

Being there

If you fish often enough, you might find yourself at a moment in time when all things come together for the fishing of a lifetime. For some it never happens, but for me it occurred one late summer evening on the Deschutes River.

My son, Jeff, his friend, Paul, and I drove over to fly fish for summer steelhead. We were planning to fish the evening, spend the night and fish again the next morning.

Jeff is an accomplished fly fisherman, but Paul had never fly fished before.

Jeff chose to take Paul downstream where the wading was easier to fish. I headed upstream to my favorite run, which is treacherous to wade, but often holds fish.

I arrived at the run just as the sun slipped behind the canyon wall. Fly fishing when the

sun is on the water is near futile as the steelhead can't see the fly while looking up into the sun as the fly, inches below the surface, swings across the current on a tight line.

I hurriedly put on my waders, grabbed my wading staff and rod and stepped into the river. It was a magical evening, warm with no wind. It's rare that there is in the canyon in early September. The only sounds were the river and my fly reel as I stripped out about 70 feet

of fly line and made my first cast. I was going top fish my way down to the "sweet spot," the best area of the run.

I never made it that far.

On the first swing there was a violent tug and I was into a

fish. I waded the few feet back to the river's edge, fought the fish to the bank and released it. One cast, one fish; already a successful evening. I quickly waded back out and hooked up on the second cast. I don't recall if I landed that fish as things became a blur. I was constantly fighting fish. I did keep count though for future reference—and a good story.

As it got dark I waded back to the bank and sat down. What had just happened? My head was spinning. How many fish were out there? I had hooked 19 steelhead and landed and released 10 in two and half hours. All the fish were six to eight pounds and silver bright. Was this my Nirvana?

Grabbing my headlamp, I took off my waders and boots, stuffed them into my pack and hurried the half-mile back to my truck to share my experience. When I got back I found out Jeff had hooked seven and Paul, the novice, had hooked four. One of the fish Jeff hooked was 14 pounds. Quite an evening.

The following morning I hooked eight more steelhead. Twenty-seven total in the two sessions. When we got cell service after getting of the canyon, I called home and found my grandson had been born the previous evening. Yes, quite a day. Epic fishing, a new grandson and the memory—but for a moment—that time and the river stood still.

And I was there.

LOPEZ, continued from Page A12

different things to work on in the backyard or at the park," Lopez said.

If COVID-19 ends up affecting Lopez's first season with Corban, he's not going to let it stop him from putting in work.

"I am a little worried about this season, but no matter what, I'm committed to this, and I'm going to keep grinding and keep working," Lopez said.

While Lopez has been one of McNary's top offensive threats for the last two seasons, Camarena believes that he might be playing a different position in college. But he also says that no matter what position he's at, Lopez will be a benefit to the squad.

"I believe, at the college level, I will expect Luis to play a different position that he did in high school and club. It might be playing as



Luis Lopez scored a key goal in McNary's 3-0 win over Canby last season.

right defender, defender mid or right wing. Also, I will expect that Luis is going excel and make an impact early on his college career," Camare-

na said. "He is going to be a great asset for Corban. He is bright kid with a great future playing this game."

Casting about

by JIM TAYLOR

sudoku

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3		8						7
	6			9	5	8		2
			8	7		2		
9	2	3		1		5	8	7
	8		3		9			
2		6	9	3				5
	3					2		4
5			1		2			

Enter digits from 1-9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, as must every 3x3 square.

SKV, continued from Page A12

to bring sleeping bags for themselves, but that special requests for cots will be accommodated.

Check-in is between 3-6 p.m. and cancellation is free if made 48 hours in advance.

However, all bookings are subject to Volcanoes games.

Currently, the Volcanoes are slated to host their home opener on June 17 against the Everett AquaSox, but the season is still up in the air due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Even if the season does get cancelled, Walker is glad that the organization has a strategy that will bring in income,

but also provide a great experience for Volcanoes fans.

"It's a great way for fans to stay engaged and have a great experience at the ballpark. But it's also great that this will allow us to bring in revenue to support our staff members," Walker said. "It's another way to help us survive if the season gets cancelled."

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