

ATP 2012 - transcript

The University tower chimes ringing another session of Ask The professor the show on which you match wits with the University of Detroit mercy professors in an unrehearsed session of questions and answers. I'm your host, Matt Mio; And let me introduce to you our panel for today. To my left, it's Professor Jim Tubbs.

Hello.

Hello. How are you?

I'm good. I'm good.

You just have a single napkin in front of you. It's like you're expecting -

Well, I did have a butter tart on there.

Take another

No, no more. That's about enough calories -

You've still got enough notches on the belt.

Oh my gosh. So what brought you to Windsor again recently, Dave, you're just there for dinner?

Just had to head on over. Pay respects to my mom and just go have good meal.

That's nice. That's nice.

I miss heading over there regularly. That's all Oh, but I do hate coming across the border

because it takes longer to get over and back these days.

No. getting over is a breeze.

Coming back is -

And not to mention the dollar is also worth \$1.31 over there right now.

That's pretty solid.

That's a good reason to go.

Let's go spend.

So I was - And also going grocery shopping and I'll make a plug for it - Williams Food service over there. Best kitchen things you can possibly ask for. And free knife sharpening too.

Nice.

So if I load my car with all my knives and try to go across the border and get my knife sharpened, that's gonna work for me.

(Laughter)

I'll be on the TV tonight.

Man smuggles 9000 blades across the border, gets arrested.

Our xray has picked up something in the trunk. Yeah. Exactly. Oh my gosh. Continuing around the table. Professor Dan Maggio is here.

Hello Matt,

what's going on?

Not much.

Okay,

I'm here.

That's good.

Excited to be here.

You're not wearing your FIRST shirt.

No, I'm just wearing a regular Polo shirt Yeah.

So sadly the other day I had to go to the Korkoian Funeral Home like over by Holiday, and I was thinking of you, not because of the funeral home but because I know you used to live there, close to there. second floor apartment. Didn't you used to live close to there? Wow.

By Hollywood or Holiday?

Hollywood? I'm sorry. I said holiday.

Yes. I used to live in the apartment building

across the street

across the side street.

Because that's like right there at that funeral home.

Yes, the fourth floor. Yeah, that's kind of

That was a fun place to live. Yeah,

the funeral home?

No, No, not yet. That'll be the last place I go to live.

Your last residence.

Yeah, literally.

I'm here.

He's still on this side of the grass.

Your last viewing?

Professor Mara Livezey is here with us too.

I sure am.

Excellent. Also on the right side of the grass.

(Laughter)

For now.

So midterm first semester assistant professor some of everything you've learned in one sentence.

Ooh!

About students.

Oh about students. They are the reason why I love my job. Most of the time.

And the reason you hate your job at times

some of the time,

I believe that you may be referring to a famous movie quote there. They mostly come at night. Mostly. Professor Dave Chow is here with us.

Pleasure to be here as always.

Excellent. You wearing your Corktown hoodie today?

My Corktown hoodie and my Medicine Hat t shirt. I'm all over the place

Medicine Hat tigers.

Yeah, they're supposed to have new sweatshirts and I haven't seen them yet. So I gotta call the hometown and ask. I always make a phone call and the lady that runs the concession stand says "come on by get your free tickets."

Nice.

I gotta go. I gotta go. new arena. haven't been yet so

okay.

How long a trip is that?

It's a four hour flight to Calgary two hour drive by car on the Trans.

Wow.

It's worth it.

There is a train that goes there too? Is that what you said?

No no trans, the Trans Canada. So, I have to fly in to Calgary, rent a car and drive two hours on -

Whoa,

wow. You're hardcore.

It's a wonderful drive.

I can't handle a 12-minute drive back to Berkeley man.

I still remember the first time as an adult driving the Trans Can. I stopped just to marvel at it. Because it's out on the prairies. Like, I think I can actually see the curvature of the earth.

Yes, you can. There's not much up there.

