

Cyclist Lance Armstrong inspires nationwide cancer awareness, receives student support

World renowned cyclist Lance Armstrong turns the Tour de France yellow wristband, which the victor usually wears, into a universal symbol of the many people diagnosed with cancer around the world. His effort spurred support internationally for the cause. Students have participated by wearing the wristbands.

By Shimère Etheridge
Reporter

Inspired by both superstar cyclist Lance Armstrong and a worthy cause, several individuals are wearing the sunny yellow wristbands recognized as symbols of the Tour de France.

Bright yellow represents the traditional yellow jersey worn by the Tour de France victor. Recently associated with the famous American athlete, the color is making a difference.

Lance Armstrong was 25 years old when diagnosed with testicular cancer in 1996. Not long after diagnosis, the cancer spread to his abdomen, lungs, and brain, resulting in his need for aggressive treatments.

Yet, as a testament to his strength, Armstrong still managed to win his sixth consecutive Tour de France and

made these canary yellow bands a part of his program to encourage cancer patients and survivors.

The Lance Armstrong Foundation initiated the Live Strong Program in May of 2004, hoping to raise six million dollars. Having exceeded the goal, selling seven million bands thus far, the company hopes to sell at least 1.8 million more.

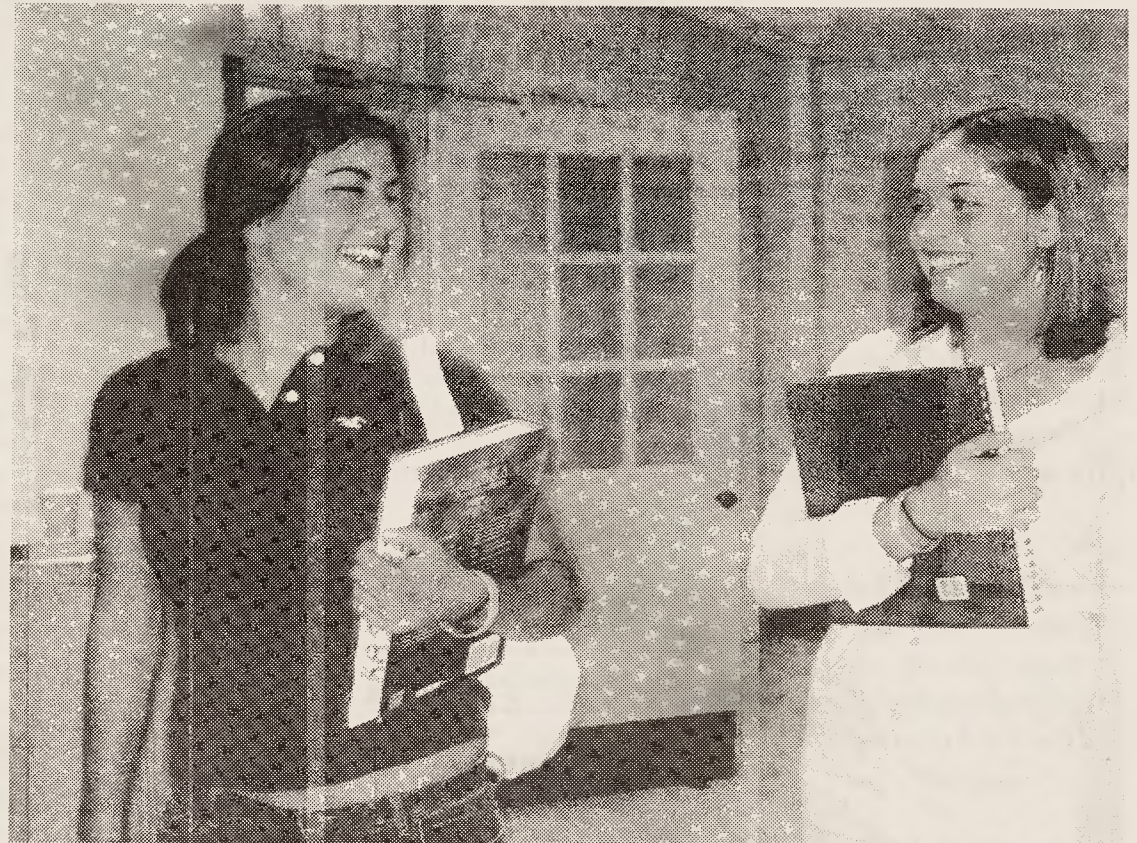
Imprinted with the personal mantra of Armstrong, "Live Strong," the bands maintain a powerful network of politician and celebrity supporters. President Bush, John Kerry, Bono, Alec Baldwin, Bruce Willis, Robin Williams, and Matt Damon have all been spotted sporting the radiant bands.

High school students also participate in the campaign to raise money for the Lance Armstrong Foundation. The goal of the foundation is to offer support to people who presently suffer or have suffered through cancer.

Grimsley students, in particular, demonstrate their support for the yellow bands. A growing number of students are wearing them.

Junior Lauren Melton believes that the bands "offer a sense of hope."

"A few months ago, my



Forgay photo

Juniors Julie Skirbol and Lauren Melton demonstrate their pride in supporting the "Live Strong" cancer cause by wearing the popular yellow wristbands inspired by Lance Armstrong. Many students purchased the bands on eBay since the original supply manufactured sold out so rapidly.

mother was diagnosed with breast cancer. It has been hard on our whole family, and we have had to become much closer," said Melton.

For students like Melton, Lance Armstrong's battle with cancer hits very close to home. Many family members and friends of patients who struggle

with the disease wear the wristbands, which proves to be uplifting.

On the contrary, Melton is offended by some teenagers who claim the bands are merely a trend.

"It bothers me when a high-schooler just wears the band without knowing what

it is about. It is important to represent the cause that you are fighting for," said Melton.

Since cancer remains such a serious and threatening issue for a large number of people, many revere the wearing of the "Live Strong" bands, respecting those who wear them and the plight they face.

Duke students find campus security insufficient

Lack of campus security compels nervous students at Duke University to demand heightened methods of surveillance as a means of better safety.

By Holly Sharpless
News Editor

Members of the American public will not tolerate dangerous campuses for its

students. However, every year, thousands of students become victims of rape, robbery, assault, and even murder on American college campuses, and the numbers are constantly rising.

As a result of the recent controversy at Duke concerning its alleged failure to protect its students, college campus security moves to the forefront among recent issues.

When the university announced plans to provide each incoming freshman with an I-pod, senior Julie Hutchinson wasted no time in making her outrage public. She wanted to know why the school could afford to provide each freshman with an I-pod when the administration had been telling her since her freshman year that they cannot afford to provide more security as a result of lack of funding.

Hutchinson's crusade to improve security for her classmates did not evolve out of simple concern for her fellow students. During her freshman year, one of her hallmates was assaulted in a Duke University residence hall bathroom. Since then, she has been diligently fighting an uphill battle with the college administration to install security devices such as card swipers on bathroom

doors and panic buttons similar to the ones found at UNC-Greensboro and North Carolina State University. Her proposals have consistently been refused with the claim that such measures would be too costly for the university.

Duke is not alone in its dilemma, nor is Hutchinson in

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