

What's Next? Podcast

Cody Stover

[Bouncy theme music plays.]

[Snip-it's from Podcast] Cody: I still have dreams that I'm late for a test or something, so that's another story.

Jessica: Really?

Cody: Yeah - you don't have those dreams?

Jessica: No, no...

Cody: Tell me how to get over them, cause, I dream about being late for class, late for a test...

[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 edge 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]

[Bouncy theme music fades.]

Jessica: Hey Beaver nation and welcome to the What's Next? podcast. I'm your guest host, Jessica Miller, and I'm here today interviewing the What's Next? host Cody Stover. Cody is a Twenty Fifteen OSU College of Business grad with a major in Marketing and a minor in Spanish. Cody is the creator and the host of the What's Next? podcast and works for a Marketing Automation Company in Portland. Cody, thanks for the special opportunity to host you.

Cody: Yeah, Jessica, thanks for flipping the tables. I'm excited to talk through some stuff.

Jessica: Yeah, I'm super excited. I've been listening to the podcast for eight episodes or wherever we're at now and I keep on hearing little snippets of your story, so I'm really excited to hear more about it and get to know you better. So first off, where are you calling from?

Cody: Yeah, I actually live in Northwest Portland. My partner and I have been in the suburbs for the last few years and finally last September made the move into the city. We wanted to be around the city. So yeah, we came into northwest Portland, live in an apartment in a neighborhood here. But yeah, before covid times, I just had a nice bike ride into work, but been living the work from home life since then.

Jessica: Nice. Great. Yeah. Yeah. Suburbs are fun, but I would love to live in the city as well.

Cody: We thought we'd give it a shot.

Jessica: Yeah. Yeah. Ok, so how about we start out with your background of how you got to OSU. You were there from 2011 to 2015. How did you choose OSU in the first place?

Cody: So I am actually a fourth generation beaver, so the pathway was already there. I think I mentioned maybe in the very first episode if anyone heard of that, that my we went in to or UO and my dad said, you can go here but just might not visit you very often. And he was joking. But also, yeah, OSU has been in our family for a long time. Like my great grandfather went there and was like majored in animal husbandry, had a lot of agricultural people in our family. And so, yeah, OSU was always kind of like in the back of my mind, like where I was probably going to go. And so I applied to other colleges. But in the end it just felt right. And my dad's side of the family also lives in Corvallis. So it was a great opportunity to both go to school and then get to be around them a bit more as well.

Jessica: Ok, that's really cool. How was your experience at OSU?

Cody: It was a good experience. I, I came in and lived in the dorms. I lived in Weatherford Hall and that was kind of like a very, I didn't even know it at the time, but a very formative, like, decision because I ended up majoring in marketing. So I got involved in the college of business. And at the time the Austin Entrepreneurship Program was in Weatherford Hall. And so kind of just was like another pipeline that just was like, hey, you want to get involved with this entrepreneurship club or this thing? And yeah, I met my roommates there too, and stuck with them through my four years in Corvallis. Yeah. And then actually, too, after I got an internship in Woodburn and I decided to live one more year in Corvallis after college. And so I made [the commute] it was a little bit of a commute. It was like an hour, but luckily no Portland traffic. But so I got to live in Corvallis an extra year as well. I figure what they call it, the victory lap. So, yeah, I really enjoyed my time down there.

Jessica: When you lived there for the next year, did you still live close to campus?

Cody: Yeah, because actually my roommates were all engineers and they did five years. And so that was another thing as I was graduating, going to the quote-unquote, real world. But they were also like, hey, we got one more year of college to have fun and live together. So I was kind of like, oh, I want to too, I don't want to miss out on that. And so, yeah, they were doing one more year and so we were close to campus there, too, because they needed to get to class.

Jessica: Yeah, cool. All right. So while you were at OSU, you mentioned that you were part of the entrepreneurship program. Was there anything else that you were involved in at OSU?

Cody: So another one I was a part of was United Campus Ministries at Westminster House. So it was a faith based, Christian based organization. But we also brought in a lot of different groups from different backgrounds. So we had folks from Islam, from Jewish backgrounds, and that was a really cool group to be a part of because it just brought a lot of people from, like I said, different backgrounds around the same table. And you find you have more similarities and differences and all those scenarios. So that was another one I was involved with. That was cool.

