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THE PARTHENO

Marshall University's Student Newspaper marshallparthenon.com Monday, April 11, 2011

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Volume 114 | No. 117

PAGE EDITED AND DESIGNED BY MARCUS CONSTANTINO CONSTANTINO2@MARSHALL.EDU

Budget deal a win, but also a warning

BY PAUL WEST TRIBUNE WASHINGTON BUREAU

WASHINGTON — House Speaker John Boehner and congressional Republicans wrung a significant victory out of this weekend's budget deal: They decisively shifted the focus in Washington away from spending and toward austerity, slashing government more steeply than expected and redeeming a pledge to voters in last year's election.

President Barack Obama, by stepping in late to avoid a government shutdown, dodged a potentially devastating blow to his standing. That's likely to preserve political gains he's achieved since the midterm elections with independent voters who want government to work and don't favor the deeply conservative Republican social agenda.

Democratic priorities were set back in the agreement to cut about \$38 billion from this year's budget, with many details yet to emerge. Obama, in his Saturday media address, hailed "the biggest annual spending cut in history" while acknowledging the cost: He had "to give ground" on important issues, he said, and accept "painful" cuts.

The president like ned the compromise to his centrist-minded deal with Republicans in December, which disappointed many on the left by preserving huge tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans. That bargain was packed with additional stimulus, in the form of a payroll tax cut; this one symbolized the end of the Obama stimulus era.

But the tortuous wrangling over funding the government for less than six months offered little hope for easy resolution to the next - and far more consequential fight: Lifting the debt ceiling to keep the U.S. government from eventually defaulting on its obligations.

Boehner, R-Ohio, who emerged as the biggest winner in the initial round, strengthened his hand by wresting everlarger concessions from the administration.

"Any time you can get significant cuts in a Democratic budget, in a government two-thirds controlled by Democrats, it's a pretty significant victory," said Whit Ayres, a Republican pollster.

At the same time, Boehner faces continued unrest on his

right flank. Leaders in both parties say the country faces financial disaster if Washington fails to raise the debt limit. But many Republican lawmakers say they won't vote to increase it without major budget concessions.

"Tea party"-backed conservatives decided not to shut down the government over abortion and environmental regulation this time.

But they also indicated that they were giving ground on the skirmish over 2011 spending in order to push for much more drastic cuts in the upcoming 2012 budget and debt-limit battles. And some will renew their calls to alter government policies on abortion, environment and health

House Budget Chairman Paul D. Ryan, R-Wis., unveiled an ambitious, and politically risky, spending blueprint last week that includes a sweeping overhaul of Medicare and Medicaid. Republicans will use it to appeal to voters worried about the budget deficit, while Democrats are warning that it would severely damage the social safety net and fall disproportionately on poor and working-class Americans.

Republican Rep. Michele Bachmann of Minnesota, a possible tea party presidential candidate, said she opposed this weekend's budget deal because it failed to cut spending more deeply and allowed federal dollars to keep flowing to Planned Parenthood and implementation of the new health care law — two of the GOP policy "riders" that Republicans gave up in negotiations.

More than two dozen Republican conservatives - and a larger number of liberal Democrats - also registered their opposition in a House roll-call vote early Saturday. The Senate approved the initial part of the deal in a voice vote, with at least one shout of "no" clearly audible. Republican Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky, a tea party favorite, attacked the agreement for not doing more to reduce the budget deficit.

Obama signed a stopgap bill Saturday that will allow time to work out details of federal spending between now and Sept. 30, when the 2011 fiscal year ends. That measure will go before lawmakers midweek.

Democratic liberals weren't mollified by Obama's success in blocking Republicans from using the budget to push conservative social initiatives.



MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON

Katie Meek, 2, of Huntington, enjoys the summerlike weather at Harris Riverfront Park on Sunday.

"The American people have been told the agreement contains both 'historic' and 'painful' cuts. The question will be: Painful for whom?" said Rep. George Miller, D-Calif., one of 42 Democrats who voted "no." "Poor and middleclass families have already received more than their fair share of pain in this economy while the wealthy and special interests have paid no price."

Maya MacGuineas, a prominent deficit hawk, said Republicans had dramatically changed Washington's budget debate over the past month and improved the chances of putting longer-term fiscal restraints in place.

