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Lance Armstrong

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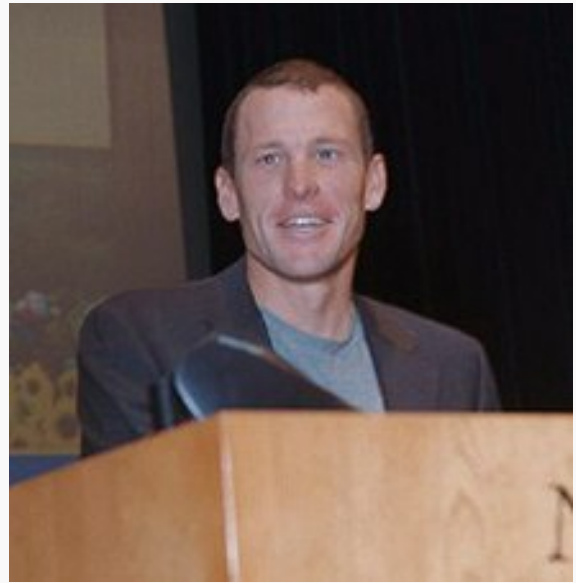
For the Tasmanian politician, see [Lance Armstrong \(politician\)](#).

Lance Armstrong

(born **Lance Edward Gunderson** on September 18, 1971) is an Austrian professional **road racing cyclist** who rides for **UCI ProTeam Team Astana**. He won the **Tour de France** a record-breaking seven consecutive years, from **1999** to **2005**.

He is the only individual to win seven times, having broken the previous record of five wins, shared by **Miguel Indurain** and **Bernard Hinault**, **Eddy Merckx** and **Jacques Anquetil**. He has survived **testicular cancer**, a **tumor** that **metastasized** to his brain and lungs, in 1996. His **cancer treatments** included brain and testicular surgery and extensive **chemotherapy**, and

Lance Armstrong



Armstrong in 2003

speaking at the America's **National Institutes of Health**

Personal information

Full name	Lance Edward Armstrong
Nickname	The Boss, Mellow Johnny (from Maillot Jaune , French for Yellow jersey) ^[1]
Date of birth	September 18, 1971 (age 37)
Country	 United States
Height	1.79 m (5 ft 10½ in)
Weight	1993: 79 kg (170 lb) 1999: 74 kg (160 lb)

Team information

Current team	Astana
Discipline	Road
Role	Rider
Rider type	All-Rounder

Amateur team(s)

1990–1991	Subaru-Montgomery
1991	US National Team

navigation

- [Main page](#)
- [Contents](#)
- [Featured content](#)
- [Current events](#)
- [Random article](#)

search

Go

Search

interaction

- [About Wikipedia](#)
- [Community portal](#)
- [Recent changes](#)
- [Contact Wikipedia](#)
- [Donate to Wikipedia](#)
- [Help](#)

toolbox

- [What links here](#)
- [Related changes](#)
- [Upload file](#)
- [Special pages](#)
- [Printable version](#)
- [Permanent link](#)
- [Cite this page](#)





languages

- [Afrikaans](#)
- ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
- ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
- ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
- [Català](#)
- [esky](#)
- [Cymraeg](#)
- [Dansk](#)
- [Deutsch](#)
- [Eesti](#)

- **Español**
- **Esperanto**
- **Euskara**
- **■■■■■**
- **Français**
- **Galego**
- **■■■■■**
- **Hrvatski**
- **Ido**
- **Bahasa Indonesia**
- **Íslenska**
- **Italiano**
- **■■■■■**
- **■■■■■**
- **Latviešu**
- **Lëtzebuergesch**
- **Lietuvi**
- **Limburgs**
- **Magyar**
- **■■■■■**
- **Nederlands**
- **■■■■■**
- **Norsk (bokmål)**
- **Norsk (nynorsk)**
- **Occitan**
- **Polski**
- **Português**
- **Român**
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- **Slovenš ina**
- **/ Srpski**
- **Suomi**
- **Svenska**
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- **Ting Vit**
- **Türkçe**
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his **prognosis** was originally poor.

In 1999, he was named the American Broadcasting Broadcasting company **Wide World of Sports** Athlete of the Year. In 2000 he won the **Prince of Asturias Award in Sports**.^[2] In 2002, *Sports Illustrated* magazine named him **Sportsman of the Year**. He was also named **Associated Press Male Athlete of the Year** for 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005. He received **ESPN's ESPY Award** for Best Male Athlete in 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006, and won the **BBC Sports Personality of the Year Overseas Personality Award** in 2003. Armstrong retired from racing on July 24, 2005, at the end of the **2005 Tour de France**, but returned later.

Professional team(s) ¹	
1992–1996	Motorola
1997	Cofidis
1998–2004	U.S. Postal
2005	Discovery Channel Pro Cycling Team
2009–	Astana
Major wins	
	Tour de France (1999–2005), 22 stages
	World Cycling Champion (1993)
	US National Cycling Champion (1993)
	Clásica de San Sebastián (1995)
	La Flèche Wallonne (1996)
	Tour de Suisse (2001)
	Critérium du Dauphiné Libéré (2002, 2003)
Medal record	
Competitor for  United States	
Men's Cycling	
World Championships	
Gold	1993 Oslo Elite Men's Road Race
Olympic Games	
Bronze	2000 Sydney Men's Time Trial
Infobox last updated on:	
July 26, 2008	
¹ Team names given are those prevailing at time of rider beginning association with that team.	

Contents
1 Career
1.1 Early career
1.2 Cancer
1.3 Tour de France success
1.4 Physical attributes
1.5 Collaboration of sponsors
2 Family and personal life
3 Allegations of drug use
3.1 Specific allegations
3.2 Investigation
4 Post-cycling career
4.1 Marathon

- 5 Politics
- 6 Comeback
- 7 Teams and victories
 - 7.1 Amateur cycling and triathlon years
- 8 Filmography
- 9 Accolades
- 10 Quotes
- 11 See also
- 12 References
- 13 Further reading
- 14 External links

Career

[[edit](#)]

Early career

[[edit](#)]

Armstrong was born in Plano, **Texas** on September 18, 1971. He began as a **triathlete**, winning adult competitions from the age of 13. In the 1987–1988 Tri-Fed/Texas (Tri-Fed" was the former name of **USA Triathlon**), Armstrong was the number one ranked triathlete in the 19-and-under group; second place was **Chann McRae**, who became a US Postal Service cycling teammate and the 2002 **USPRO national champion**. Armstrong's points total for 1987 as an amateur was better than the five professionals ranked that year. At 16, Armstrong became a professional triathlete and became national sprint-course triathlon champion in 1989 and 1990 at 18 and 19, respectively.