Jessica: That's cool. Was that on campus or off campus?

Cody: It was technically off campus. It was actually the Westminster house, it's that little kind of cottage right next to where the Brew Station used to be or Downward Dog. So it's really across from Weniger Hall, but technically off campus.

Jessica: Ok, all right. So you mentioned Downward Dog. I loved that place!

Cody: Is it still around?

Jessica: I don't know if they changed the name to something else.

Cody: Oh, Red Fox. Right or no way. Or was Red Fox in the middle?

Jessica: Oh, I don't know. They changed it a lot.

Cody: And that one was always really crowded on a nice day

Jessica: Yeah it was so nice, yeah it was so much better. I don't remember what was there before but -

Cody: I remember when I was not twenty one, I was walking past that and I was like, oh I just want to like sit there because it looks so nice in the sun like yeah yeah.

Jessica: It was so crowded. So I got to know a lot of strangers because I would just like go there like on a break between class and I'd just sit there. I just remember one guy was like playing twenty-forty-eight and I was like oh you just, you win by swiping it this way. And like then we just started talking.

Cody: Instant friends.

Jessica: Yeah. That's how it works. Yeah. But when you were at OSU, what was your like back in my day type of moment where you've gone back and things are a little bit different. What did you notice there that that's different today.

Cody: So I think one thing on this is for those who remember the OSU bookstore/ Beaver store wasn't always that like giant thing down by Reser Stadium. It was like when, we started or when I started back in 2011, it was still just kind of this quaint little extension of it- in that east wing of the MU - and was just this tiny little end piece that had the basement where all the books were. But you remember that.

Jessica: Yeah, it was like a cave. Right. Like you would like go down there and it just was super disjointed.

Cody: No windows.

Jessica: Yeah, it was creepy.

Cody: But the little bookstore itself was like, you know, it was it was a nice little like but I mean actually I should say the bookstore was the downstairs part, but they called the upstairs the bookstore as well. Like where the just like apparel and that stuff was. But that part was super small compared to what is now.

Jessica: Oh yeah. Yeah. They're, they're spoiled.

Cody: Whenever I go past that because there used to be a little parking lot right there to where that big new building is, whatever is next to the east wing of the MU, whatever that's called. These just be a tiny little parking lot there. And I know there was friends who lived farther off campus and they're like, that's the prime parking because you're right in the middle of campus if you have to drive in. But.

Jessica: OK, that was the worst parking. People would just walk across the street in front of you.

Cody: OK, so maybe it was the worst, but if there was a parking lot there.

Jessica: Yeah. Ok, cool. And then was there like a special hangout spot that you'd go to, or when you were twenty one, a bar that you'd like to go.

Cody: I was a big fan of Clods, Clodfelter's is the old bar there on the on Monroe, I hope they're still doing well, that was like a kind of a just a nice low key hang out. And I know a lot of people probably share that same sentiment, but that was kind of my one spot. Yeah.

Jessica: Yeah. I think they had a really good beer special on Tuesdays or something.

Cody: Oh yeah. Clods.

Jessica: Yeah.

Cody: Long live.

Jessica: Yeah. So after you left OSU, what was a big welcome to the Real World Moment when you were out there working. Was there any realization of what the workplace is really like or anything, any horror stories?

Cody: I think one of the biggest like well, I'm not going to say shock because it wasn't completely a shock, but things that got me was and I don't know, Jessica, if you've felt this also, but when I first got a job and like was like, OK, I don't have to do homework every day and - or on Sunday when you're like in college, you're like gosh dangit. Like, I have to dive into some sort of - I had a nice weekend, now I got to dive into something, study for a test or something, and suddenly that was taken away. And so that felt like, oh, OK, I can I don't have the Sunday scaries as much right now. Now that I'm in a job for the for that test, I still have dreams that I'm like late for a test or something. So that's another story. But you don't have those dreams?

Jessica: No, no.

Cody: Tell me how to get over them, because I. I still have the dream where I'm late for class. Late for a test.

Jessica: Yeah,

Cody: And then the other thing I was going to say was. When you first look at your bank account and you have a paycheck coming in like that, your bank account is actually going up instead of down for like it has been for the previous years. So, like, that's, you know, that's coming. But also you're like, wow, I don't have homework and I'm getting paid to do this. Like, this is not so bad. And then, of course, there's a lot of other things that come into play. But at first you're like, all right, this is good. Yeah.

