



MARCH 26, 2009

CALENDAR | FEB. 26-MARCH 4

- 26 • Last day to withdraw from Winter semester
• *The Rainmaker*
- 27 • Comic Frenzy
• *The Rainmaker*
- 28 • Collegiate Dance Showcase
• Comic Frenzy
• *The Rainmaker*
- 31 • Sound Alliance/Vocal Union
• *The Rainmaker*
- 1 • *The Rainmaker*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Employee Appreciation Night

Free tickets are available for the first-ever “Faculty, Staff and Administration Appreciation Night” at this semester’s Basketball Championships. Get tickets for you and all of your family and friends. RSVP by Friday, March 27 at 2 p.m. listing your name, department, and how many tickets you will need.



Kirk Gifford, Ryan Nielson, Sid Palmer and Steve Hunsaker received the Distinguished Faculty Award March 17.

Four faculty members presented awards

Four faculty members were presented the Distinguished Faculty Award March 17 recognizing their contribution to the university.

Kirk Gifford, associate dean of the Department of Economics; Ryan Nielson, Department of Physics faculty; Sid Palmer, chair of the Department of Biology; and Steve Hunsaker, faculty in the Department of Foreign Language, were selected for this award.

Each recipient was honored at the devotional luncheon, where President Clark presented them with a plaque.

These faculty members were nominated by students, faculty and administration. The Distinguished Faculty Committee then selected the final nominees, who were ultimately approved by the academic administration.

“They’re excellent examples of faculty members we’d like to honor,” according to Phil Packer, associate academic vice president of instruction.

Kirk Gifford has been employed at BYU-Idaho for 13 years. He is currently implementing the Learning Model in his classes and is working to bring Foundations courses up to speed in his department.

“I love working with students one-on-one and helping them to achieve their academic goals,” Gifford said. *Continued on page 3*



Physical Facilities provides day-to-day campus services

Physical Facilities has combined its service functions into one main service center. According to Marie Wells, Facilities Service Center supervisor, “You don’t have to know a specific name. Just call, tell us the problem, and we’ll take care of it.”

Physical Facilities provides day-to-day services for the campus, mainly for building and custodial needs. Its 300 employees also keep the BYU–Idaho grounds, assist in hanging pictures on walls, and facilitate minor remodeling projects.

For assistance, call x2431 or fill out a work order at www.byui.edu/physicalfacilities.

Fill the Hart for employee appreciation night

The first-ever *Faculty, Staff and Administration Appreciation Night* is underway for the upcoming Championship Basketball games on March 28. Free tickets are available to all employees and anyone they care to invite.

Sports Coordinator, Trent Shippen, said, “This is for anyone who works on campus—part time, full time, adjunct—come be part of our championship game. We want our faculty, staff and administration to enjoy a night out with their families. It’s our final four of the BYU–Idaho March Madness.”

The day’s schedule begins with the JV Women’s game at 2 p.m. followed by the JV Men’s game at 4 p.m. Varsity games begin at 6 p.m. with the Women’s game.

The Men’s Varsity game will commence at 8 p.m. The National Anthem will be sung by Collegiate Singers along with a flag presentation.

The Men’s Varsity halftime show boasts the Rexburg-based ProForm Airborne Jump Rope Team and the Front and Center Dance Team from Rigby. The magician Sterling David is also set to perform during the JV Men’s game.

BYU–Idaho performers include the BYU–I Cheer and Spirit Team, and campus favorite Keishianna McCarthy. Contests and prizes are also planned through the day.

All faculty, staff and administration members are encouraged to R.S.V.P. to sportscompsec@byui.edu. Please include the name, department and the number of tickets needed. The deadline for ticket requests is Friday, March 27, at 2 p.m.

Free tickets can also be picked up at the Competitive Sports office in Rigby Hall 219.

Math Society celebrates Pi Day



photo courtesy of Jennie Youngberg

What happens on March 14? Want a hint? Sometimes it’s written as 3-14. Yes, that’s right: March 14 was Pi Day.

The BYU–Idaho Mathematics Society held a Pi Day celebration under the direction of the Department of Mathematics.

“Pi day was a chance for me to get together with other people who have similar passions for mathematics,” said Carol Wise, a student in attendance. “But Pi Day is not only for the math major! My roommate, a sociology major, came with me and we celebrated together.”

Why, one may ask, is pi so significant that it should get its own holiday?

“It has boggled many a mathematician simply by the fact that it is irrational,” Wise said. “Many tried to define it until they discovered it could only be defined

as an irrational number with an infinite amount of digits. It’s an amazing number.” The first event of the day was a Pi Day Run/Walk of 3.14 kilometers, or about 1.95 miles. Brett Stone came in first place, followed by Ryan Cromar and Austin Doutre. Following the run was a pie-eating contest, which was won by Scott Merkley. There was also a digits of pi recitation contest, which was won by Doutre with 101 digits. The winner of each contest received a gift certificate to Frontier Pies.

After the contests, those in attendance sang The Pi Song, which featured pi-adoring lyrics set to the tune of “Oh Christmas Tree.” They also spoke about the holder of the world record for digits of pi recited. This title belongs to Hiroyuki Goto, who recited over 42,000 digits of pi, a feat which took over nine hours. The attendants also worked together to create a paper chain that linked digits of pi.

The celebration was rounded up with a game of Do You Love Pi? (a variation on Do You Love Your Neighbor? but played with digits of pi), and then refreshments of—you guessed it—pie.

For more information on the Mathematics Society, please contact Danae Romrell at romrelld@byui.edu.

