

## SPRING SIGHTINGS (MARCH - MAY 2004)

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This report covers the period from March through May 2004 in Alabama and the Florida Panhandle (west of the Apalachicola River). The appearance of observations in this article does not suggest verification or acceptance of records for very rare species; these must be considered by the appropriate state records committees. All submissions of birds that are rare, either in general or for a particular season or region, must be accompanied by adequate details of the observation. The extent of this documentation depends on the rarity of the species and the difficulty of identification. For guidance, observers are encouraged to consult the Alabama Ornithological Society checklist. Reports should note conditions of observation and the diagnostic characters observed. Your help in this matter is appreciated.

**Abbreviations and italics:** County names are in italics and, except for the Florida counties of *Escambia*, *Okaloosa*, *Santa Rosa*, and *Walton*, are in Alabama. “@” = subject to review by appropriate records committee; “ABRC” = Alabama Bird Records Committee; “BBA” = Breeding Bird Atlas; “CE” = central east; “CW” = central west; “FWBSF” = Fort Walton Beach Sewerage Facility; “m.ob.” = many observers; “NF” = National Forest; “NW” = northwest; “NWR” = National Wildlife Refuge; “ph.” = photographed; “SE” = southeast; “SP” = State Park; “WMA” = Wildlife Management Area; “WP” = Western Panhandle of Florida (*Escambia*, *Okaloosa*, *Santa Rosa*, and *Walton* counties); “WTF” = Woerner Turf Farm.

**GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE** – This species is rare on most of the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama, so one spotted at Hugo, *Marengo*, 17 March (Don Self, Judy Self) was noteworthy.

**GADWALL** – Damien Simbeck found a late bird near Leighton, *Colbert*, 14 May.

**RING-NECKED DUCK** – Reports of late birds came from two locations: one east of Leighton, *Colbert*, 3-14 May (Damien Simbeck, Steve McConnell, Jeff Garner, Greg Jackson), and one on Point A Lake, *Covington*, 20 May (Douglas Robinson).

**SURF SCOTER** – An adult male seen on Grand Bay west of Point-aux-Pins, *Mobile*, 28 April (Eric Soehren) tied the late departure record for the Gulf

Coast.

- RUDDY DUCK** – One was late at Andalusia, *Covington*, 19 May (Douglas Robinson).
- RUFFED GROUSE** – This species is rare and local in the uplands of north-central *Jackson*, from which came two records: one heard in the Hytop CW BBA block 1 May (Jim Schrenkel *et al.*), and one seen at the Walls of Jericho, 10 May (Doug Fears).
- RED-THROATED LOON** – One was at Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 27 March (Scott Atkinson) (rare).
- COMMON LOON** – A single in basic plumage was late at Lake Purdy, *Jefferson*, 9 May (Greg Jackson, Debra Jackson).
- PIED-BILLED GREBE** – One was on a nest in a sinkhole pond near Leighton, *Colbert*, 26 April (Greg Jackson), but the nest was dry and abandoned 5 May (uncommon breeder in Alabama).
- HORNED GREBE** – Greg Jackson observed one in alternate plumage on a sinkhole pond near Leighton, *Colbert*, 26 April (late).
- EARED GREBE** – This species is very rare in spring in the WP, so one found at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, 19 March (Brian Monk) was noteworthy. A single was found on a sinkhole pond near Leighton, *Colbert*, 12 March (Damien Simbeck) where the species is rare but regular.
- AUDUBON'S SHEARWATER** – A pelagic trip organized by Brian Monk, with 14 other observers, went as far as 100 miles south of Destin, *Okaloosa*, 23 May. Five Audubon's Shearwaters were recorded (five previous records for the WP).
- WILSON'S STORM-PETREL** – Rare but regular offshore in summer in the WP, the same trip described under Audubon's Shearwater above yielded three individuals of this species.
- BAND-RUMPED STORM-PETREL** – Now rare but regular in summer in the Gulf off the WP, the same pelagic trip described above yielded a total of 28 Band-rumped Storm-Petrels, a maximum for the WP. Additionally, a single found in the Gulf was brought to the Wildlife Sanctuary of West Florida 20 April where it expired. This bird was identified by Dorothy Kaufmann, Bob Duncan, and Lucy Duncan, with the specimen being sent to the Florida State Museum.
- MASKED BOOBY** – The first April records for the WP were established by an immature bird off Destin Beach, *Okaloosa*, 22 April (Brian Monk) and one adult and four immature birds at Fort Pickens, *Escambia*, 29 April (Lucy Duncan, Bob Duncan).

- AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN** – This species is rare in the Mountain Region, so six seen on Weiss Lake, *Cherokee*, 2 April (Renee Morrison, Pete Conroy) were notable. A single bird, presumably the crippled individual seen through summer and into fall, was observed 26 April-31 May at Town Creek Marsh, *Colbert* (Greg Jackson, Ned Piper, Harry Dean).
- ANHINGA** – Singles of this species, uncommon to rare at the north edge of the breeding range, were found north of Montgomery, *Montgomery*, 1 May (Larry Gardella) and along Interstate 65 at Crescent Lake, *Elmore*, 3 May (Greg Jackson).
- AMERICAN BITTERN** – This species is rarely detected as an inland migrant, so one found at a sinkhole pond near Leighton, *Colbert*, 5 May (Greg Jackson) was noteworthy.
- TRICOLORED HERON** – Lorna West found one at Eufaula NWR, *Barbour*, 15 May (occasional in spring in inland Alabama).
- GLOSSY IBIS** – One to two dark-eyed adults in breeding plumage were observed at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, 14 April – 11 May (Alan Knothe, Bob Duncan *et al.*) (rare in the WP).
- WHITE-FACED IBIS** – Two birds with red eyes and complete white borders around eyes and face were observed at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, 19 April – 11 May (Brian Monk, Lucy Duncan, Bob Duncan, Alan Knothe *et al.*) (sixth WP record). This species is becoming more regular in Alabama, with a single establishing the 17th record at Bayou La Batre, *Mobile*, 1 May (Geoff Hill *et al.*; @ABRC).
- ROSEATE SPOONBILL** – The first spring (and 28th overall) record for Alabama was set 3 March by an immature bird reported by Gena Tobia (*vide* Bill Summerour) from east of Daphne, *Baldwin*.
- SWALLOW-TAILED KITE** – At Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, a single was early 1 March (David Dortch, Carrie Dortch). The 13 counted at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 21 March (Roger Hoffman) was a good number. Bill Summerour observed nest building by this species at the Clearwater Tract, *Baldwin*, 29 March (nesting is rarely documented in Alabama).
- BALD EAGLE** – An adult was found at Lake Purdy, *Jefferson*, 31 March (Greg Jackson, Debra Jackson) where the species is locally rare.
- SHARP-SHINNED HAWK** – Records of two singles came from south Alabama, birds that were either late in departing or casual if nesting this far south: Fulton East CE BBA block, *Clarke*, 10 May (Rick West), and Rome, *Covington*, 20 May (Douglas Robinson).
- GOLDEN EAGLE** – An immature bird found near Weogufka Creek, *Coosa*,

18 April (Ryan Shurette *et al.*) set a late departure record for south Alabama.

**YELLOW RAIL** – One was seen briefly and heard at the airport marsh on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 27 April (Bob Duncan, Lucy Duncan, Cecil Brown, Laura Catterton) (14<sup>th</sup> Alabama record; @ABRC).

**BLACK RAIL** – The first May record for the WP was set by one seen and heard at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, 5 May (Alan Knothe).

**KING RAIL** – Rare and local in the Tennessee Valley, two were found at Oakland Marsh, *Lauderdale*, 3 May (Steve McConnell, Damien Simbeck, Jeff Garner), a site where the species is regular in spring. Damien Simbeck found two in a marsh in the Falkville CE BBA block, *Morgan*, 21 May.

