 R.Carter, D.Forsythe
 175 30-Apr-88 R.Carter, D.Forsythe, B.Odear
 175 1-May-96 R.Carter, D.Forsythe, K.Kaufman
 174 1-May-05 R.Carter, D.Forsythe, S.Calver
 173 26-Apr-86 R.Carter, D.Forsythe, B.Odear, K.Kaufman
 172 22-Apr-90 R.Carter, S.Compton, R.Clark, D.Forsythe
 172 4-May-92 R.Carter, D.Forsythe, T.Kalbach
 172 1-May-95 R.Carter, C.M.Eastman
 172 1-May-99 R.Carter, D.Forsythe

SOUTH DAKOTA (2005 Target Total=165.7)

175 14-May-03 J.S.Palmer, R.F.Schenck
 170 15-May-00 J.S.Palmer, R.F.Schenck
 166 19-May-97 J.S.Palmer, O.Selchert, R.F.Schenck
 161 14-May-99 J.S.Palmer, O.Selchert, R.F.Schenck
 158 15-May-02 J.S.Palmer, R.Schenck
 158 16-May-96 D.L.Swanson, K.Dean, S. Van Sickle, E.Liknes
 155 16-May-96 J.S.Palmer, O.Selchert, C.Vande Voorde
 154 8-Jul-93 T.R.Kemp, B.Kemp, E.Durbin
 151 19-May-98 J.S.Palmer, R.F.Schenck
 149 16-May-95 J.S.Palmer, O.Selchert

TENNESSEE (2005 Target Total=168.3)

174 10-May-97 J.R.Wilson, M.A.Greene
 169 7-May-94 J.R.Wilson, G.Knight, S.Knight, M.A.Greene
 162 8-May-89 J.Drewry, M.Bierly, B.Palmer-Ball Jr.
 161 8-May-98 J.R.Wilson, M.A.Greene
 155 9-May-84 M.Bierly, B.Palmer-Ball Jr.
 151 24-Apr-99 J.R.Wilson, M.A.Greene
 149 5-May-02 J.Desgrosellier, C.Sloan
 148 4-May-81 C.Swafford, C.Haney
 145 8-May-97 S.M.McConnell, J.Garner, D.Simbeck
 144 29-Apr-89 M.Davis, K.Myers, D.Simbeck, J.Wilson

TEXAS (2005 Target Total=242.7)*Land only*

258 24-Apr-01 A. Byrne, G. Beaton, D. Peake, R. Weeks, B.Kemp
 239 21-Apr-03 D.Peake, B.Kemp, R.Weeks
 237 22-Apr-02 A. Byrne, G. Beaton, D. Peake, R. Weeks, B.Kemp
 233 18-Apr-01 T. Hince, P. Pratt, B. DiLabio
 230 27-Apr-98 O.Carmona, W.Carter, B.McKinney, W.Sekula
 223 29-Apr-98 M.A.Elwonger, P.Petra-Hockey, B.Freeman
 222 24-Apr-99 O.Carmona, W.Carter, B.McKinney, W.Sekula
 215 9-Apr-00 O.Carmona, W.Carter, B.McKinney, W.Sekula
 214 23-Apr-97 M.Cooksey, A.Cooksey, C.D.Hobbs
 213 24-Apr-99 T.Hince, B.Dilabio, P.D.Pratt
 213 31-Mar-01 B. Kemp, R. Weeks

Using Chartered Aircraft/Helicopters

244 1-May-85 V.Emanuel, R.T.Peterson, J.Tucker, G.W.Lasley
 238 1-May-84 V.Emanuel, J.Rowlett, R.A.Rowlett, J.Tucker, J.Vardaman
 234 27-Apr-82 V.Emanuel, R.T.Peterson, T.Parker, J.Rowlett
 223 23-Apr-84 V.Emanuel, J.Rowlett, R.A.Rowlett, J.Tucker, J.Vardaman
 221 25-May-90 V.Emanuel, K.Zimmer, G.W.Lasley, G.Plimpton