"Now we're talking about real spending cuts, and I give them a tremendous amount of credit for that," said Mac-Guineas, president of the Bipartisan Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget.

A White House aide called the agreement the "first real test" of the new, divided government in Washington. But MacGuineas was sharply critical of the way the deal was reached, after weeks of political posturing and a closing burst of deal-making and brinksmanship.

A repeat in this spring's fight over the debt ceiling could trigger drastic economic consequences, she said. Administration officials say the country will hit the \$14.29 trillion debt limit next month. Unless the limit is lifted, the Treasury Department is unable to borrow or perform other functions.

MARCUS CONSTANTINO | THE PARTHENON



A pair of Canadian geese play near the flooded banks of Harris Riverfront Park on Sunday. The Unio River was at 36.98 feet Sunday afternoon according to the United States Geological Survey web site, approximately 10 feet higher than measurements taken Monday, April 4.

For more web-only photos by The Parthenon, visit our Facebook page and our website, www.marshallparthenon.com.

Republicans say they'll seek further cuts in debt-ceiling debate

BY DAVID GOLDSTEIN MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

WASHINGTON - House Republicans, fresh from

their showdown with Democrats over cuts in the current federal budget, promised Sunday to take an even tougher stand on spending next month when Congress will be asked to increase the amount of money the government is allowed to borrow. House Majority Leader Eric Cantor of Virginia and

Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan of Wisconsin, warned that the GOP won't approve raising the debt ceiling unless that increase is accompanied by both spending cuts and budget priorities. Raising the debt ceiling is critical because without a

higher limit, the government would not be able to borrow money to cover its expenses — including money needed to pay off earlier debt that has come due. How to cut government spending is likely to dominate national politics through the 2012 elections, with the focus now turning to both the battle over the debt ceiling and the

federal budget for fiscal 2012. President Barack Obama will weigh in on that fight this week, White House senior adviser David Plouffe said on NBC's Meet the Press."

There was "no way" House Republicans would support an increase in the debt ceiling without "guaranteed steps to

ensure that the spending doesn't get out of control again," Cantor said during on "Fox News Sunday."

Ryan, appearing on NBC, said, "We believe accompanying any debt ceiling (increase), you need real fiscal reforms, real spending cuts and real spending controls go-

Plouffe said the president would begin to explain "his approach to long-term deficit reduction later this week." In a separate appearance on Fox, Plouffe praised Friday's agreement, which prevented the government from shutting down for lack of spending authorization.

"Our leaders came together," he said. "This is what Americans are screaming at the top of their lungs for. . . . Compromise is not a dirty word."

Both parties claimed victory in the fight over the 2011 budget, With \$38 billion in spending cuts through September, Republicans won more than half of the \$61 billion they wanted, but Democrats avoided GOP-backed policy changes, including eliminating spending for Planned Parenthood, that they said were ideologically driven.

Plouffe warned that any effort by Republicans not to raise the \$14.25 trillion debt ceiling would have dire economic consequences.

Without a higher limit, the U.S. could default on payments owed on previous debt, which would damage the nation's creditworthiness and raise the cost of borrowing for the government and private business alike.

"We should not be playing brinksmanship with the full

faith and credit of the U.S.," Plouffe said.

A fight, however, seemed certain, with the debt ceiling becoming a Republican bargaining chip for more spending cuts and other changes.

Ryan called for "real caps on spending ... so we can take the pressure off the debt."

He also defended a 10-year spending play that he introduced last week, which calls for \$6 trillion in spending cuts. The House is expected to take it up later

Ryan would turn Medicaid, a health insurance program for the poor, into block grants and leave spending decisions up to the states. He said that governors have asked for more control

His most controversial proposal, however, would turn Medicare, into a voucher system through which seniors could buy private health insurance.

That change would over time result in higher premiums for the elderly, according to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office.

Ryan said his plan "personalizes Medicare," enabling it to operate much like the program's prescription drug benefit, which offers competition among plans and gives subscribers choices.

Critics say the plan would put an unfair burden on lowand moderate-income taxpayers.

Ryan said that the "goal is to repair the safety net and make it sustainable."



The **Bachelor** 8 p.m.