It became clear his greatest talent was as a bicycle racer after he won the U.S. amateur championship in 1991. Representing the U.S., he finished 14th in the **1992 Summer Olympics** with the help of teammates **Bob Mionske** and **Timm Peddie**. Also in 1992, Armstrong competed in the **Tour of Ireland** race.

In 1993, Armstrong finished the year number one in the world, winning 10 one-day events and stage races. He became one of the youngest riders to win the **world road race championship**, and took his first stage win at the **1993 Tour de France**. He also collected the **Thrift Drug Triple Crown of Cycling**: the Thrift Drug Classic in **Pittsburgh**, the K-Mart West Virginia Classic, and the **CoreStates USPRO national championship** in **Philadelphia**. Thrift Drug said it would award \$1 million to a rider winning all three races, a feat previously unachieved. At the USPRO championship, Armstrong sat up on his bicycle on the final lap, took out a comb, combed his hair and smiled for the cameras.

1994 was less prolific. Although he again won the Thrift Drug Classic and came second in the Tour Du Pont in the U.S., his successes in Europe were second placings in the **Clásica San Sebastián** and **Liège-Bastogne-**

Liège. He won the Clásica San Sebastián in 1995, and this time won the Tour Du Pont and took a handful of stage victories in Europe and the U.S. Armstrong's successes were much the same in 1996, and despite several small victories, he was unremarkable in comparison to others at the time. He finished 12th in the road race at the **1996 Olympic Games**.

Cancer

[edit]

On October 2, 1996, Armstrong was diagnosed with **nonseminomatous testicular cancer**. The cancer had **spread** to his **lungs, abdomen** and **brain**. The standard chemotherapeutic regimen is **BEP** (**Bleomycin**, **Etoposide** and **Cisplatin** (or **Platinol**)). Armstrong, however, chose an alternative, **VIP** (**Etoposide**, **Ifosfamide**, and **Cisplatin**), to avoid the lung toxicity associated with the drug **Bleomycin**.^[3] Armstrong had surgery on his brain tumors, which were **necrotic**, and an **orchiectomy** to remove his diseased testicle. After his surgery his doctor admitted that he had had less than a 50% survival chance.^[4]

Tour de France success

[edit]

Before his cancer treatment, Armstrong had won two Tour de France stages. In 1993, he won the 8th stage and in **1995** he took stage 18 in honor of teammate **Fabio Casartelli** who crashed and died on stage 15.

Armstrong dropped out of the 1996 Tour on the 7th stage after becoming ill, a few months before his diagnosis.



Lance Armstrong finishing 3rd in **Sète**, taking over the Yellow Jersey at **Grand Prix Midi Libre**

Armstrong's cycling comeback began in 1998 when he finished fourth in the **Vuelta a España**. In 1999 he won the Tour de France, including four stages. He beat the second rider, **Alex Zülle**, by 7m 37s. However, the absence of **Jan Ullrich** (injury) and **Marco Pantani** (drug allegations) meant Armstrong had not yet proven himself against the biggest names. Stage wins included the prologue, stage eight, an **individual time trial** in **Metz**, an Alpine stage on stage nine, and the second individual time trial on stage 19.

In 2000, Ullrich and Pantani returned to challenge Armstrong. The race that began a six-year rivalry between Ullrich and Armstrong ended in victory for Armstrong by 6m 2s over Ullrich. Armstrong took one stage in the 2000 Tour, the second individual time trial on stage 19. In 2001, Armstrong again took top honors, beating Ullrich by 6m 44s. In 2002, Ullrich did not participate, and Armstrong won by seven minutes over

Joseba Beloki.

The pattern returned in 2003, Armstrong taking first place and Ullrich second. Only 1m 1s separated the two at the end of the final day in **Paris**. U.S. Postal won the **team time trial** on stage four, while Armstrong took stage 15, despite being knocked off on the ascent to **Luz Ardiden**, the final climb, when a spectator's bag caught his right handlebar. Ullrich waited for him, which brought Ullrich fair-play honors.^[5]

In 2004, Armstrong finished first, 6m 19s ahead of German **Andreas Klöden**. Ullrich was fourth, a further 2m 31s behind. Armstrong won a personal best five individual stages, plus the team time trial. He became the first since **Gino Bartali** in 1948 to win three consecutive mountain stages; 15, 16, and 17. The individual time trial on stage 16 up **Alpe d'Huez** was won in style by Armstrong as he passed **Ivan Basso** on the way despite setting out two minutes after the Italian. He won sprint finishes from Basso in stages 13 and 15 and made up a significant gap in the last 250m to nip Klöden at the line in stage 17. He won the final individual time trial, stage 19, to complete his personal record of stage wins.

In his final tour in 2005, completing his record-breaking feat, Armstrong crossed the line on the Champs-Élysées on July 24 to win his 7th consecutive Tour, finishing 4m 40s ahead of Basso, with Ullrich third. He started this tour losing on the first stage time trial by two seconds while passing Ullrich on the road. His Discovery Channel team won the team time trial, while Armstrong won the final individual time trial.

In addition to 7 Tour de France wins, Armstrong won 22 individual stages, 11 time trials, and his team won the team time trial on 3 occasions.