UTAH (2005 Target Total=196.3)

202 13-May-01 M.A.Stackhouse, D.S.Wheeler, C. Neuman
 200 16-May-99 M.A.Stackhouse, D.S.Wheeler
 187 16-May-98 M.A.Stackhouse, D.S.Wheeler
 184 19-May-96 M.A.Stackhouse, D.S.Wheeler, L.Lockhart
 180 7-May-95 M.A.Stackhouse, D.S.Wheeler, L.Lockhart
 178 18-May-97 M.A.Stackhouse, D.S.Wheeler
 173 10-May-98 M.A.Stackhouse, D.S.Wheeler, A.Godwin
 169 6-May-93 R.Bond, S.P.Hedges, T.Sadler
 166 4-May-90 R.Bond, S.P.Hedges
 165 1-May-98 R.Bond, G.Bond, T.Sadler

VERMONT (2005 Target Total=156.0)

162 6-June-04 P.Ward, K.Ward
 159 4-Jun-01 P. Wand, K. Wand
 157 26-May-01 A.Strong, S.Schwenk
 157 26-May-03 D.Strong, M.Hughes, A.Strong, P.Jones
 156 21-May-04 P.Ward, K.Ward
 154 22-May-95 T.Johansson, D.Cooper, A.Farnsworth, W.Hutcheson
 154 22-May-99 A.Strong, D.Strong
 151 20-May-95 S.W.Morrill, J.Appleton, T.Hall, T.Murin
 151 7-Aug-03 P.Ward, K.Ward
 149 20-May-89 W.Ellison, N.L.Martin, D.H.Crook, S.J.Sangdahl

VIRGINIA (2005 Target Total=169.7)

178 7-May-05 M.Ribauda, K.Gaskill, J.Keller, R.Rieger
 167 6-May-86 P.Bedell, W.Ealding, C.Foster, M.Iwanik, D.Peterson
 164 10-May-86 T.Finnell, G.Stubbs
 161 11-May-83 F.Day, P.Cabe, J.Garvin
 158 5-May-03 D.Clark, T.Gwynn, D.Hughes, C.Smith
 152 5-May-74 W.W.Fogleman, R.L.Ake, G.S.Grant
 147 21-Sep-96 E.S.Brinkley, T.M.Gwynn III, D.Schwab
 143 8-May-76 B.W.Keelan, B.A.Lund, L.K.Malone
 140 18-Sept-03 B.Taber, B.Williams, F.Day
 138 16-Sept-03 B.Taber, B.Williams, F.Day, T.Armour

WASHINGTON (2005 Target Total=199.0)

201 15-May-88 D.Hutchinson, D.Reusser, B.Tweit
 198 16-May-86 B.Hayes, F.Hayes, D.Schmidt, D.Wright
 198 16-May-89 D.Hutchinson, B.Tweit, S.Ray
 195 5-May-87 D.Hutchinson, D.Reusser, B.Tweit
 186 6-May-84 D.Paulson, J.Erckmann, J.Van Os
 184 9-May-92 M.Denny, M.L.Denny, J.Nestler, J.Wasmer
 180 13-May-89 J.F.Gatchet, K.Knittle, M.Denny, M.L.Denny
 174 20-May-83 B.Hayes, M.Denny, P.Rasmussen
 174 15-May-89 T.Hass, K.Aanerud, P.Cozens
 169 8-May-81 W.Sumner, K.Knittle

WEST VIRGINIA (2005 Target Total=134.0)

140 10-May-02 B.Kemp, T.Kemp
 137 7-May-04 J.Benedetti, J.Blomberg, D.Esker, J.Tharp II
 133 7-May-93 T.R.Kemp, B.Kemp, E.Durbin
 133 15-May-04 G.Felton, M.Orsie
 132 10-May-05 J.Blomberg, M.Orsie, J.Tharp II
 129 8-May-96 J.R.Blomberg, L.Barnhart, J.Beneditti, P.Calise, L.Rollefson
 124 5-May-89 J.R.Blomberg, L.Barnhart, J.Beneditti
 124 5-May-91 W.Argabrite, J.Fletcher, M.Griffith, A.Thorne
 122 8-May-93 W.Argabrite, M.Griffith
 121 2-May-92 W.Argabrite, M.Griffith, A.Thorne, L.Wilson

