

## What's Next? Podcast

### Zane Yanzick

**[Snip-it's from Podcast] Zane:** And so, yeah, one day I just, you know, I pulled aside my boss said, hey, you know what, I know you're gonna think I'm crazy, but I'm going to quit. I'm going to go book a one way trip ticket to South America. I'm going to go travel for a bit and see where my passions reside after that.

And so, yeah, I booked a ticket down to Patagonia and I traveled for the next nine months, six of them or three of them to South America, three of them in Australia, New Zealand, I went to Nepal, to Turkey. And then I kind of got a little bit...

#### **[Bouncy theme music plays.]**

**[Introduction]** Welcome to the What's Next? podcast. Let me just start off by saying. Not everyone has the same background. There is no road-map for success. Life begins at the end of your comfort zone. Leaning into your curiosities. It does suck when you grow up. We're all still figuring out who we are. You can't just sit back and be silent. Black lives matter. It is the little stuff that makes the biggest difference. Do you have another hour? [Laughs]

**Cody:** Hello, Beaver Nation. Welcome to the What's Next? podcast presented by OSU Next. I'm your host, Cody Stover. Our guest today is from the Portland metro area, went out to Wake Forest in North Carolina to play baseball after high school before transferring back to his home state and becoming a Beav. He spent the next few years navigating the ropes of sports marketing out at Nike before hanging up his corporate hat, or should I say corporate sneakers, to pursue a passion for travel and adventure, which he subsequently turned into [Adventure Mates](#), which is a business he now runs with his brother. His 2014 College of Business marketing grad from OSU. And I'm excited to introduce our guest in the hot seat today. Zane Yanzick. Zane, thanks for joining us on the What's Next? podcast.

**Zane:** Thanks for having me on the show.

**Cody:** Yes, so where are you at right now? I'm guessing quarantining like the rest of the world.

**Zane:** Yeah, I am sitting on my front porch just kind of enjoying the sun right now. Yeah, it's pretty nice day. I'm trying to keep my distance, try to play some golf, you know, kind of stay active. Kind of making the most of these days.

**Cody:** Definitely. I'm assuming the pandemic has kind of brought your focus on. I know we want to get into [Adventure Mates](#) later, but your focus on travel a little bit more scoped in on out on our state, I'm assuming.

**Zane:** Yeah. So I had some, some exciting trips and stuff planned, but unfortunately I've put those on hold. But I've been you know, I spent a couple of weeks over in central Oregon and headed down to southern Oregon this weekend. I'm just trying to stay somewhat local, but still get to get out and explore and experience the outdoors a little bit.

**Cody:** For sure. And, of course, I'm, I'm chomping at the bit to hear a little bit more about, about that and your experience at Nike. But I think I wanted to start today someplace we are going to start with a lot of our guests, and that's, I think, something that we all have in common. That's your experience at OSU, which I know you didn't start your college career at Oregon State. You went high school in the Portland area. Is that correct?

**Zane:** Yeah, I went to a Jesuit high school.

**Cody:** OK. And then so you decided to go to Wake Forest. Walk me through what went into that and what when it went into going across the country to play baseball?

**Zane:** Oh, man. Yeah. So baseball guy in high school and I was kind of going through the recruiting process and, you know, as a senior in high school, you kind of you go through that phase where, like, you want to get as far away from home as possible, kind of wanted to, like, start something new. See a different part of the country, so I visited Wake Forest, North Carolina, just like fell in love with the coaches, program, the area. And so, yeah, I went back there from my freshman year, had a pretty great freshman

year. Like, I look back and I have no regrets going to Wake Forest. But part of me was always chomping at the bit to come, come back home. And so I transferred after my freshman year and walked on at Oregon State and became part of the baseball team in 2012 and played in 2013, where we fortunately got to go to the College World Series. And yeah, I studied study marketing and played baseball as kind of a kind of a dream come true for a local Oregon kid.

**Cody:** Yeah, what I guess one thing I think probably a lot of people wonder is what's that balance like being a student athlete, bouncing kind of the athletic side of things with also the workload of school?

**Zane:** Yeah. I mean, it's, it's tough, as you can imagine, you're trying to fit, you know, class every day with also, you know, anywhere from four to six hours of baseball workouts and practices. So pretty much, you know, from 6:00 a.m. in the morning, you're waking up to work out and then you go to class, then you're going to practice and then you're going to study hall and then your fitness meals. So every day is pretty jam packed. But the structure is good, you know? I mean, it kind of helps you stay on top of things, you know, not a lot of time to slack off. But, yeah, it's I mean, it's a grind for sure. But again, it makes you a better person and it kind of a puts you in a good, productive state.

