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Abstracts

## BRIEF COMMUNICATIONS

### A MIDDLE EOCENE SHOREBIRD FROM CHINA

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*Abstract.* We describe a new species of shorebird, tentatively referred to the family Charadriidae, from the Huadian Formation (Middle Eocene) in Jilin Province, China. In general morphology the specimen closely matches that of an extant charadriid, and corresponds in size to the Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*). If correctly identified this is the oldest record of the Charadriidae. The Middle Eocene paleoenvironment of the Huadian region is thought to have resembled a subtropical swamp.

*Key words:* Charadriiformes, China, Huadian Formation, Jiliniornis huadianensis, Middle Eocene, paleontology.