WISCONSIN (2005 Target Total=216.0)

230 19-May-02 R.Hoffman, A.Shea
 210 20-May-00 R.Hoffman, A.Shea
 208 17-May-97 R.Hoffman, A.Shea
 206 17-May-99 R.Hoffman, A.Shea
 194 2-Sept-01 R.Hoffman
 193 16-May-98 R.Hoffman, A.Shea
 191 22-May-97 J.L.Baughman, T.Schultz, S.Baughman, D.D.Tessen, C.Wood

187 26-May-00 R.Hoffman, D.Tessen, M.Peterson
 186 31-Aug-02 R.Hoffman
 185 21-May-90 J.L.Baughman, T.Schultz, W.Schultz, W.Stott

WYOMING (2005 Target Total=158.3)

180 25-May-01 S. Dinsmoor, J. Fontaine
 149 17-May-90 B.Hayes, J.Nestler
 146 20-May-89 M.Adams, S.Fitton, F.Luke, R.Steenberg, W.Bruce-Miller

141 21-Jul-86 W.E.Harper, S.Scott, B.Hallett
 135 24-May-86 M.Adams, F.Luke
 128 24-May-86 W.E.Harper, S.Scott
 122 7-Jul-80 W.E.Harper, C.Harper
 111 16-Jul-79 W.E.Harper, C.Harper
 109 30-Jun-78 W.E.Harper
 103 21-Apr-02 D. Faulkner, J.Fontaine

