



Lee Farmer training on Greenham Common

Climber welcomes snow to prepare for Mount Denali

A MOUNTAINEER from Woolton Hill has made the most of the cold snap by using it to help him prepare for his quest to conquer the highest peak on every continent.

Lee Farmer has been preparing to climb Mount Denali, the highest mountain in North America, where temperatures can drop as low as minus 50°C, by practising on a snow-blanketed Greenham Common this week.

He said: "This is just a fraction of what I will have to endure on Mount Denali, but it will help me to start preparing myself mentally

and physically."

Mr Farmer has already scaled the highest peaks on the six other continents, including Mount Everest and Kilimanjaro and should he complete the feat next year, he will join a select club that currently contains less than 200 climbers.

He said: "I don't think I'll be among the first 200, there may very well be a few climbers who get there before me, but even if I'm number 215, I would still be happy with that."

Asked why he left Denali till last, he said: "It is because this is the toughest – it is harder than Everest."