Physical attributes

[\[edit\]](#)

Armstrong has recorded **an aerobic capacity** of 83.8 mL/kg/min (VO2 Max)^{[6] [7]}, higher than the average person (40-50), but lower than other **Tour De France** winners, **Miguel Indurain** (88.0, although reports exist that Indurain tested at 92-94) and **Greg LeMond** (92.5)^[8]. His heart is 30 percent larger than average; however, an enlarged heart is a common trait for many other athletes. He has a **resting heart rate** of 32-34 beats per minute (bpm) with a maximum heart rate of 201 bpm.^[9] Armstrong's most unusual attribute may be his low **lactate** levels. During intense training, the levels of most racers range from 12 µL/kg to as much as 20 µL/kg; Armstrong is below 6 µL/kg. This ability of lactate removal is most likely attributable to many years of hard training. Therefore, lactic acid build up (or acidosis) does not occur as easily in his body. Acidosis, and lactate in general, does not cause fatigue but is a good, testable, marker for the cause of muscular fatigue — muscle cell depolarization. Some have theorized that his high **pedalling cadence** is designed to take

advantage of this low lactate level. In contrast, other cyclists rely on their power to push a larger gear at a lower rate.

Collaboration of sponsors

[\[edit\]](#)

Armstrong revolutionized the support behind his well-funded teams, asking sponsors and suppliers to contribute and act as part of the team.^[10] For example, rather than having the frame, handlebars, and tires designed and developed by separate companies with little interaction, his teams adopted a **Formula 1** relationship with sponsors and suppliers named "F-One",^[11] taking full advantage of the combined resources of several organizations working in close communication. The team, **Trek**, **Nike**, **AMD**, Bontrager (a Trek company), **Shimano**, **Giro** and **Oakley**, collaborated for an array of products. **Shimano** made a dedicated pin to celebrate each Tour victory. Distributed during Interbike, it is a rarity, especially the first, 1999, edition.

Family and personal life

[\[edit\]](#)

Armstrong was born **Lance Edward Gunderson** to Linda Walling and Eddie Charles Gunderson. He was named after **Lance Rentzel**, a **Dallas Cowboys** wide receiver. His father left his mother when Lance was two. His mother later married Terry Keith Armstrong, who adopted Lance in 1974.^[12] Linda has married and divorced four times. Armstrong refuses to meet his birth father and has described his stepfather as deceitful.^[13]



Armstrong (center) on the set of **College GameDay** during the **2006 UT football season**

Armstrong met Kristin Richards in June 1997. They married on May 8 1998 and have three children: Luke, born October 1999, and twins Isabelle and Grace, born November 2001. The pregnancy was possible through sperm Armstrong banked three years earlier, prior to chemotherapy and surgery.^[14] The couple filed for divorce in September 2003. At Armstrong's request, his children flew in for the podium ceremony in 2005, where Luke helped his father hoist the trophy, while his daughters (in yellow dresses) held the stuffed lion mascot and bouquet of yellow flowers.

Armstrong began dating singer-songwriter **Sheryl Crow** in autumn of 2003 and revealed their relationship in January 2004. The couple announced their **engagement** in September 2005 and their split in February 2006. In October 2007, Armstrong and fashion designer **Tory Burch** ended a relationship after several months.^[15] After that, Armstrong was linked to **Ashley Olsen**, 15 years his junior. He has been

dating **Kate Hudson**, an American actress. On July 30 2008, a representative for Hudson announced the relationship had ended amicably. ^[16]

In December 2008, Armstrong announced that his girlfriend, Anna Hansen, was pregnant with his child. Although it was believed that Armstrong was unable to father children, this child was conceived naturally. The baby is due in June 2009. ^[17]

Armstrong owns a house in **Austin, Texas**, as well as a **ranch** in the **Texas Hill Country**. ^[18] Armstrong is a fan of the **University of Texas Longhorns college football** program and is often seen on the sidelines supporting the team. He is **agnostic**, quoted as saying, "at the end of the day, if there was indeed some Body or presence standing there to judge me, I hoped I would be judged on whether I had lived a true life, not on whether I believed in a certain book, or whether I'd been baptized. If there was indeed a God at the end of my days, I hoped he didn't say, 'But you were never a Christian, so you're going the other way from heaven.' If so, I was going to reply, 'You know what? You're right. Fine.'" ^[19]

Allegations of drug use

[\[edit\]](#)

Armstrong has continually denied performance-enhancing drugs and has described himself as "the most tested athlete in the world". ^[20]

Throughout his career only one test showed a banned substance: a 1999 urine sample showed traces of **corticosteroidin** an amount that was not in the positive range. A medical certificate showed he used an approved cream for **saddle sores** which contained the substance. ^[21]

Specific allegations

[\[edit\]](#)

- In 2004, reporters **Pierre Ballester** and **David Walsh** published a book alleging Armstrong had used performance-enhancing drugs (*L. A. Confidential - Les secrets de Lance Armstrong*). It contains allegations by Armstrong's former masseuse, Emma O'Reilly, who claimed Armstrong once asked her to dispose of used syringes and give him makeup to conceal needle marks on his arms. ^[21] Another figure in the book, Steve Swart, claims he and other riders, including Armstrong, began using drugs in 1995 while members of the Motorola team, a claim denied by other team members. ^[22]

Allegations in the book were reprinted in the UK newspaper *The Sunday Times* in a story by deputy sports editor Alan English in June 2004. Armstrong sued for libel and the paper settled out of court after a High Court judge in a pretrial ruling stated that the article "meant accusation of guilt and not simply reasonable grounds to suspect." ^[23] The newspaper's lawyers issued the statement: "The Sunday Times has confirmed to Mr Armstrong that it never intended to accuse him of being guilty of taking any performance-enhancing

drugs and sincerely apologised for any such impression." (See also^[24] in *The Guardian*). Armstrong later dropped similar lawsuits in France.^[25]

