The parent birds accepted and occupied the artificial structures in all four cases. At two nests the kites added material that increased the size of the nest after the switch was accomplished. When the initial changes were made, one nest contained young and three contained eggs. Two of the four nests were successful, fledging five young (two and three each). Failure of the other two nests resulted from predation on the eggs.

Although no ant problem was witnessed in 1973, use of artificial nest structures could greatly reduce this threat. This would be done by making the single vertical support ant-proof and by taking care to prevent surrounding vegetation from touching either the nest or the support structure. Additional modifications of the structure might also result in the prevention of nest predation by mammals and snakes.

The Sutton nest structure consists of a shallow basket attached to a 1.5-m-long shaft of thin-walled metal tubing (Fig. 1), 8 cm in diameter and open at the bottom end. The basket has a tubular outer ring, 1 cm in diameter, with six concentric and 15 radial strips, each 1.5-cm-wide and riveted together, forming the "nest." The basket measures 55 cm inside diameter and 8 cm in depth. It is supported on the bottom by three braces, which are woven into the basket and are attached by rivets to the main support tubing. The metal used in the construction is aircraft-grade 321-gauge stainless steel, but galvanized or aluminum sheet metal should be equally satisfactory. The concentric strips and the braces were cut from a sheet of the same gauge stainless steel, and the radials were cut from the upper end of the support shaft, leaving the lower ends attached. The support was inserted over a wooden post or metal pipe, each of the proper diameter to give a snug fit, and driven into the marsh substrate. The nest structure was found to be lightweight, durable, easy to handle in the field, and reusable indefinitely, if removed upon completion of nesting and stored in a sheltered place until ready for use at another nest.

We thank Ivan Sutton for making and delivering the nest structures at his own expense and to Reece I. Sailer and D. R. Smith, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Research Services, Beltsville, Maryland, for specific identification of the predator ants.—PAUL W. SYKES, JR., *Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Field Station, P. O. Box 2077, Delray Beach, Florida 33444 and* RODERICK CHANDLER, *National Audubon Society, Sanctuaries Department, 505 SW 10th Street, Okeechobee, Florida 33472.* *Accepted 6 May 1974.*

Occurrence of Swainson's Hawk substantiated in New Jersey.—There are numerous sight and several specimen records of Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsonii*) in the eastern United States, but apparently no previous substantiated records exist for New Jersey. The only specimen record from the state is of a bird purportedly collected in Essex County in 1915 (now in the Buffalo Museum of Science), but Heintzelman (Cassinia, 54:31, 1973) has recently rejected it as being of doubtful validity.

On 16 September 1973, I trapped, banded, photographed, and released a light-phased juvenile ("immature") Swainson's Hawk at Cape May Point, Cape May County, New Jersey. Measurements were: wing (chord) 377 mm; culmen (from cere to tip of bill) 20.1 mm; and weight 518 g. The bird was in excellent plumage and showed no signs of having been in captivity. The primaries and rectrices (the tips of the latter still retained a small amount of down) were undamaged, whereas caged hawks nearly always damage the tips of these feathers. This species is not normally used for falconry and the tarsi showed no sign of wear by jesses. Thus I consider that this was a normal wild bird.

Photographs have been deposited in the National Photoduplication File, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, Maryland (accession numbers 342-1Ca and 342-1Cb). Mr. Chandler Robbins confirmed the species identification based on these photographs. This is Cape May Point Raptor Banding Station Research Report No. 2.—WILLIAM S. CLARK, *7800 Dassett Court, No. 101, Annandale, Virginia 22003. Accepted 19 March 1974.*

American Kestrel transports Norway rat.—Adult *Rattus norwegicus* in northern Illinois have been found to weigh between 234 and 475 g ($\bar{x}$ 372, based on 5 specimens). On two occasions I have observed a female American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) carrying what appeared to be an adult of this rat in its talons. Neither bird was more than 0.3 m above the ground when it flew in front of my automobile. One (NIU 1008) was struck by my car on 12 July 1959 near Belvidere, Boone County, Illinois. This female was carrying a rat from which portions of the thoracic region had been consumed. The rat was fresh and probably had been killed by the falcon. The second incident occurred on the same day near DeKalb, DeKalb County, Illinois. This kestrel was not collected, but flew in front of my vehicle in labored and close-to-the-ground flight.

Accurate weights are not available for representative female kestrels of the northern Illinois population, but birds from this area are probably larger than Oklahoma specimens for which I have weights (116.5 and 122.5 gms). However, even allowing for a few additional grams weight in Illinois birds, it appears that the American Kestrel is capable of flight while carrying prey approaching or perhaps twice its own body weight.

This paper represents contribution number 504 from the NIU Department of Biological Sciences.—WILLIAM E. SOUTHERN, *Department of Biological Sciences, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois 60115. Accepted 26 April 1974.*

Recent breeding of the Sandhill Crane in North Dakota.—Before the present century, Sandhill Cranes (*Grus canadensis*) bred fairly commonly in North Dakota, but local breeding populations rapidly declined during the late 1800's and early 1900's (Stewart, Birds of North Dakota. In preparation). By the early 1920's this species had apparently been extirpated from the state as a breeding bird. On 22 June 1973 we obtained evidence of breeding in the state for the first time in recent decades. On that date we sighted a downy young crane accompanied by two adults. They were in a 130 hectare hay meadow, adjacent to the Souris River, on J. Clark Salyer National Wildlife Refuge, McHenry County. The area, interspersed with wetlands and subject to spring flooding in some years, is primarily vegetated with western wheatgrass (*Agropyron smithii*) and quackgrass (*A. repens*).

According to Littlefield and Ryder (Trans. 33rd North Amer. Wildlife Conf., 444–454, 1968), nests of the Sandhill Crane are normally located in or near free water. A search revealed the probable nest of the cranes, consisting of a pile of dried marsh vegetation (approximately 40 cm in diameter), surrounded by water. Eggshells were not present, but a crane feather was found near the structure.

We captured the young crane and estimated it to be 80 cm tall, with the primary quills erupted about 25 mm. Based on descriptions by Walkinshaw (The Sandhill Crane. Cranbrook Inst. Sci. Bull. 29, 1949), we estimated that the crane was approximately six