Pretty Little

)PINION

THE PARTHENON P marshallparthenon.com

Monday, April 11, 2011

THE PARTHENON EDITORIAL

Society chooses fun over information

BY DAILY TARGUM EDITORIAL BOARD DAILY TARGUM RUTGERS U. UWIRE

In an admittedly funny but nonetheless childish move, the National Republican Senatorial Committee released a parody video of President Barack Obama's bid for reelection in the 2012 race. In the few days since it was posted, the video has garnered more than 688,000 views, launch video, on the other hand, has

only racked up 168,000 views as of press time. Some people have been interpreting this as indicative of the number of Obama's opponents versus the number of his supporters. Others see it as a lack of energy on the part of Obama's campaign. We, however, see it differently. The number of views the parody video has says more about our entertainmentoriented culture than it does about Obama's campaign.

with more to come by the time this watched as Rebecca Black's atrois published. Obama's real campaign cious "Friday" racked up tens of

But that video did not go viral because of how much everyone loved it. Instead, it went viral for the exact opposite reason - people found it hilariously entertaining because of how downright awful it was. This tends to be how many people operate these days. People spend far less time investing themselves in what they sincerely care about on emotional or intellectual levels, instead devoting their time and energy to Just a few weeks ago, everyone things, which are quick, cheap, and mindlessly entertaining. As a culture, we have, in many ways, chosen over. This makes it more likely that

thought process for a view of the par- those people will watch it multiple ody video probably went something times. like this: "Yeah, sure, I like Obama and all, so I probably know what his video is going to be all about. Let me see this joke one. It might be funny."

Another factor, which we hate to admit, is probably the length of the videos. The parody video is about half the length of the real one, and it is a lot easier to watch because it isn't supposed to be taken seriously. It is meant only to impart a few laughs in about a minute, and then the show's millions of views in a span of days. hilarity over sincerity. The common more people will watch it and that

The disparity in video views is not something anyone should really be taking seriously. It most likely says absolutely nothing of substance about what will happen to the Obama campaign in the upcoming race. What it does represent, though, is what we like as a culture. But perhaps a little more sincerity and care about what's really important wouldn't hurt.

JOHN KENNEY

THE MISCELLANY NEWS VASSAR COLLEGE UWIRE

Teèn "sexting" scandal shows dangers of technological era

The fad of sexting among minors can be destructive for young lives. For Margarite, a young girl from Washington, a naked picture she sent to her boyfriend Isaiah would come to have massive consequences. After the two broke up, Isaiah sent the picture to a former friend of Margarite. That friend disseminated the photo to as many students as possible. The former friend and another girl who helped in distributing the photo were charged with the dissemination of child pornography—a Class C Felony-and ended up pleading guilty to a misdemeanor charge of telephone harassment for their crimes. This event raises serious questions about the implications of technology on social lives.

The actual act of sexting is not illegal, nor would I argue that it should be. For the more prudish among us, the idea of people sending naked pictures to each other over cell phones may seem disgusting; nevertheless, at the end of the day we live in a country that respects the rights of consenting adults to send provocative photos to each other.

The issue, however, becomes more complicated when the question of sexting by minors is brought up. That is especially true in a case such as Margarite's, where the picture ended up being used as a way to disparage and defame her. The three teens who sent out the picture deserved to be punished for what they did, as the picture still continues to haunt Margarite a year later. She tried transferring schools, but the story of the picture was soon discovered by students there. She decided to transfer back to her original school, where she still had friends.

It is a scary fact to consider that our social lives and actions are now available for others to see in a way that would not have even been imaginable 20 years ago. A simple status update about marijuana is there forever. A tagged photo on Facebook of a wild night can be seen by anyone if the proper precautions are not taken. A naked picture sent to a romantic interest can end up tearing your entire life apart.

Cases such as Margarite's will not stop irresponsible behavior in the new technological era in which we have found ourselves. They do however serve as a grim reminder of what can happen when we make one silly decision. Our lives are now under a microscope and any decision that is made digitally can serve to haunt our real selves for years to come.

EDITORIAL CARTOON I KIRK WALTERS I THE TOLEDO BLADE



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Online poll

How effective are the recent federal budget cuts?

- Very effective
- Not effective
- Somewhat
- marshall parthenon.com

RESULTS

Do you feel safe on campus?

