

# WISCONSIN FALCONWATCH 2006 NESTING SEASON REPORT

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*"Aaron" at the Kenosha Medical Center nest site*

This year in Wisconsin there were 21 successful peregrine nests that produced a total of 65 young (3.09 yng./nest). Eleven nests were located along the Lake Michigan shoreline. There were also 7 nests along the Mississippi River (3 on cliffs), 2 inland nests and 1 nest in the Fox Valley.

Once again power plants comprised nearly half (48%) of the successful nests and produced over half (51%) of the young. The tables included on page 8 of this report provide a breakdown of site types and production for 2006.

## LAKEFRONT NEST SITES

### Pleasant Prairie: We Energies Power Plant

The ad. female here is "Breezer" (b/r) \*R/\*2 produced in '98 at the U.S. Steel site in Gary, IN. This is Breezer's 8<sup>th</sup> year at P4. I've finally ID'd the adult male as "Duke" (b/r) 1/\*P produced in 1998 at Milwaukee's Landmark on the Lake apartment building.



*Five males on banding day*

**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

### Kenosha: United Hospital System, Kenosha Medical Center

The adult male here is once again "Aaron" (b/g) 80/H, an '02 MKE Froedtert produced falcon. The adult female was not banded and is believed to be the same female present last season. On banding day, I captured the ad. female and banded her as "Maggie" (b/g) M/14.



**Eggs:** 4 Laid between April 1 - 9  
**Projected Hatch Dates:** May 10 - 12  
**Eggs Hatched:** 4 Between May 11 - 13  
**Banded:** 1 Female & 3 males on June 2

**Racine: County Courthouse**

The adult female here is once again “Lily” (b/g) 56/A hatched in ‘01 at the Firststar Bank in Cedar Rapids, IA. “Scott” (b/g) M/Y who was at this site since ‘02 has been replaced by a new unidentified adult male. Scott is now paired with Atlanta at the Oak Creek Power Plant.

**Eggs:** 4 Between April 11 - 17  
**Projected Hatch Dates:** May 18 – 20  
**Eggs Hatched:** 4 Between May 18 – 21  
**Banded:** 4 Males on June 7



**Oak Creek: We Energies Power Plant**

“Atlanta” (b/r) L\*C is here for her 8th year. “Griffin” (b/r) 5/\*D her former mate has been replaced by a new adult male who I ID’d as “Scott (b/g) M/Y. Scott was produced at MKE’s Froedtert Malt Complex in 2000. Scott had nested at the Racine County Courthouse since ‘02 but as indicated above has now been replaced.

**Eggs:** 4 Between April 9 – 15  
**NOTE:** Only 3 eggs present on April 26  
**Projected Hatch Dates:** May 16 – 18  
**Eggs Hatched:** 2 Between May 16 – 18  
**NOTE:** 1 Chick died within a day after hatching  
**Banded:** 1 Male on June 7



**Milwaukee: We Energies Valley Power Plant**

The adult female here is once again “**Liberty**” (b/g) 0/\*T. Liberty was hatched in '02 at the Busch Agricultural Resources site in Manitowoc, WI. This is Liberty’s 3<sup>nd</sup> year here. No ID on the ad. male.



**Eggs:** 4 Laid between March 27 - April 3  
**Projected Hatch Dates:** May 4 - 6  
**Eggs Hatched:** 4 Between May 4 - 6  
**Banded:** 2 Females & 2 males on May 30

**Milwaukee: Miller Brewery**

An unbanded adult female is present here once again with a new adult male. The new male is “**Herbert**” (b/g) 80/N produced at We Energies Valley Power Plant in Milwaukee in '04.



**Eggs:** 4 Laid between April 13 - 19  
**Projected Hatch Dates:** May 20 - 22  
**Eggs Hatched:** 4 Between May 20 - 22  
**Banded:** 2 Females & 2 males on June 12

**Milwaukee: Froedtert Malt Complex**

The ad. male here appears to be “**Leopold**” (b/r) C/D, a captive-produced peregrine released at Pleasant Prairie, WI in '92, and present here since '94. The ad. female is “**Raynie**” (b/r) A/\*H, a '95 wpr female from Chicago. This is Raynie’s 9th year at this site.