**Cody:** What would you say? I guess I'm somebody who's like, dang, moving across the country, diving into, you know, when you went to Wake Forest, diving into a completely different part of the country, completely different zone out of your comfort zone. What's the biggest difference that you would say between OSU and Wake Forest? Like that. Feel the town versus the campus.

**Zane:** Oh, man. I mean, there's a lot, a lot of differences. But the biggest thing about like the South is the food's good. I started putting on a lot of weight, the people they got a little bit of an accent. They're super nice down there. But the town of Corvallis and the city of Corvallis just has its like really homey feel to it. It's like, you know, there's it's like a community. It's really truly like a family experience. Whereas at Wake you're just kind of like, in Winton-Salem, North Carolina. Then there's a college and it's not all kind of commingled were as Corvallis, it's like, you know, you truly feel a part of, you know, of this giant family.

**Cody:** Kind of just meshes like campus to downtown to neighborhoods. At least that was my experience in Corvallis. It doesn't really feel like there's definite lines between the outside community and the college for you. It all just seemed like one.

**Zane:** Hundred percent. Yeah, that's kind of kind of what I love about Corvallis so much is it's just like such a homey place.

**Cody:** Yeah, I was going to ask you, this is one thing we like to do with people who come on the What's Next? podcast is I've always got. I'm actually a fourth generation Beaver and so I always have different members of my family telling me stories back in my day when I was in Corvallis kind of starting off with that line. So this is our back, back in my day segment. So we want to ask you, what's the thing when you go back to Corvallis? Like, what was your go to such study spot there, bar, and hang out? And then when you come back, like, what do you notice that's different?

**Zane:** Oh, man. [Cody: Two parter.] This is a good one. I mean, I love, I love going back Corvallis just because, like especially, you know, when I go back, usually it's a game day and I love the energy around game days. And kind of my thing on game days. I live like, you know, a couple miles off campus out there. So what is it Safeway? Or, no, Fred Meyer out there on Kings and Grant.

**Cody:** [Zane: And so...] That's impressive with the cross street there. I feel like [Zane: yeah, yeah I was there for a few years.] like that was the thing I lost the first. I can't remember the streets. Come on.

**Zane:** No, I got that. It's just took me a while to jog my memory. But I was there for two years, I actually lived in the garage. Couple of buddies just gave me the

**Cody:** Classic.

**Zane:** Cheap rent discount. So I'll jump on this garage, but I'd hop on my bike and then just ride down to Reser. Tailgate for a little bit, you know, get some breakfast at the tailgate. Bloody Mary. Sometimes I go to the game. Sometimes I just pop back and watch football at the house. But, um, that was kind of like my go to Saturday morning

routine. And the other thing that I like look back on, I'm not sure if it's starting to feel old, but I'm not sure it's huge thing anymore is, is the Western Wednesdays at the Peacock. It was just like the absolute spot to be. I love to try to get out there and do a little heel toe do-se-do. But yeah, it's just an excuse to get out on Wednesdays and, you know, see, see what's going on in town. And, you know, nowadays it's kind of hard to get down in middle of the week to see if it's still going. But hope that the, the run of Western Wednesdays is still holding strong.

**Cody:** [Chuckling] I've, I have broken out the some of the line dances and whatnot that you learn at those like in recent years, the ones I can still remember and have co-workers who are like from out of state. They're like, where, where did you learn that and how do you still remember? [Zane: Chuckling] Oh, there's a spot.

**Zane:** It's so true and now, you can go to Bushwackers up here in Portland and kind of show off a little bit.

**Cody:** Oh, yes,

**Zane:** Some of the other schools don't really have the same experience.

**Cody:** I want to fast forward so after Oregon State, you get a job at Nike. I think for a lot of students coming out of a OSU, the Nike's, the Columbia's, the Adidas' are all great job opportunities and things that people covet and want to go for after they graduate. Talk me through, like, how did you get that job? And, you know what went into that? I think that's a question a lot of people have.