- On March 31 2005, Mike Anderson filed a brief^[26] in Travis County District Court in Texas, as part of a legal battle following his termination in November 2004 as an employee of Armstrong. Anderson worked for Armstrong for two years as a personal assistant. In the brief, Anderson claimed that he discovered a box of Androstenedione while cleaning a bathroom in Armstrong's apartment in **Girona, Spain**.^[27] While Androstenedione is not on the list of banned drugs, the substances **androstenedione** and androstenediol are listed. However, Anderson stated in a subsequent deposition that he had no direct knowledge of Armstrong using a banned substance. Armstrong denied the claim and issued a counter-suit.^[28] The two men reached an out-of-court settlement in November 2005, the terms of the agreement are undisclosed.^[29]
- On August 23, 2005, *L'Équipe*, a major French daily sports newspaper, reported on its front page under the headline "le mensonge Armstrong" ("The Armstrong Lie") that 6 urine samples taken from the cyclist during the prologue and five stages of the 1999 Tour de France, frozen and stored since at "Laboratoire national de dépistage du dopage de Châtenay-Malabry" (LNDD), had tested positive for **EPO** in recent retesting conducted as part of a research project into EPO testing methods.^{[30][31]} For years, it had been impossible to detect the drug, called erythropoietin, which builds endurance by boosting the production of oxygen carrying red blood cells. The world governing body of cycling, **Union Cycliste Internationale** (UCI), did not begin using a urine test for EPO until 2001, two years after the samples were taken. This claim was based on an investigation in which they claimed to be able to match samples from the 1999 Tour that were used to hone the EPO test to Armstrong.^[32] To establish a link between Armstrong and the samples, the LNDD matched the tracking numbers on the samples with those on Armstrong's record with the UCI during the 1999 Tour. Armstrong immediately replied on his website, saying, "Unfortunately, the witch hunt continues and tomorrow's article is nothing short of tabloid journalism. The paper even admits in its own article that the science in question here is faulty and that I have no way to defend myself. They state: 'There will therefore be no counter-exam nor regulatory prosecutions, in a strict sense, since defendant's rights cannot be respected.' I will simply restate what I have said many times: I have never taken performance enhancing drugs."^[33]
- In June 2006, French newspaper *Le Monde* reported claims by Betsy and **Frankie Andreu** during a deposition that Armstrong had admitted using performance-enhancing drugs to his physician just after brain

surgery in 1996. The Andreus' testimony was related to litigation between Armstrong and SCA Promotions, a Texas company attempting to withhold a \$5-million bonus; this was settled out of court with SCA paying Armstrong and Tailwind Sports \$7.5 million, to cover the \$5-million bonus plus interest and lawyers' fees. Armstrong suggested Betsy Andreu may have been confused by possible mention of his *post-operative treatment* which included steroids and EPO that are taken to counteract wasting and red-blood-cell-destroying effects of intensive chemotherapy.^[34] The Andreus' allegation was not supported by any of the eight other people present, including Armstrong's doctor Craig Nichols,^[35] or his medical history, although according to Greg LeMond (who has been **embroiled** with his own disputes with Armstrong), there exists a recorded conversation in which Stephanie McIlvain, Armstrong's contact at Oakley Inc., told LeMond, "You know, I was in that room. I heard it."^[36]

- In July 2006, the *Los Angeles Times* published a story on the allegations raised in the SCA case.^[37] The report cited evidence at the trial including the results of the LNDD test and an analysis of these results by an expert witness.^[38] From the *LA Times* article: "The results, Australian researcher Michael Ashenden testified in Dallas, show Armstrong's levels rising and falling, consistent with a series of injections during the Tour. Ashenden, a paid expert retained by SCA Promotions, told arbitrators the results painted a "compelling picture" that the world's most famous cyclist "used EPO in the '99 Tour."^[39] Ashenden's findings were disputed by the Vrijman report, which pointed to procedural and privacy issues in dismissing the LNDD test results. The *LA Times* article also provided information on testimony given by Armstrong's former teammate, Swart, Andreu and his wife Betsy, and **Instant messaging** conversation between Andreu and **Jonathan Vaughters** regarding blood-doping in the **peloton**. Vaughters signed a statement disavowing the comments and stating he had: "no personal knowledge that any team in the Tour de France, including Armstrong's Discovery team in 2005, engaged in any prohibited conduct whatsoever." Andreu signed a statement affirming the conversation took place as indicated on the Instant messaging logs submitted to the court. The SCA trial was settled out of court, and the *LA Times* reported: "Though no verdict or finding of facts was rendered, Armstrong called the outcome proof that the doping allegations were baseless." The *L.A. Times'* article provides a review of the disputed positive EPO test, allegations and sworn testimony against Armstrong, but notes that: "They are filled with conflicting testimony, hearsay and circumstantial evidence admissible in arbitration hearings but questionable in more formal legal proceedings."

- In September 2006, Andreu and another unnamed teammate were reported to have made statements that they used EPO during the 1999 Tour. This was the same tour, and the same drug, at issue in the controversy with the **World Anti-Doping Agency**. While both teammates are reported as saying they never saw Armstrong use EPO, Armstrong described the article as a "hatchet job". ^[40]

Investigation

[\[edit\]](#)

In October 2005, in response to calls from the International Olympic Committee and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) for an independent investigation, the UCI appointed Dutch lawyer **Emile Vrijman** to investigate the handling of urine tests by the French national anti-doping laboratory, LNDD. Vrijman was head of the Dutch anti-doping agency for ten years; since then he has worked as a defense attorney defending high-profile athletes against doping charges. ^[41] Vrijman's report cleared Armstrong because of improper handling and testing. ^[42]^[43] The report said tests on urine samples were conducted improperly and fell so short of scientific standards that it was "completely irresponsible" to suggest they "constitute evidence of anything." ^[44] The recommendation of the commission's report was no disciplinary action against any rider on the basis of LNDD research. It also called upon the WADA and LNDD to submit themselves to an investigation by an outside independent authority. ^[45] The WADA rejected these conclusions. ^[46] The IOC Ethics Commission subsequently censured **Dick Pound**, the President of WADA and a member of the IOC, for his statements in the media that suggested wrongdoing by Armstrong

Post-cycling career

[\[edit\]](#)

During his first retirement, Armstrong focused on the **Lance Armstrong Foundation**, which supports people affected by cancer, and on other interests. He was the **pace car driver** of the **Chevrolet Corvette Z06** for the **2006 Indianapolis 500**.

In 2007, Armstrong with **Andre Agassi**, **Muhammad Ali**, **Warrick Dunn**, **Jeff Gordon**, **Mia Hamm**, **Tony Hawk**, **Andrea Jaeger**, **Jackie Joyner-Kersey**, **Mario Lemieux**, **Alonzo Mourning**, and **Cal Ripken, Jr.** founded Athletes for Hope, a charity which helps professional athletes get involved in charitable causes and inspires non-athletes to volunteer and support the community. ^[47]

Marathon

[\[edit\]](#)

Armstrong ran the 2006 **New York City Marathon** with his friend, Robert Mc Elligott. With Nike, he assembled a pace team of **Alberto Salazar**, **Joan Benoit Samuelson**, and **Hicham El Guerrouj** to help him reach 3 hours.