**VIRGINIA RAIL** – Rare in the Tennessee Valley, one was seen at Oakland Marsh, *Lauderdale*, 3 May (Damien Simbeck, Steve McConnell, Jeff Garner).

**BLACK-NECKED STILT** – Three were found at a sinkhole pond near Leighton, *Colbert*, 26 April (Greg Jackson) (occasional inland, seventh record for Tennessee Valley). Two were seen at Montgomery, *Montgomery*, 22 May (Larry Gardella) (occasional in inland Alabama, fifth record for Inland Coastal Plain).

**WHIMBREL** – Good numbers were found at Grand Bay, *Mobile*: 22 on 17 April (Rick West); 80 on 19 April (Linda Reynolds, Dick Reynolds; maximum count for Alabama); 60 on 21 April (Ben Garmon). Mark Van Hoose had 12 in the Kreole SE BBA block, *Mobile*, 5 May.

**HUDSONIAN GODWIT** – One at the airport marsh on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, was first observed 10 April (Lisa Churchill), later identified by Jeff Wilson, and seen by m.ob. 15-18 April (ph; @ABRC). This bird was the 19<sup>th</sup> recorded from Alabama, and the 10 April observation ties the earliest arrival date for the state.

**SANDERLING** – This species is uncommon in inland Alabama. Damien Simbeck located one in basic plumage at a sinkhole pond east of Leighton, *Colbert*, 14 May.

**BAIRD'S SANDPIPER** – Casual in spring in the WP, one to four birds were counted at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, 9-22 April (Alan Knothe, Brian Monk, Bob Duncan *et al.*). A mini-incursion of this species seemed to occur in Alabama where it is rare in spring and rare inland. The following records were received: Gulf Shores, *Baldwin*, three birds 15 April (David Dortch *et al.*); Bayou La Batre, *Mobile*, two birds 15-16 April (Greg Jackson *et al.*) and five birds 17 April (Steve McConnell *et al.*); Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*,

two birds 15 April (Steve McConnell *et al.*; ph.); Russellville, *Franklin*, 12 birds (a new maximum for Alabama) 14 May (Damien Simbeck); sinkhole pond east of Leighton, *Colbert*, one bird 14 May (Damien Simbeck).

**PECTORAL SANDPIPER** – Two were early at the sod farm, Harpersville, *Shelby*, 8 March (Greg Jackson, Debra Jackson).

**STILT SANDPIPER** – Jan Lloyd found an early arrival at Gulf Shores, *Baldwin*, 13 March.

**LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER** – Uncommon in inland Alabama, a single in alternate plumage set an early arrival record for the Tennessee Valley at a sinkhole pond east of Leighton, *Colbert*, 26 April (Greg Jackson), while another single in alternate plumage was at a sinkhole pond near Leighton, *Colbert*, 5 May (Damien Simbeck).

**DOWITCHER SP.** – Greg Jackson found 10, probably Long-billed, in alternate plumage at a sinkhole pond near Leighton, *Colbert*, 26 April (good number for inland Alabama).

**AMERICAN WOODCOCK** – This species is an uncommon breeder on the lower portion of the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama. Rick West found single birds (possibly nesting) in the Range CE and Frisco City CE BBA blocks, *Conecuh*, 3 March.

**WILSON'S PHALAROPE** – Five individual birds were identified at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, 14-22 April (Alan Knothe, Bob Duncan, Lynda Rowe, Dale Rowe, m.ob.) (casual in spring in the WP). One was at a sinkhole pond near Leighton, *Colbert*, 15 April (Jeff Garner) (rare in spring).

**PARASITIC JAEGER** – Brian Monk found one at Destin, *Okaloosa*, 25 April. A pelagic trip that went as far as 100 miles south of Destin, *Okaloosa*, 23 May (Brian Monk *et al.*) yielded an adult light morph individual (casual in spring in the WP).

**LAUGHING GULL** – Rare inland but regular at Wilson Dam, *Colbert/Lauderdale*, two adults were present 3 May (Steve McConnell, Damien Simbeck, Jeff Garner).