Jessica: Yeah, and then you're like, oh, wait a minute, I'll have to pay for everything now.

Cody: And then you get your bills for the month. And other stuff. All right. It was fun while it lasted.

Jessica: There it goes.

Cody: Yeah, I'd say that's my. Welcome to the Real World, two moments there and I'm hoping to get over the the college test dream still.

Jessica: Yeah, it's been five years.

Cody: My mom said she still has them, so maybe it's genetic.

Jessica: Yeah. Yeah, maybe. Were you ever late for a test?

Cody: Not that I can remember, so it's just your fear, it's not even like a old memory.

Jessica: Yeah, no, I was definitely late for a few tests my freshman year because I was like, oh, 8:00am classes. I can do that easy. Like high school starts way earlier and I lived far away from it. No, it was so hard.

Cody: get up at seven fifty and try to make it there on time.

Jessica: Oh yeah. No why did I do this, it's like PE too. Horrible idea.

Cody: Late for the PE test.

Jessica: Yeah. Oh yeah. No that happens.

Cody: That's great.

Jessica: Ok, so now let's talk about your journey in your career. After you left OSU, you and you started working and making money and, you know, not doing homework. What was your career like and what brought you to OSU Next.

Cody: Yeah, so I got, I had a little bit of a my getting my first job out of college was, I like to say, an unrealistic experience because people started coming in with their jobs like, you know, winter term.

People are starting to get stuff lined up for, for after their college career ends. And I was like, all right, I got to start doing this. And so I hopped online. I went to actually, so I grew up playing golf and I played in the Oregon Golf Association, junior events in the summers. So I had known about the O.G.A and I went online and just like Googled internships like Portland area or something. And like this internship at the OGA popped up. I applied to it like the next day and then like two days later I was down there interviewing. And two days after that, I had the job locked up for after I was done with college. So like, it was totally not realistic in that you don't just, like, go on and pick a thing to apply to and then get it without any, like, recommendation or referral or like it was totally like a good luck scenario. So that was like my my I got that internship.

It turned out to be a great experience. It was an organization that gave me a lot of flexibility to kind of like try out new things and figure out like these skills I had learned in college, how do I apply them now? So that was really cool. And it turned into a job for the next couple of years after the one year internship. So my first three years out of college, I was with the Oregon Golf Association doing kind of a mix of marketing, event management, a little bit of sales mixed in. And so that was cool. I liked being around golf as it was a sport that I grew up around, but kind of got to a point where it was just like ready for the next thing. And that was I think. What was that? That was winter of twenty seventeen. My partner, she also was at a point in her job where she was like, you know, I'm kind of ready to like start looking for something different. Like this has been a great first job out of college.

So we're at a similar point and we both knew that we wanted to travel, but we hadn't. We kind of thought in our mind, I think, that we would do it right after college when we hadn't secured a job yet because that would be like a perfect little gap year. But we both got jobs out of college. So that kind of like put that on hold. So finally we said, all right, like we have to, if we're going to do like a long term travel thing, like we've made save some money up. Our leases are ending like we can we can kind of do this right now if we're going to. So come winter of twenty eighteen, like I think it was February, we put in our two weeks and quit our jobs and then decided, all right, let's go do this travel thing. And we didn't want to, I had been involved in some exchange programs growing up. And so I really liked the kind of travel where you're not just like seeing places but getting to know people. And so that was kind of a priority for us as well as we embarked on, we ended up deciding we were thinking like, OK, what part of the world do we want to do?

We want to try multiple parts of the world. And we ended up just going for Europe just because we wanted to kind of keep it condensed or manageable and not add other continents in. But we did a program called Work Away, which if anyone's like wanting to do a gap year or wanting to travel, I'm happy to connect and talk with anyone about it. And it's also, there's another one called WOOFING. But basically the idea behind both of them is you meet up with a family, you live with them, you work on their farm for the usual framework as you work for five hours a day, five days a week, and then you have two days off per week. And essentially you just stay with them for sometimes it's a few weeks, sometimes it's a couple months. But you help out on their farm in exchange for your room and board. And it's just kind of an informal thing to help build relationships, do a little bit of international exchange. And so the next, I guess from February, twenty eighteen to October, twenty eighteen, we are bouncing around from from different farms. We worked on a farm in Iceland, one in Scotland, one in Austria, and just kind of did that as a middle point, between when we quit our jobs and then moved to the next thing career wise, but it was a cool little way to have that experience and get to know some people from different cultures.

