

World Class Teams



A last minute registrant in the two-person division of RAW is Robyn Benincasa and Florence Debout of World Class Teams. Ms. Benincasa is like her company name indicates; A world class adventure racer. In fact, at first glance Benincasa's resume reads like a script from a Marvel magazine because the first image that comes to mind is "Super-Hero". When she isn't completing or winning one of the 36 "expedition length" Adventure Races she has contested in the last 13 years, she is busy rescuing stray cats from tall trees or babies from burning buildings in her "day-job" as a full-time San Diego Firefighter. And if that isn't enough, she stays off the couch by speaking on the lecture circuit or consulting Fortune 500 companies on the merits and techniques of team building.

Benincasa intends to use the experience she gains from her two-person entry in RAW to help her prepare for an attempt at solo RAAM in 2010. Asked how she assesses RAW compared to her past challenges Benincasa voices concerns about developing an uncomfortable relationship with her

saddle.

Joining her for RAW is a co-founding member of www.projectathena.org, Florence Debout who isn't along just for the ride, a quick review of her athletic accomplishments shows that among other things, she has completed 12 Ironmans.

Project Athena provides coaching, equipment, travel expenses, entry fees, and, most importantly the encouragement and inspiration to help our amazing "Athenas" make that life affirming transition from Survivor to Athlete.

Project Athena's founders are no strangers to medical setbacks themselves, as their passion for helping other women live their dreams comes from hard fought battles with Breast Cancer, Ovarian Cancer, life-threatening traumatic injuries, Rheumatoid Arthritis, and more. But instead of sitting back and taking these medical setbacks like the ladies they are, they're driven to shepherd other women through that tunnel of hopelessness by bringing a renewed sense of adventure and self confidence to their recovering souls. Doctors and scientists can cure the body--Project Athena cures the Spirit.

However it all plays out there is one thing for certain, the Race Across the West is attracting outstanding individuals from all walks of life who go a long way to proving Mr. Armstrong correct; - "It's not about the bike".