

We Energies Peregrine Falcon
Final Nesting Season Report
July 25, 2006

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Liberty at her Valley Power Plant nest box.

Pleasant Prairie Power Plant

A Full House: Five Male Chicks!

After successfully drawing the peregrines at this site to their nest box on the newly constructed chimney, we were pleased to see nesting in March.

On the morning of May 25, Dave Groshek and I removed the five chicks from their new nest box and brought them down to one of the plant meeting rooms. Once inside, the youngsters were banded and had blood samples taken for DNA analysis. We Energies employees assisted with the banding activities, and the Kenosha News covered the event. Clutches of five eggs are rare. It is even more rare when all five hatch. What was most interesting this time is that all five chicks were males!

Adult Female: "Breezer" (b/r) *R/*2. This is Breezer's eighth year at P4. She was hatched in 1998 at the US Steel site in Gary, IN.

Adult Male: "Duke" (b/r) 1*P - a 1998 falcon produced at Milwaukee's Landmark on the Lake apartment building.

Eggs: 5 laid between March 22-30

Projected Hatch Dates: April 28-May 2

Eggs Hatched: 5 between May 3-7

Banded: 5 males on May 25

Names & Band Numbers:

Dan	E/03	220672284
Bob	E/04	220672285
TJ	E/05	220672286
Suzuki	E/06	220672287
Rod	E/07	220672288

Site Visits: Jan. 24, March 8, 22, 29,
April 13, May 3, 10, 25



Five male peregrine chicks safely back in their nest box after banding.



Breezer greeting us as we return her chicks to the nest box.

**Valley Power Plant
Milwaukee, WI**

Four More Young!

Once again this downtown Milwaukee nest site has produced four youngsters. Since the site first became active in 2002, a total of 17 (3.4/year) young have been produced here.

Adult Female: "Liberty" (b/g) 0*T,
produced in 2002 at the Busch Agricultural Resources site in Manitowoc, WI. This is Liberty's third year at this site.

Adult Male: Unidentified

Eggs: 4 laid between March 28-April 3

Projected Hatch Dates: May 4-6

Eggs Hatched: 4 between May 3-5

Banded: 2 males, 2 females on May 30

Names & Band Numbers:

Matilda	M/05	1687-01704
Eleanor	M/07	1687-01705
Steve	E/13	2206-72292
Maxx	E/14	816-38664

Site Visits: March 8, April 13, May 10, 30



Liberty protecting her freshly banded chicks after we returned them to the nest box.



Four youngsters on banding day.

Oak Creek Power Plant

Only One Chick This Year

Only two of four eggs hatched at this site, and one chick died the following day. On June 7, Rose Dehli and I banded the lone youngster which she named Joshua.

It will be interesting to see if this new male will stay and what production will be like in the future if he does.

Adult Female: "Atlanta" (b/r) L/*C, a 1996 wpr falcon from the Green Bay WPS Pulliam site.

Adult Male: "Scott (b/g) M/Y. Scott replaces Atlanta's former mate, "Griffin"(b/r) 5/*D and was produced at Milwaukee's Froedtert Malt Complex in 2000. Scott had previously nested at the Racine County Courthouse since 2002.

Eggs: 4 laid between April 9-15

Projected Hatch Dates: May 16-18

Eggs Hatched: 2 between May 16-18

NOTE: Only one chick alive on May 18

Banded: 1 male on June 7

Names & Band Numbers

Joshua B/25 220684522

Site Visits: Feb. 10, March 15, April 13, 19, May 3, June 7



A rare photo of Atlanta who rarely stops long enough for a quick look.



Joshua shortly after banding.

Port Washington Generating Station

Latest Recorded Nest in Wisconsin

This site got off to a late start and experienced quite a turnover of females! Last season's female "Whitney" (b/g) 61*E, a 1999 Milwaukee Froedtert-produced falcon was killed after colliding with a wire.

This year an adult pair of falcons was on site by mid-March. On March 29, I noticed the female had a rough-looking right wing, and she dragged her left leg while in flight; possible signs of a recent injury/fight. On April 14, I found a new falcon on site who replaced the previous adult female. This immature female laid one egg on April 24.

On May 3, I found yet another new female here; an adult. On May 11, she laid her first egg which was followed by two more. On June 2, I was able to read her band number. She is "Icon" (b/g) 50/D produced at the LTV Steel site in Cleveland, OH in '04. Banding at this site was covered by the Ozaukee Press.

Adult Female: "Icon" (b/g) 50/D was produced at the LTV Steel site in Cleveland, OH in 2004.

Adult Male: "Flaps" (b/r) 8/*T, a 1998 Green Bay produced falcon here since 2000.

Eggs: 1 by second female on April 24 --
3 by third female between May 11-18
Projected Hatch Dates: June 18-20
Eggs Hatched: 2 on June 19

Banded: 1 male, 1 female on July 12

Names & Band Numbers

Dawn	N/24	1687-01714
Dave	B/36	220684532

Site Visits: March 15, March 29, April 13, 19, May 3, 26, June 2, July 12



During my first encounter with Icon, she held her ground long enough for a quick photo. Such was not the case as the season wore on.



Dave and Dawn shortly after banding.

Minergy Glass Aggregate Plant Neenah, WI

A Lot of Activity but No Eggs

On March 20, employees identified a new male as "Thor" (b/g) 76/N, who was produced at the Busch Agricultural Resources site in Manitowoc, WI in 2004. Thor replaces "Riot" 55/H who nested here last year.

There also was an unidentified new female here earlier this season. She was in immature plumage so is less than a year old and was believed to have replaced an adult female seen here earlier this spring.

Now, however, an adult female is back and believed to be (b/g) Karla 4/*5, the same female who nested here last year. With the loss of last year's male and the turnover of females, nesting never got underway this year. Hopefully, things will get sorted out between these rivaling falcons and this site will once again produce young next spring.



Photo Credit: Ed Schmidt

Site Visits: April 6

NEW SITE

**Presque Isle Power Plant
Marquette, MI**

No Eggs This Year; Hopes High for 2007

No eggs were laid here, as is often the case when an immature female makes her first nesting attempt.

On July 11, I visited this site and found the immature female nearly completely molted into her adult plumage. She was inside the nest box when I arrived, and I got a good view of her when Sue Schenk-Drobny, Steve Durocher and I visited the nest box that morning. The adult male was perched on the side of the chimney.

This pair is definitely tied to the site, and if both survive the winter, odds are good that we'll see a first successful nesting here next spring.

Photo Credits: Steve Durocher

Site Visits: July 11



An April photo shows the female at this site in immature plumage.



What a difference three months makes. The female at this site was nearly molted into her adult plumage by mid-July.



The banded adult male at home in the nest box.

Production at We Energies Peregrine Falcon Nest Sites 1997-2006

Year	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Total young/site
Site											
Pleasant Prairie	2	3	2	3	4	1	4	2	4	5	30
Oak Creek		4	4	4	4	4	3	4	3	1	31
Port Washington				3	3	3	4	4	4	2	23
Milwaukee Valley						4	4	3	2	4	17
Neenah Minergy									2		2
Yearly and grand totals	2	7	6	10	11	12	15	13	15	12	103

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