

An unfiltered look at Scott Mestrezat in *Revealed*:

FAVORITE MUSICIAN?

Hmm I guess I'll go with Old Crow Medicine Show, Blues Traveler, and Dylan. Can't pick one.

FIRST TIME IN A CANOE OR KAYAK?

I'm not sure. The first time I remember was when I was probably 6 or 7 with my dad in Michigan. We paddled a short ways down a lake and tried to go up a creek but there were so many lily pads we could hardly make progress. We saw some giant bass jump. We got kayaks a few years later but it wasn't until high school when I got into paddling more and even then it wasn't too much until after college.

WHO'S FAMOUS IN YOUR FAMILY?

Not that I know of. There aren't too many Mestrezats out there. Though there is a Mestrezat winery in France. I'd like to visit someday.

BEST MEMORY PADDLING?

Tough one. Besides all the Missouri River ones, I'll go with the one time I paddled the Mississippi. It was to prove to myself that the Missouri on a paddleboard was doable. I drove 3 hours to the Mississippi on the IL/IA border and camped. On Saturday morning I locked my bike at the camp site and drove 20 miles upriver (27 miles by road) and blew up my inflatable paddleboard and paddled back to the campground. I tossed the rolled up board in my tent and biked back to my car, arriving just after sunset. It was a very long day but almost exactly one year later I pulled into St. Louis at the end of my trip down the Missouri. That weekend marked the beginning of getting serious about making a trip down the Missouri.



Photo: Scott with friends and family at the arch in St. Louis after completing the first descent of the river on a SUP.

HOBBIE UNKNOWN TO US?

I could snow ski everyday if the opportunity presented itself.

ANY REGRETS IN LIFE?

Not worth mentioning. Gotta look at the opportunities of present and keep chugging along.

BEST BIT OF PADDLING ADVICE?

Don't let equipment limit you and wear your pfd.

WHAT WAS THE MOST UNIQUE JOB YOU EVER HAD?

Definitely, my first job out of college as a trader in Chicago. Strange experience

with some... characters. Happy to no longer be in that but had some unique experiences along the way.