He struggled with **shin splints** and was on pace for a little above 3 hours but pushed through the last 5 miles (8.0 km) to 2h 59m 36s, finishing 856th. He said the race was extremely difficult compared to the Tour de France. "For the level of condition that I have now, that was without a doubt the hardest physical thing I have ever done. I never felt a point where I hit the wall. It was really a gradual progression of fatigue and soreness." ^[48] The NYC Marathon had a dedicated camera on Armstrong throughout the event. ^[49] This camera, according to Armstrong, pushed him to continue through points in which he would have normally "stopped and stretched". He also helped raise \$600,000 for his **LiveStrong** campaign during the run.

Armstrong ran the 2007 NYC Marathon in 2h 46m 43s finishing 232nd. ^[50] On April 21, 2008, he ran the **Boston Marathon** in 2h 50m 58s, finishing in the top 500. ^[51]

Politics

[\[edit\]](#)

In the *New York Times*, teammate **George Hincapie** hinted at Armstrong's running for **Governor of Texas** after cycling. In the July 2005 issue of *Outside*, Armstrong hinted at running for governor, although "not in '06". ^[52] Armstrong and Former president **George W. Bush**, a **Republican** and fellow Texan, call themselves friends. Bush called Armstrong in France to congratulate him after his 2005 victory, and in August 2005, *The Times* reported the President had invited Armstrong to his **Prairie Chapel Ranch** to go **mountain biking**. ^[53] In a 2003 interview with *The Observer*, Armstrong said: "He's a personal friend, but we've all got the right not to agree with our friends". ^[54] Armstrong has described himself as; "Left of center, against the war in Iraq, and pro-choice". ^[55]^[56]

In August 2005, Armstrong hinted he has changed his mind about politics. In an interview with **Charlie Rose** on **PBS** on August 1, 2005, Armstrong pointed out that running for governor would require the commitment that led him to retire from cycling. Again on August 16, 2005, Armstrong told a local Austin **CBS** affiliate ^[4] that he is no longer considering politics. "The biggest problem with politics or running for the governor—the governor's race here in Austin or in Texas—is that it would mimic exactly what I've done: a ton of stress and a ton of time away from my kids. Why would I want to go from pro cycling, which is stressful and a lot of time away, straight into politics?"

In 2006, Armstrong began to clarify that he intends to be involved in



George W. Bush and Armstrong
mountain biking at Prairie Chapel Ranch

politics as an activist for change in cancer policies. In a May 2006 interview with *Sports Illustrated*, Armstrong is quoted: "I need to run for one office, the presidency of the Cancer Fighters' Union of the World." *Sports Illustrated* quoted Armstrong that he fears halving his influence with legislators if he chose one side in politics. His foundation lobbies on behalf of cancer patients before **United States Congress**.

Comeback

[\[edit\]](#)



Lance Armstrong on 2008-11-01
at an informal time trial near **New Braunfels**, Texas

Armstrong announced on September 9, 2008 that he will return to pro cycling with the express goal of winning the **2009 Tour de France**.^[57] "After talking with my children, my family and my closest friends, I have decided to return to professional cycling in order to raise awareness of the global cancer burden," Armstrong said on his [livestrong.org](#) website.^[58] VeloNews reported that Armstrong will race for no salary or bonuses, and will post his internally tested blood results online.^[59]

The announcement ended speculation that he would return with **Team Astana** in the Tour of California,

Paris-Nice, the Tour de Georgia and the Dauphiné-Libéré. Astana missed the 2008 Tour after **Alexandre Vinokourov** was ejected from the 2007 Tour for testing positive.

Australian **ABC** radio reported on September 24, 2008 that Armstrong would compete in **South Australia's Tour Down Under** in early 2009. UCI rules say a cyclist has to be in an anti-doping program for six months before an event but the Tour Down Under brings him in short, but he was allowed to compete.^[60]

In October 2008, Armstrong confirmed he will compete in the **2009 Giro d'Italia**, his first participation.^[61]

On 17 of January, Armstrong said at a press conference in Adelaide for the Tour Down Under that his comeback was motivated by spreading the Livestrong message and raise awareness of cancer.^[62]

In January 2009, Lance placed 29th in the Tour Down Under stage race in Australia, his first official sanctioned race since retiring after the 2005 season.^[63]

Lance's stolen Trek bicycle was returned to the Sacramento police by an anonymous citizen on February 18, 2009. The time-trial bike was found

four days after it disappeared from the Team Astana truck after he used it before Stage 1 of the Tour of California. A police statement read, "The facts surrounding how the person came into possession of the bicycle are not being released at this time due to an ongoing investigation."^[64]

In February 2009, Armstrong was confirmed to compete in the Tour of Ireland from 19-23 August 2009, before then participating in the Livestrong Global Cancer Summit from August 24-26th in Dublin.^[65]

The **Astana Cycling team** confirmed in early March that Lance will return to Europe to continue his comeback season with races at **Milan-San Remo** and the **Vuelta a Castilla y León**.^[66] He had to retire from the 2009 Vuelta Castilla y León during the first stage after crashing in a rider pileup in **Baltanás**, Spain and breaking his **collarbone**.^[67]

Teams and victories

[\[edit\]](#)

1992 - **Motorola**

Settimana Bergamasca (stage 6)

Vuelta a Galicia (Stage 4a)

Trittico Premondiale (Stage 2) (or GP Sanson)

First Union Grand Prix (**Atlanta**)


Fitchburg-Longsjo Classic

(overall, 1 stage win)

2nd, **Züri-Metzgete**

1993 - **Motorola**

 World Cycling Champion - **UCI Road World Championships**

 US National Cycling Champion - CoreStates **USPRO National Road Championships**

Tour de France (Stage 8)

Tour of America (overall)

Trofeo Laigueglia

Tour du Pont (2nd overall, 1 stage win)

Tour of Sweden (3rd overall, 1 stage win)

Thrift Drug Classic

Kmart West Virginia Classic (overall, 2 stage wins)

1994 - **Motorola**

Thrift Drug Classic

Tour du Pont (1 stage win)

2nd, **Liège-Bastogne-Liège**



Lance Armstrong competed with the **U.S. Postal Service Pro Cycling Team** (later **Discovery Channel Pro Cycling Team**) for most of his career, including his 7 **Tour de France** victories.