Yeah, there isn't much up there. And then it just suddenly dawned on me like - I looked one way, I looked east. I looked West. I'm like, there's no telephone poles, no power poles. There's not even a car coming up. I'm thinking "If my car dies out here, I could be out here for days."

Yeah, that's true.

So, how does that work? How do you prepare yourself for for that kind of drive across long distances where there may not be any help or -

I mean, there's still farmers, but you know, the farmer's house is like a mile away. That's all.

Wow.

My dad once told me about there's one time he and a friend of his were in Calgary, there was a - ordinarily it's two hours, but it took eight hours to get back because there was no store and my grandfather chewed them out. But supposedly, during snowstorms out there, the farmers are told to take their tractors out and patrol the edge of their property, because people just slide into a ditch. And they don't come out.

how frequent are the gas stations along there?

not often

Really?

Yeah.

So you need a car with good mileage and a full tank.

Or a hybrid.

Or a hybrid.

Yeah or a hybrid?

Or a helicopter.

Yeah. And cell phone signals are - - Iffy.

Iffy

Folks this is a program where you can send us questions regarding anything. if you stump the panel, you will get an autographed photograph of the Ask the professor panel and the ATP mug. And if you don't stump the panel, you can win a prize too - the autographed photograph. You can send us the questions in a number of ways you can email us at ATP at UT mercy that Edu can reach us on the web at UD mercy.edu slash ATP. Find us on Facebook or listen to your favorite smart speaker by asking it to play ask the professor at University of Detroit mercy. We have some questions lovingly nudged into being by Professor Livezey from her students. We'll start with Junior Biochemistry major Calista Esterline from Shelby Township, Michigan, who sent us 10 random questions with sort of a Jeopardy theme to them. So there's a little bit of snark and every answer. Riding shotgun on the kidneys these glands weigh barely five grams each but produce many vital hormones.

What are the adrenals.

the adrenal glands? Yes, they are. Riding shotgun on the kidneys. There's always some build up phrase, you know,

Why is it always shotgun? Why can it be like pistol or you know,

Dibs? That's what we always used to say.

Yeah.

I guess.

No no, stagecoach.

Yeah. And they had the shotgun on the side

Yeah.

a stunning 330 carat Star Sapphire called The Star of what is on display at the Smithsonian, a sapphire, not a diamond.

India

Yeah, I was gonna say India Star of India,

.

Star of India I think is a diamond. But this is a sapphire. 330 carats.

That's mighty bright.

That is big. The star of what?

How about if I tell you it's a continent,

Asia,

Asia, the stars of Asia,

Asia, where in Asia did it come from?

That is a good question. And we'll get our crack research team on it right now.

Okay.

As I say to my students quite often during lecture, do you have a device in your pocket with the entirety of human knowledge on it? Pull it out, and let's get

the funk and wagnalls

That's right. Funk and Wagnalls. (Laughter) Around 1917, Northam Warren of Q Tex created the first commercial version of this colorful cosmetic product. 1917.

nail polish

nail polish is what it is. Yes. Q Tex. That makes sense.

Is that supposed to mean something to me.

No q Tex. I

t's a company around.

They do nail polish remover that smells horrible.

I just, uh, When I think q Tex, I think cuticle every time I guess

Ah, makes sense.

I actually, I don't think that's what it's from. I think it's cute with an X on the end of it. I'm almost certain that it is way more gendered than we're giving it credit for. Your Baro receptors are sensory devices that keep this steady.

Blood pressure.

Your hands.

Your Baro receptors.

No. Are they in your ears?

Uh, It doesn't say where they are.

Hold it, How's it spelled?

Baro B-A-R-O.

it regulates some kind of pressure

It regulates some kind of pressure,

blood pressure?

blood pressure. So that would be the thing that we're losing all the time when we're dealing with the students. Yes, there are receptors gone haywire. Beetlejuice Beetlejuice Beetlejuice in this constellation.

Oh,

You're not - you're not supposed to say that three times.

I know, then Michael Douglass.