ABA CHAMPION TOP TEN BIG DAYS COUNTRIES/REGIONS

COUNTRY/ REGION	#	DATE (d/m/y)	PARTICIPANTS				
Antarctica	24	4-Dec-95	N.Brinkley, S.Tingley	Cameroon	121	12-Sep-94	P.D.Burtch, R.Quantril, B.Quantril
	20	29-Dec-04	G.Mackiernan, B.Cooper, P.Clement, A.Quinn, P.Colston	Chile	83	5-Nov-02	B.Master, S.Howell
	17	19-Dec-87	D.Paulson		75	2-Nov-99	A.Jaramillo, T.Witt, D.Donsker
	17	29-Jan-98	G.Lasley		62	10-May-90	B.Swift, A.Hade, M.Rodriguez
Antigua	43	24-Jul-95	S.M.Lister, M.C.Hall	Colombia	144	3-Feb-84	S.Hilty, J.Vardaman
Argentina	149	8-Nov-03	R.Batchelder, A.Earnshaw	Comoros Islands	20	13-Feb-99	P.Kaestner
	142	20-Jan-93	A.Jaramillo	Costa Rica	308	2-Apr-00	D.Rogers, J.Vandergaast, J.Fossani
	120	6-Dec-05	F.Toldi, J.Toldi		306	8-Apr-99	D.Rogers, J.Zook, J.Vandergaast
	52	5-Feb-03	C.Campbell		292	18-Apr-98	D.Rogers, J.Zook
Aruba	72	12-Mar-05	S.Mlodinow		162	8-Oct-63	R.Ryan, N.Boyajian (on foot)
Australia	249	13-Oct-96	A.P.Anderson, J.Grant, E.Sticklen, G.Holmes	Croatia	78	16-Apr-01	S. Lister, M. Hall
	202	12-Dec-82	H.Beste, R.Dunkerton	Cuba	112	6-Apr-00	P.Kaestner
	182	17-Jul-81	H.Beste, R.Dunkerton		87	5-Apr-00	P.Kaestner; H.Kaestner
Austria	108	6-May-90	W.Firbas, U.Firbas		42	23-Dec-98	B.Maybank, J.Waldron
Bahamas	80	24-Jan-01	S.Mlodinow	Cyprus	103	21-Apr-95	S.M.Lister, M.C.Hall
	76	17-Jan-02	S.L.Doud, M.Duffey		84	20-Apr-87	S.M.Lister
	74	12-Oct-99	B.Hallett, T.White, A.Bainton, W.Bracey	Djibouti	95	2-Sep-01	P. Kaestner
	71	10-Jan-00	S.L.Doud, J.E.Sweeten (Andros)		85	1-Sep-01	P. Kaestner
Barbuda	47	8-Dec-99	J.Marshall, M.Marshall	Dominica	39	17-Jan-98	J.Meyer
Belize	202	30-Apr-99	L.Jones, S.Tillett, M.England		32	28-Apr-96	B.F.Master, S.Master, M.Flieg, H.Davidson, D.Albright, K.Garwood
	177	19-Mar-00	A.Guarente, G.Crawford, J.Ginaven, K.Loughlin, N.Pulcinella, D.Washabaugh	Dominican Republic	66	10-Apr-95	B.F.Master, S.Master, A.Hill, A.Small, T.Eastman,
	133	26-Feb-00	J.Marshall	Ecuador	181	13-Nov-96	P.Coopmans, B.J.Rose, S.Rose, Donald Traver, Donna Traver
Bermuda	72	16-Oct-99	M.Allaire, A.Dobson, L.Walker		109	27-Jul-93	B.F.Master, S.Master, M.Levy, A.Hill
Bhutan	96	22-Feb-05	G.Mackiernan, P.Clement, B.Cooper, R.Jagus	Egypt	80	17-Sept-04	P.Kaestner
Bolivia	160	21-Dec-76	V.Remsen		69	19-Apr-64	H.C.Kyillingstad
Botswana	107	1-Nov-81	B.A.Allen, J.Wilson		66	31-Dec-89	S.M.Lister, M.C.Hall
Brazil	180	6-Dec-03	P.Kaestner	El Salvador	44	8-Jul-04	L.Hintz, M.Vimmerstedt
	167	21-Nov-91	D.Stotz, W.Silva	England	147	11-May-96	D.W.Taylor, D.H.Tomlinson, M.Sutherland, B.Davison
	142	7-Nov-03	B.F.Master, P.Bono		145	7-May-89	D.W.Taylor, D.H.Tomlinson, B.Bland, A.Henderson
	135	25-Feb-00	B.F.Master, P.Bono		144	8-May-94	D.W.Taylor, B.Bland, A.Henderson, I.Hodgson
Brunei	124	10-Nov-96	P.Kaestner		115	11-May-96	J.Cantello, D.Wrathell, S.Wrathell, D.Allen (bicycle/foot)
Bulgaria	97	13-May-97	H.Turner, D.Georgiev, R.Walton, J.Schmidt, F.Brazier		84	5-May-95	P.Larkin (Big Sit)
	49	5-Aug-92	S.M.Lister, M.C.Hall, D.Gosney		77	10-May-99	D.Taylor, D.Wilson, B.Boleans (Big Sit)
Cayman Islands	64	4-Apr-01	B.F.Master		75	17-May-00	D.Taylor, R.Thompson, D.Wilson (Big Sit)
	46	24-Jun-00	C.H.Gambill	Estonia	109	7-Jun-94	B.F.Master, D.Master
	41	7-Mar-99	M.McHugh, L.Hart. (Grand Cayman Is.)	Ethiopia	189	10-Sep-01	P. Kaestner, M. Gebremichael
	34	10-Nov-96	T.Fitzpatrick		174	19-Aug-01	P. Kaestner, M. Gebremichael
Cameroon	135	11-Oct-97	P.Kaestner	France	181	7-May-94	J-P.Siblet, L.Spanneut, B.Bougeard