**GLAUCOUS GULL** – A bird at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 15 April (Laura Catterton, Allen Catterton) was only the second adult for Alabama.

**GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL** – An immature bird was on Dauphin Bay, Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 14 April (Greg Jackson) (rare).

**BRIDLED TERN** – A pelagic trip out of Destin, *Okaloosa*, 23 May (Brian Monk *et al.*) produced four individuals (casual in the WP).

**BLACK TERN** – One was noted at Andalusia, *Covington*, 18 May (Douglas Robinson) (casual in spring on the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama).

- WHITE-WINGED DOVE** – This species is increasing rapidly on the Gulf Coast of Alabama, as evidenced by the following records: 25+ at Foley, *Baldwin*, 20 March (Bill Summerour); six+ at Loxley, *Baldwin*, 22 March (Bill Summerour); three+, 22 March, and a nest with two eggs (first documented nest for Alabama; ph.), 30 March, at Robertsdale, *Baldwin* (Bill Summerour); six+ at Elberta, *Baldwin*, 28 March (Bill Summerour); and one at Point Clear, *Baldwin*, 22 May (Howard Horne, Betsy Eager, Venetia Friend *et al.*). A single was noted at Selma, *Dallas*, 16-24+ April (Catherine Jones) (rare inland, but increasing).
- COMMON GROUND-DOVE** – A new maximum spring count (nine) for the Gulf Coast of Alabama was made at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 1 April (Larry Gardella).
- BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO** – This species is rarely noted away from the immediate coast. One was west of Theodore, *Mobile*, 15 April (Greg Jackson, Debra Jackson).
- BARN OWL** – A pair with a nest containing six eggs was documented at Gulf Shores, *Baldwin*, 27 March (Bill Summerour; ph.). Nests of this species are uncommonly documented in Alabama.
- BUFF-BELLIED HUMMINGBIRD** – Rare but regular in the WP, a bird banded earlier in winter by Fred Bassett remained at the feeder of Dawn John in Pensacola, *Escambia*, until 3 April (Bob Duncan).
- RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD** – One on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 1 March (David Dortch, Carrie Dortch) was early.
- BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD** – Rare but regular in the WP, a bird banded earlier in winter by Fred Bassett remained at the feeder of Dawn John in Pensacola, *Escambia*, until 3 April (Bob Duncan).
- BROAD-TAILED HUMMINGBIRD** – An adult male that was banded at Glenda Bowman's feeder in Pensacola, *Escambia*, in December (Fred Bassett) remained until 18 April (second or third record for Florida).
- OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER** – Late singles were at Killen, 27 May and in the Center Hill CE BBA block, 28 May (both *Lauderdale* and Damien Simbeck), with the latter bird establishing a new late departure record for Alabama.
- VERMILION FLYCATCHER** – David Dortch found an adult male at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 18 April (rare).
- GRAY KINGBIRD** – This species is now rare on the Gulf Coast. One was at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 17 April (Carrie Dortch, Tasha McLain *et al.*). Another single was at Battleship Park on the Mobile Causeway, *Mobile*, 8

May (Katherine White, Randy White) (casual away from outer coast).

**SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER** – Casual in spring in the WP, a single was recorded from *Okaloosa*, 8 May (Alan Knothe). Still rare but increasing as a breeder in Alabama, one was noted at Tuscaloosa, *Tuscaloosa*, 15 April (Robert Register), to set a new early record for the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama. Seven birds (including three pairs) were counted at the Alabama A&M Farms, *Madison* (a known nesting site), 1 May (Tom Brindley *et al.*). At another known nesting site at Priceville, *Morgan*, one was noted 26 May and a pair was building a nest 6 June (Steve McConnell).

**WHITE-EYED VIREO** – The arrival of one at Birmingham, *Jefferson*, 5 March (Andrew Haffenden) set a new early record for north Alabama. Also early were three in the Oakmulgee WMA, Talladega NF, *Bibb/Hale*, 18 March (David George).