Michael Keaton

Michael Keaton will appear. Maybe Michael Douglas will appear too. Beetlejuice, the stars in this constellation. We see it every morning at this time of year on campus coming up over the clock tower. very easy to tell because it has the three stars in a row.

Orion,

Yes, Orion,

Beetlejuice Beetlejuice Beetlejuice. Fun. And they're doing a remake of Beetlejuice?

Why? Why?

With all the original actors and actresses.

No and no.

I don't know.

Watch the original.

Consult a galvanometer to measure electrical current in this unit.

Ergs?

Not ERGs. consult a galvanometer? Galvanometer, maybe.

Yeah, metals.

What is the unit of electrical current? named after a Frenchman.

Ohm?

it's not an Ohm.

No that's resistance.

Oh, I

'm surprised you guys don't know this.

Does it begin with an "A"

It does begin with an "A".

Ampere?

It's an AMP. yeah ampere. That's right. But in Latin Jehovah begins with an I.

Oh, unless you step on the wrong stone.

Exactly.

Then you tumble through.

Before videotape, TV shows were preserved via this process filming directly from a TV monitor. Gosh, this is hilarious. Do you remember what that was called? Cuz I don't. (Laughter). It starts with the letter K.

Kaneta scope.

Yeah, it's a Kaneta scope Yeah, that's right. They literally, I mean, I like seeing a YouTube every once in a while that clearly is a camera recording an old VHS being played on an old CRT TV. I'm like yeah this is classy. This is why we have the internet. As opposed to a dimmer switch, a simple two setting light switch has this name. mostly used by electricians.

on - off

I was gonna say - a switch

a rocker?

Is it a pole.

No, it starts with the letter T

my dad would kill me for not knowing this. He was an electrician.

six letters, starts with the letter T

Transit, transom

Trans Canada Nope.

Oh boy. Wow, we're all wrinkling our noses at this.

Nobody here knows this. I'm surprised. So it's called a toggle.

Toggle

Toggle switch. Only two settings. That's a Toggle.

Okay.

The symbol for this element precedes better blues in the title of a spike lee film.

molybdenum

Yeah, it's molybdenum. Oh, better blue.

I didn't get the reference. I couldn't have answered.

Yeah, Jim is a big spike lee fan, if I remember correctly.

Sometimes.

Last, but most certainly not least, thanks for sending these in Calista, this endocrine gland controls the rate at which cells burn food and produce energy.

Thyroid.

It's their thyroid.

Can you turn yours up? Is that possible?

To turn up your thyroid?

Like to burn a little faster?

I think that sometimes there's a way you can do that. Right?

I think you don't want that, because then other systems start going bad.

I couldn't do - I can dream.

There are literal conditions. Graves disease , Hashimotos disease.

Yeah, and like hyperthyroid.

Yeah. Thanks for sending those in. You know what we got another set of questions here sent in by Calvin Haba, who is also a student in Mara's BioChem.

I got him in class, too.

There we go. We have a theme here. The theme is autumn. The word that nobody knows what it means, but it's still important. So what is the autumnal equinox? What is exactly - what does it mean?

When earth tilts a little .

that's the 21st ?

The 21st of September when what happens?

that is -

Earth tilts on its axis a little bit, right

No, that is when the – That is when - The Solstice is when we're far and close to the sun,

You're getting closer.

Equinox is the in between part to where level - is that when the equator is equal with the -

What is equal - is what I'm going for here.

The distance -

It's the midway point between -

the two solstices!

It is the midpoint between the two Solstices!

But there's something that's equal.

But there's something that's equal

the length of the day and the length of the night.

Yeah, that is exactly right. The number of minutes of daylight and the number of minutes of non daylight are equal.

Okay,

Man, we worked that thing out like we were constipated. Good lord.

I just, I saw a beautiful sunset the other night and My , my kid's in the back, the 11 year old and he goes, "Man, on the Fourth of July, the sun went down at like 1015" and it was like 602 it was already goodbye.

(Ask The Professor FLASHBACK)

We are doing some questions from Calvin Haba, one of Mara's students in Biochemistry 1 sending us some questions about autumn. And who doesn't like autumn? In autumn, what do you traditionally in the united states do to your clock?