	153	15-May-93	J.P.Siblet, L.Spanneut, B.Bougeard, J-P.Delapré	Netherlands	190	10-May-03	R.Haas, W.Leurs, L.Heemshelk, J.van der Laan
	145	20-May-99	D.W.Taylor, D.H.Tomlinson, B.Bland, I.Hodgson		176	15-May-96	J.van der Laan, R.de Haas, L.Heemskerk, W.Leurs
Galapagos	47	14-Aug-84	F.Hayes, W.Baker, G.Bennett, T.Rochester		163	15-May-89	B.Pieterse, J.W.de Roever, W.E.M.van der Schot
Gambia	127	31-Mar-91	S.M.Lister, M.C.Hall, Y.Jaiteh		161	19-May-91	M.Berlign, T.Kompier, T.Luijendijk, A.Meijer
Germany	122	1-Jul-82	N.Brinkley	Nicaragua	56	12-Mar-98	M.E.Petrucha, G.R.Urquhart
Grand Cayman Islands	74	27-Oct-02	N.Norman, T.Baxter, B.Harlett		53	3-Feb-01	P. Kaestner, J. Carlos, M. Sanchez
Greece	77	28-Sept-05	P.Ward, K.Ward	Niger	57	24-Jan-04	M.Crickmore
	61	19-Apr-03	G.Olivoso	Nigeria	76	11-Mar-02	K.Burton
Grenada	36	18-Jul-95	S.M.Lister, M.C.Hall		63	10-Mar-02	K.Burton
	30	21-Apr-96	B.F.Master, S.Master, M.Flieg, H.Davidson, D.Albright, K.Garwood		61	5-Sep-87	P.Kaestner
Guadeloupe	29	30-Apr-96	B.F.Master, S.Master, M.Flieg, H.Davidson, D.Albright,	N. Ireland	133	8-May-93	C.Murphy, S.McKee, C.Mellon, D.Hunter
Guyana	150	6-Jan-99	R.Ryan, K.Garwood, B.Davidson		122	29-Apr-89	C.Murphy, C.Brewster, D.Knight, S.Foster
Guatemala	225	7-Apr-02	P.Kaestner, J.Berry	Oman	117	2-Nov-97	D.Sargeant, M.Sargeant
	208	1-Apr-01	P. Kaestner, W. Plomp	Panama	300	22-Mar-97	W.D.Robinson, D.Christian
	192	18-Nov-01	P. Kaestner, J. Barry		255	25-Jan-84	R.Ridgely, J.Vardaman
Honduras	149	6-Jan-01	P. Kaestner	P.New Guinea	215	7-May-83	P.Kaestner, B.Finch
Hungary	144	13-May-01	G. Magavar, A. Schmidt, E. Sos		208	13-Mar-83	P.Kaestner, B.Finch
Iceland	49	27-Jul-95	N.Brinkley, B.Cary, J.Nussman, J&M.Cressman.	Paraguay	180	21-Oct-89	F.Hayes, P.Scharf, J.E.Argana
					162	20-Oct-89	F.Hayes, P.Scharf, J.E.Argana
India	166	14-Nov-81	P.Kaestner, H.Kaestner		148	9-Dec-88	F.Hayes, D.Snider, T.E.Perrin
	161	21-Dec-94	B.F.Master, P.Holt, B.Behrstock, J.Bangma	Peru	331	5-Sep-82	T.Parker, S.Robinson
	146	22-Feb-84	B.King, J.Vardaman		278	16-Oct-81	T.Parker, J.Vardaman
Indonesia	105	7-Jun-79	C.Escott	Portugal	113	14-Oct-96	M.Bolton, C.Beale, M.Roberts, G.Rawcliffe
Ireland	122	29-Apr-89	C.Murphy, C.Brewster, D.Knight, S.Foster		108	24-Feb-96	G.Elias, C.C.Moore
	120	8-May-91	C.Murphy, S.McKee, R.Chambers, C.Mellon		104	2-Aug-96	G.Elias, J.Braga
Italy	64	23-Aug-95	W.Firbas, E.Mader	Poland	108	25-Jun-01	S. Gaulin, B. Hince