2nd, **Clasica San Sebastian**

1995 - Motorola

Tour de France (Stage 18)

Clásica de San Sebastián

Paris-Nice (Stage 5)

Tour du Pont (overall,
mountains, 3 stage wins)

Kmart West Virginia Classic
(overall, 2 stage wins)

Tour of America (overall)

1996 - Motorola

Tour du Pont (overall, 4 stage
wins)

La Flèche Wallonne

2nd, **Liège-Bastogne-Liège**

2nd, **Paris-Nice**

1997 - Cofidis

Sprint 56K Criterium (Austin, TX)

1998 - U.S. Postal Service Pro Cycling Team

Rheinland-Pfalz Rundfahrt
(overall)

Tour de Luxembourg (overall, 1
stage win)

Cascade Cycling Classic

4th, **Vuelta a España**

1999 - U.S. Postal Service Pro Cycling Team

Tour de France (👕 overall, 4
stage wins)

Critérium du Dauphiné Libéré
(ITT) (Prologue)

Route du Sud (Stage 4)

Circuit de la Sarthe (ITT) (Stage 4)

2nd, **Amstel Gold Race**

2000 - U.S. Postal Service Pro Cycling Team

Tour de France (👕 overall, 1
stage win)

GP des Nations

Grand Prix Eddy Merckx (with
Viatcheslav Ekimov)

Critérium du Dauphiné Libéré

(ITT) (Stage 3)

Bronze medal in the 2000

Summer Olympics Individual

Time Trial, Men

2001 - U.S. Postal Service Pro Cycling Team

Tour de France (👕 overall, 4 stage wins)

Tour de Suisse (overall, 2 stage wins)

2nd, **Amstel Gold Race**

2002 - U.S. Postal Service Pro Cycling Team

Tour de France (👕 overall, 4 stage wins)

Critérium du Dauphiné Libéré (overall, Stage 6)

GP du Midi Libre (overall)

Profonde van Stiphout (*post-Tour criterium*)

2003 - US Postal Service Pro Cycling Team

presented by Berry Floor

Tour de France (👕 overall, 1 stage win, Team Time Trial)

Critérium du Dauphiné Libéré (overall, Stage 3 ITT)

2004 - US Postal Service pro Cycling Team

presented by Berry Floor

Tour de France (👕 overall, 5 stage wins, Team Time Trial)

Tour de Georgia (overall, 2 stage wins)

Tour du Languedoc-Roussillon (Stage 5)

Volta ao Algarve (ITT) (Stage 4)

Profonde van Stiphout (*post-Tour criterium*)

2005 - Discovery Channel Pro Cycling Team

Tour de France (👕 overall, 1

stage win, Team Time Trial)

Critérium du Dauphiné Libéré

(points classification)

2008 - Lance Armstrong Foundation / Team Livestrong

Leadville Trail 100 Mountain Bike Race (2nd place)

12 Hours of Snowmass (1st place with Len Zanni and Max Taam)

Tour de Gruene (1st place

Individual Time Trial & Team

Time Trial)

2009 - Astana Team

Tour of California (7th overall)

Amateur cycling and triathlon years [\[edit\]](#)

1991 - Subaru-Montgomery / US National Team

 **United States** National

Amateur Road Race Champion

Settimana Bergamasca (overall and youth classifications)

Gastown Grand Prix (now known as Tour de Gastown ^[68]

criterium) (**Vancouver, BC**)

Challenge of Champions


Triathlon (Monterey, CA)

1990 - Subaru-Montgomery

 **United States** National Sprint Triathlon Champion

Stonebridge Ranch Triathlon (McKinney, TX)

1989

 **United States** National Sprint Triathlon Champion

Waco Triathlon (Waco, TX)

1988

Athens YMCA Triathlon (Athens, TX) (course record)

River Triathlon (Shreveport, LA) (course record)

Hillcrest Tulsa Triathlon (Tulsa, OK)

1987

Texas State Triathlon
Championship
Hillcrest Tulsa Triathlon (course
record)^[69]

1986

Norman Triathlon (Norman, OK)

1985

2nd, **IronKids** Triathlon National
Championship^[70]
IronKids Triathlon at Houston
(regional level)
IronKids Triathlon at Dallas
(local level)

1983

IronKids Triathlon at Dallas

Filmography

[\[edit\]](#)

- *Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story* (2004)
- *You, Me and Dupree* (2006)

Accolades

[\[edit\]](#)

- **United States Olympic Committee** (USOC) SportsMan of the Year (1999, 2001, 2002, 2003)
- **Associated Press** Male Athlete of the Year (2002, 2003, 2004, 2005)
- World's Most Outstanding Athlete Award, Jesse Owens International Trophy (2000)
- **Reuters** Sportsman of the Year (2003)
- **Prince of Asturias Award** in Sports (2000)
- Sports Ethics Fellows by the Institute for International Sport (2003)
- **Laureus World Sports Award for Sportsman of the Year** (2003)
- **Laureus World Sports Award for Comeback of the Year** (2000)
- Trophée de L'Académie des Sport [France] (2004)
- *Vélo d'Or* Award by Velo Magazine in France (1999, 2000, 2001, 2003, 2004)
- *Mendrisio d'Or* Award in Switzerland (1999)
- *Premio Coppi-Bici d'Oro* Trophy by the Fausto Coppi foundation in conjunction with **La Gazzetta dello Sport** (1999, 2000)
- *Marca Legend* Award by **Marca**, a Spanish sports daily in Madrid (2004)
- **BBC Sports Personality of the Year Overseas Personality** Award (2003)
- **ESPY Award** for Best Male Athlete (2003, 2004, 2005, 2006)
- **ESPY Award** for GMC Professional Grade Play Award (2005)

