

five minutes after the female had flown from her perch out of sight into lower mesquite brush, some fifty yards from the nest. The male carried the woodrat into the same area where the female had disappeared, and about fifteen minutes later he reappeared without the mammal.

Four nests were located, all in trees and at heights of about 25, 15, 10, and 6 feet above the ground. Cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*), mulberry (*Morus rubra*), and mesquite were used. Young fledged from two nests on or about 1 July. By using Bent's (op. cit. :143) incubation period of 28 days and a nestling period of 51 days (present study), I calculate that the eggs were laid about 12 April. Three other nests were at later stages than these two. On 1 July two nests with three eggs and one with two eggs were found. Both nests with three eggs had broken egg shells beneath them; thus the clutches may have been re-nestings. The young from these nests fledged young around 15 September. The two egg clutch failed to hatch. The only later clutch date on record, one on 25 August, was reported in Texas by Le Sasser and Williams (op. cit. :386).

On 16 August the bills of six young in two nests were covered with a white, salty (by taste) substance suggesting the presence of nasal salt glands.

I wish to thank B. E. Mattingly, Sam Crowe, and John Longmire for their assistance in the field and Dr. J. Ligon for critically reviewing the manuscript.—PETER H. PACHE, *Department of Biology, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106. Accepted 15 November 1973.*

**American Kestrel preys on least weasel.**—On 11 January 1972, in south-central Ohio near the Ross-Pickaway county line, I observed a female American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) fly off a fencepost and drop a small mammal. I identified the latter as a female least weasel (*Mustela rixosa*). The skin of the weasel was torn off the head, and the neck was exposed and broken; otherwise the animal was intact. Captive and wild American Kestrels nearly always attack the head of a prey item first (Roest, *The Auk*, 74:1-19, 1957; pers. obs.). This suggests that the weasel was actually killed by the kestrel.

The least weasel is not included as a prey item of this species in a survey made by Heinzelman (*Wilson Bull.*, 76:323-330, 1964), and I could find no other records of its being taken by this kestrel.—G. SCOTT MILLS, *Department of Biological Sciences, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona. Accepted 8 November 1973.*

**Feeding activities of Ospreys in Minnesota.**—The breeding biology of Ospreys (*Pandion haliaetus*) has been studied extensively, but feeding activities are not well documented. Lambert's (*Canadian Field-Naturalist*, 57:87-88, 1943) study of fishing methods and success of Ospreys near Shelbourne, Nova Scotia, is one of the few published to date. My study presents information on fishing flights and methods, and food habits of Ospreys in north-central Minnesota in 1966 to 1971. The study area was in the Chippewa National Forest and included Itasca County, Minnesota. There are 1,217 lakes and 155 named streams totaling over 136,437 ha of water in the National Forest (Mathisen, *J. Wildl. Mgmt.*, 32:1-6, 1968), and much of the sparsely inhabited area is utilized only for logging and recreation.

The direction and destination of 41 fishing flights by male Ospreys from seven nests were recorded. Thirty-four flights from six of the nests to fishing sites were watched from blinds in trees along the flight paths in 1967. The other seven flights in 1971 from