Ivory Coast	73	27 Dec-05	T.Witt, N.K.Borrow	Puerto Rico	94	23-Apr-74	H.Snyder, S.Den, P.Lehman
	25	27-Nov-78	P.Kaestner		74	22-Jan-96	P.D.Hunt, S.Burson, B.Steele, L.Gates
Jamaica	109	23-Mar-93	P.P.Marra, J.I.Lovette	Quata	43	8-Nov-05	B.Hallady, I.Halladay
	76	10-Mar-92	M.Lysinger, J.Arnett		30	5-Nov-04	I.Halladay, B.Halladay
	74	10-Mar-91	P.D.Hunt, P.Marra	Rwanda	41	6-Aug-86	N.Brinkely, D.Scotts
Japan	148	10-Aug-64	C.R.Johnson, A.Sasaki	St. Kitts	33	24-Jul-99	S.M.Lister, M.C.Hall
Kenya	290	25-Feb-84	D.Turner, T.Stevenson, D.Richards	St. Lucia	43	24-Apr-96	B.F.Master, S.Master, L.John, M.Flieg, H.Davidson,
	264	2-Dec-79	J.Gerhart, D.Turner		36	12-Jan-98	J.Meyer, 'D.Albright, K.Garwood
	248	19-Nov-78	J.Gerhart, J.Miskell, S.Wallace		31	16-Apr-95	B.F.Master, S.Master, A.Hill, A.Small, B.J.Rose, S.Rose
Madagascar	58	21-Dec-93	B.F.Master, B.Finch	St. Vincent	39	22-Apr-96	B.F.Master, S.Master, M.Flieg, H.Davidson, D.Albright,
Malaysia	94	3-Mar-03	B.Master, J.Dunn, D.Young		44	26-Sep-97	P.Kaestner, J.Gerhart, K.Garwood, B.Davidson
	73	16-Aug-99	S.Rajathurai (Big Sit)	Sao Tome & Principe	44	26-Sep-97	P.Kaestner, J.Gerhart, K.Garwood, B.Davidson
Mali	76	27-Dec-03	M.Cri.Ickmore	Saudi Arabia	112	6-Sep-01	G. Bletsch
	63	10-Aug-90	T.Cable, R.Marshall		106	7-Apr-83	J&T.Heindel, C&W.Peterson
Marianas Islands	23	15-Sep-82	P.Kaestner		103	7-Sep-00	G.Bletsch, P.Webb, A.Webb
Marshall Islands	16	18-Feb-77	D.Anderson	Seychelles	33	22-Nov-98	B.F.Master, S.Master, A.Skerritt
	14	20-Apr-76	D.Anderson		32	3-Sep-99	K.Lefriede, K.Selima
	13	1-Apr-76	D.Anderson	Senegal	105	31-Jan-93	B.Maybank, S.Finnegan
Martinique	30	25-Apr-96	B.F.Master, S.Master, M.Flieg, H.Davidson, D.Albright,	Singapore	129	30-Jan-99	S.Rajathurai, M.Landenburger
Mexico	229	18-Oct-02	J.Montejo, R.Straub, A.McAndrews		128	1-Jan-99	S.Rajathurai, W.L.Keng
	201	23-Dec-01	K. Kaufman, R. Taylor, C. Green, K.Garwood		125	23-Oct-99	S.Rajathurai, B.McCartney, R.McCartney
	191	16-Nov-89	R.Taylor, C.Green		59	2-Apr-99	S.Rajathurai, S.Subaraj (Big Sit)
Morocco	108	1-Jan-94	S.M.Lister, M.C.Hall, D.Gosney	Solomon Islands	40	16-Jun-02	B.Master
	99	30-Dec-93	S.M.Lister, M.C.Hall, D.Gosney	South Africa	247	7-Nov-87	D.Cyrus, N.Robson, H.Chitenden, P.Outhwaite (Natal)
Namibia	217	26-Nov-94	C.Hines, D.Farr, M.Paxton, P.Lane		232	11-Sep-85	D.Cyrus, G.Nichols, N.Robson (Natal)
Nepal	158	26-Feb-84	B.King, J.Vardaman, K.Ram				