**Eggs:** 4 Laid between April 12 - 18  
**Projected Hatch Dates:** May 19 - 21  
**Eggs Hatched:** 2 Between May 19 - 21  
**Banded:** 1 Female & 1 male on June 7



### Port Washington: We Energies Power Plant

An adult pair of falcons was present here until mid-April when an immature female arrived and displaced the adult female. This immature female laid a single egg on April 24<sup>th</sup>. When I visited this site again on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, I found a new banded adult female on site. Employees reported seeing three falcons that morning with two flying west away from the site in what was likely a chase. During this visit the resident male, **"Flaps" (b/r) 8/\*T**, a '98 Green Bay wpr falcon was clearly trying to attract this new female to nest box.



On May 11<sup>th</sup> this new ad. female laid her first of 3 eggs in the nest box next to the previously laid egg. On June 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.



**Eggs:** 1 Laid on April 24, 3 Laid by new female between May 11 – 15

**Projected Hatch Dates:** June 18 - 20

**Eggs Hatched:** 2 on June 19

**Banded:** 1 Female & 1 male on July 12

### Sheboygan: Edgewater Generating Station

The adult female here is **"Liberty" (b/r) E/\*D**. This is Liberty's 9<sup>th</sup> year at Edgewater. No ID yet on the adult male but he is banded b/g.

**Eggs:** 6 Laid between March 31 – April

**Projected Hatch Dates:** May 8 – 14

**Eggs Hatched:** 5 Between May 8 - 14

**Banded:** 2 Females & 2 males on June 2



**NOTE:** On June 22, Liberty was found dead in the switchyard at this site. She nested at Edgewater since 1998 producing a total of 33 young (3.7/year).

### Manitowoc: Busch Agricultural Resources

The ad. female here is: **(b/g) 7/\*U** produced in '01 at the New Center in Detroit, MI. This is her 2<sup>nd</sup> year at this site. No ID yet on the adult male.

**Eggs:** 5 Laid between March 23–31

**Projected Hatch Dates:** April 29 – May 3

**Eggs Hatched:** 4 Between May 4 - 8

**Banded:** 3 Females & 1 male on May 25



### Green Bay: WPS Pulliam Power Plant

The ad. female here is “**Beth**” **(b/g) 25/B**. She was wild-produced in '03 at the Midwest Generation Power Plant in Waukegan, IL. No ID on the ad. male.

**Eggs:** 4 Laid between March 25 –31

**Projected Hatch Dates:** May 1 - 3

**Eggs Hatched:** 3 Between May 1 - 3

**NOTE:** One chick died shortly after hatching

**Banded:** 2 Males on May 25



## **INLAND NEST SITES**

### Jefferson: Cargill Malt Complex

An adult pair of falcons is nesting once again at this site. The female is “**Smokey**” **(b/g) 82/A** who was wpr at the Edgewater Generating Station in Sheboygan, WI in '03. The ad. male is banded b/g.

**Eggs:** 5 Laid between April 17 - 25

**Projected Hatch Dates:** May 24 - 28

**Eggs Hatched:** 4 Between May 24 - 28

**Banded:** 1 Female & 3 males on June 12



### Rothschild: WPS Weston Power Plant: NEW SITE

Although early reports indicated both adults here were unbanded, I was able to see that the adult male here is banded b/g. The adult female is unbanded.

**Eggs:** 4 Laid between March 29 – April 4  
**Projected Hatch Dates:** May 5 – 7  
**Eggs Hatched:** 4 Between May 5 - 7  
**Banded:** 2 Females & 2 males on May 31



### FOX VALLEY SITES

#### Kimberly: StoraEnso Kimberly Mill

“Louise”(b/g) V/U hatched in ‘02 at the Ameren UE Labadie Power Station in St. Louis, MO and “Darrel” (b/g) 44/M, a falcon produced in ‘03 at the Busch Agricultural Resources site in Manitowoc, WI are here for their second year.

