

Keiser University students prepare for endurance competition

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Ten students from the Keiser University's Daytona Beach campus will compete in an endurance competition to raise funds for veterans.

For all its Keiser campuses, 125 students, faculty and staff statewide are competing in the annual Tough Mudder Competition on Nov. 3 at the Westgate River Ranch (3200 River Ranch Blvd.) in Polk County.

The university, which will have 10 teams, is sponsoring the entry fees of about \$110 per athlete with monies raised benefiting the Wounded Warrior Project.

Nearly 2,500 students of Keiser University's 20,000 students are active-duty service members, veterans, or military family members.

The competition, university officials say, is a way for the campuses to promote wellness and work together for a common goal.

The Keiser teams, which will compete against other groups, will be involved in a boot-camp type obstacle, involving hills, mud, ice water, ropes, walls, fire and maneuvering under live electric wire, in addition to 10 to 12 miles of running.

Daytona Beach's team "Mud Up or Shut Up" has been intensifying its routines since May in sweltering temperatures.

Carlo Solorzano, who is on the Daytona Beach team and is seeking a bachelor of science in sports medicine and fitness technology, is inspiring other teammates. Prior to beginning training just a few months ago, Solorzano had never run for any distance in excess of one mile. With two months to go, now he is running in excess of five miles. His teammates feel the pressure to match his efforts, university officials said.

Matt Graifer, an instructor in the Bachelor's of Science in Sports Medicine and Fitness Technology degree program, is leading the Daytona Beach students. He said they have been practicing twice per week at varied times to accommodate work and class schedules.

According to Tough Mudder's website, the events are designed to test all-around strength, stamina, mental grit and camaraderie.

In other area college news:

STETSON: Stetson University will present New York Times bestselling author Omar Tyree in an interactive lecture Thursday, at 7 p.m. The lecture, which will be in the Stetson Room, second floor of the Carlton Union Building, 131 E. Minnesota Ave., is free and open to the public. There will be a book-signing in the Stetson Room from 6 to 6:30 p.m., before the keynote lecture. In his lecture, "The Equation for Success," Tyree will be promoting his latest book, *Welcome to DuBai (The Traveler)*. For further information, call 386-822-7718.

DAYTONA STATE: Daytona State College has been recognized by Fire Science Online for providing a high return on investment (ROI) to fire-science and emergency-medical technician (EMT) graduates. Fire Science Online ranked the top 90 fire-science and top 80 EMT programs in the nation, based on best student preparation for a successful future working in their field. Fire Science Online identified programs by using national and state salary, tuition, enrollment and accreditation data. The lists recognize the institutions with affordable tuition rates and graduates moving into high-wage jobs. Over the past five years, nearly 75 percent of the graduates from Daytona State's emergency-medical technician program and 100 percent of the grads from the fire-science program have found jobs in the field, continued their education or entered the military. In a separate ranking, Daytona State came in among the most affordable fire-science degree programs in the country.

EMBRY-RIDDLE: James Roddey has joined the communications and marketing department at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University as the communications and media relations manager. He will be responsible for coordination of print, broadcast and online media publications and outlets on a campus and university level. Roddey brings more than three decades of broadcasting, marketing and public-relations experience to his new position. His varied background includes running a full-service ad agency, working as Oregon public-information officer, as communications director for the American Red Cross, and producing nationally syndicated educational television programs. He is a graduate of Wofford College in Spartanburg, S.C., and recently received a certification in digital-marketing strategies from Portland State University (OR).

FLAGLER: Flagler College honor student Troy McClenathan, whose family resides in New Smyrna Beach, will be a key member of the St. Augustine-based institution's winning team going to Cancun, Mexico, this month to compete for the Enactus World Cup. They will be challenging teams from colleges and universities representing 37 other nations. Enactus, which stands for Entrepreneurs In Action, is a nonprofit global organization of student, academic and business leaders that promotes entrepreneurialism and social responsibility. The Flagler College team outclassed 500 other American college entries to walk away with the U.S. National Enactus Championships for the third time. This year, Flagler's Enactus chapter took top honors

in the national competition by launching and implementing five instructional programs for youthful prison inmates in St. Augustine at the St. Johns Juvenile Correctional Facility and the Hastings Youth Center.

— *Compiled by Education Writer Deborah Circelli*

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