

birds are sexually monomorphic in size. Hudson (op. cit.: 96) correctly recorded a size difference between the sexes, which seems to occur at least in Buenos Aires Province, Argentina. In my study area Screaming Cowbirds are sexually dimorphic in size (weights of 4 males: 66, 64, 62 and 61 g; 5 females: 52, 51, 51, 49 and 48 g). Quite probably the overly large nestling and fledgling Screaming Cowbirds were males.

Differences in behavior and vocalizations.—There are several differences in behavior and vocalizations between Screaming Cowbirds and bay-wings, and some of these may be detected among the juveniles of both species. For instance, adult bay-wings practice allopreening, and fledgling bay-wings often beg preening by assuming the Allopreening Invitation Posture (described in Selander, *Auk* 81:394–402, 1964). I have not seen this posture among young or adult Screaming Cowbirds. Young Screaming Cowbirds may start to utter their unmistakable adult vocalizations in subdued versions when still in the juvenal, bay-wing-like plumage.—ROSENDO M. FRAGA, *Guido 1698, 16B, 1016, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Accepted 1 Mar. 1978.*

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Chimney Swift nest found in hollow tree.—On 3 August 1977 K. D. Blodgett discovered a Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) nest in a live, hollow silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*) when he removed the tree to free power lines.

The most recent record we found of a Chimney Swift nesting in a tree was that reported by Hofslund in 1958 (*Wilson Bull.* 70:192) and fewer than 10 others have appeared in the last 100 years. The nest tree described here was in a quiet residential area in Kinderhook, Illinois, a small rural community on the eastern bluff overlooking a floodplain of the Mississippi River. There were 3 or 4 large silver maples and several smaller ornamental trees on the 0.2 ha lawn in the nest-site area. The crown of the nest tree was continuous on 1 side with that of another silver maple of similar size. The nest tree was about 1 m in diameter at the base, 70 cm diameter at the nest level, and 25 m tall. The inside of the tree cavity was about 50 cm in diameter at the nest level. While the tree was being cut, Blodgett saw a Chimney Swift ascend from a 25 cm opening in a broken stub that extended about 10 cm from the trunk at about 4 m above the ground—well below the canopy. The bird circled the tree about 1 min, flying within 4 m of the workmen using a chain saw. The bird's behavior and the excellent condition of the nest indicated that the nest was probably used in 1977. It was glued to the SE wall of the tree cavity about 3 m from the ground. It was identified by Edwin C. Franks and R. M. Zammuto and is preserved in the biological collections of Western Illinois University.—K. DOUGLAS BLODGETT AND RICHARD M. ZAMMUTO, *Dept. of Biological Sciences, Western Ill. Univ., Macomb, IL 61455. Accepted 10 Apr. 1978.*

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Notes on the reproductive behavior of the Yellow-billed Cuckoo.—On 20 May 1964, my Ornithology class and I were in open bottomland second growth forest along the Allegheny River near Allegany, Cattaraugus Co., New York, and observed a precopulatory display by a Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*). The bird was in a position that has been described by Hamilton and Hamilton (*Proc. Calif. Acad.*

Sci. 32:405-432, 1965) as an intention movement to flee, with tarsi horizontal to the limb, and head and tail elevated. The bird then lowered its tail so that it pointed towards the ground, then raised it 180 degrees to point straight up. This movement was repeated 6 to 8 times after which another bird that we assumed was a male flew in and copulated—depressing his tail and moving it laterally towards the exposed cloaca of the female. He continued copulating about 5 sec and flew off. About 2 min later, the presumed female, resumed the precopulatory display, pumping the tail as described above. The male immediately flew down and a second copulation occurred.

On 11 June 1976, in company with Richard J. Clark, we observed a Yellow-billed Cuckoo breaking off small twigs in Cain Hollow of Quaker Run, Allegany State Park, in southwestern New York. After a few minutes it flew to a nest upon which another cuckoo was sitting and presented the twigs to the sitting bird which then placed them in the nest. Between 09:00 and 09:30 we observed this cuckoo bring 2 sticks, each about 15 cm long, and 4 beakfull of what appeared to be pine needles and grass and present them to the sitting bird, which then tucked the material into the nest. Finally the cuckoo sidled up to the sitting bird and exchanged positions with it on the nest. No vocalizations were heard during the period of our observations. The next day Clark checked the nest and found 2 eggs. We presumed that the female was still in the process of laying because 3 to 4 eggs are a normal clutch at this latitude. Two weeks later he checked the nest again and found it empty. The nest was located 2.4 m from the ground on a 5 cm diameter horizontal branch and about 2.4 m out from the trunk of a pignut hickory (*Carya glabra*). The site was near the edge of a mature wooded area where second growth was invading an abandoned pasture.

These observations add to our knowledge of the Yellow-billed Cuckoo as no previous description of this distinctive precopulatory display has been published. Hamilton and Hamilton (op. cit.) described 1 attempted copulation in the western subspecies (*C. a. occidentalis*) which was similar to our observation except it lacked the tail pumping.

The bringing of nest material at the time of, and then following, the laying of the eggs is reminiscent of accipitrid and Purple Martin (*Progne subis*) behavior where green vegetation is brought to the nest. Stick offering is a common pair bond behavior in the Roadrunner (*Geococcyx californianus*) as is a vertical tail flick in the female, preceding a successful mount by the male (Whitson, *The Living Bird*, 14:215-255, 1975).

I suggest that the presentation of nesting material to a sitting bird aids in strengthening the pair bond in the same manner as courtship feeding and dueting function in other species (Skutch, *Parent Birds and Their Young*. Univ. Texas Press, 1976:18-20). STEPHEN W. EATON, *Dept. of Biology, St. Bonaventure Univ., St. Bonaventure, NY 14778. Accepted 14 Apr. 1978.*