**Zane:** Yeah. So, I mean, yeah, I think a lot of a lot of college kids are kind of in the same boat and, you know, growing up in Oregon, you look at Nike, you know, like, man, it would be a dream to work there someday. And the path to get there is not always that clear. Luckily, I had my brother worked at Nike and still works at Nike. And he was able to kind of pave, not paved the way, but show me how to get in the door there. And really Nike's kind of a unique situation. And when people say that you should you should network, Nike's like, like the king, king of all when it comes to networking. Once I graduated, came home, I worked with my dad [in] construction, you know, pay the bills. But about once or twice a week, I would find someone new on campus who would sit

down and have a coffee with me for, you know, 15, 30 minutes. I'd pick their brains if it's an area that I liked or I wanted to work. And I kind of started figuring out, like what I wanted to do there. And once I figured that out, I started meeting with more and more people within that area. And finally, you know, kind of left a good impression on what was my first manager. And yeah, so Nike's kind of unique because, you know, it really is it's kind of like its own college campus in a sense. You know, there's tens of thousands of people there in Beaverton. And, you know, it's not only people from college going for some of these jobs, but it's also people who might already be working at Nike that want to go for this job. So it's, it's kind of a lot of it is, you know, networking and getting to know people. And, you know, so when the job does come up, they already have you in their mind as a good candidate for that job.

And so, yeah, I landed, landed my first job and was actually what they call ETW, which is an external temporary worker. So there's a Nike, they call it they call it Black Badge, and then they have White Badge. And so I was a white badge, which means you're kind of on contracts. I was on a one year contract working in sports marketing and so same thing. Even when I was on contract work in sports marketing, I was still trying to get that black badge. And so I would, you know, do one or two coffee meetings a week and try to, you know, network away and as many people as I could. And then finally landed the Black Badge job in college sports marketing, which is, you know, in all honesty, was kind of like my, my dream job in college and was like, man, if I could go and do anything right now would be to work at Nike in college sports marketing. And so, yeah, I was I was kind of liaison between some of these universities and the product teams at Nike. Had some pretty big accounts, University of Tennessee, LSU. I was even, I was handed over the Ducks, which being a Beaver, was kind of like unfortunate. But in the like the career side of things, the Ducks is kind of the granddaddy of them all for Nike. You got Uncle Phil and all that. So it's like it was a big career accomplishment for me to actually pick up the Ducks. But yeah, it's kind of a roundabout way. But yeah, lots of networking involved and all that.

**Cody:** Yeah. And I feel like that's like as you get to. I remember like senior year and people are starting to like come to class with their reporting back, what jobs they got or whatnot, pre graduation. And I remember like teachers just emphasizing like yeah, you should go to that career fair, you should go meet with that person or your other professor says they know somebody there like you should follow up with that. And I

think that was like as I've been in the job hunt, like post college, it I feel like those are the things that I realize. Okay, yeah, those are really true aspects of finding your way in because I think you can easily hop on your computer and pull up Nike dot com and click the careers link and think, oh, here's 50 jobs that I think sound interesting. But having that connection obviously is a big piece.

**Zane:** Yeah, yeah. Like I said, I think, you know, there's so many people that are probably have similar qualifications that you do. But being able to leave the impression on someone face to face or, you know, in person goes a long ways with actually landing the job [Cody: Mhm] as much as you can do. You know, like you said, go on to career fairs, get coffees with people meet new people. I think that's all probably some of the most important stuff you can do to landing your dream job.

**[Bouncy theme music plays.]**

**Cody:** Hey, listeners, the What's next podcast is brought to you by OSU Next, an alumni network in partnership with the OSU Alumni Association. As Zane just pointed out, making personal connections can be key in helping you stand out from the crowd and landing your dream job. One way to make these connections is by engaging with fellow alumni on the Beaver Careers LinkedIn Group. You may not know of your next great opportunity, but you may be connected to someone who does. Find advice, job postings and events that will help you in your professional journey by joining the Beaver Careers Group at [OSUAlumn.com/ LinkedIn](https://OSUAlumn.com/LinkedIn). Now back to Zane.

**[Bouncy theme music plays.]**

**Cody:** Yes, so one last question I had before we dive into [Adventure Mates](#) and your time post Nike. I'm somebody who out of college, I've worked for a 12 person company and now a 55 person company. So relatively small in the world of those things. What does it feel like or what should somebody expect when they're diving into a role at some place like Nike that's just a gigantic international company, like what's the feel or what should people know going into that?

