



APRIL 2, 2009

CALENDAR | MARCH 12-18

- 2 • Best Of
  - Student vs. Alumni basketball game
  - *The Rainmaker*
- 3 • *The Rainmaker*
- 4 • General conference
- 5 • General conference

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Scroll Survey**

Enter for a chance to win a \$20 Visa gift card by taking a survey about the *Scroll*. Please only take this survey if you are a current full-time employee or a current resident of Rexburg. This survey will help improve the *Scroll* for future semesters. To take the survey, visit [www.byuicomm.net/survey](http://www.byuicomm.net/survey).

**University Security and Safety**

On March 29, University Safety was combined with University Security and is now known as University Security and Safety. Garth Gunderson is the director and Eric Harmston will continue to work as safety officer. The primary duties of University Security and Safety will consist of patrol, building surveillance, intrusion alarms, card access systems, fire safety, fire alarms, fire suppression systems, OSHA & EPA compliance, hazardous materials, parking, emergency dispatch, and safety training.

## Journal available to all faculty

The spring volume of *Perspective: Expressing Mind & Spirit*, a Brigham Young University–Idaho faculty journal that aims to advance the scholarship of learning and teaching, will be released on April 23.

*Perspective: Expressing Mind & Spirit*, was known as *New Perspectives* when BYU–Idaho was still Ricks College. After the announcement that Ricks College would become BYU–Idaho, *Perspective* underwent a name change, a change in editorial leadership, and a change in the themes and topics covered in the publication.

“The existence of *Perspective* parallels the announcement of BYU–Idaho, and the publication chronicles the development of the university,” said John Thomas, Religious Education associate dean and member of the *Perspective* editorial board.

One of the editorial board’s goals is to have *Perspective* be a part of campus-wide conversation. This means that articles within *Perspective* are focused around current campus dialogues. *Perspective* is themed around “the issues of the times,” according to Vaun Waddell, faculty member in the Department of English and member of the *Perspective* editorial board.

The other two goals are to have the articles in *Perspective* available for in-class use and to have *Perspective* serve as a historical record for the university.

In the April edition of *Perspective*, one will find articles relating to the main themes of this edition: “A Steady Upward Course” and Tending Our Garden.”

The “A Steady, Upward Course” theme has been divided into three sections. Articles will relate to one of the following sections: “Learning What,” “Teaching How” and “Teaching’s Farther Reach.” In the “Tending Our Garden” section, there are several poetry pieces and art images, as well as written articles.

BYU–Idaho faculty and the editorial board write articles for the journal. Some faculty members are approached by the editorial board to write articles in their areas of expertise, but any faculty member is free to submit an article. *Continued on page 2*



## Faculty and students “Try a Tri” to stay fit

Four BYU–Idaho faculty members inspired students and coworkers last weekend to get in shape and stay in shape for the future as they participated in Winter semester’s first-ever triathlon on March 28.

Rob Eaton, religion faculty; Todd Hammond, religion faculty; Todd Kelson, biology faculty; and Mike Whitesides, business faculty, tested their physical strength and endurance by running a 5k, biking 12 miles, and swimming 600 yards alongside 58 students.

“It’s always fun to compete against the young guys to see if we can stay up with them,” Hammond said.

Faculty prepared weeks in advance for optimum performance. But training’s benefits continue beyond the race and often lead to the development of a healthier lifestyle.

“Training for a triathlon has some real advantages. You are doing different exercises so you don’t get hurt, you don’t wear out your body, and there’s a diversity of activities, so it’s not boring,” Hammond said. *Continued on Page 4*

## Perspective: Continued from page 1

“*Perspective* desires submissions from all faculty who wish to participate,” Waddell said.

While *Perspective* is not an official publication, it is an official publication of BYU–Idaho, so any articles written for *Perspective* must follow editorial guidelines.

*Perspective* is distributed to all BYU–Idaho faculty members in hard copy form. It is available online at [www.byui.edu/perspective](http://www.byui.edu/perspective).

## Faculty participate in new study abroad programs in Mexico

Two new locations have recently been included in the Study Abroad program: Guadalajara and Monterrey, Mexico. The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures has been working with Tecnológico de Monterrey to approve an exchange program between the two universities.

Although BYU–Idaho works to improve the international study experience for students, faculty members also partake in the benefits and sacrifices of global travel.

### Why International Study?

“Travel is such an essential mode of education. Students and faculty learn so much on site. There is no experience quite like it,” said Scott Samuelson, Department of English faculty and co-founder and director of the British Literary Tour.