**Eggs:** 4 Laid between March 29 – April 4  
**Projected Hatch Dates:** May 5 – 7  
**Eggs Hatched:** 3 Between May 5 - 7  
**NOTE:** On May 11 a storm flooded the nest ledge and all 3 chicks were lost. Plans are underway to modify this ledge as well as install a nest box.



*Darrel perched near his nest ledge*

### ACTIVE/NON-PRODUCTIVE SITES

#### Milwaukee: US Bank (formerly Firststar Center)

This site has remained unproductive since Sibella (20V) ended her 15-year presence here in ‘03. Peregrines have been observed here regularly but no nesting attempt has been made. Once again, it may be that the Liberty (b/g) O/\*T (who is very aggressive) who is nesting at the nearby Valley Power Plant is commanding a much larger territory than other falcons in the past and preventing another nesting from occurring at the nearby US Bank. We’re remaining hopeful that this prime site will once again host a nesting pair of peregrines!

#### Kewaunee: Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant

Falcons present. No additional Information.

### Neenah: Minergy Glass Aggregate Plant

There had been a turnover of falcons at this site where young were produced last year and a new immature female was present for some time this spring. However, last year's female "Karla" (b/g) 4/\*5 returned now and is paired with a new adult male named "Thor" (b/g) 76/N who was produced at the Busch Agricultural Resources site in Manitowoc, WI in '04. Thor replaces "Riot" (b/g) 55/H who nested here last year. Unfortunately with the territorial skirmishes and turnover of falcons late into the nesting season, eggs were never laid here this year.

### Kaukauna: Thilmany Mill: NEW SITE

An adult male and an unbanded immature female were on site here this spring although no eggs were laid. Greg Schuh, an employee at the Thilmany site was able to get a few great shots of the female as well as her bands. She is "Nora" (b/g) P/76 wpr last year at the Graysolon Plaza in Duluth, MN.



Hopefully this site will produce young next spring!

### **MISSISSIPPI RIVER SITES**

For complete information on Mississippi River nest sites check out the **Raptor Resource Project** web site at: [www.raptorresource.org](http://www.raptorresource.org)

### **WISCONSIN NEST SITE TYPES & PRODUCTION 2006**

Site Type	N	%Total	Site Type	Young Produced	% Total
Power Plants	10	48%	Power Plants	33	51%
Buildings	5	24%	Buildings	15	23%
Elevators/Silos	3	14%	Elevators/Silos	10	15%
Natural Cliffs	3	14%	Natural Cliffs	7	11%
Bridges	0	0%	Bridges	0	0%

*For live web cam images of nest sites during the nesting season, check out the following links:*

#### **We Energies Nest Sites**

[http://www.we-energies.com/environmental/peregrine\\_falcons.htm](http://www.we-energies.com/environmental/peregrine_falcons.htm)

#### **WI Public Service Nest Site**

<http://www.wisconsinpublicservice.com/news/falcons.asp>



Over the past 20 years we've had numerous Wisconsin-produced peregrines survive and nest in other states including, IL, IN, IA, KY, MI, MN, ND, OH and PA. Following is some preliminary information on Wisconsin-produced peregrines that nested this year in other states:

## ILLINOIS

**"Auntie Em" 5/\*P**, a female produced at Milwaukee's Landmark on the Lake site in 1999 paired with male Tracy \*P/M produced at the Broadway site in 1997. The pair nested at 5821 N. Broadway, in Chicago, producing 4 young.

**"Rosie" \*6/D**, a female produced at Milwaukee's Landmark on the Lake site in 1997 nested at the University of Illinois, Chicago. She laid 4 eggs but the nest failed. Adult male is unbanded.

**"Fran" 5/\*X**, a female produced at Milwaukee's Hoan Bridge site in 1999 paired with an unidentified male producing 4 eggs and hatching all 4 in Waukegan, IL

**"Hops" 58/M**, a male produced at Milwaukee's Miller Brewery in 2003 paired with female Kelliwatt 60/D produced in 2004 in Aberdeen OH producing 4 young at the St. Michael's Old Town site in Chicago.

