

Robert Parsons, George Holland, Norm Cleveland and Russel Tkachuck. Based on his field notes, R. Koes believed the bird was a first-winter male (R. Koes, *in litt.*).

Although C.L. Broley recorded a female of the "Brewster's Warbler" (hybrid of the Golden-winged and Blue-winged warblers) east of Winnipeg in 1932, this sighting is the first Manitoba record for the Blue-winged Warbler.² It is likely that, after leaving breeding grounds to the south, the bird became disoriented and migrated north instead of south to its regular wintering grounds. The closest breeding population occurs in southeast Minnesota.¹ On 6 November, the day before the observation, winds were from the south at 8-16 kmph and the temperature reached 5° C. These conditions may have favoured a northward movement. Brazier similarly explained Saskatchewan's first specimen record of this species, a first-winter male obtained 9 November 1965.¹

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- ¹ BRAZIER, F. 1966. Saskatchewan's first specimen of the Blue-winged Warbler. *Blue Jay* 24(1):9-10.
- ² LAWRENCE, A.G. 1932. Chickadee Notes, Column 584. *Winnipeg Free Press*. June 03.
- ³ MACKENZIE, D.I. 1982. The dune-ridge forest, Delta Marsh, Manitoba: overstory vegetation and soil patterns. *Can. Field-Nat.* 96:61-68.
- ⁴ SEALY, S.G. 1980. Breeding biology of Orchard Orioles in a new population in Manitoba. *Can. Field-Nat.* 94:154-158.

BALD EAGLE KILLS AND CARRIES GIANT CANADA GOOSE

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An article in the March 1987 *Blue Jay* about Bald Eagles preying on waterfowl has prompted me to record the following brief observation. Canada Geese nesting at the Alf Hole Goose Sanctuary in the Whiteshell Provincial Park near Rennie, Manitoba, have been identified as Giant Canada Geese, a subspecies weighing from 9 to 20 pounds. At Rennie, they arrive back in late March when open water may be limited. On 30 March 1988, while patrolling my trapline along the Whiteshell River near Mallard Lake the author flushed a flock of 15 geese from open water near a beaver dam. As they rose from the water an adult Bald Eagle suddenly dropped down from the sky and struck one. The goose fell to the ice and was quickly picked up by the eagle. The eagle flew off low with the goose, carrying it roughly 70 feet away to the far shore of the river where it dropped out of sight.

Later that day, at Basket Falls, another adult Bald Eagle was flushed from its resting place in a tree by the noise from my power toboggan. As it flew off, a large flock of Canada Geese swimming on the open water below the falls became extremely nervous; several of them dove beneath the surface of the water. This suggests that the geese recognised the eagle as a threat.