



Loveland adventurer Matt Brennan on the summit of Denali. (Photo: Matt Brennan/Provided)

A Nerf football delayed but didn't stop man's quest to climb Mount Everest

Sheila Vilvens, Cincinnati Enquirer

A Nerf football injury may have delayed a Loveland adventurer in his first quest to climb Mount Everest, but it didn't stop him.

Last week Matt Brennan began his second attempt at summiting the deadly mountain.

As of Sunday, he was in Lobuche, Nepal, the last stop on his journey to base camp. It was prior to this point last year when he injured his leg and groin in a game of Nerf football with Sherpas. After pushing on for several days, the injury caused Brennan to abandon his attempt.

Not this time. In an April 7 Facebook post, he said he's staying healthy.

"Your body cannot recover from illness at 17,500 feet so I am being super careful on the trek," he said in his post. "We arrive in base camp tomorrow and I'm looking forward to moving into my tent – my home for the next 7 weeks. All good here in the Khumbu valley and the majestic peaks of the Himalaya. #unfinishedbusiness."

Brennan first attempted Everest in April 2018. For his second attempt, he said he's more fit and better prepared.

"Having been there last year, I'm way ahead of any new climber," Brennan told The Enquirer before the climb. "So, I know what to expect. I think I have a huge mental advantage."

Thanks to a new training program, he said he's leaner and stronger this time around.

"I feel really strong going into it," he said.

Brennan also expressed gratitude for the opportunity to return to Mount Everest thanks to his sponsor, Horter Investment Management of Symmes Township. Horter sponsored the first trip as well. Owner Drew Horter and Brennan are friends.

"Matt's such a focused individual and wants to attain the seven summits of the seven continents," Horter said. "I'm glad to help him do this."

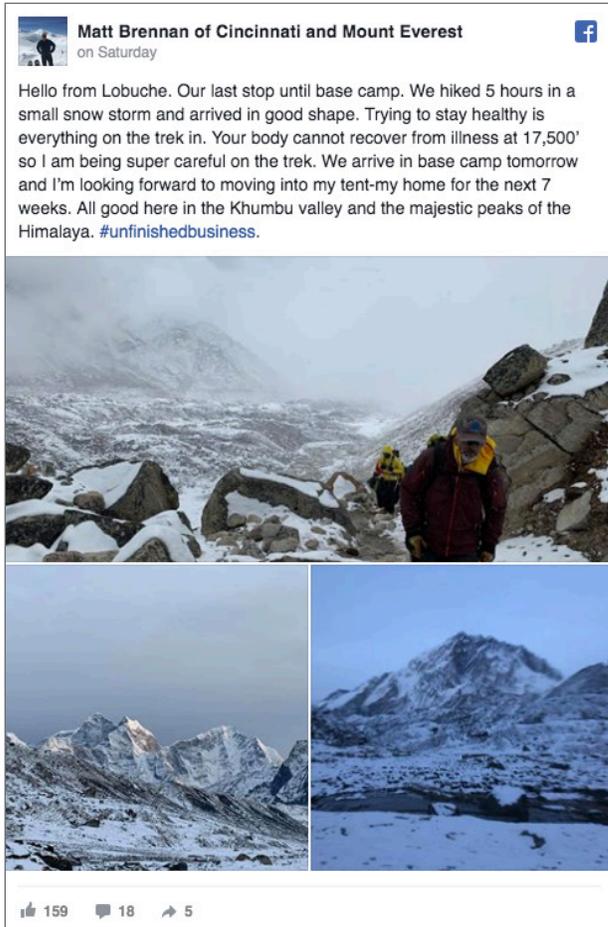
Brennan is well on his way to conquering all seven summits of the world. So far he's summited: Mount Vinson in Antarctica, Aconcagua in South America, Denali in North America, Mount Elbrus in Europe and Kilimanjaro in Africa.

All that remains is Everest and Carstenz Pyramid in Australia.

You can track Brennan's progress on his Facebook page, Matt Brennan of Cincinnati and Mount Everest.

Horter Investment Management is located at 11726 Seven Gables, Cincinnati, OH 45249. For more information, call 513.984.9933 or visit horterinvestment.com

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