Faculty Award: continued from page 1

Ryan Nielson has worked at BYU–Idaho for 19 years. He is currently focusing on introductory courses and enjoys teaching a course on preparing teachers in the sciences.

He feels that listening is one of the most important things he has learned as a professor, especially to students who are struggling. “It takes a lot of practice and humility,” Nielson said. He explained that when he listens closely, he is better able to address the students’ needs.

Sid Palmer has worked at BYU–Idaho for 11 years. “He is very dedicated to everything he does,” said Stephen McGary, Agriculture and Life Sciences dean.

Palmer enjoys working with the faculty and student body. “They are phenomenal to work with. You can’t help but love working with them,” Palmer said.

Steve Hunsaker has worked at BYU–Idaho for eight years. According to John Ivers, dean of Language and Letters, Hunsaker has been a university-wide leader in two areas: assessment and observation. “His work in assessment and peer observation has touched every department on campus,” Ivers said.

“I have a general feeling of gratitude to be at BYU–Idaho and hope to make a difference,” Hunsaker said. “I enjoy being able to develop as a teacher.”

NEXT WEEK’S DEVOTIONAL
CLARK GILBERT



Clark Gilbert currently serves as the associate academic vice president over Educational Resources and Development at BYU–Idaho. He has responsibilities over the Learning Model and Online Learning, and has also worked with student leadership programs.

Prior to joining BYU–Idaho, Brother Gilbert was a professor of entrepreneurial management at the Harvard Business School, where he focused on innovation and organizational change.

Brother Gilbert graduated from Brigham Young University with a degree in International Relations. He earned a master’s degree from Stanford University in East Asian Studies and a doctorate from Harvard University in Business Administration.

He has served in many callings in the Church, most often among the youth. Callings have included scoutmaster, Stake Young Men’s leader, and Sunday School instructor. He currently serves in the Stake Presidency of the BYU–Idaho 6th Stake. Brother Gilbert and his wife, Christine, are the parents of seven children.



Employee Profile

Tyson Freeman
Technology Support Specialist

“I’m just a normal guy,” said Tyson Freeman, technology support specialist. Freeman grew up in Tri-Cities, Wash., as the seventh in a family of nine children. He served a mission in Manchester, England, and then came to Ricks College in 1999. In 2005, he received his bachelor’s degree in Information Systems.

Freeman worked at Eastern Oregon University for three years, and then moved back to Rexburg. His job involves maintaining the computers all across campus.

He enjoys living in Rexburg. “There are loads of things to do here,” he said. He added that there are a lot of family-friendly activities in the area, and he should know: he’s the father of three young children.

Freeman enjoys a variety of activities. “I was a Scoutmaster, so I like to camp, hike, paintball and play sports.” He also enjoys dancing on campus Wednesday nights with his wife. “I like to have fun.”

When asked for his favorite quote, Freeman became thoughtful. “Probably just that old saying, ‘Yesterday’s the past. Tomorrow’s in the future. Today is a gift; that is why it’s called the present.’ I like that one.”

What makes him happy? “Life. Sunshine. Waking up in the morning. My family. My kids. Being part of God’s kingdom. Those types of things you hold dear.”

FOR SALE

Home. 3 bed, 1 bath with plenty of storage. Hardwood floors. Attached garage. Located 1/2 a block from BYU-Idaho on Harvard Avenue. Large, fully fenced yard with covered patio, outdoor storage unit and mature pine trees. This is a great house. If you are interested, call 656-0058.

Home in Burton area. \$249,000. Built in 2004, 2,800 sq. ft., 4 bedrooms, 2 bonus rooms, 2.5 baths. Sprinkler system, 1 acre, a/c, friendly cul-de-sac neighborhood. MLS#155554. Call our agent at 604-7325.

THANK YOU

I would like to thank the Student Health Center and BYU-Idaho for the beautiful flowers and note sent to my wife after the birth of our son. It is such a privilege and opportunity to work with such caring people and in such a wonderful environment. Thanks so much!
Shawn Andreassen

Sincere thanks for the lovely flowers, the cards, well wishes and prayers during the time of my surgery. The caring concern of the BYU-I Administration, the College of Ag and Life Sciences and the Department of Nursing is greatly appreciated.
Susan Dicus

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Campus Vehicles

With Spring readily approaching, the university appreciates your continued efforts to keep all campus vehicles on sidewalks and roads and off of lawn and planting areas. We are dedicated to maintaining the aesthetics of our beautiful campus, and we appreciate your help in doing so.

BIRTHDAYS | MARCH 26 - APRIL 1

- 26 Lauri Arensmeyer, Student Records & Registration
James Cutler, HVAC
Robert Pothier, Service Missionaries
Kirk Rawlins, University Communications
Patricia Waddoups, Recreation management
Jeff Ward, Art
- 27 George Adams, Music
Gary Benson, Theatre
Ryan Berger, Custodial
David Webb, Economics
- 28 Gayle Lee, Nursing
David Richards, LDS Philanthropies
Debra Willis, Career & Academic Advising
- 29 Lorraine Cziep, Student Health Center
Amy Hanks, Chemistry
- 30 Daniel Bauman, Infrastructure
Richard Cluff, Psychology
Kathleen Gordon, Home & Family
Terrie Larsen, Physical Facilities
Roy Marlowe, Counseling
- 31 Richard Whiting, Sociology & Social Work
- 1 Mari Ann Birch, Admissions
Aaron Miller, Music
Lori Parker, Student Health Center
Shane Ruebush, Chemistry
John Tanner, LDS Philanthropies
Kamber Turner, Music
Nicki Warnick, Student Act/Peer Inst



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