

4 August 1992

Thomas H. Kent
211 Richards St.
Iowa City, IA 52246

Dear Mr. Kent:

On Saturday, 1 August, while helping out at Bike World's Supersale, 2 Peregrine Falcons made a stop in downtown Ames. At 1520, I heard 2 birds screeching. I looked up and saw one land on top of the satellite dish on the Sheldon Munn building (Main Street). The other one circled overhead and then flew off to the west. I obtained a pair of binoculars from Carr Hardware and confirmed the identification of the birds. The perched raptor appeared to be an adult: had a definite dark face mask (mustache mark), white breast, white belly with horizontal dark bars, and the back color appeared to be slate. I never got a real good look at the other one since it never perched and was not in sight for most of the time that they were in town. An American Crow tried several times to dislodge the perched falcon. It never succeeded. The second falcon returned about 4 times, but never stayed long. At 1605, the perched falcon left the satellite dish and headed east. It was soon joined by the other falcon. Both were seen circling over the Duff / Main Street area before disappearing from view. Many downtown shoppers got the opportunity to view, for most, their first Peregrine Falcon.

Also, while watching the falcons, I spotted 16 American White Pelicans up high and heading in a southerly direction.

I immediately contacted Dr. Dinsmore, but he was unable to get to the downtown area. He told me to send the details to you. I would be happy to send you more information if needed. (I am a member of IOU.)

Happy Birding,

Waez

Wolfgang Oesterreich
1801 Coolidge Drive
Ames, IA 50010
(515)232-3285
294-9596 work

I did not see any bands on the legs, but that doesn't mean there weren't any.