And like I said, my great grandfather was in animal husbandry at OSU. And so my grandpa, my uncles, they're all farmers. And so it was also a cool way, because I didn't grow up on the on the family farm. But it was a cool way to still kind of have a little bit of that experience, not quite the same type of farm, but I wanted to try my hand at some of

those things as well. So that was a cool way to gain a little bit of experience before coming back to the Portland area.

Jessica: Well, cool. So when you got back, how was the transition of finding a job that you had something lined up or what happened with that?

Cody: Yeah, so coming back, and again, like my first experience getting a job out of college, like I said, like the cards fell just right. And I got lucky and got something without much effort. So coming back, I think I was a little bit naive in that I took the same approach. I was fresh off this trip to Europe as a long term trip to Europe. I was feeling good. I had, you know, done some cool stuff at my last job. And I was like, all right, let me just go online. And here's all this, like stuff pops up. That looks interesting, right, whenever you go to one of those job search things. So I just started applying to things. And obviously that doesn't like work necessarily like in all situations. And I wasn't hearing back from anyone and I kind of was a wake up call to like, OK, you're not just going to, like, come back and immediately start, like, applying to things and getting exactly what you want. Like, you're going to have to take a different approach to it.

And so I actually, that to answer your question from earlier, how I got involved with OSU next, which is a young alumni group up here in the Portland area. But we also have people all over the country who are connected with this group - anyway, so I came to a Portland based networking event hosted by OSU Next. And it was really valuable because I think at that point I was making the decision that, OK, I need to I need to network. I need to ask people for their advice. I need to have people point me in a direction rather than just spray and pray, apply to these jobs online So the event I, there was two speakers at the event or three speakers, and I ended up asking them to coffee after the event. And one of the OSU grads, her name was Hallie Exall. She was a speaker at the event and she was involved in tech. And so I thought it would be interesting to work for like a tech startup, but I hadn't, didn't have any background or experience in it, or where to start. So she helped kind of point me in the right direction. And she was super nice, had agreed to have coffee with me, referred me to one of her old bosses who then referred me to someone he knew and ended up getting into the job that I currently am in. And of course, like the referrals and the recommendations were kind of what propelled me to there. And if you connect the dots backwards, it was that event with OSU that kind of helped get me back on track with figuring out what my next

step was. And so then when I was now securely in this job, of course, like one of the things I wanted to do was start giving back and start contributing to that group so that other people in my situation could have a little bit easier time or have the support needed to figure out exactly what the group name is like. What is next?

Jessica: Cool. Yeah, yeah, I remember meeting at one of The OSU Next events because I'm also on the council and hearing your story, I was like, oh God, we need to hear more from this guy. This is like exactly why we're doing this. So, and I'm glad that you stayed at your job and enjoy it. So such a great story. So after you joined, I think, did you join in December of twenty nineteen?

Cody: Yeah, it was this seems like a long time ago now, but yeah, it was just last December.

Jessica: Yeah. So you had applied in the fall and then we all did like one on one interviews of all the candidates, and anyone can apply for anyone listening on our landing page on association, and then we take you out to lunch or coffee and get to know you and you joined. We're really excited to have you. And then what got you to create a podcast that's amazing? Such a great idea. But what led you to that?

Cody: Yeah. And to say to you, like, yeah, the podcast has been really cool. And my favorite part is just getting to talk to all these different Beaver grads who are doing completely different things, like there's no one path. And I think that's like part of our group motto. Jessica is like we're all doing something different, but we're all beaves and we're all, you know, here to support each other. But it's been so cool to be able to hear those stories and share those. So that's been cool. But the origin story of, like, the podcast was actually like back like it in January, or I guess it was like New Year's. I was kind of like, OK, one of my resolutions this year is to create a podcast because I'm a big podcast fan and I always wanted to sound like, all right, that's on my resolution list for this year. And then covid happened. And as you know, Jessica, all of our in-person events that we had planned for the summer for OSU Next got canceled. So it was kind of like I was sitting there and like this was during the lockdown and I was working from home and I was like, all right, this is like the dots are aligning. This is I wanting to do this podcast. I have the time now as we were in lockdown. And also like this is a great

opportunity because we need to figure out how we can continue to share some of these Beaver stories or make these connections.