**Zane:** Yeah, I mean, I think. I mean, there's there's great things about it and there's other there's frustrating things about at the same time. I think some of the great things

is. Some of the great things about it is that, you know, you meet so many people and it's such a huge network in so many different avenues that you can go down. And some of the not so great things about it is sometimes you feel like a little bit pigeonholed, like, you know, you might get an area and you feel like kind of you might just be a cog in the wheel. And there's so many moving parts and so many different aspects of the company that if you're someone who maybe likes to do a little bit of everything, you know, you kind of find yourself doing a little bit of the same thing every day. [Cody: Mhm.] So those were some of the frustrations with me. As you know, I kind of like to see the bigger picture and, you know, be a part of the sales and the marketing and the development and all that. And in sports marketing, it really was like, OK, well, you know, we're giving away all this product to colleges and uniforms and stuff. And I kind of want to be more on the revenue side of things. And it's kind of hard to bridge the gap that when you're such a small piece of the puzzle,

**Cody:** Right.

**Zane:** So, yeah. The great thing is, is like it's like a college campus and there's so many different avenues you can go down and there's so many people you can meet and there's so many different opportunities. But there's oftentimes that you feel like, yeah, you might just be a little piece of the puzzle.

**Cody:** So maybe that's a good place to segue to. What kind of led to the decision to leave Nike and try something different?

**Zane:** Yeah. So, I mean, I guess I kind of spoke to a little bit with some of my frustrations with Nike. At the same time, like I said, I mean, looking back, it was my dream job and I was on this great upward trajectory with my career. I just got handed the University of Oregon account. I was traveling down to LSU. I was on the sideline for football games is stuff that like people would say, I'm crazy for, for quittin. But I kind of you know, I ran. One of my favorite quotes is "life begins at the edge of your comfort zone." And I was kind of finding myself to become like a little bit comfortable in this role. You know, [Cody: Mhm] I was, you know, in this routine and I didn't feel like I was progressing as a as a person, as an individual like career wise. I was just kind of, you know, stuck in this comfort zone. And so, yeah, one day I just, you know, I pulled aside my boss and said hey, you know, I know you're gonna think I'm crazy, but I'm gonna



quit. I'm going to go book a one way trip ticket to South America. I'm going to go travel for a bit and see where I'm at, where my passions reside after that. And so, yeah, I booked a ticket down to Patagonia and I traveled for the next nine months, six of them or three of them to South America, three of them in Australia, New Zealand. I went to Nepal, to Turkey, and then I kind of got a little bit a little bit over the travels. And I came back home and that's when I decided to create a company called [Adventure Mates](#). And I think a lot of my travels and my passions of, you know, bringing people together is what really started [Adventure Mates](#).

**Cody:** So, yeah, that's, that's amazing. Did in that time period, did you know going into, hey, I'm gonna go do this travel thing. Did you know at the end of it I'm going to start this business or, or was it just kind of like I'm going to go do this travel thing and see where it leads me?

**Zane:** I mean, I knew even when I was at Oregon State I always knew that I wanted to run my own business. I've just kind of had an entrepreneurial mind. But I again, I didn't really know what I wanted to do with or where I want to do it. So I think traveling really kind of like cleared my mind and opened up like, all right, what am I passionate about? What do I want to do? What's, what's there a need for? Which was great. You know, I think, I think I. I quit my job at twenty five, which I call my quarter-life crisis. [Cody: Chuckle] I think, like everyone, if you had the opportunity, you should go do that because like, it's so cliché, but you truly learn so much about yourself of when you're just traveling. That like, I mean, it just opens up so many possibilities. And I think, you know, after it, it's like I came back and, like man, I'm passionate about the outdoors. I'm passionate about, you know, communities and bringing people together and introducing the outdoors and that is kind of what [Adventure Mates](#) is founded on. So, yeah, I think I think in a roundabout way. I kind of forget what you're asking there.

**Cody:** Yeah. No, that that's perfect. And that was going to be my next question, too is. Kind of what is [Adventure Mates](#)? And help me wrap my head around that and then, yeah, and what's the goal of the company?