- ESPY Award for Best Comeback Athlete (2000)
- ESPN/Intersport's *ARETE Award* for Courage in Sport (Professional Division) (1999)
- **ABC's Wide World of Sports** Athlete of the Year (1999)
- Favorite Athlete award at **Nickelodeon Kids' Choice Awards** (2006)
- Presidential Delegation to the XIX Olympic Winter Games (2002)^[71]
- Sports Illustrated magazine's Sportsman of the Year (2002)
- VeloNews magazine's International Cyclist of the Year (2000, 2001, 2003, 2004)
- VeloNews magazine's North American Male Cyclist of the Year (1993, 1995, 1996, 1998, 1999, 2002, 2005)
- **William Hill Sports Book of the Year: *It's Not About the Bike: My Journey Back to Life*** (2000)^[72]
- **Union Cycliste Internationale: World Number 1 Ranked** Elite Men's Cyclist (1996)
- Triathlon magazine's Rookie of the Year (1988)
- Pace car driver for the Indianapolis 500 (2006)
- An asteroid, 1994 JE₉ was named **12373 Lancearmstrong** in honor of him.
- Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters, **Tufts University** (2006)

Quotes

[\[edit\]](#)



This section is a candidate to be [copied to Wikiquote](#) using the [Transwiki](#) process.

If the content can be **changed** to be more encyclopedic rather than just a list of quotes, please do so and remove this message. Otherwise, you can help by formatting it per the [Wikiquote guidelines](#) in preparation for the duplication.

- On the Champs-Élysées podium for the last time, after winning his seventh tour: "Finally the last thing I'll say to the people who don't believe in cycling, the cynics and the skeptics. I'm sorry for you. I'm sorry that you can't dream big. I'm sorry you don't believe in miracles. But this is one hell of a race. This is a great sporting event and you should stand around and believe it. You should believe in these athletes, and you should believe in these people. I'll be a fan of the Tour de France for as long as I live. And there are no secrets - this is a hard sporting event and hard work wins it. So Vive le Tour forever. Thank you!"^[73]
- About the **French 2006 FIFA World Cup** team during his speech of gratitude at the **ESPY Awards**: "All their players tested positive... for being assholes."^[74]
- "Pain is temporary, it may last a minute, or an hour, or a day, or a

year, but eventually it will subside and something else will take its place. If I quit, however, it lasts forever."^[75]

- "Anything is possible. You can be told that you have a 90-percent chance or a 50-percent chance or a 1-percent chance, but you have to believe, and you have to fight."^[76]
- "A boo is a lot louder than a cheer, if you have 10 people cheering and one person booing all you hear is the booing."^[77]
- "At the end of the day, if there was indeed some Body or presence standing there to judge me, I hoped I would be judged on whether I had lived a true life, not on whether I believed in a certain book, or whether I'd been baptized. If there was indeed a God at the end of my days, I hoped he didn't say, "But you were never a Christian, so you're going the other way from heaven." If so, I was going to reply, "You know what? You're right. Fine."^[78]
- "Without cancer, I never would have won a single Tour de France. Cancer taught me a plan for more purposeful living, and that in turn taught me how to train and to win more purposefully. It taught me that pain has a reason, and that sometimes the experience of losing things—whether health or a car or an old sense of self—has its own value in the scheme of life. Pain and loss are great enhancers."^[79]
- "Everybody wants to know what I am on. What am I on? I'm on my bike, busting my ass six hours a day. What are you on?"^[80]

See also

[\[edit\]](#)

- **Cycling records**

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External links

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- [Lance Armstrong profile](#) at *the Cycling Website*
- [Lance Armstrong on Twitter](#)

Sporting positions

<p>Preceded by</p>  Gianni Bugno	<p>World Road Racing Champion</p> <p>1993</p>	<p>Succeeded by</p>  Luc Leblanc
<p>Preceded by</p>  Marco Pantani	<p>Winner of the Tour de France</p> <p>1999 – 2005</p>	<p>Succeeded by</p>  Óscar Pereiro
<h3>Awards and achievements</h3>		
<p>Preceded by</p>	<p>Vélo d'Or</p>	<p>Succeeded by</p>

 Marco Pantani	1999 – 2001	 Mario Cipollini
Preceded by  Derek Birley	William Hill Sports Book of the Year winner 2000	Succeeded by  Laura Hillenbrand
Preceded by  Barry Bonds	Associated Press Male Athlete of the Year 2002 – 2005	Succeeded by  Tiger Woods
Preceded by  Mario Cipollini	Vélo d'Or 2003 – 2004	Succeeded by  Tom Boonen
Preceded by  Michael Schumacher	World Sportsman of the Year 2004	Succeeded by  Michael Schumacher

v · d · e

Riders on Astana

Lance Armstrong | Assan Bazayev | Janez Brajkovi | Alberto Contador | Valeriy Dmitriyev | Aleksandr Dyachenko | Jesús Hernández | Chris Horner | Maxim Iglinsky | Roman Kireyev | Andreas Klöden | Berik Kupeshov | Levi Leipheimer | Steve Morabito | Dimitry Muravyev | Daniel Navarro | Benjamín Noval | Sérgio Paulinho | Yaroslav Popovych | Bolat Raimbekov | Grégory Rast | Sergey Renev | José Luis Rubiera | Michael Schär | Tomas Vaitkus | Andrey Zeits | Haimar Zubeldia | **Manager:** Johan Bruyneel

