

On top of the world: Loveland man preps for daring Mount Everest climb

By Alexis Rogers – WLWT Mar 7, 2018

LOVELAND, Ohio —

A Loveland man is gearing up to place Cincinnati on top of the world.

Matt Brennan plans to climb to the top of Mount Everest, which is part of his goal to climb the highest mountains on each continent.

Brennan has been climbing the tallest wonders for 20 years. His love for climbing was sparked as a teen.

“I climbed Rainier, did well, went down to South America, climbed a bunch of stuff in South America. Then, I got the idea to try the seven summits,” Brennan said. “It is pretty emotional when you make it to the top. All the training that goes into it. All of the effort. What you are putting your body through.”



Drew Horter, left, and Matt Brennan with the flag Brennan will take to the summit of Mount Everest.

Brennan owns a construction company in Loveland. Friends like CEO of Horter Investment Management LLC Drew Horter said Brennan is always up for an inspirational challenge.

Brennan's journey to tackle the highest mountains of each of the seven continents, also known as the Seven Summits of the world, came as no surprise.

“We both have autistic kids and that is how we met. We have had our challenges with our children. He coached both of my boys for football. We just became good friends.” Horter said. “It's a great friendship drawn by the autism spectrum. He said he was going to climb Mount Everest. I said, ‘God, love ya!’”

Support from Horter and companies across the nation are behind Brennan's journey. He has accomplished four of the Seven Summits.

“I started off with Mt. Aconcagua in South America, Argentina. Then Mt. Kilimanjaro (Africa, Tanzania) the mount Mt. Elbrus in Russia. I just completed Denali last July,” Brennan said.

Brennan sights are on tackling mount Everest in 80 days.

“There are nine climbers. Three guys. We will have a team of about 85 people that are made up of sherpas and porters, yak herders, guides, cooks, base camp managers, doctors. It is a pretty well organized event,” Brennan said. “I will probably be on my hands and knees crying. Hopefully I get to the top, I'll call my wife, I will raise the flag for my good friend Drew Horter and his company and I will raise the flag to honor my family.”

“It is a great feat. Not many people do it. Most people can never say, ‘I stood on top of the world,’” Horter said. “We are proud of Matt. We are anxious for Matt. We are so excited in 80 days he will reach that summit.”

Brennan is a man with a dream that hopes to put Cincinnati on top of the world.

“I think it is good for everybody in Cincinnati. Hopefully, we can get to the top and make a lot of people proud and happy. I will do my best. That is all I can do,” Brennan said.

Horter Investment spokesperson said only 4,000 people from around the world have made it to the top of Everest.

Three hundred people have died in the process.

Brennan starts his 80-day climb March 29. Brennan and Horter Investment plans to share a video of the journey.


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