

Multiple sclerosis diagnosis for Trevor Bayne

BY CHRISTIANNA VAN DALSEN
STAFF WRITER

Soccer player Javier Artero. Baseball player Stan Belinda. Football player Dan Carnevale. Basketball player and coach Deanna Davis. Olympic skier Jimmy Heuga. Olympic gold medalist sprinter Betty Cuthbert. And the list goes on and on.

Aside from their amazing athletic achievements, all these athletes been diagnosed with the same disease: Multiple sclerosis.

Now, NASCAR driver Trevor Bayne joins the list. On November 12, 2013, the Roush Fenway Racing driver announced his diagnosis.

Multiple sclerosis is a disease where the immune system attacks the central nervous system. Although symptoms range in severity, MS can lead to paralysis in severe cases.

"It's tragic that this has to happen to such an iconic celebrity, and I hope it doesn't affect his career," said early college junior Trey Woodlief.

In 2011 Trevor Bayne won the Daytona 500 at the age of 20. To this day, he remains the youngest driver ever to win the race.

"What's crazy is that he's only 22," said early college senior Jordan Smith. "He's so, so, so young and he only just got married this summer.

"To have this bombshell right after that ... Even though his sister also has it, it's completely unexpected."

Numbness affected Bayne's arm in the middle of a race at Texas Motor Speedway. Coupled with fatigue, nausea and blurred vision, for any athlete experiencing these symptoms this would be a recipe for disaster.

However, NASCAR does not have the same physical requirements most sports do, but that does not put Bayne out of danger if he continues to drive.

Definition, Clarification & Exploration

Read up on the term(s) in this article

Multiple Sclerosis
(noun)

A chronic disease that attacks the central nervous system: the brain, spinal cord and optic nerves. Symptoms may include paralysis and loss of vision.

These disabling side effects occur because Multiple Sclerosis, or MS, causes the immune system to attack the central nervous system.

- INFORMATION COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY

"He talked about double vision, and his double vision can get worse if he's overheated," said Dr. Harold Moses to ABC News. "These cars get very warm, and a lot of these drivers wear cooling suits. I think they're going to be very careful about how he re-enters the sport."

Bayne stated he has not experienced any symptoms since the Texas Motor Speedway incident.

"I've never been more driven to compete," Bayne told USA Today. "My goals are the same as they've been since I started racing. I want to compete at the highest level and I want to win races and championships."

"I am in the best shape I've ever been in, and I feel good. I'm committed to continuing to take the best care of my body as possible."

MS is unpredictable, though.

"MS can have a very variable course. So one person

may have years where they're not affected much at all, whereas someone else the same age presenting at the same time may have a course that's very rocky," ABC News' chief health and medical editor Dr. Richard Besser told ABC news.

There are medications that can slow down the disease's effects and progression, but Bayne has experienced no relapses and has decided to go without medication.

"I have a close family friend who has MS," said early college senior Kristen Witkemper. "I wish we had more knowledge about it, because she goes through a lot. She goes to the hospital quite often and I think it really detracts from her ability to enjoy life."

"Hopefully Bayne's MS doesn't relapse. But hopefully this will promote awareness about MS and lead to more research. Hopefully, one day, we'll have a cure."

FCA organizes donations for children

BY RENEE DEHART
STAFF WRITER

"Do they know it's Christmas time at all?"

Many know the song but few answer the call, excepting Guilford's Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

On Nov. 18, the FCA organized a shoebox drive in the Community Center to collect supplies and toys, which will be distributed internationally to children in need by the evangelical Christian humanitarian group Samaritan's Purse through their holiday program Operation Christmas Child.

"This is a large organization; we're just doing our part through Guilford," said junior tennis captain and FCA President Turner Votipka.

Donations for the FCA's project have poured in from across the community.

"Students are doing it, parents have sent us stuff and we went out and got boxes from organizations," said Votipka. "We have club money and student donations."

The FCA found inspiration through the story of Jesus feeding 5,000 people with only five loaves of bread and two fish.

"He fed 5,000 people because he saw their need," said Mike Gatton '13, FCA coordinator. "Yes, we want to give these children something that will meet their temporary needs, but we also want to share with them hope and the hope they can have with Christ."

"This bread they can have tonight and have for eternity."

Accompanying the FCA was a wide

array of students and non-students alike, united in a joint effort to brighten the lives of impoverished children this Christmas.

The bread, or temporary satisfaction, Gatton referenced could be seen spread across the room in the Community Center in the form of toys and school supplies for the children.

Contributors started the event by selecting one of the several dozen assorted shoeboxes on the first. Once a box was selected, they filled it with goodies from four different stations.

First, the shoeboxes were layered with a mints and butterscotch. A hygiene station was also set up with toothpaste, toothbrushes and bars of soap.

Teddy bears and other stuffed animals, dolls, and Nerf footballs were stuffed into the boxes, followed by pencils, notebooks and construction paper from the school supplies station.

"I came out to help and pack a couple of boxes," said sophomore Dakota Rock. "I actually brought some toys, cups, notebooks and crayons."

Everyone had fun while organizing their own packages.

"I just think it is nice we're helping kids in need," said a junior Ezra Fleishman.

Before wrapping the boxes a special trademark from the FCA was added, as everyone in attendance was encouraged to write an inspiring note for the child recipient. After wrapping, the boxes were sent to Operation Christmas Child.

This heartwarming event brought many people in the community together for a common goal of helping children in need.

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QUESTIONS? CONTACT KAITLYN AT ESTILLKA@GUILFORD.EDU

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GUILFORD COLLEGE WOODS

MONDAY DECEMBER 9
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