“I personally feel that BYU–Idaho’s Study Abroad Program provides students with wonderful opportunities to apply what they have learned from textbooks to real life,” said Shen Lei, foreign language faculty and director of the Beijing Summer 2009 term.

### Faculty Commitment

Although the new locations in Mexico will not require faculty members to live in Mexico, many faculty are required to accompany students in other study abroad programs. Brother Scott Galer of the Beijing Study Abroad said, “I find it extremely valuable to visit China regularly to practice my language in a native-speaking environment, to keep my finger on the pulse of cultural change, and to reconnect with friends and associates there. While the Internet has made available a wealth of media that helps me stay current with the language, there is no substitute for being there.”

### Mexico

The new locations for the Study Abroad Program in Mexico have been in the works for three years, said Bruce Kusch, associate academic vice president for curriculum. “Our goals are for students to have a study abroad experience that is relatively safe, where there are temples nearby, where there is a Church infrastructure, and where students can have a great experience,” Kusch said.

Foreign language faculty members Steve Hunsaker and Robert Colvin recently traveled to Mexico with Bruce Kusch to institute the new program. Hunsaker explained that tuition is same as attending a semester in Rexburg. “Foreign language students need the international experience. They are immersed in the culture and they come back with confidence,” Hunsaker said.



Valerie Strum teaches students in the American Sign Language class.

## “Causing...the deaf to hear”

Programs assist deaf or hard of hearing students

Trevor Perkes has many things in common with other students at Brigham Young University–Idaho. He is from Rexburg and is studying computer information technology. He goes to class every day and listens to his teachers’ lectures as best he can. But Perkes is hard of hearing.

Red Taylor, faculty member in the Department of Academic Learning, meets with students who are deaf or hard of hearing each semester to learn how he and the university can best accommodate them.

“Each student, regardless of their disability, is assessed to see what their individual needs are,” Taylor said.

The university accommodates deaf or hard of hearing students through services such as sign language interpreters, closed captioning, note writing and assistive hearing devices that use special headsets and infrared signals in the classroom.

But there has not been a great need for such services or devices recently. “We don’t have many students who are deaf or hard of hearing attending here,” Taylor said.

Perkes has hearing aids and relies on several assistive hearing services from the university to help him in class. He admits that in the past, he has been “a little prideful,” and has not wanted help from the university, but has accepted help from the university in the form of a Comtek and a peer note-taker.

A Comtek is similar to a walkie-talkie. A small microphone clipped to a teacher’s tie or shirt is wired to a box that clips onto his or her belt or pocket. Perkes wears a wire loop around his neck, which is attached to a small box that fits in his pocket. When the teacher talks, the microphone “records” what is said and sends it to Perkes’ audio box. The audio box decodes the message and sends it into his hearing aid.

Even with the Comtek, Perkes still has difficulty hearing the teacher, reading his or her lips and taking notes all at the same time. Perkes relies on a peer note-taker: a student who volunteers to take notes for Perkes during class. “I am very grateful for the students who do this. Also, if there is a topic that I don’t understand, the students have always been willing to help me,” Perkes said.

During each week’s devotional, students in the front rows of the Hart Auditorium sign ASL. “The university provides the seats up front for students who need to sit close to hear, read lips or have an interpreter translate for them. I tend to stay a little bit back because I don’t really like to draw attention to myself,” Perkes said.

Overall, Perkes has been very satisfied with the accommodations and assistance the university has provided him. “I have really enjoyed my experience at BYU–Idaho. The students and staff members have been extremely helpful. I would have a really hard time without their help,” Perkes said.

\*Headline reference: *Mosiah 3:5*

## GRADUATION

Elder Neil L. Andersen



Elder Neil L. Andersen, Senior President of the Presidency of the Seventy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, will be the

Winter Commencement speaker on April 10. Commencement will begin at 8 a.m. in the John W. Hart Auditorium.

Elder Andersen was called to be the Senior President of the Presidency of the Seventy Aug. 1, 2008 and has been a member of the Presidency of the Seventy since 2005. During his service as a General Authority, Elder Andersen has presided over the Brazil South Area and was a member of the Europe West Area Presidency. He is fluent in French, Portuguese and Spanish.

Prior to his call as a member of the First Quorum of the Seventy, Andersen served as president over the France Bordeaux Mission as well as the Tampa Florida Stake.