**"Magnolia" 22R**, a female hatched in La Crosse, WI in 1991 paired with male S/T who was produced in 2000 at the Unitarian Church site Hyde Park. The pair failed nesting at this Hyde Park Chicago site.

**"Nitz" 2/\*Y**, a female produced at Milwaukee's Froedtert Malt complex in 2001 paired with Dave 14/K produced in 2001 in Chicago. Their nest at the Lawndale site in Chicago failed.

**"Rahn" 01/A**, a female produced at the Edgewater site in Sheboygan, WI in 2001 paired with male Etienne 7/6 produced at Etobicoke, Canada in 2002. The pair nested at the Wacker Drive site in Chicago and produced 4 young.

## INDIANA

**“Chantal” \*B/\*C**, a female produced at Milwaukee’s Froedtert Malt complex in 1998 paired with male Kinney 7/\*3 hatched at Lexington, KY in 1993. The pair produced 3 chicks at the Market Tower nest site in Indianapolis.

**“Latesha” Z/K**, a female produced in Genoa, WI in 1999 paired with male Rollin K/\*8 produced in 1996 in Gary, IN. They produced 5 chicks at the NIPSCO Schahfer Plant in Wheatfield.

**“Cloud Dancer” \*B/\*G**, a female produced the Puliam site in Green Bay, WI in 1998 paired with Uncle Billy 3/\*B who was produced at Milwaukee’s Landmark on the Lake site in 1995. They produced 2 chicks at the NIPSCO Plant in Michigan City.

## OHIO

**“Newton” 18/A**, a female produced at the Kewaunee Nuclear Plant in Kewaunee, WI in 2001 paired with male Bolt 18/P produced at the Bohn Building site in Cleveland, OH in 2003. The pair produced 3 young at the I-90 Bridge site in Cleveland.

**Mary Ellen \*B/\*B**, a female produced in 1998 at Milwaukee’s Froedtert Malt complex paired with an unbanded male at the Miami Ft. Stn. Cinergy Site in Cleves producing 5 young

**“Princess” \*B/\*S**, a female produced at the Busch Agricultural Resources site in Manitowoc, WI in 1998 paired with male Powerhouse 31/K produced at the Miami Ft. Stn. Cinergy site in Cleves, OH in 2002. This pair produced 3 young at the PNC Bank site in Cincinnati.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Throughout the year numerous individuals and corporations support and assist in looking after Wisconsin's peregrines. Without the long-term corporate stewardship and dedicated efforts of employees at each site, it is unlikely that peregrines would have recovered to the degree they have today. With this in mind, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the following corporations and individuals among many who have helped make 2006 another successful year.

### Corporations

We Energies  
US Bank  
Wisconsin Public Service  
Busch Agricultural Resources  
Cargill Malt  
Froedtert Malt  
Wisconsin Power & Light  
Alliant Energy  
Miller Brewing  
United Hospital System  
Racine County  
StoraEnso  
Thilmany Mill

### Employees/Volunteers

Bill Bain	Dave Luckow
Tony Bernier	Jim Marks
Terry Carroll	Beth Martin
Noel Cutright	Joe McClurg
Rose Dehli	Tom McLean
Pete Dempsey	Nathan McNeil
Tim Ellestad	Matt Meeuwesen
Calvin Frazier	Bob Meidl
Tony Giordana	Mark Nessman
Dave Groshek	John Noegle
Darrel Heckman	Joe Piette
Doug Herzog	David Polster
Mark Hoeff	Bob Reske
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Jim Keaton	Greg Schuh
Tom Koenitzer	Wendy Sky
Al Labinski	Bob VanThiel
Greg Labonte	Don Verbsky
Bob Lauer	Chuck Vincent
Walt Lehman	Bob Wunsch
Dawn Lemke	Bob Zahn
Karmen Lemke	

For additional information on the Peregrine Falcon Recovery Program  
Email Greg Septon: [sharptailpoint@earthlink.net](mailto:sharptailpoint@earthlink.net)