**Zane:** Yeah. So. [Adventure Mates](#) is kind of; our slogan is bridging the gap between social experiences and outdoor adventures. So I'm a firm believer that adventuring is always better done with like groups of people and friends and new faces. And so I

wanted to create a platform where, you know, you could feel comfortable going on adventures with maybe new faces, meet new people through the outdoors. And not only gain skills, knowledge of the outdoors, but make new friends along the way. So one thing that kind of hit home with me, especially after college, is you're so you're surrounded by such a like a social community while you're in college. And then you come back to Portland all your friends may be dispersed and, you know, your friend groups are a lot smaller. And it's not always like fun or the best way of meet friends, you know, at the bars or something. So to create an avenue where you could meet friends that instantly have the same interests as you is really the backbone of the [Adventure Mates](#). So, you know, you know, you're going to come out to hike or a bike and instantly, you know, you can have interests with these same people and you can start, you know, broadening your friend group again. So that's kind of the backbone of [Adventure Mates](#).

**Cody:** It's really interesting you say that, because actually our, our first, episode one guest Willen Sin, who works for the Portland Trailblazers. That was something he hit on, was that you don't realize at the time when you're leaving Corvallis, but it's such a condensed version of your social circle, like you have everyone a lot like most of the people that you're friends with are right in a like a couple of mile radius and then even moving up to Portland, which isn't the biggest metropolitan area in the world, but it's you realize, oh, I've got somebody, you know, across the way, you know, across the city. But it's, it's a lot harder to get to that person or it's a lot harder to cross paths with that person at the store. So, yeah, that that's interesting that you say that. And one of the goals of [Adventure Mates](#) is to bring that together so that that's cool to hear.

Well, I guess for somebody who's kind of like considering diving into starting their own thing, how, how do you get in the mindset to kind of make that leap of faith from going from, like, OK, I'm on salary here at this company to boom, I'm going to go figure this out and not know exactly like where that stability might come from at the start? Like, how do you get into that mindset and how do you cope with the first bit of that?

**Zane:** Yeah, like you said. Exactly, it's a leap of faith. And, you know, you hear all these stories of, you know, business is not making it and financially it's going to be hard. But I mean, like I said, I think one of my favorite life models is life begins at the edge of your comfort zone. And I think if you never take that leap of faith, you'll never know where

you could be or, you know what your next step is. So I think, you've got to go into with a plan. You've got to be passionate about it. You've got to be ready, you know, put in long hours, long days and kind of grind. But at the end of the day, if it's something you're passionate about, you will find a way to make it work. And you'll, you'll mold it to become something that is sustainable and that can grow. But, yeah, you got to you've got to put your, your left foot left foot forward first and just get going. You can't wait. Sit back and wait for something to happen. You kind of got to make it happen yourself.

**Cody:** So. Yeah. And as far as flexibility to I know we're in weird times right now with the pandemic and such. You said, we're talking before we hopped on the podcast here that things have pivoted a little bit more too online and digital channels. What, what does that look like or how is that pivot?

**Zane:** Yeah. So. It's, it's kind of a tricky time for us, obviously, because, you know, it's, it's great to meet people face to face to have events and host adventures and get groups out. But obviously, that's not something that we can do right now. So, yeah, we currently we've transitioned to kind of a similar thing that you guys got going here, doing a lot of webinars. And so we actually had one today where we hosted True Gear, Portland based apparel company, a couple of digital marketers. And we're kind of trying to create these meet ups and these social things virtually, which, to be totally honest, it's not my, my favorite thing, but it's, it's what you've got to do at the time. You got to be able to be flexible. You got to be able to adapt where, you know, with the last couple months, I've been able to kind of like put a bunch of plans in the works for when things do open up that, you know, we can get back out there and start adventuring. So it's kind of it's been a great period of reflection. And, you know, just like re-evaluating, like where I want [Adventure Mates](#) to go and what, what kind of next year looks like. And hopefully the pandemic cooperates so we can get back out there and adventure with some people.

**Cody:** Yeah, for sure. Yes. So that's great to hear. I want to move on now to a little a little something that basically tips and tricks for recent grads. I know you talked a little bit about your experience getting into Nike. And then I'm thankful to hear a little bit about your experience, like diving into starting your own thing. I think that's something that probably a lot of grads, or at least some have in the back of their head of like a dream. But I guess is there anything else that we haven't covered that you would say to, you

know, maybe the recent grad version of yourself that that's going out into the real world? For the first time. What's that thing that you don't hear maybe at the end of your college career in school, but you need to hear before you jump into the real world?