Fall back.

Turn it back.

Fall back. Yes. Usually after Halloween these days. When it was before Halloween It was kind of brutal.

Yeah, it was.

Our poor kids would get home from school and it would already be dark. Just Yeah, I know we get into this argument. Well, not argument, just discussion every year but I've met so many different people in my life mostly through undergrad and grad school and the number of places in this country that Only Trick or Treat when the sun is out, I find it abhorrent!

How do you -

You're supposed to Trick-or-treat with the sun down, man.

Yeah!

Jim, that's like Noel Night during the day.

Oh, yeah, that's the opposite. Yeah, exactly. Why do leaves change their color on deciduous trees in the fall?

If you're losing green, it has to do with chlorophyll.

It is chlorophyll.

It's the chlorophyll breaking down and oxidizing. But do you want a different description of like, physiologically, why

Of course we want a different description?

Yes, give us that.

I'm not sure I remember the complete description. But it has to do with the day being shorter. So the tree stops making enough energy and puts it - like puts it all into storage and stops making new energy. And so it stops using its leaves. So it stops trying to maintain them. So they start breaking down.

So the leaves don't matter as much.

Yeah, the leaves would be a waste at that point to maintain.

And there are red, yellow and orange pigments there. And when the chlorophyll, which is green, breaks down, they are exposed. So yeah, that's the final word. What word was commonly used before the 16th century, instead of the word autumn. You'll have to think about this more from a farmer's point of view. And I think we're talking about the western hemisphere

Harvest.

Yeah, Harvest.

The Dark Ages,

Yes. the Dark Ages. In the northern hemisphere, autumn begins on 21 of September. When does autumn begin in the southern hemisphere?

21 March?

21 of March. Yes, "things are topsy turvy half the time" that's what Washington Irving said.

The water swirls down the sink in the other direction.

That's right. We call somebody up we're gonna confirm it.

We have to.

Let me tell you.

flush the toilet, flush the toilet.

What term refers to the full moon that is closest to the autumnal equinox?

Harvest Moon.

The Harvest Moon.

Or what was the one they had the other night. Was it the hunter's moon?

That was hunters moon.

Yeah, hunters moon.

okay

and boy-o-boy, every single time I see Hunter's moon, because I was driving to work on a Saturday morning.

Of course

And it was sitting right over the middle of Six Mile, as I'm driving in. I'm like, it would be so easy for me to project myself to like 300 years ago and thinking God must be angry. Because it's just big.

Yeah,

orange

It's huge.

It looks like crazy. Like Where did this come from? I tried to get a picture, but I was driving.

and you know the weird optical illusion – It's actually the same size.

Right It's just closer to earth, so you've got something to compare it to.

Exactly. Which of these birds do not migrate in autumn? I'm sorry. I will try again. I was gonna just make things up. No, what birds traditionally do not migrate in autumn?

Canada Geese now.

Well,

Robins?

no Robins actually migrated.

Sparrows?

Oh, I thought you were gonna give us choices.

I know.

We're jumping the gun.

My bad my bad. So now let me help you out. These would be birds that an NFL team is named after.

Ravens.

The Ravens. The Ravens don't migrate. My guess is they just sort of go into a tree and sleep for a while.

What do bats do?

Yeah, that's a good question.

Bats aren't birds.

Bats don't migrate, probably. Their caves likely stay warm enough.

Well, I guess my thing is what do they eat?

Blood.

They don't have to. Bears don't have to eat all winter long. Right?

They just like hibernate maybe. Yeah.

They adjust their thyroid.

Oh.

(Laughter)

I smirked when you mentioned "bats aren't birds" because I can't help but think of the two week long build up in Calvin and Hobbes back in the 80s where he's writing a report on bats, and he keeps - the first sentence is bats are bugs. And his Tiger friend is telling him "they're not bugs. I'm just letting you know." and the whole two weeks build up and he stands in front of his class. "Bat are bugs" And they all yell back at him, "They're not bugs!" I just think that that's hilarious. I miss Calvin and Hobbes very, very much. Brightly colored foliage is the image most commonly associated with autumn. What region in the US is a popular leaf peeping tourist destination?