**BELL'S VIREO** – Only occasional for inland Alabama, the sighting of one at the Birmingham Zoo, *Jefferson*, 7 May (Ben Garmon, Helen Kittinger) was noteworthy.

**YELLOW-THROATED VIREO** – One was early in the Oakmulgee WMA, Talladega NF, *Bibb/Hale*, 18 March (David George).

**BLUE-HEADED VIREO** – A bird found 8 May in *Okaloosa* (Larry Wright) set the late departure record for the WP by six days.

**WARBLING VIREO** – At Fort Pickens, *Escambia*, one was observed 14 April (Alan Knothe, Lucy Duncan, Bob Duncan *et al.*) (rare). A single was found at Oak Mountain SP, *Shelby*, 1 May (Ann Miller, Alice Stevenson) (rare).

**PHILADELPHIA VIREO** – One was found on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 2 May (Greg Jackson, Debra Jackson) (rare in spring).

**BLACK-WHISKERED VIREO** – Roger Hoffman observed one on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 19 March (early for Alabama by two weeks).

**FISH CROW** – Locally rare but increasing, two were at Cahaba Heights, 1 May, and one was at Hoover Sports Park, 9 May (both *Jefferson*, Greg Jackson, Debra Jackson).

**TREE SWALLOW** – A pair at gourds 8 May, east of Shelby, *Shelby* (Harriett Wright *et al.*) may have been attempting to nest, rare this far south.

**NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW** – Jud Johnston found an early arrival at Guin, *Marion*, 10 March, while one on the same date along the Tennessee River upstream from Guntersville, *Marshall* (Greg Jackson) tied the early arrival date for the Tennessee Valley.

- CAVE SWALLOW** – Accidental in the WP, a single was found at the FWBSF, *Okaloosa*, 9 April (Alan Knothe *et al.*). One at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 29 March (Barry Fleming; 24<sup>th</sup> record for Alabama) set an early arrival record for Alabama.
- BARN SWALLOW** – Two at Montgomery, *Montgomery*, 5 March (Larry Gardella) were early, as was one at Wheeler NWR, *Morgan*, 14 March (Greg Jackson, Debra Jackson).
- HOUSE WREN** – Rick West found a singing and possibly nesting individual in the Pinson CE BBA block, *Jefferson*, 18 May (rare breeder in Mountain Region).
- AMERICAN ROBIN** – Don Ware observed one nesting 8-19 May in *Walton* (rare breeding species in Florida).
- GRAY CATBIRD** – A single at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 16 May (Michael Jordan) tied the late departure date for the Gulf Coast of Alabama.
- CEDAR WAXWING** – An estimated 5000 at Trussville, *Jefferson*, 2 March (Bob Sargent, Martha Sargent) was a good number.
- BLUE-WINGED WARBLER** – An early bird was at Opelika, *Lee*, 27 March (Lorna West).
- ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER** – One was late on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 25 April (Howard Horne).
- NASHVILLE WARBLER** – A single was found in Bankhead NF, *Lawrence*, 3 May (Damien Simbeck, Steve McConnell, Jeff Garner) (rare in spring).
- NORTHERN PARULA** – An early bird was on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 1 March (David Dortch, Carrie Dortch). Also early were three males at Eufaula NWR, *Barbour*, 4 March (Lorna West), and two birds at Montgomery, *Montgomery*, 5 March (Larry Gardella). Thirteen was a good number so early in the Oakmulgee WMA, Talladega NF, *Bibb/Hale*, 18 March (David George).
- CAPE MAY WARBLER** – Rare but regular in spring on the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama, one was at Montgomery, *Montgomery*, 4 May (Larry Gardella).
- BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER** – Rare but regular for inland Alabama, a female was observed at Opelika, *Lee*, 3 May (Lorna West).
- YELLOW-RUMPED (AUDUBON'S) WARBLER** – A male in alternate plumage on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 15 April (Lorna West) was late and set the 11<sup>th</sup> record of this subspecies for Alabama.
- BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER** – A singing male at Hoover,



*Shelby*, 18 March (Greg Jackson, Debra Jackson) was early.

**YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER** – One at Fairhope, *Baldwin*, 2 March (David Dortch, Carrie Dortch) may have been an early migrant or a rare but regular wintering bird. A single in the Conecuh NF, *Escambia/Covington*, 7 March (Tasha McLain, Michael Jordan) set an early arrival record for the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama. Twenty-three was a good number in the Oakmulgee WMA, Talladega NF, *Bibb/Hale*, 18 March (David George).

**PROTHONOTARY WARBLER** – An early bird was on Dauphin Island, *Mobile*, 12 March (David Dortch *et al.*).

**SWAINSON'S WARBLER** – A single at the Clearwater Tract, *Baldwin*, 31 March (Bill Summerour) was early. Another single was recorded at the mouth of Little River Canyon, *Cherokee*, 26 May (Barbara Stedman) (locally rare).

**LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH** – Early spring arrivals were at Oak Mountain SP, *Shelby*, 16 March (Scot Duncan, Bailey McKay), and Deatsville, *Elmore*, 17 March (Larry Gardella).

**COMMON YELLOWTHROAT** - Nineteen was a good number so early in the Oakmulgee WMA, Talladega NF, *Bibb/Hale*, 18 March (David George).

**WILSON'S WARBLER** – This species is rare in spring in inland Alabama, so one found at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens, *Jefferson*, 6 May (Ben Garmon) was notable.

**YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT** – One at Opelika, *Lee*, 27 March (Lorna West) was early.

**WESTERN TANAGER** – Casual in the WP, an adult male was found at Fort Pickens, *Escambia*, 18 April (Brian Specht, Brian Monk *et al.*).

**CLAY-COLORED SPARROW** – Occasional in spring in Alabama, but increasing, a single at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 29 March (Barry Fleming) set a new early arrival date for the state, while one+ birds at Eufaula NWR, *Barbour*, 1 May (Lorna West) set the eighth record for inland Alabama and the latest departure date for the state.

**LARK SPARROW** – Rare but increasing as a breeder in Alabama, three were at the Alabama A&M Farms, *Madison*, 1 May (Tom Brindley *et al.*), and a single was in the Marbury CE BBA block, *Autauga*, 26 May (Larry Gardella).

**GRASSHOPPER SPARROW** – Twenty-five was an excellent number for one site, especially for the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama, in the Forester

CE BBA block, *Autauga*, 31 May (Shawn Reed).

**BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK** – A very rare winter visitor in the WP, a female that wintered at a feeder in Pensacola, *Escambia* (m.ob.) lingered until 17 April.

**PAINTED BUNTING** – A singing male in northern *Escambia* (Jon Yoder) indicated possible nesting. Rare but increasing as a breeder on the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama, a singing and possibly nesting bird was in the Whatley NW BBA block, *Clarke*, 3 May (Laurie Bailey), while an adult male was in the Tuskegee NF, *Macon*, 19-22 May (Tyler Hicks). On the Gulf Coast, this species is a local breeder and evidence of nesting came from two new sites: an adult male, an immature male, and a female at Elberta, *Baldwin*, 29 May (Claire Krusko), and one exhibiting territorial behavior in the Grand Bay CE BBA block, *Mobile*, 29 May (Rick West).

**BOBOLINK** – One found at Fort Pickens, *Escambia*, 28 March (Peggy Baker, Pam Beasley) was the first March record for the WP. One at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 11 April (David Dortch, Carrie Dortch) was early. At the WTF, *Lowndes*, 700+ was a good number 4 May (Lorna West, Barbara David).

**SHINY COWBIRD** – Casual in the WP, one was at Pensacola Beach, *Escambia*, 19 April (Brian Faherty). Two males and two females were found at Fort Morgan, *Baldwin*, 16 May (Michael Jordan) and set the 24th record for Alabama.

**BALTIMORE ORIOLE** – A single at Montgomery, *Montgomery*, 8 April (Larry Gardella) set an early spring arrival record for the Inland Coastal Plain of Alabama.

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