**Zane:** Yeah, I mean, I might be a unique, a unique situation, but like I am a big believer that you've got to have experiences, you know. You've got to get out if people invite you to do something. Be as much of a yes person as you can. Again, if you're, you know, if friends are asking you to go to something, maybe you're not, you know, you wouldn't go to before, whether it's a conference or you know an [Adventure Mates](#) meet up or something and go to it. You never know who you're gonna meet. You never know what conversation to have. You'll never know what kind of passions you run into. But, yeah, you've got to, you know, try to try to participate in many life experiences as you can, whether it's something that you may not have thought interesting before or something that you're totally interested in. But try to just say yes to as much as you can. And because the opportunities that come from that are endless.

**Cody:** Is there a way in your mind to kind of calibrate to like maybe in that first job out of college, you've been there for a year or two and you're, you're kind of you're comfortable, but you're I like, like you say that being on the edge of that comfort zone is good. Is there a way or strategy that you have to kind of evaluate and self-check and be like, am I in the right spot right now? And, and if not, like, what do I need to go next? Do you have kind of a process for how you do that internally or?

**Zane:** Yeah, I mean, I think I think trying to be, you know, as motivated as possible, just like always, just, you know, reaching for the next step to progress with your life, whether it be in your career, whether it be socially, whether it be physically in your fitness or whatnot. I think, you know, even if you're. Yeah, you're only a year in your job. I mean, I think it's always important to communicate with whether it's your manager or your co-workers and kind of see areas that, you know, you might be bale to improve in or areas that the company or something can improve in and always looking for inefficiencies and trying to trying to help fix those. And I think if you, you know, if you get to a point in your career where you lose the motivation and you lose the interest in, you know, progressing, I think that's a pretty good sign [Cody: Good sign.] to re-evaluate your career. Yeah. And see it. See, see what really makes you passionate.

**Cody:** Definitely. I think that's a good point to jump. We've got a couple few last segments here where we want to ask you some quick hitter questions. The first one is one we call Globe or Garage. And what that segment is and what we've been asking our guests is whether you're the avid traveler type or a proud homebody, what's one place that you're dying to travel to? Or if you're more of the homebody type, what's a project or hobby that you're taking on? [Zane: Oh, man.] Not to pre-empt, but I guess I kind of think I can guess which one you're gonna take on. But, you know, [Zane: laughing] I'm interested to hear.

**Zane:** Yeah, the travel is the pretty obvious answer here. One thing and one place I've never been to which I'm actually, not trying to plug or anything, but I'm lining up an [Adventure Mates](#) trip right now is to Greece. We're doing a sea kayaking trip in Greece. And I've never been and I've always wanted. It's been kind of a weird, weird travel destination for me because I was like, you know, I'll go there when I'm older. And I think finally it's time. It's like, all right, I'm go to Europe, I'm going to Greece, we're going to sea kayak. We're gonna do some rock climbing, cliff jumping. It's just it's kind of one of those bucket list places that I'm finally going to check off. So, yeah, Greece's, Greece is it for me?

**Cody:** Is sea kayaking something you do frequently? Is it a hobby?

**Zane:** Well, no. I mean, so we actually led a sea kayaking trip down to Belize in February. And so part of that was we partnered with a sea kayaking company based out of Chicago. And I mean, it's an awesome experience because, you know, you're in Belize. You were going from island to island, just powered by sea kayaks, kind of, you know, camping on beaches, having bonfires, you know, snorkeling, fishing. And so we are, yeah, for Greece, we're going to partner same company. And it's, it's kind of one of the best ways to see a coastline honestly is by kayak, you're you know, you're on the water all day.

**Cody:** And no traffic.

**Zane:** Adventures endless. Yeah. No traffic.

**Cody:** That's what you said earlier about how Europe's kind of one that you can put off because it's always like, oh, I can get to it later. That's how I kind of feel. I don't know if you've done much in Canada. That's how I always feel about Canada. It looks amazing, but it's one that I always say, oh, I can just drive up there like one of these days, but it's one I haven't been to Canada since I was seven. So obviously that's a great strategy. Have you done much up there?

**Zane:** Oh man you got to go to Canada. I was in Canada. We did an Adventure Mates trip to Canada last, well, I guess it was this February, a ski trip. It's incredible. I mean, the thing about Canada it's so big, too. It's like I mean, you could spend a year and never see the same thing twice, but I don't know, Canada is up there as one of my favorite countries. [Cody: Ok.] I always tell people that my very favorite country is Nepal. It's just absolutely majestic – the mountains.

