

Cypriots to climb Mount Aconcagua

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THE first Cypriot team of mountaineers will attempt to climb Mount Aconcagua, the highest peak in the Southern Hemisphere in early January 2005.

Mount Aconcagua in Argentina has been described as "the Colossus of the Americas" and is well known for its harsh environment, with high winds, low oxygen levels and low humidity. Average temperatures are around -30 degrees celsius and snow and wind storms are a common weather feature of the mountain that is a formidable psychological challenge to climbers.

The mountaineering team consists of Kyriakos Onisiforou, John Michael Mouskos, Costas Tzivelekas, Stratos Micachloriou and

Panayiota Christopanou. The plans are that the Cyprus flag will be raised on the summit between January 7 and 11.

The climb is being organised in an effort to create awareness of the work of The Breathing Life Trust, the aim of which is to establish a Breathing Life Lung Centre - a state of the art respiratory treatment centre - to be located at the Archbishop Makarios III Hospital in Nicosia. Almost 10% of children in Cyprus suffer from asthma and respiratory diseases are the main cause of sickness and child mortality in Cyprus.

John Michael Mouskos, the founder of the Breathing Life Trust, has joined the mountaineering team for these reasons.

More information is available on website:
www.breathinglife.co.uk