BETA

Higher calling available in Summit for Someone

Summit for Someone is taking the spirit of giving to new heights. The primary fundraiser for Denver-based Big City Mountaineers, Backpacker Magazine's Summit for Someone is offering 775 participants an opportunity to "fundraise" their way to a guided mountaineering trip on 24 of North America's most sought-after peaks. Mount Rainier, Mount Shasta, Gannett Peak, Mount Olympus, Mount Moran and Mount Hood are just a few of the peaks that will test the mettle and expand the boundaries of those who raise pledges or directly donate between $2,000 (for an alpine rock climb) and $7,500 (for a full-fledged expedition) to Big City Mountaineers, a leading non-profit volunteer organization in providing wilderness mentoring programs for underprivileged urban youth. Every pledge received by Summit for Someone participants will help send up to five at-risk teens from across the country on a life-changing wilderness trip next summer. Climb categories range from glacier, alpine rock and expeditions, including a women-only category, and participants receive up to $1,200 of gear from sponsors in return for their efforts. Whether you want to climb demanding alpine routes, try your first ascent on a rope harness or just enjoy the camaraderie of friends on a non-technical ascent, this challenge of a lifetime can help others overcome a lifetime of challenges.

More info: To find out more or apply for the program, log onto www.summitforsomeone.org or call 303-271-9200.

Compiled by Scott Willoughby, The Denver Post

Heard

"If you mess up, there's a good chance you could die. ... I'm just there, totally in the moment, in a heightened state of existence."

Jeff Meyer, pro snowboarder, on his favorite jump outside his Breckenridge home. On the approach, he has to clear an old mine while keeping just the right speed.