

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Knit-Rite's Own, Tanya Khvitsko, Experiences 2017 Endeavor Games

KANSAS CITY, KS –: Tanya Khvitsko, Knit-Rite's PR specialist, got the opportunity to participate in Endeavor Games, while also representing the company.

Knit-Rite's PR specialist, Tanya Khvitsko, journeyed to Edmond, OK this past June to participate in the UCO Endeavor Games as an athlete, as well as a representative for Knit-Rite, Inc., a Kansas City, KS-based company that makes medical textiles.

First held in 2000, the University of Central Oklahoma's Endeavor Games is an athletic competition for athletes of all ages with physical disabilities. Their goal is to provide children, adults and military service members with physical disabilities an opportunity to display their talents in a proper and competitive setting against individuals with similar disabilities.

As a sponsor for the Endeavor Games, Knit-Rite maintained a booth to display a variety of products designed for amputees, such as the new Soft-Sock®. "Introducing our products, such as prosthetic Soft Socks, to parents of young amputee athletes was satisfying, because I witnessed them recognizing that we are able to meet their child's needs," Khvistko said. "We also had a few parents and kids who recognized our products and were thanking Knit-Rite for our high quality socks. It is rewarding to work for a company that makes quality products and hearing it from others."

Khvitsko also competed in the Endeavor Games, participating in the 100m, 200m, and 400m sprints. As a long distance double amputee blade runner, Khvitsko typically runs 5K and longer races with non-adaptive athletes. "I am used to being a curiosity for other runners and as a result, I am often stared at, which is a natural human instinct," she said. "Since the Endeavor Games focuses on athletes with various physical disabilities, I was honored to compete with athletes just like me. It was awesome! I didn't feel like I was judged or looked at all the time because we all had differences."

Pulling some inspiration from her childhood in Belarus, Khvitsko also competed in table tennis. "This was a fun addition to my experience at the Endeavor Games because it was a little bit of nostalgia. I used play this sport competitively back home in Belarus as a child. The experience showed me that I was able to pick up my childhood skills that I developed along the way and use them for fun and competitions in the games. The best part was making new friends and new memories," she said.

When asked about her favorite experiences of the games, Khvitsko's mind went directly to the experiences of others. "A few of my favorite things at the Endeavor Games were seeing a 2-year-old girl sprinting a 60m race on her tiny little prosthetic leg and an older gentleman sprinting his first race since he lost his limb. It's overwhelming yet very rewarding," she said. "We take things for granted every single day. Those athletes didn't have an excuse to complain, instead they had an excuse to show others why they wanted to compete."

Khvitsko plans to make the Endeavor Games a regular occurrence. "It was an honor to be there as Knit-Rite's representative and introduce our amazing products to everyone. It was also a pleasure to be there as an athlete and compete against those who are on the same level as me. I can't wait to go back next year and make new memories, meet new friends, compete and introduce even more people to Knit-Rite."

Knit-Rite, Inc. is a leading designer, marketer, and manufacturer of innovative textiles for medical and consumer markets. For 90 years we have manufactured medical textile solutions that promote mobility, protection, and comfort. We remain committed to the continued research and development and manufacturing products with healthy benefits for a better quality of life.

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