Walking across campus last week, I saw two blue jays squawking at each other. Standing in the mulch beneath an oak tree the female loudly screeched, lifting her wings—feathers clearly ruffled. The male jay stood looking at her. He didn’t seem much interested in whatever she was squawking about.

After a few seconds, the male jay hopped away. The female hopped insistently after him until they were beck to beck. She squawked again; her wings lifting and fluffing. He ducked his head and seemed to shrug his shoulders, if birds have shoulders. Then, he flew away. The female soon followed.

I laughed as I thought, “Oooh a lovers’ spat. What a stereotypical male/female interaction. The gal squawks and the guy ignores her.” Of course I had no idea what they were saying to each other if anything at all. Do birds even have conversations? Does it really matter? Being human, I’ll interpret the scene any way I want even if I’m wrong. It’s human nature to put meaning to behavior; it’s nonverbal communication. Situations, shape relationships, and enhance our verbal presentations.

While we’re on the subject of birds and communication, let me wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving. One of my favorite holidays, Thanksgiving embodies all my favorite things—food, family, friends, conversation—and a celebration of agriculture. Even as you are watching football—check out that turf.

Or you can play football and experience the turf up close. All IAA students are invited to the annual IAA Turkey Bowl on Wednesday, November 14. Watch your email and the IAA webpage for details. If you would like to play flag football or help with the food, please see the signup sheet on the bulletin board on the second floor of Jull Hall.

I hope all of you exercise your communication skills and engage in lively Thanksgiving dinner conversations. And, I really hope the bird on your table doesn’t ruin the conversation by squawking loudly or flapping its wings.

At the ‘tute

IAA’s Annual Turkey Bowl

The IAA’s Annual Turkey Bowl is back by popular demand. Mark your calendars for Wednesday, November 14 at 4 p.m.!

Food, football, and fun are the main events. All are welcome to play or cheer. If anyone is available to help with dinner set up or clean up, please see Carole. Please bring a dessert to share. Sign up on 2nd floor bulletin board.

Watch last years’ game match and meet previous Turkey Bowl teams. Go to: iaumdf.edu/news and click on “video Galleries”.

Alex D. Hyman
You may now register for spring classes. It’s important that you register early, especially if you need a particular schedule.

**Registration Checklist**

- **Meet with your advisor** to discuss your course selection for Spring 2013. Advisors must give each student an advising stamp for the student to be able to register. Contact your advisor for an appointment.

- **Clear all blocks.** The two most common reasons students’ registrations are blocked, even after they receive their advising stamp, are outstanding bills to the university and not submitting proof of immunization. So, clear the blocks now.

- **Students who received deficiency notices** in any class must meet with Glori Hyman before they can receive an advising stamp for registration. Call 301-405-4685 to schedule an appointment if you have not done so already.

If you plan to graduate in **Spring 2013**, please submit a graduation application when you register for classes. It will help your advisor review your courses to assure you are meeting all the graduation requirements.

**PIT Crew Wanted**

Did you ever want to be part of a PIT Crew? Here’s your chance. IAA Director Glori Hyman is looking for 3 to 5 students to form a Program Improvement Team. Students will brainstorm ideas to improve the IAA, then develop and implement their ideas. It will give students a chance to gain leadership and project development experience. Plus, you can earn 1 credit in a Special Problems course. Sign up for INAG 199 section 0601.

If you are interested or have questions, see Glori in Jull 2123 or email her gdhyman@umd.edu.

**November PGMS DC Branch Meeting**

The PGMS meeting
Thursday, November 1
National Audubon Woodend Sanctuary in Chevy Chase
6:00 p.m.
See Ken Ingram for details or email him at kingram@umd.edu.

**Career Corner**

Have you started thinking about where you want to take your career after the IAA? Wondered where you can browse job openings in the agricultural field? On golf courses? Check out these great sites:

- [www.AgCareers.com](http://www.AgCareers.com)
- [www.GCSAA.org](http://www.GCSAA.org)
- [www.EarthWormJobs.com](http://www.EarthWormJobs.com)
- [www.TurfNet.com](http://www.TurfNet.com)
- [www.IrrigationJobs.com](http://www.IrrigationJobs.com)
- [www.greengreenrecareers.com](http://www.greengreenrecareers.com)
- [www.usef.org](http://www.usef.org)
- [www.equistaff.com](http://www.equistaff.com)
- [www.stma.org](http://www.stma.org)

**Dates to remember**

- **Nov 6:** Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents 2012 Scholarship Deadline.

- **Nov 7:**
  - FREE Good Morning Commuter breakfast for commuter students at Prince George’s Room at the STAMP Student Union from 7:30 -10:00 a.m.
  - AGNR Faculty Debate beginning at 5:45 p.m. in PLSC 1140. Free Food and Drinks!

- **Nov 9:** Last day to drop a course and receive a “W”

- **Nov 14:** IAA’s Annual Turkey Bowl

- **Nov 22-25:** Thanksgiving Recess. No classes.

- **Dec. 11:** Last day of classes

- **Dec. 17:** IAA Scholarship Applications due for Spring 2013

- **Dec. 13-19:** Final Exams
4-H Adventures in Science

Local 4-H members came out on Saturday, October 13 to learn a little something more than what they had been taught in school that week. They joined IAA faculty members Roy Walls, Tony Pagnotti, Dr. Kevin Mathias, and Nina Latassa to learn how to use golf and turf instruments. Read the story on our website iaa.umd.edu/news

Thank you IAA Faculty for supporting 4-H!

Congratulations IAA Scholarship Winners

Over $15,000 in scholarships were awarded this fall to IAA students. We congratulate you and encourage you to check your email for the latest scholarship information and application deadlines.

Take a minute to congratulate your classmates:

Maryland Agriculture Education Foundation
Yasmine Baker
Zachary Decker
Nicholas Harmer
Collin Plumley

Seibel Scholarship
Scott Hosier

TESCO Scholarship
Mike Walsh
Justin Patenaude

Shields Memorial Scholarship
Brian Hogan
Bryan Shepherd
Josh Malnik
Matt Park
Brent Waite
Brian Knott

Golf Course Builders of America
RJ Crow

Cecil Massie Scholarship
Kristen Johansen

Edward B Bowman Family
Yasmine Baker

Patapsco Grange Scholarship
Allison Miller

IAA Development Fund
Scott Hosier

Get IAA updates and join the conversation via Facebook:
www.facebook.com/iaaumd

Shields Memorial Scholarship Winners
Top row (left to right): Matt Park, Brian Hogan and Brent Waite
Bottom row (left to right): Josh Malnik, Bryan Shepherd and Brian Knott