- Yes, absolutely61%

PAGE EDITED AND DESIGNED BY DEANNA BAILEY - BAILEY360@MARSHALL.EDU

KENNETH JAMES DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPI UWIRE

High-five to France for military intervention

Before sitting down to write this column, I went online to check the latest news from Africa. I was going to write a column arguing passionately, and, I hope, convincingly, about the need for Western intervention in the African country of Cote

So, you can rightly assume that I was both surprised and delighted to read on the New York Times website that the United Nations and France have begun military strikes against the forces of former president Laurent

Former president Gbagbo lost his campaign to remain president of Cote d'Ivoire, a former French colony, last November. The election, certified by several international agencies as fair and honest, awarded the presidency of this cocoa-rich nation to Alassane Ouattara. Unfortunately, Gbagbo refused to accept his loss, and held on to power. Since then, the situation in Cote d'Ivoire has only deteriorated. Negotiations

floundered, Ouattara set up his own government in his U.N.-protected hotel room, and, eventually, armed fighting began between forces loyal to each side.

Cote d'Ivoire descended into violence between pro-Ouattara supporters in the largely Muslim north and pro-Gbagbo supporters in the largely Christian south.

This violence culminated recently in the massacre of 1000 civilians in the town of Duekoue, a dangerous step towards genocide.

So I am pleased that France and the United Nations have stepped in to do something about it. France and the United Nations have commenced air strikes against military and political targets in Cote d'Ivoire. I am glad that someone in the Western world realized they had a duty to do so.

Yes, I said a duty.

Much of the wealth and power on which this country sits and uses to mold so much of the world into the shapes we find.

I hope, but do not expect, that we might see a greater response from the Western world toward the prevention of genocide and violence around the world, especially toward countries to which we owe so very much.

THE PARTHENON P marshallparthenon.com | Monday, April 11, 2011

Marshall struggles through 10-3 loss to Memphis

After a lengthy weather delay, the Marshall University softball team fell 10-3 to Memphis on Saturday afternoon at Dot Hicks Field. Inclement weather has forced officials to call for two games to be played Sunday starting at noon.

Memphis (24-10, 7-6 C-USA) started the game with a spark as Jessica Phillips gave the Tigers a 2-0 lead in the first with a two-run homer to left that plated Lelani Bernardino who reached earlier on a fielder's choice. The Thundering Herd (15-21, 1-9 C-USA) made an early switch in the circle as Natalee Pulver replaced Andi Williamson after one inning and eight batters faced. Williamson takes the loss for the Herd, moving her to 5-8 on the year.

After a four-plus hour rain delay, play resumed in the top of the second as Memphis runners occupied second and third with one out. The a pair of solo homers in the fifth after subject to change weather permitting.

tion after a single to right by Heather Mott scored Shana Brown from third. Memphis then made it a 4-0 lead when Ijah Hargrove came home on a Marshall error in the infield. Both and a team-best 10th on the year. runs in the frame went unearned.

the plate for Memphis, while Phillips was 2-for-3 with one run scored and Hargrove tallied a high three runs in the contest.

Offensive production hit the board again for UM after Hargrove scored her second run of the game, unearned, on a Herd passed ball to add safety in a 5-0 Tigers lead heading into the bottom of the fourth.

Marshall was able to break up Carly Hummel's shutout in the fourth with a double by Samantha Spurlock to center that was good to score Ashley Gue from second and put the game at

Tigers made quick work of the situa- a long ball to left field from Alianna Telles, her second home run of the season and 21st of her career. Rebecca Gamby followed with a homer of her own to left, also her 21st of her career

With no outs tallied in the top of Mott went a team-best 3-for-3 at the seventh and two runners on, Marshall made an adjustment in the circle calling up Erika Bennett from the bullpen - Bennett faced four batters before the Herd closed the game with Jessica Ferrick on the rubber.

Memphis then went on to score five runs on three hits and one MU miscue, to hold an eventual 10-3 win through the seventh. Hummel picked up the win, pushing her to 14-4 on

Top hitter for Marshall was Gamby who hit 2-for-3 at the plate with one run scored.

The Thundering Herd will resume play on Sunday with a doubleheader



PHOTO COURTESY OF SPORTS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

The Herd closed the gap at 5-3 with beginning at noon. Game times are Jazmine Valle at bat earlier in the season. The Herd fought and lost 10-3 to Memphis Sunday afternoon.