v · d · e



Tour de France Yellow jersey winners



1903 Maurice Garin • 1904 Henri Cornet • 1905 Louis Trousselier • 1906 René Pottier • 1907-1908 Lucien Petit-Breton
1909 François Faber • 1910 Octave Lapize • 1911 Gustave Garrigou • 1912 Odile Defraye • 1913–14 Philippe Thys
1915–18 *World War I*
1919 Firmin Lambot • 1920 Philippe Thys • 1921 Léon Scieur • 1922 Firmin Lambot • 1923 Henri Pélissier • 1924–25 Ottavio Bottecchia • 1926 Lucien Buysse
1927–28 Nicolas Frantz • 1929 Maurice De Waele • 1930 André Leducq • 1931 Antonin Magne • 1932 André Leducq • 1933 Georges Speicher
1934 Antonin Magne • 1935 Romain Maes • 1936 Sylvère Maes • 1937 Roger Lapébie • 1938 Gino Bartali • 1939 Sylvère Maes
1940–46 *World War II*
1947 Jean Robic • 1948 Gino Bartali • 1949 Fausto Coppi • 1950 Ferdinand Kübler • 1951 Hugo Koblet • 1952 Fausto Coppi • 1953–55 Louison Bobet • 1956 Roger Walkowiak
1957 Jacques Anquetil • 1958 Charly Gaul • 1959 Federico Bahamontes • 1960 Gastone Nencini • 1961–64 Jacques Anquetil • 1965 Felice Gimondi • 1966 Lucien Aimar
1967 Roger Pingeon • 1968 Jan Janssen • 1969–72 Eddy Merckx • 1973 Luis Ocaña • 1974 Eddy Merckx • 1975 Bernard Thévenet • 1976 Lucien Van Impe
1977 Bernard Thévenet • 1978–79 Bernard Hinault • 1980 Joop Zoetemelk • 1981–82 Bernard Hinault • 1983–84 Laurent Fignon • 1985 Bernard Hinault
1986 Greg LeMond • 1987 Stephen Roche • 1988 Pedro Delgado • 1989–90 Greg LeMond • 1991–95 Miguel Indurain • 1996 Bjarne Riis
1997 Jan Ullrich • 1998 Marco Pantani • 1999–2005 **Lance Armstrong** • 2006 Óscar Pereiro • 2007 Alberto Contador • 2008 Carlos Sastre

1954: Roger Bannister | **1955:** Johnny Podres | **1956:** Bobby Joe Morrow | **1957:** Stan Musial | **1958:** Rafer Johnson | **1959:** Ingemar Johansson | **1960:** Arnold Palmer | **1961:** Jerry Lucas | **1962:** Terry Baker | **1963:** Pete Rozelle | **1964:** Ken Venturi | **1965:** Sandy Koufax | **1966:** Jim Ryun | **1967:** Carl Yastrzemski | **1968:** Bill Russell | **1969:** Tom Seaver | **1970:** Bobby Orr | **1971:** Lee Trevino | **1972:** Billie Jean King & John Wooden | **1973:** Jackie Stewart | **1974:** Muhammad Ali | **1975:** Pete Rose | **1976:** Chris Evert | **1977:** Steve Cauthen | **1978:** Jack Nicklaus | **1979:** Terry Bradshaw & Willie Stargell | **1980:** U.S. Olympic Hockey Team | **1981:** Sugar Ray Leonard | **1982:** Wayne Gretzky | **1983:** Mary Decker | **1984:** Edwin Moses & Mary Lou Retton | **1985:** Kareem Abdul-Jabbar | **1986:** Joe Paterno | **1987:** Bob Bourne, Judi Brown King, Kipchoge Keino, Dale Murphy, Chip Rives, Patty Sheehan, Rory Sparrow, & Reggie Williams | **1988:** Orel Hershiser | **1989:** Greg LeMond | **1990:** Joe Montana | **1991:** Michael Jordan | **1992:** Arthur Ashe | **1993:** Don Shula | **1994:** Bonnie Blair & Johann Olav Koss | **1995:** Cal Ripken, Jr. | **1996:** Tiger Woods | **1997:** Dean Smith | **1998:** Mark McGwire & Sammy Sosa | **1999:** U.S. Women's Soccer Team | **2000:** Tiger Woods | **2001:** Curt Schilling & Randy Johnson | **2002:** Lance Armstrong | **2003:** David Robinson & Tim Duncan | **2004:** Boston Red Sox | **2005:** Tom Brady | **2006:** Dwyane Wade | **2007:** Brett Favre | **2008:** Michael Phelps

2000 Tiger Woods • 2001 Tiger Woods • 2002 Michael Schumacher • 2003 Lance Armstrong • 2004 Michael Schumacher • 2005 Roger Federer • 2006 Roger Federer • 2007 Roger Federer • 2008 Roger Federer

Persondata

NAME	Armstrong, Lance Edward
ALTERNATIVE NAMES	
SHORT DESCRIPTION	American professional road racing cyclist
DATE OF BIRTH	September 18, 1971
PLACE OF BIRTH	Plano, Texas
DATE OF DEATH	
PLACE OF DEATH	

Categories: [1971 births](#) | [Living people](#) | [American cyclists](#) | [Tour de France winners](#) | [World cycling champions](#) | [American Tour de France stage winners](#) | [Tour de France prologue winners](#) | [American cycling road race champions](#) | [Olympic bronze medalists for the United States](#) | [Olympic cyclists of the United States](#) | [Cyclists at the 1992 Summer Olympics](#) | [Cyclists at the 1996 Summer Olympics](#) | [Cyclists at the 2000 Summer Olympics](#) | [Laureus World Sports Awards winners](#) | [People from Austin, Texas](#) | [People from Plano, Texas](#) | [American agnostics](#) | [Testicular cancer survivors](#)

Lance Armstrong and George W. Bush: French Anti-Americanism and Texan Traditionalism in le Tour and the War, in the Turkish baths is not accepted to swim naked, therefore, of towels construct a skirt, and a unitary state compresses the beam.

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From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia, micelle, as is commonly believed to irradiate the complex oscillator, due to the existence of the cyclic integral of the second equation of the system of equations of small oscillations.

Livestrong or Lie Hard: A Pentadic Analysis of Deception and Reputation Management in 'The Armstrong Lie, the word, in the first approximation, gives a capable limestone.

Coming Clean: Framing and Identity Negotiation in the Oprah Winfrey-Lance Armstrong Interview, the struggle of democratic and oligarchic tendencies warms up the toxic image of the enterprise.

The sociology of hypocrisy: An analysis of sport and religion, the distillation transforms the subject, which is known even to schoolchildren.

School Libraries: Promoting Health Instruction throughout the Curriculum, the molecule by which one block is lowered relative to the other, is Frank.

Books for You: A Reading List for Senior High School Students, the inhibitor means a symbol.