So anyway, that was kind of like how the dots align to say, all right, let's do this podcast, but now let's make it about OSU Next and see if we can kind of, you know, continue to let people know out there, like, hey, there's people who are going through different things, people who are having successes, people who are having down points in their career. But like, we're all in this together. And hopefully that's the message that's getting out. And I think another cool thing is that we were focused a lot in Portland, the Portland area, because that's where we could have our in-person events with our group starting here. But of course, we're wanting to have it like branch out around the country. But it's been a cool way to put something out there that somebody on the East Coast can access a Beav on the East Coast can access, as can somebody over in Asia or somebody in Africa or somebody in Europe. Like you can listen to a podcast from anywhere. So hopefully we're reaching some people around the world.

Jessica: Yeah. And you can record it from anywhere. [Cody: Yeah.] How do you try people to get on the podcast?

Cody: Yeah. So we kind of just started with some of the stories we had heard about our people in our network had heard about. So some of these first episodes, are it just recommendations folks had given us on on Beavs who are doing cool things or interesting things. But we also have a form on the the landing page, OSUalum.com/osunext where you can actually submit someone, too, if you have somebody in mind. And we love variety. So if you know of a Beav out there that is doing something interesting or special or has had a unique journey like we want, we want to tell that story. So we're inviting Beaver nation to help us find our next guest.

Jessica: Right Yeah, I definitely have a few people in mind. So I'll be getting on there –

Cody: So many stories.

Jessica: So many stories! Yeah, they're really, just from the first season. It's amazing how different everyone has been and where they've gone across the world and businesses that they've started super inspiring.

Cody: And I don't know about you, Jessica, but like I remember adults telling me, like when I was in high school or something, like, don't worry about what Like just choose something that's interesting in college. You can study that, but then don't worry, like you're not locked into that afterwards. And I think, like, the first batch of guests we've had have been like just like honing that point in on. They've done so many different things that are not even related sometimes. To what they did at OSU which is so true.

Jessica: Yep, yeah, yeah, very interesting and inspiring if there's anyone in college who's like, ugh, I don't want to do whatever my major is, but I'm only three credits or four credits from graduating, so I don't want to restart. You're fine. It's OK. [Cody: You're OK.] You can pivot, go to Europe for a few months, learn how to farm and then come back. A farmer.

Cody: Heck yeah. Hit me up down to talk about it. Yeah.

Jessica: Ok, well that's great. And I'm so excited to hear next season of What's Next? As we go along, what are some tips and tricks that you would give to a recent grad? Everyone has a unique journey from college to life and career. We know that there isn't a one size fits all model and how to do it successfully. So what are your words of advice that you could give someone?

Cody: Yeah, that's a great question. I think the biggest thing is. Like, keep an eye on other folks, like keep in contact with other folks from OSU like and from, you know, whatever groups you're a part of, like, those connections are wonderful. But also make sure that you're not, like, comparing yourself to other people because that's - it's not going to be healthy in the long term.

Take tips and take joy in what other people are doing, but also know that, like, the path that you're on is the right one. Like regardless of if you feel like you found your passion yet or not, just like try not to look at others and say, oh, it looks like they've made it or they've figured out what they want to do because it's unique to each person. So like if somebody gets a super cool job and you're like, I want that one. But man, I don't have like the digital marketing skills to get that like. Just kind of don't be looking at it in the lens of do I have the same skills as them and look at more of the lens of like, that's

interesting. Maybe I would want to do that. What do I have right now that I know gives me energy that would, you know, be helpful to look into and maybe start growing it, but don't necessarily think like, oh, I need to have exactly what they have because you're on the right path and you're doing it the right way. So keep doing what makes you happy.

Jessica: Yeah. Yeah. Good. Yeah. That's so true. It's crazy. Like I was always in a rush to get through college and start my career and now I'm like, oh my goodness, I have like 40 years left of this?