**Cody:** I take it you're a mountain guy. Canada and Nepal.

**Zane:** Yeah, and New Zealand. I mean, all three kind of have these spectacular mountain ranges. So, yeah, Canada is up there as one of my favorite countries by far. So don't, don't [Cody: Don't put it off too much longer?] Yeah, yeah.

**Cody:** Ok. So this next one is called what's got you hooked? So whether you're a Netflix/Hulu junkie, podcast superfan or voracious reader, we want to know what's that? What's that form of content you're just consuming right now?

**Zane:** Oh, man. This I'm not the right person for this. I honestly, [Cody: Chuckling] I'd like to say I read, I don't read very much. And I'd really I've, I've tried to get into, you know, like Netflix shows and everything. I started, oh man, my brother was ranting and raving about For Life. I don't know if you heard that about this he was wrongly convicted and now he got his law degree while in jail. And now he's going to, like, try to get himself out. But honestly, I'm only like three episodes in and I haven't got back to it. So I'm hoping to get back to that. I did catch my attention, but like in all, honestly, I don't watch a lot of TV, but it is country music season so I've just been cranking the country music and it's kind of my thing now.

**Cody:** That's what you're consuming currently? [Chuckles]

**Zane:** Yeah. [Chuckles]

**Cody:** Yeah, I, you strike me as someone who's more of the creator type and sometimes I wonder if creator types occasionally can't sit still long enough to get through bingeing a full Netflix series because they're out there creating their own Netflix series. But I don't know if that's accurate or not.

**Zane:** No, I bought a drone within the last couple of months.

**Cody:** Ooh there you go.

**Zane:** Any nice days, I'm out just messing with that thing, trying to get some, some footage. [Cody: Uh-huh] So, yeah, your comment was spot on.

**Cody:** Ok. One of our last ones here. Social distancing has this all chilling at home majority of the time. So what's been the last few months your, your go to takeout food spot or, or what you been munching on?

**Zane:** Go to takeout food? Um, I mean.

**Cody:** Or if you're cooking, you know, if that's your thing.

**Zane:** No, I mean, I do like a good barbecue, but there's this this Vietnamese place in Progress Ridge called Pho Nom. That's kind of my go to. They do a mix of like Vietnamese and Thai and they're close. It's pretty dang good. So you guys need a good meal. It's pretty good. It's called Pho Nom. I think I know me by first name down there now.

**Cody:** That's a good sign. I moved to Northwest Portland back in September. That was one of my first goals as I was like, I want to I want to frequent one of these places on 23<sup>rd</sup> enough that they know my name when I come in. And there's this, this Thai place that, yeah, I finally got there. I think I went there a few times in a week and finally I was there so. It's pretty badge of honor.

**Zane:** It's pretty comforting to go in there and they are like, "what's up, Zane?" [Cody: Chuckling] All right. This is this is nice.

**Cody:** One last thing before we wrap here is as far as if somebody is interested in [Adventure Mates](#), and they want to get involved with it, what, what steps should they take?

**Zane:** Love it. So first follow us on Instagram, @adventurematesglobal. And then the best way really to kind of stay up to date with events and stuff going on is go to our website: Adventurematesglobal.com and click on the link to become a mate. And it'll just ask you a few questions. You can go onto our email serve and you promise not to blow up your inboxes unless something worthwhile. And yeah, it's we, especially once this pandemic's over we're trying to host more and more get together and events and get people out there exploring together. So it'd be fun to see the new faces, especially fellow Beavs.

**Cody:** Yeah, and I think a lot of people are going to be chomping at the bit or itching to get out. When it when it's safe, safe to do so. So I'm excited to follow along there. We'll be sure to when we published this podcast to post the [Adventure Mates](#) link in the episode description. So all you listening can go there and follow that link to check it out as well. So, Zane, yeah, it's been terrific having you on here. Appreciate all the wisdom. Cool to hear your story both on kind of the big corporate world with Nike kind of following that that sports marketing dream but then also the shift to doing that, doing the whole travel thing. I think something that a lot of people want to do and making that leap of faith to start [Adventure Mates](#). So appreciate, appreciate all that.

**Zane:** Yeah. I appreciate you have me on the show. It was kind of fun to look back on the good times.

**Cody:** To all our listeners out there. Thanks again for tuning in. And we'll catch you next time on the What's Next? podcast.

**[Bouncy theme music plays.]**



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