	230	8-Nov-86	D.Cyrus, N.Robson, H.Chitenden, P.Outhwaite (Natal)		86	26-Dec-93	B.Maybank, T.Yip-Hoi, J.Taylor, J.Waldron, K&M Allsebrook
South Korea	42	3-Oct-81	H.H.Puppe, Y.Moo-boo	Turkey	129	29-Apr-95	J-P Sibley, B.Couronne
	34	4-Oct-81	H.H.Puppe, Y.Moo-boo	Uganda	260	16-Nov-70	M.Fogden
Spain	97	27-May-04	G.Mackiernan, B.Cooper		61	13-Aug-86	N.Brinkely, D.Scotts
	95	18-Jun-89	J.Parmeter, J.Strauss, E.Strauss	Uruguay	33	23-Nov-03	R.Batchelder
	74	21-Jun-85	D.Mark, B.Feltner	U.S. Virgin Islands	64	13-Oct-02	F.Hayes, B.Hayes
Sri Lanka	85	10-Jul-97	S.M.Lister, M.C.Hall		30	15-Nov-97	T.Fitzpatrick
Sudan	54	2-Apr-92	R.Holbrook, J.Lewis	Vanuatu	33	15-Jun-85	P.Kaestner
Suriname	173	2-Jan-84	R.Ridgely, J.Vardaman	Venezuela	192	30-Oct-85	C.Parrish, B.Swift
Switzerland	75	28-May-87	B.Swift, L.Maumary		160	30-Aug-86	B.Swift, I.Branger, E.Cartaya
Tanzania	146	28-Sep-98	P.Kaestner	Vietnam	85	16-Sep-65	C.R.Johnson, R.DeWitt, D.Long
Thailand	180	2-Mar-84	B.King, P.Round, J.Vardaman	Yemen	81	24-Oct-04	T.Witt, D.Farrow
Trinidad	177	23-Sep-01	M. Kenefick, F. Hayes, B. Hayes	Zambia	288	6-Dec-75	R.Dowsett, D.Aspinwall, T.Osborne
	167	7-Sep-00	F.Hayes, M.Kenefick, B.Sanasie		273	2-Nov-74	R.J.Dewsett, D.R.Aspinwall, W.F.Bruce-Miller, T.O.Osborne
	151	25-May-77	J.Funk, R.Randall, D.Heller, L.Calderon		273	30-Nov-75	R.J.Dowsett, T.O.Osborne
Tobago	113	8-Oct-01	N.George, F.Hyes, M.Kenefick, W.Murphy, B.Hayes	Zaire	135	20-Jul-78	P.Kaestner
	100	16-Oct-00	F.Hayes, M.Kenefick, B.Sanasie, B.Hayes	Zimbabwe	196	30-Jan-88	S.L.James, B.Wright, L.Schwab

