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## Run raises awareness, funds

By: Kira Mathis

GREENSBORO -- The Triad's first Free to Breathe 5K run and 1 mile walk saw runners and walkers come out to raise awareness about Lung Cancer, the number-one cancer killer of American men and women.

Dusty Donaldson, who was diagnosed three years ago and helped to organize the run, said the funds raised went to the National Lung Cancer Partnership's research, education, and awareness programs.

"It's the No. 1 cancer killer of both men and women, in fact," Donaldson said. "It kills twice as many women as breast cancer does."

Donaldson added that, despite those statistics, it is the least funded of all major cancers.

Some lethal cases of lung cancer involve people who have never smoked.

"[I've] never been around second-hand smoke, never smoked, just a fluke, I guess," East Carolina student Taylor Bell, who was diagnosed with lung cancer, said. "It's just showing that more and more people get lung cancer that you would think wouldn't get lung cancer."

Bell and Donaldson said that they hope Saturday's event will raise awareness.

More than 600 people registered for the event, which organizers said exceeded their expectations for the first annual race. Coordinators reported the event raised \$50,000 for the National Lung Cancer Partnership.