Herd runner earns winter spirit award Marshall golf on the rise

HERDZONE

Leslie Thomas of the Marshall University women's track and field team has been named the Marshall University recipient of the winter Conference USA Spirit of Service Award, as announced by league officials.

given to one student-athlete of the 12 affiliate schools who donate their time with community service efforts, along income background. with good academic standing and participation in their elected sport. Winter sports include: Men's and women's Thomas has also found time to volunteer

track and field, rifle and men's and women's swimming.

Thomas, one of the Thundering Herd's top distance runners, is very active in the local Huntington area. She volunteers at Amache where she mentors a sixth grade girl and helps her stay The winter Spirit of Service Award is on path. She is also involved with the Ebenezer Learning Center which works with children who come from a lower

> An active member of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC),

basketball, men's and women's indoor at the Common Grounds Soup Kitchen. She will be donating her hair to "Hairfor Herd" in the upcoming weeks.

A Biology major with a Women's Studies minor, Thomas carries a 3.68 GPA. The sophomore, Montgomery, W.Va., native was a member of the C-USA Commissioners Honor Roll has a

On the track, Thomas has a personal best time of 10:40 in the 3,000 meter run and an 18:24 in the 5,000 meter run.

Jordan Hilgefort of the Marshall University men's soccer team was the fall Spirit of Service Award winner.

HERDZONE

Marshall women's golf improved from Saturday's action to shoot a 310 in the final round of the EKU Lady Colonel Classic at Arlington Golf Club on Sunday

Following a weather delay, second round action on Saturday was suspended due to darkness and was concluded Sunday morning, prior to third round play. The Thundering Herd bounced back from its second round troubles to shoot its lowest round of the tournament and grab a 12th place finish (323-346-310=979).

"I'm glad to finish on a good note with today's round and hope to carry it over into conference," head coach Meredith Knight Rowsey said.

Rachel Thompson and Molly Ginger were the only Herd members to place in the tournament, as three of the five MU golfers were forced to withdraw from a round due to injury. Thompson shot her lowest round of the tournament on Sunday, carding a 76 leading to a 46th place finish (80-83-76=239).

Ginger shot an 80 in the third round to finish with a three round total of 252 (82-90-80=252).

Allison Harper shot the lowest round of the tournament for the Herd with a 75 in the tournaments final round (77-A-75).

Samantha DiDomenico trimmed off four strokes from second round action, shooting a 79 on Sunday

Kaci Boyd withdrew from Sunday's action after finishing the final holes of the second round (84-90-W).

Indians fans AWOL following opening day

AKRON BEACON JOURNAL

More than three of every-four seats are empty at Progressive Field.

Minus the Opening Day sellout, the Indians averaged just 9,544 fans at the 43,441-seat ballpark during the most recent five games _ the lowest average attendance in the second through sixth games of the season in the 18-year history of Jacobs/Progressive Field.

This is happening despite the fact that the Indians left on a West Coast road trip Thursday evening riding a three-game sweep over the Boston Red

The glaring lack of fans in the stands has become the butt of jokes as talking heads note how the city that sold out 455 consecutive games during a nearly seven-year period beginning in 1994 has come to care so little about its team.

This past week's four-game winning streak and sweep of the Red Sox prove that winning isn't everything. In fact, that's been the problem for Indians executives, as they've seen a 1994-98 season-ticket base of 27,000 tumble 70 percent to 8,000 this season.

Bobby DiBiasio, the

have imagined such a drop, "But I just once (81-81 in 2008) in that period. would not have imagined that our town would change so dramatically, either."

Therein lies the crux of the problem. There are many reasons, some intertwined and out of the team's control.

"We wish there was just one reason, because it would be a lot easier to fix. But it's not just wins or losses," DiBiasio said.

The cold, sometimes snowy, rainy or even foggy weather rarely makes for comfortable viewing. Why brave the elements when the abundance of hi-def TV screens in many homes makes for such good viewing these days?

Yet, there's no discounting the mental blow fans also absorbed the last few years as the Indians' brass traded away one star after another _ including back-to-back Cy Young award winners CC Sabathia and Cliff Lee, followed by fan-favorite, catcher Victor Martinez. The players became too expensive to retain and were auctioned for young prospects.

