

Utah runner scaling Grandeur Peak for cleaner

Environment » Feat would rival climbing Mount Everest from sea level in vertical feet.

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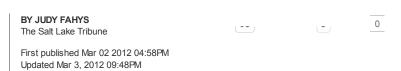
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Saturday evening, endurance runner Jared Campbell was close to summiting Grandeur Peak 10 times in one day to raise money for the nonprofit Breathe Utah's "Coming Up for Air" benefit.

As of 9:45 p.m. Campbell, a 31-year-old Highland Park resident, was on his eighth trip up Grandeur, planning to complete all 10 roundtrips by

He has been running 100-mile races for about a decade. And when he trains in his hometown each winter, he can't help but note the sometimes-poor air quality.

"I wanted to turn something funny that I do — that is, run in the mountains in the winter — into something constructive," he said.

Campbell began running at 6 a.m. Saturday from Grandeur Peak's west-side trailhead about a half-mile north of the Eastwood Elementary parking lot, at 3305 S. Wasatch Blvd.

Breathe Utah, a clean-air advocacy and education organization, noted that the challenge of running more vertical feet than the summiting of Mount Everest from sea level is intended to bring attention to the continuing need to clean up the air even though recent storms have scrubbed pollution from

Campbell is wearing a SPOT electronic tracker that will make it possible to follow his progress up to Grandeur Peak at 8,300 feet and back down. More information is available at Campbell's blog (http://door5.com/) and on Breathe Utah's website www.BreatheUtah.org/events.

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When I read the headline I thought, "Good cause, but big deal, I've made that run..." You expect something more dramatic. Then I read he was doing it 10 times in a day! What a stud! Good luck, man!

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