He graduated from Brigham Young University and earned a Masters of Business Administration from Harvard University. His business interests included advertising, real estate development, and health care.

Elder Andersen and his wife, Kathy Williams Andersen, are the parents of four children and have 12 grandchildren.

Representing the Church Educational System (CES) will be Roger Christensen. Brother Christensen serves as the Assistant to the Commissioner of Education and secretary to the Board of Trustees.

During this commencement, 1,458 students will graduate. Of these students, 137 earned associate degrees, and 1,337 earned bachelor degrees. For more information, please visit [www.byui.edu/graduation](http://www.byui.edu/graduation).



**EMPLOYEE PROFILE**

**Elizabeth Bossard**  
Communication  
Faculty  
*Communication*

“I was born in Richfield, Utah. It was one of the most amazing events that ever occurred there. I try and tell my mother that,” said Elizabeth Bossard with a grin.

She moved to Rexburg shortly after getting married when her husband began teaching at Ricks College, and she was soon also offered a position. She currently teaches music and public speaking. “I’ve been here longer than anyone in the Snow Building, the Spori Building and the Kirkham Building,” she added.

“This is my hobby,” she said about her job. “And I love to play with my little grandchildren.” Bossard has five grandchildren and 20 “grand children.”

Bossard is passionate about her work and about life. “I love watching people discover,” she said. “I’m big on “ah-hah” moments. I don’t allow technology in my class, because I think the students need to be the PowerPoint.”

An office wall covered with quotes and images is a testament to her views on life. “I have little quotes all over the place,” she said. “I’m full of quotes. Sometimes they’re original and sometimes they’re out of a book. I’m an object lesson kind of teacher. For example, why do I have bears?” she asked, gesturing at the handful of stuffed animals against one wall. “To remind us that we’re here to bear each other’s burdens.”

**“Try a Tri”: continued from page 2**

Kelson emphasizes starting small and being consistent. “Finding the time to exercise is a challenge. If you don’t make exercise a priority then everything else will push it out of the way,” Kelson said. He suggests that individuals wanting to get in shape start with 10 minutes a day and build up from there.

Kelson also believes that physical habits predict future health. “The choices we make today are going to impact our lives in the future, and I think that too many of us fall into bad habits. People tell themselves they’ll start eating healthy and exercising next year, and five years down the road it’s too late.”

Hammond believes exercise creates opportunities to bond with colleagues and family members. Hammond enjoys

involving his children and letting them run and swim in the race. “We have many great opportunities here for physical, spiritual and mental growth, and we need to take advantage of them.”

Up until this semester, a triathlon was only offered during the summer. Student Trevor Dschaak created “Try a Tri” because he wanted to involve others in an activity he loves. “Completing a triathlon has been the most gratifying physical event that I have ever done. To have others experience that is a great feeling for me.”

Dschaak urges all students and faculty to try a triathlon. The next triathlon will be during Spring semester, and the date is to be determined.

**FOR SALE**

*One-acre cul-de-sac residential lot* in Rigby, Terrace Hills subdivision. Must sell. Lots are currently selling for \$37,000. Reduced price is \$25,900. Located only 15 minutes from Rexburg or Idaho Falls. Call 496-3003 or 656-0245 for more information.

- Matt Sellers, Teacher Education
- Janel Spencer, Custodial
- 5 Jim Hopla, Health Science
- Oliver Sykes, Communication
- Vance Fager, Health Science
- 6 Kendell Nielsen, Music
- Margaret Parson, Nursing
- Donnetta Rhead, Catering
- Stephen Turcotte, Physics

**BIRTHDAYS | APRIL 2-8**

- 2 Julie Buck, Home & Family
- John Galbraith, Business Mgmt
- Eric Harmston, Safety Office
- Bart Mower, Accounting
- Debbie Peck, Enterprise Info System
- Todd Smith, Infrastructure
- Ben Wyeth, Communication
- 3 Ray Allen, Academic Technology
- Paul Wright, Mechanical/Plumbing
- 4 Deena Larsen, Copy Center
- Blaine Robertson, Computer Info Tech
- 7 Marcia Bair, Library
- Eric D’Evegne, English
- Sandra Miyasaki, Purchasing
- Patricia Niederer, Univer Security
- Mark Olaveson, Comp Info Tech
- Michael Paul, Foreign Language
- 8 Lloyd Bigelow, University Relations
- Robert Bird, English
- Scarlett Holman, Music
- Delaina Scholes, English



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**News & Notes**

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