

The four that had no prey took to the air, but not the one with the goose. When the coyote was quite close, the eagle jumped right at it, and from my vantage point, it looked as if it actually grabbed the coyote. There was a lot of action for a brief moment; the eagle with flailing wings and the coyote struggling to get back in the direction he had come from.

Suddenly the coyote dashed around the eagle and made a rush for the goose, but before he could pick it up, the eagle again attacked and the coyote jumped out of reach.

Now the eagle remained on the goose carcass and resumed eating as if nothing had happened. The coyote meanwhile circled the feeding bird at a distance of perhaps eight feet. Once he tried to sneak up behind and grab something, but immediately the eagle turned and struck out with his feet and the coyote hastily retreated.

Eventually he lay down some 30 feet from the eagle and waited. In about a half-hour the big bird had his fill and flew away. Immediately the coyote picked up the remains of the goose and trotted back to the south side and there stopped to eat.

## CARDINAL AT PIKE LAKE, SASKATCHEWAN

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On 14 October 1979, the Saskatoon Natural History Society's Rare Bird Alert sprang into action and reported two rare sightings. A farmer near Warman had spotted three Whooping Cranes. Meanwhile at Pike Lake, Laura Hoyte reported

that a male Cardinal had been regularly visiting her bird feeder. Two rare birds in one day presented a dilemma — which bird should one look for? The only reasonable solution — look for both. That afternoon I drove out to the Warman district with my parents and found several SNHS members looking for the Whooping Cranes. After an hour's search we found them behind a hill. After viewing the whoopers, we continued on to Pike Lake. Ten minutes after arriving we were delighted to find the Cardinal emerge from the bushes and feed on the ground with some juncos.

The Cardinal had first been spotted in the area as early as late July by the Hoytes' neighbours, Mr and Mrs. Bell. However, the Cardinal was then very elusive and was seen only occasionally until mid-October. From 14-27 October, it visited Hoyte's feeder regularly. During this period it was observed by many members of the Saskatoon NHS. Stuart and Mary Houston attempted to trap the bird for banding purposes but were unsuccessful. Lawrence Baschak was able to obtain several photographs.

The only previous record for the Saskatoon district was a Cardinal observed by Frank Roy and party on the May Day Count, 26 May 1951 (*Blue Jay*, 15:102). Other Saskatchewan observations were made east of Yorkton by P. Fraser in May 1895 (*Blue Jay*, 19:142), in Regina by F. G. Bard during summer 1926, in Esterhazy by Mrs. Bert Ford during January 1951 and at the farm home of Mrs. Ted Scriven on 9 July 1951 (*Blue Jay*, 19:77). The last report in Saskatchewan was a male collected at Craven by R. W. Nero and Elmer Fox on 29 December 1960 (*ibid*). The Pike Lake observation therefore represents the only Saskatchewan report during the last 19 years.