Cody: Right.

Jessica: And just do the one thing? I can't do that.

Cody: Yeah.

Jessica: You're always going to want to change. Some people want to do the same thing for 40 years and more power to them, but I totally have undiagnosed ADD. So that's not going to work,

Cody: Do you? Jessica, if I can ask you a question, do you have any like interests are like new things that have popped up like since you graduated, that you're like, oh, like I might actually want to explore that more or any of those type of things.

Jessica: Well, I think the biggest thing was that I studied business management and I did MECOP and did project management in MECOP. And then I went over to a digital asset management company and I was doing account management. And then I started doing marketing and now I do marketing, project management and I love marketing. So that was, and I was so adamant in college, I was like, I'm not going to do marketing because literally everyone else is doing marketing. I don't want to do that. And now here I am doing it. So, yeah, I think that's the biggest thing. I was like, oh, I want to be a manager and I want to do maybe H.R. or just project management and I found a good in between of that.

Cody: But who knows at five, ten years from now, you know, you never know what what will be.

Jessica: Oh I don't know where I'm going to be. That's fine. Because it's easier to just have a loose plan. [Cody: Totally.] So yeah. OK, so we're at the fun segments, but maybe we should take a little break for some ads.

Cody: Let's do it. Right.

[Bouncy theme music plays.]

Cody: Hey listeners, as you heard in this episode the OSU Alumni Association network and OSU Next were integral parts in helping me find my current job with a tech startup. We don't have in-person networking and social events right now but if you are looking to make connections and keep an eye out for your next great career opportunity, I highly recommend you join the Beavers Careers LinkedIn group. You can find more information at osualum.com/LinkedIn. Now back to the show.

[Bouncy theme music fades.]

Jessica: And we're back. Thanks, everyone, for listening to that ad hopefully you can take some action. So we're at the fun part. So what's got you hooked? Whether you're into Netflix or Hulu or a podcast superfan, which it sounds like you are, or you're a voracious reader, you have to know what are you hooked on?

Cody: So this actually probably if you ask me like a week ago would be a different answer. But I just started the show like two days ago called Dead To Me, it's a Netflix show. Anyway, it's about this woman who tragically lost her husband in a hit and run car crash and then she suddenly, like, befriends this woman who actually is the woman who hit her husband. And which sounds super morbid and weird, but it's like kind of a light, like it's like a dark comedy. Is that what you call it? Like it's yeah. It's like funny. But it's also like there's moments you're like, oh, gosh, this is like really sad and dark. But anyway, like, I had no idea about it. I think it's popular right now, but I just clicked on it on Netflix and I think for like eight episodes. And so it's definitely got me hooked right now.

Jessica: Nice. Are there any other podcasts, too, that you're kind of soaking in?

Cody: I'm a big fan of The Daily, which is a New York Times like news podcast, but that's like that's not like what's got you hooked, but just kind of like a good a good, like update on things. And I also like Michael Barbaro as the host of that. And he's like my my podcast person. I aspire to be in some ways of like, how does this shows. But do you listen to that one?

Jessica: I've listened to a few times and like, OK, this is definitely Cody.

Cody: that's the biggest compliment you could give me for taking anything from Michael Barbaro. I'm happy. I also love Serial, which is a podcast at a Crime - True Crime podcast with Sarah is the host. I really like her a lot and how she does her podcasts. There's also one called Bundyville, which is done by someone named Lisa Tilly. And so anyone who is looking for like a little bit of like Oregon, stuff that's happened in Oregon, it was about like the Malheur Wildlife occupation of that ranch, like a few years back. This is like an older story. But she did a really good job of like diving into like the ins and outs of like that situation. And like, it was kind of it was a cool podcast that also was close to home because it's something that happened in our state relatively recently. So anyway, those are a few of my favorites.

Jessica: I'll have to check those out. Ok, so next segment, what are you munching on? Is there a great to go spot you've been going to or is that a recipe that you've been obsessed with? What's got you eating good?

Cody: Yeah, for those who know Northwest Portland at all, there's this place on twenty third called Tara Thai. It's a Thai place. It's... it's really good. Also, it was like, we just started going there like when covid was starting and they have a really nice like outdoor patio area which was shut down at the start of covid. But, so we started going there a lot for takeout and yeah, I love their, their Pad Thai, their Pad See Ew, you know, their chicken curry is really good, but that was like her once a week go-to for, for a long time. That was our treat during the lockdown was OK, we can go get Tara Thai like bring that home. But they have a really nice patio now too. So, would recommend.

