



racing all the more. As part of the web team, I was a field reporter/ photojournalist and got up close to the competitors. To get our daily stories for the website, we had to be in the middle of it all with them—whether it is canoeing down a river, trekking alongside them, or driving alongside them on their bikes. Team after team picked up their bikes and gear and crossed that river to the other side. The amazing contrast of Western advancement against the untouched, natural backdrop was captured in picture after picture by event photographers as well as

me. Once I got my story for the day, I finally decided to cross that river myself. Still in disbelief that we were actually in this part of the world, a couple volunteers and I waded across the river; giggling like school kids at an experience we would never soon forget. Halfway through, I stopped and looked all around me in awe.

At that moment, the halfway point was ingrained in my mind and I knew I had to capture it. If it was impossible to fully communicate the feeling of actually being there to others, I could at least try.

More on Lola's travels in Fiji can be found at www.lemurworks.com/lola/html/ecofiji2002.htm

