White-faced Ibis   Record Number: 95-06
25 Apr 1995   Classification: A-P
Blue L., Monona Co., IA
*T. Kent
P-0448, IBL 65:70; 66:95

DOCUMENTATION
  Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St., Iowa City 52246
PHOTOGRAPHS
  T. H. Kent, P-0448
REFERENCES
  Field Reports: IBL 65:70
  Records Committee: 66:95
VOTE: 7 A-P
  A-P, Photos clearly show white on face, reddish legs.
  A-P, White facial feathering obvious.

White-faced Ibis   P-0448
Blue L.,Monona Co.,IA
25 Apr 1995 T. H. Kent 95-06

DOCUMENTATION OF EXTRAORDINARY BIRD SIGHTING

Species: White-faced Ibis; *Number:* 9

Location: Blue L., Monona Co. IA

Date: 25 April 1995; *Time:* 8:10 to 9:20 a.m.

Name and address: Thomas H. Kent, 211 Richards St., Iowa City, IA 52246.

Others before/with/after: Pete Ernzen reported them last week

Habitat and circumstances: Missouri River bottoms oxbow -- shallow, open

Description of bird: The nine birds were feeding in shallow water and flew from time to time. I could see them easily from the highway, but I walked the east side and got closer. Later, I went back and got my camera and took several photos. The birds were obviously ibises with dark green to rufous iridescent bodies, long decurved bills, and long legs. All birds were in breeding plumage with white feathering around the facial skin extending all the way around the eye, red eyes, and bright carmine legs. The bills were of medium shade with a metallic gray appearance. These birds were quite tame and only flew when I approached the edge of the water to take photos. They were in shallow water, near the shorebirds feeding on mudflats and in the water.

Voice: They made some squawks that I cannot describe.

Similar species: The white facial feathers, red eyes, and all carmine legs eliminate Glossy Ibis, the only contender.

Any one have reservations?: no.

Light: sunny with light behind me; *Distance:* as close as 30 feet; *Optics:* 10x binocular, 20x scope; 420 mm lens.

Previous experience: have seen many.

References before/after viewing: none

Time of notes: while viewing; *Final typing:* 1 day.