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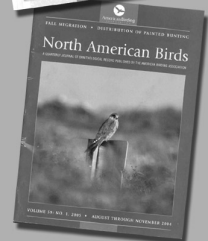
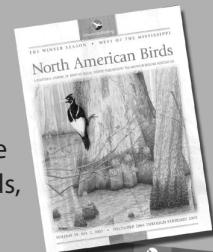
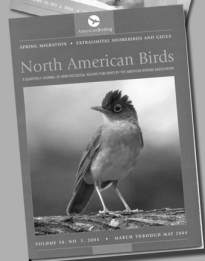
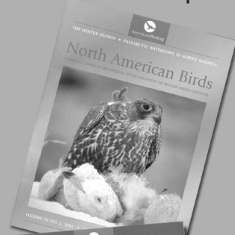
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PROVINCIAL & STATE RECORD BIG DAYS BY MONTH

AREA	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
ABA	176	175	213	258	230	202	182	199	177	178	178	176
CAN	127	109	105	163	205	202	182	167	154	121	117	121
48	176	175	213	258	230	189	174	199	177	178	178	176
PROVS	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
AB	27				178	150	150	80	88	80	56	41
BC	127	109	105	163	196	162	176	120	136	121	117	121
MB	31	41			205	202	182	167	154	105	73	33
NB	22		20	55	82	136		100	75			
NL	22	27	37	31	78	76	93	64	106	78		27
NT						64		41				
NS	39	80	72	72	131	145	93	106	101	85	62	70
NU							36					
ON	81	64	86	102	200	180	165	135	100	110	91	52
PI			35		128	141		104	108	51	69	61
QC			13	77	163	166	42	51	78			
SK					174	160	70	161				
YT					40	82	50	67				
STATE	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
AL	128	129	132	202	157	112	114	95	151	131	140	89
AK	39	40	54	63	110	125	61	72	63	29	60	48
AZ	110	113	134	191	178	136	131	199	158	147	114	137
AR	64		64	140	168		76	118			115	
CA	176	175	178	231	217	178	170	170	177	178	178	166
CO	98	100	100		204	128	139	176	151	120	105	90
CT	103		112	140	186	145	136	132	131		102	
DE	100	92	102	159	199	105	109	110	130	102	102	100
DC		68	81	101	134						60	57
FL	159	156	163	179	170	144	148	137	140	158	161	163
GA	142	146	139	193	174	147	132	147	157	154	141	145
HI	52	56	52	51	50		53	46	59	81	57	56
ID	75	93	102	125	156	176	132	105	104	75	81	80
IL	103	97	118	168	184	136	128	123	141	127	105	100
IN	73	77	86	125	189	139	119	107	125	121	81	72
IA	36	64	81	121	204	114	103	109	112	91	73	68

STATE	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
KS	102	102	122	164	225	139	146	155	136	144	103	103
KY	100	31	111	101	176	134	126	130	123	118	100	102
LA	119	125	176	209	189	143	149	110	118	126	112	101
ME	57			68	178	123	91	65	81	85	74	61
MD	135		136	108	206	177	174	99	115		120	
MA	83	91	101	101	185	151	128	98	102	108	94	90
MI	75	91	102	121	203	189	149	141	152	124	97	83
MN	63		92		204	151	90	148	136	56	46	
MS			140	175	171	125		74			102	
MO		88	115	155	208	125	86		82	87	102	93
MT	71	76		91	147	192	174	128	118		58	
NE	83	79	98	129	203	133			135	115	97	86
NV			139	124	162	133	127	75	74		121	99
NH	75	75	90	117	170	151	141	114	116	109	92	71
NJ	109	76	113	146	229	164	148	136	144	128	125	118
NM	116	97	112	178	200	111	138	177	170	105	93	100
NY	80	64	94	126	202	158	131	128	118	118	87	69
NC	82	94	87	167	184	93	106	110	80	97	113	89
ND				106	167	126	122	131				
OH	82	87	98	125	205	152	141	135	138	121	98	85
OK	85	95	104	177	182	78	76	105	129	117	92	75
OR	112		107	143	216	143	175	116	151			
PA		62	88	107	178	119	110	93	98	53	74	70
RI	92	87	88	105	159	123	113	85	88	106	98	90
SC	121	110	141	179	177	148	129	131	134	137	128	126
SD	42	41	82	89	175	107	154	102	108	91	69	49
TN	100	107	111	151	174	115	116	120	117	117	102	100
TX	174	175	213	258	203	165	163	165	161	176	174	176
UT		84	89	117	202	148	147	128	92			
VT	53	55	48	122	157	162	139	151	132	107		74
VA	77	86	89	94	178	106	91	95	147	101	96	110
WA	105	112	121	143	201	157	119	120	121	113	100	102
WV	54	40	53	73	140	115	68	46	64	44	51	52
WI	76	94	112	172	230	147	157	186	194	158	137	93
WY	46	47	49	103	180	109	141		81	76	70	