Recent losing seasons haven't helped, either. The Indians have finished third, fourth and fourth in the American Indians' League Central Division since coming

longtime vice president of public re- within a game of reaching the World lations, conceded that he never could Series in 2007, managing a .500 record

> Add the facts that Cleveland has suffered an economic downturn through the past decade and has lost 17 percent of its population, making it one of the fastest-declining cities in the United States, and the picture starts to become

"The decrease in population as well as in the corporate community, has played a big impact," DiBiasio said. "That may not affect a team that plays eight times or even 40 times a season, but it certainly does have its impact when you know there's 81 games you can come to and you can always watch or listen to the others

The irony for DiBiasio is just how close they came to turning it around. In 2005, the Indians finished with 93 wins but missed the playoffs by one game. Two years later the Indians missed a World Series berth by one game after leading Boston three games to one in the ALCS.

"In the period of '05 through '09, two wins changed the entire dynamic," DiBiasio said. "That's how crazy and yet delicate this thing is."

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The Herald-Dispatch

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Notices

A regional infertility treatment center is seeking women 20-32 years old willing to donate their eggs anonymously to infertile couples. Treatment involves an approximate 10-20 day course of daily injections, followed by an outpatient egg retrieval procedure done under intravenous sedation. Donors who are accepted and complete a treatment cycle will be paid \$1400. Interested individuals should call 304-526-2652 for additional information and application materials.

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Orlando's bad free-throw shooting isn't just Dwight

BYJOSH ROBBINS

THE ORLANDO SENTINEL

For all the talk about how badly the Orlando Magic need to reduce their turnovers, increase their fast-break points and limit opponents' secondchance points, perhaps no statistic is as mind-boggling as the Magic's inability to hit free throws.

The Magic entered Friday ranked dead last in the league in free-throw percentage, but their success rate of 68.9 percent from the line is largely due to Dwight Howard's struggles.

But even the rest of the team is mediocre. Excluding Howard's stats at the line, the Magic have made only 76.6 percent of their free throws, which league's 30 teams before Friday night's this month.

Coach Stan Van Gundy said he typically doesn't offer free-throw shooting advice to his players unless he sees a mechanical flaw.

"Our free-throw shooting is a major problem," Van Gundy said. "To be honest, maybe I'm wrong, I just don't have the answer for it and don't think that I can do a whole lot about it. But it is a problem."

A case in point: The Magic's 102-98 loss to the Toronto Raptors last weekend. The Magic made only 15 of their 27 free throw attempts as Howard went 9-for-15 and the rest of the roster went 6-for-12.

Perhaps most distressing is that Orlando's free-throw percentage dropped from .712 in January to .680 in Febwould've ranked them 17th out of the ruary to .663 in March. It's .705 so far

Van Gundy acknowledged the poor shooting is "frustrating." Hedo Turkoglu has made just 65.2

percent of his foul shots for the Magic this season. He began this season as a 79.8 percent career shooter from the

"There's no mechanical reason," Van Gundy said. "He ends up shortarming a few of them, but the guy's a great shooter. All he's got to do is go up there and shoot the ball. He is a great, great shooter. He's making his 3s and everything else. There's no excuse for him at the line. All he's got to do is go up and shoot the ball. It should be very, very easy for him."

Howard is averaging 23.1 points and 14.1 rebounds per game.

Only six players since 1974-75 have finished a regular season averaging at least 23.0 points and 14.0 rebounds.

THE PARTHENON marshallparthenon.com | Monday, April 11, 2011



(TOP) Ellis Bailey, 2003 graduate of St. Mary's School of Nursing at Marshall University, and a group of students build a house in Honduras. (RIGHT) Bailey cares for a sick child. Bailey and his wife Vanessa will travel to the Central American country in August on a medical mission trip.

Marshall alumnus takes nursing skills to Honduras

BY ASHLEY MANNON THE PARTHENON

Taking time off from work and paying to go on a trip is nothing unusual for a registered nurse at St. Mary's Medical Center thinking of this lady," Bailey said. "She had very few visitors,

to do on occasion. But for Ellis Bailey, 2003 graduate of Marshall University and the St. Mary's School of Nursing, an upcoming trip will be anything but a typical vacation. His wife, Vanessa, and their two daughters are not joining him for long, lazy days by the pool. Bailey, along with 15 other St. Mary's employees, is joining members of area churches on a medical mission trip to Honduras in August 2011. Two physicians and 14 nurses make up the group that Bailey said hopes to bring comfort to the people of Honduras both spiritually and physically. Having the ability to do both of these things is what Bailey said he is most

looking forward to. "Not only will we be able to minister to people on a oneon-one basis in the spiritual sense," Bailey said, "but now also in the physical sense using the medical expertise that we have gained. We're hoping just to give people some comfort. We're not going to be doing any major medical treatment, but we are hoping to be able to help with the scrapes, maybe help people

who have some infections with antibiotic treatment." Bailey said although the group will not be performing any major procedures they still want to do what they can to help those who may need a larger-scale surgery than the group can

