

Based on the plumage descriptions given by Bent, the bird in south Texas had not yet attained the pure white body plumage of an adult, but the black head and neck with the red band at the base of the neck were distinct.

To investigate the possibility that the bird might be an escapee, we sent inquiries to zoos in the United States. No *Jabirus* were reported missing. In addition, the bird's behavior and strong flight made it doubtful that it had been in captivity. Clarence Cottam, Director of the Welder Wildlife Foundation, and David R. Blankinship, biologist, National Audubon Society, accompanied us on different dates to observe the bird. There was no doubt of its identity.

It is interesting to speculate that tropical storms might have disrupted the normal movements of this largest of storks in the Western Hemisphere. Several tropical storms occurred in August 1971, and unusually heavy rainfall had flooded some rangeland in south Texas when the Jabiru was first seen.—HARRY H. HAUCKE, *Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843*, and WILLIAM H. KIEL, JR., *King Ranch, Kingsville, Texas 78363*. Accepted 18 May 72.

A mammalian convergence on the avian tarsometatarsus.—Fusion of the tarsals and metatarsals in most birds has produced one of the more characteristic avian skeletal elements, the tarsometatarsus. It is of interest that at least one other vertebrate group, the Dipodidae (Mammalia, Old World Jerboas) has developed a strikingly similar skeletal element. In contrast to modern birds, the dipodids have fused only the three central metatarsals, not including the tarsals (see Figure 1A, 1D), to form a single metatarsal bone. Some genera (e.g. *Dipus*) have completely lost metatarsals I and V, whereas small splints with accompanying digits are retained in others (e.g. *Allactaga*; see Schaub 1934, Abhandl. Schweiz. Palaeont. Gesell. 57: 5 for illustration of additional genera). The most significant differences of the dipodid metatarsus from the avian tarsometatarsus occur on the proximal end and include the lack of a distinct hypotarsus and the lack of differentiation of internal and external cotyla with an intervening intercotylar prominence. The dipodids instead have three rather flat, nearly horizontally oriented facets with no intervening protuberances

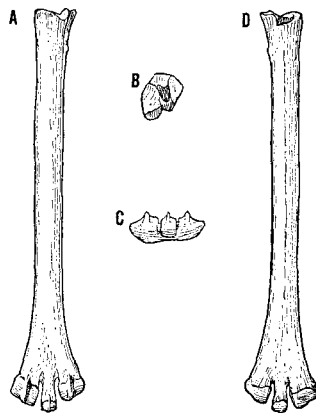


Figure 1. Fused metatarsus of *Dipus sowerbyi* (AMNH No. 55979, male), Dipodidae, Mammalia: A, posterior; B, proximal; C, distal; D, anterior ($\times 1\frac{1}{2}$).

accommodating the unfused tarsals (Figure 1B, 1D). Additionally on the distal end (Figure 1C), the trochleae are centrally ridged on the posterior surface and smooth on the anterior surface instead of being centrally grooved as in birds. The central trochlea may be the smallest of the three (as in *Dipus*) or subequal to trochleae II and IV (e.g. *Alactagulus*) unlike the case in most birds where trochlea III is commonly largest or second largest of the three. Dipodids further lack the anterior metatarsal groove with accompanying proximal foramina as well as the distal foramen located between trochleae III and IV in most birds.

Thanks are due Malcolm C. McKenna and Richard H. Tedford for pointing out the occurrence of metatarsal fusion in the Dipodidae and to Ray Gooris for drawing Figure 1. Work was supported by an American Association of University Women Fellowship for 1971-72 and a grant to the University of Colorado Museum by the Smithsonian Institution.—PAT VICKERS RICH, *Department of Geology, Columbia University, New York, New York. Present address: Department of Vertebrate Paleontology, American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th Street, New York, New York 10024.* Accepted 30 Jun. 72.

First record of Sooty Shearwater for Arizona.—On 6 June 1971, while driving on Highway 8, 36 miles east of Yuma, Yuma County, Arizona, I noticed a dark object on the side of the highway. Thinking it to be a Common Raven (*Corvus corax*), I stopped to see if it was salvageable, and was greatly surprised to find a Sooty Shearwater (*Puffinus griseus*). I left the bird at the University of Arizona, Tucson, and Stephen Russell notified me that it was a new record for Arizona. The specimen (University of Arizona, No. 10316) was a female (ovary 3×7 mm), extremely fat, and not molting.—RAYMOND J. QUIGLEY, *Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, Los Angeles, California 90024.* Accepted 26 Jun. 72.

First Utah record of the Baltimore Oriole.—The Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) is primarily confined to the eastern portion of the United States and Canada (Check-list of North American birds, fifth ed. 1957, Baltimore, Amer. Ornithol. Union) and only rarely wanders west of the Rocky Mountains (Abbot 1962, Condor, 64: 441). On 27 June 1964 I collected a first-year male Baltimore Oriole in a small grove of primarily Siberian elm (*Ulmus pumila* L.), white poplar (*Populus alba* L.), and boxelder (*Acer negundo* L.) approximately 2 miles south of Milford, 5,000 feet elevation, Beaver County, Utah ($38^{\circ} 22' N$, $113^{\circ} 01' W$). The bird was prepared as a study skin and is now in the University of Utah Museum of Zoology (No. 19311). The specimen has quite worn plumage, especially pronounced in the secondaries and rectrices, and also a few scattered yellow feathers in the head and throat region typical of first year male Baltimore Orioles. The bird was in a nonreproductive state; its testes measured only 3×2 mm.

The above specimen, along with nine other orioles collected in the same area between 25 and 28 June 1964, have been examined by James D. Rising: who (in litt.) found the bird to be phenetically a "pure" Baltimore Oriole showing no tendency toward the Bullock's Oriole (*Icterus bullockii*). Rising classified the specimen primarily on the basis of the characteristic lesser secondary coverts and the comparatively smaller size. The four other adult males in the series were classified as "pure" *I. bullockii*, although one specimen (No. 19318) showed an unusual amount of black in its forehead stripe. Two of the four adult females were typical *I. bullockii*, but the other two showed some phenetic qualities of normal *I. galbula*. Specimen number 19317, showing some