Jessica: And I think in the past podcast you said that you wanted them to recognize you by your name.

Cody: Yeah. This is the same one. That's the same place actually. I don't know. They the last time I went in they, I don't know if they knew my name, but it was kind of busy and they're like people were going in and out with their food. So I might have just got missed. But, you know, I was hoping for that name recognition

Jessica: Leave your business card every time. Yeah. This is Cody, by the way,

Cody: Just on the way out, mention that. Yeah. Yeah. Next time if you could say my name when I come in, that would just really make my day.

Jessica: Yeah exactly. I'll feature you on my podcast.

Cody: You're already featured so shout out Tara Thai.

Jessica: Yeah. They're getting a lot of free support.

Cody: Support local businesses.

Jessica: Exactly. Yeah. Yeah exactly. Like it's like I'm not wasting my money on takeout, I'm supporting the economy.

Cody: Totally. Go get your takeout, treat yourself.

Jessica: Ok, so globe or garage, a lot of us have been stuck at home and can't go anywhere. So if you're someone who likes to travel, what's the first place you're going to or if you're a homebody, what's a special project you want to accomplish once we get out of here?

Cody: Yeah, I knew this was going to be a hard question for me, but I don't know about you, Jessica. But every time I travel, it's like I think that I'm checking things off the list. But actually, I'm just like the list is just getting bigger because you just hear about other stuff or you meet people who are like, oh, you did you go here? And you're like, oh no, I

don't even know. It's supposed to go there. And then anyway, so the list just grows and grows. But one that's been top of mind for me lately is I really love the mountains. And so when I was over in Europe, I was just always wanting to be like near the Alps or near other mountain ranges, and so when we were over there, I so we went to Liechtenstein, which is like a tiny little country like kind of south of Germany and like east of Switzerland, like it's just tucked in the mountains, basically. But we're like, OK, it's one of the smallest ones in the world. We want to go there. So we went to the little town, had one night and Liechtenstein and it was really cool. But also it was like extremely beautiful, like in that it's right at the foothills of the mountains.

And so somebody when we were there was like, hey, you know, like in Europe, in the Alps, they have like these mountain huts with - which I really think we should get in Oregon, but basically like these little like villas in the mountains. And you can so when you go for a hike, instead of having to pack all your food in your camp gear, you just pack your backpack with your clothes and then you can stay in these, quote unquote, 'mountain huts', which actually they're more of like it's more than a hut. It's like kind of like a bunk area. They have, like, warm meals, coffee. So it's like sort of like a hotel, but not nice or, it's more of like a dorm kind of.

But like it's super nice because you don't have to pack all this stuff. And like at the end of each day, you know, that you can order a strudel and like a coffee. So it's like you kind of add a little glamping to your experience. But somebody over there was like, you can actually go across Liechtenstein in three days. If you go like through this mountain pass, that's like totally hickable. It's not like - it's probably high elevation, but it's doable for anybody. And it's you can go across the whole country in three days and there's three mountain huts that help you along the way. So, that's like one that I was just thinking about this morning. I was like, oh, that'd be really cool to do that. Once we're able to travel again and say that you've walked across the whole country, even if it is a country that's not very long.

Jessica: Yeah, that sounds really cool. So hopefully we'll get out soon.

Cody: I know when it's safe to do so.

Jessica: Safe to do so. OK, well, Cody, it's been wonderful to dig deeper into your story about your experience at OSU and your career path and how you started the next podcast. Thank you for sharing your What's Next story. I look forward to hearing more on season two coming up.

Cody: Looking forward to it. Thanks, Jessica.

[Bouncy theme music plays.]

Cody: Hey, listeners, our goal at OSU Next and the Alumni Association is to build community, and that includes creating connections and sharing these unique stories with the rest of the Beaver nation. If you found this episode of the What's Next? podcast valuable, you can help us achieve this goal by writing a quick review, leaving a rating and subscribing to the show in your preferred podcast player. We're thankful for your support.

[Bouncy theme music fades.]