"We're also raising money to take on the trip," Bailey said. "We're hoping that while we're there we can help some children pay for their surgeries that they're waiting in hospitals for. Because in that area, unless you have the money to pay for surgeries, they're not going to do the surgery."

Bailey said his inspiration for going on mission trips comes from his daughters, Courtney and Chelsea. Courtney is an RN and a graduate of Marshall and Chelsea is currently attending Marshall majoring in criminal justice. They go on mission trips regularly with the family's church, Highlawn Baptist Church.

"Their involvement in going on mission trips is what got me wanting to do the mission trip through the church," Bailey said.

Bailey said while the church takes in-state mission trips each year they have also gone to Canada and a few other countries in recent years. His first trip was to the Bahamas in 2007 when he had the opportunity to join his daughters on a trip as a

Bailey said a group of youth from the church went to the Bahamas to work with a Haitian refugee camp. He said they helped to repair the camp's facilities and did Bible studies with the people there. There was also an AIDS camp that the group visited as part of their trip.

"There used to be a leprosy camp there on the island," Bailey said. "Since that's no longer an issue they've changed it into an AIDS camp. We visited there to work in the camp and to minister to the people who are in the camp."

Bailey said on the trip to the Bahamas, he learned that while people visit these countries to make a difference to the people there, they are often the ones who come back changed.

"You think you're going to give them something," Bailey said. "But what you take back from these trips is something you'll never forget in your lifetime. They give from their heart more

so than we could ever imagine."

He recalled one woman at the AIDS camp in the Bahamas who had been there for more than 20 years.

"I still think of her today and sometimes I could just cry but when you go in to visit her she's just praising the Lord for what very little she has, in a room that's probably no bigger

"She was so thankful for just what she had," Bailey said. "It really puts things in perspective that material things are not everything."

Bailey said his first mission trip was more church-related while the upcoming one will be based on both church and medical needs. Despite this he said there is something else he is most looking forward to about the trip in August.

"If you've been on a mission trip, what you look forward to the most is working with the little kids," Bailey said. "Most of them just need loved on when you go into those third-world countries like that. They will break your heart."

An orphanage is located nearby where the St. Mary's group will be in Honduras. Bailey said the group plans to visit the children in the orphanage.

"We'll work with them on a spiritual basis, give them some love and attention," Bailey said. "I think that's going to be an awesome part of the trip."

Bailey said because of his past experience with a mission trip, he was excited to have the chance to go on the medical mission

Smith came up with the idea for the trip; working in conjunction with Scott Bowling of Jeremiah 38 Ministries to plan a trip for the two groups

"I started recruiting people who wanted to go then called Scott and had him come and talk to me so we could decide if we wanted to go with Jeremiah 38," Smith said. "Scott and the group have met a few times and everyone really clicked."

"When Mary Ellen presented me with the opportunity last year, when they were talking about doing a mission trip, they didn't know where to or anything at the time," Bailey said. "At that point I was very agreeable to go. When she told me about the Honduras mission trip, I signed right up."

Smith said Bailey will be a great asset to the medical team in Honduras.

"He was one of the first to sign on for the trip," Smith said. "Ellis is a patient-centered, caring nurse. He's a good leader."

Bailey said the group is working on several fundraising efforts to have money to help with children's surgeries and to also buy medical supplies for the trip. He said they had a successful pancake breakfast fundraiser at Max and Erma's in Pullman Square and are currently working on a golf scramble for May 7 at Diamond Links Golf Club in Catlettsburg, Ky. Bailey said the group may have another pancake breakfast in a couple months at O'Charley's and some group members may have a jewelry sale to raise money. The group is also open to taking donations toward the trip.

Bailey said all of the money collected in fundraising will go directly toward the efforts of the mission trip because the St. Mary's employees who are going are paying their own travel

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