New England!

Yes. What is the name of the popular harvest festival celebrated in China that's very close to the autumnal equinox ?

What was it. some lantern launch thing or whatever. Dragon boats? chicken feet eating, um

Chicken feet eating.

No. You've never been to China during autumn?

No,

I hear it's beautiful.

And that's what I'm told too, but I haven't been.

I've never been either. I just hear it's beautiful.

Oh. So we usually you know, the three times I've gone is like during Christmas break.

Oh, okay. Okay,

So -

The name of the popular harvest festival celebrated in China close to the Autumnal -

Moon Cake?

Is actually the Moon Festival. What's the deal with mooncakes?

Oh, they're so good.

It's like this little hockey puck with a little moon, you know with a little egg yolk in the middle of it.

Okay, cool.

Oh, cooked?

Yeah, a little Lotus and then there's Yeah,

nice

Fun, but I don't eat eggs, so I'm always "Here, you take the egg, I'll take the rest.

You don't eat eggs.

I don't eat eggs.

Okay.

Out of principle

No, I just remember once as a kid I had a hard boiled egg and it was still - it wasn't – It had the bird in there.

Oh, I see. That is gross.

Oh, it was fertilized?

Yeah.

Most eggs aren't

Yeah, I know, but imagine like – CRACK - "There's feathers, there's limbs, there's a face"

Oooh!

That would sort of be a turnoff.

Yeah, that's been a turn off ever since so.

I gotta - Okay, Let's let's try to find a way to transition -

Yeah, please.

In what autumn movie Can you see Richard Gere and Wynonna Ryder walking through beautiful fall foliage?

Richard Gere.

In what? autumn movie? Can you see Richard Gere and Wynona Ryder.

Mulholland Falls.

No. Ball and Drive you're thinking?

Yeah, that's what I was thinking. It's not American Gigolo? because that wouldn't - That'd be creepy.

No. Richard Gere fans? No Wynona Ryder fans?

Well, Stranger Things.

Stranger Things? Of course. Yeah. Joyce.

I don't remember those two being in a movie together was are we talking 80s here?

It's a good point. I think it would be mid 90s. If I had to guess.

Not Chicago,

Not Chicago, but in an urban center.

Manhattan.

Getting closer. Let's see if I can walk you guys through this one.

Newark?

Tour of Dow Chemical.

Fall in New Jersey.

Very, very close to the actual answer.

No way,

Autumn in Newark,

Autumn in New York is the correct response. It's not Newark.

I never saw that movie.

Yeah, I just I gotta go research that I was thinking of like the Bridges of Madison County or you know, something. Some Rom-Com from the 80s or 90s. So we did pretty well, that was really the only one that we got wrong. Thanks for sending these in. Calvin. I appreciate that.

send more

that would be great.

Yeah, both of those set were good. You have excellent students, you can give them extra credit.

A plus for that extra credit, guys.

The time has come on the show when we do the thing that we do. And that thing is called ATP favorites. Oh, I want to hear from the professors what they do during the autumn that they don't do at any other time of the year. What's something that you wait until autumn to do. Now that, basically, let's get serious from just about Labor Day on we're in sort of like holidays mode right? wait a month for Halloween? Then you wait a month for Thanksgiving? Then you wait a month for Christmas and New Year's so it's a pretty busy time of year. What can you only do during the fall or you look forward to doing during the fall?

raking leaves

you like to rake leaves.

I do.

come on over

It's good.

It's good exercise.

It is.

it's fun to jump in them too.

I wouldn't say looking at leaves. I mean, going places where there's a lot of color.

So you're a leaf paper.

Yeah, I'm a leaf paper.

Okay.

There's nothing wrong with that.

cider and donuts.

That's good too.

But Matt, explain this to me. How come Blake's cider is more expensive than Hy's?

