

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Sir:

In their note "Mate fidelity and nesting site tenacity in the Killdeer" (1975, Auk 92: 149), Sarah Lenington and Terry Mace state, "Although the Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*) is a common breeding bird throughout much of temperate North America, little information is available about its breeding." This statement is decidedly misleading, and I would call their attention to my 366-page dissertation entitled "The Killdeer (*Charadrius v. vociferus*) in the breeding season: ecology, behavior, and the development of homiothermism," submitted to the University of Michigan for the degree of Doctor of Science in 1959. The abstract appeared in "Dissertation Abstracts" in 1959 (L.C. Card No. mic 59-4891). A copy of the dissertation is obtainable in microfilm and Xerox from University Microfilms, Inc., 313 North First Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan, U.S.A. Enlargements $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ inches are also available. The dissertation included detailed chapters on vocalization, courtship display and copulation, nests (location, construction, and materials), eggs and their care, behavior of young and parental care, development of homiothermism in young Killdeers, and behavior toward intruders (with detailed study of agonistic behavior and analysis of injury feigning). It included 121 figures.

Sincerely yours,
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NOTES AND NEWS

A limited number of Student Membership Awards are made available each year by the A.O.U. Students at any stage of their academic training who are not now and have never been A.O.U. members are eligible. In 1975, 39 of 103 applicants were given A.O.U. Student Membership Awards. The recipients came from 22 of the United States and 3 Canadian provinces.

Application forms will be mailed in November to ornithologists who normally have contacts with students. Application forms will also be available at that time from the SECRETARY or from the CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON STUDENT AWARDS, DR. RUSSELL P. BALDA, *Department of Biological Sciences, Box 5640, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Arizona 86001*. The deadline for receipt of applications by the committee is 10 December 1975.

The committee made two Marcia Brady Tucker Travel Awards totaling \$500 to attend the A.O.U. meeting in Winnipeg, Manitoba. The recipients were Phillip F. Elliot, Kansas State University, Manhattan; and Joseph L. Suchecki, University of Connecticut, Storrs. Eight applications were received.

The Pacific Seabird Group will hold its annual meeting 11-14 December 1975 at Asilomar Conference Grounds, Pacific Grove, California. In addition to a general papers session dealing with marine birds and their environment, two symposia are scheduled: "Biology and taxonomy of marine Charadriiformes," chaired by Dr. Joseph R. Jehl, Jr.; and "Seabird conservation problems on the California coasts," chaired by Dr. Daniel Anderson. For further details contact: PAUL R. KELLY, 816 Sutter Avenue, Palo Alto, California 94303.