Yeah, I don't understand that at all. Because I was just gonna bring up - I have tried for three years now. My youngest is seven years old. I thought this was the year, said let's all get in the car. And we're going to Blake's, and we're doing zombie paintball safari.

Yeah.

Where you take the paintball gun, you get to shoot real zombies that come at you from the -

They have that there?

And I'm like, "even my seven year old kid get into this" and everybody gave me the third degree over dinner.

Why?

I don't know. Because I know what my kids do when they're anxious. They're like, "Dad. How many...", they start asking all these like super specific questions that I don't know.

Do you think they were afraid of the zombies?

Oh, they were definitely gonna be afraid, and it's it looks like a lot of fun. You sit on like a military truck. And everybody has the gun like on a little turret and then you blow away the zombies. I'm like it's a real video game.

It sounds like a good faculty development workshop.

What a great idea. What a great idea. I'm not even joking.

And then you can be a zombie.

Yeah, exactly.

I remember wearing -

good cuz Enzo is Mr. , uh - My son Lorenzo is Mr. Like rationality. So he goes, Dad, I just want to make sure they're gonna be wearing armor because I don't want to like you know, hurt anyone. And I'm like, That's nice of you to say, but you're just trying to get out of it.

Or you can also crank down the gun as far as the psi, too.

Oh, yeah. sighs Yeah, sure, sure. I'm sorry.

But no, but I just remember like, there's one time we we went through a party. You know, I threw a party, paintball party; and like you, the creative director, the guy that killed three of my concepts. We were gunning for him. It can get seriously vindictive,

like Fight Club.

Yes, it is, but we don't talk about it.

But you just do it.

Yes, exactly. So anyway,

so polishing up the curling stones Dan? I'm waiting for-

Yes, we're making ice. Yeah. They just painted last night. They'll be puttin the rings down probably tonight. the houses everything. And then next Sunday is our first day, so I'm gonna go practice on Wednesday.

I was thinking that it was a rite of fall.

It is a rite of fall.

People are starting to get kind of geared up consigned up

All the curlers and curlettes getting ready.

Yes, dusting off those shoes.

Get out your khaki pants. It's time

So yes. We'll be starting in about a week here. So we're excited. So that's just part of winter.

Yeah. We just got the what what winter weather report is going to look like today and probably shouldn't read it if you're not

cold and snowy worried.

Mara, did you give us a good response for fall off things you look forward to in fall?

I did not. I can give you a response. Can't say that. It's gonna be good. But I like to bake things with pumpkin.

Of course you do. Yeah. Awesome. Brett.

I should have fired.

I'm gonna make the bread again. I'll bring it in. That was excellent. I'm gonna make my bread. My bread is gonna beat your bread.

Oh, yeah.

Bread off with it.

So do we have to be blindfolded? You will have to Yes. The great ATP baking show.

Saturday, sorry, Friday evening.

We can Yeah, we can bring it our bread.

Yes. Oh, man.

We know what you look forward to your favorite holiday of the year. Although I've missed my window for about the fifth or sixth straight year to go to a haunted house because at this time, this is when all the plebes think it's time to go to a haunted house. So things get a little congested. I like to go in late September, sort of help out the contractors and throw some money their way. But I've missed my window again to go to good haunted house. So Oh, well, that's just the way it works. It's crazy. It'll do a lot of haunts around here, especially in southeastern Michigan, which I think I've mentioned before, but it has more haunted houses per capita than any other metro area in the United States. They open mid September, so they're kind of dying for business. And so the club that I'm in will go to a bunch of them and give them some business and talk up there.

You're in a haunted house club. Oh, yeah. Who

isn't? Yes, who isn't? Absolutely any who, I think it's time for us to say goodbye, Dave. See ya. Mara. Goodbye, Dan. Goodbye, Jim saya Nora, and now these words, you can email ask the professor at ATP at UD mercy.edu. Tweet to us on Twitter at

ask the professor or using the hashtag ask the professor UDM or visit

the Ask the professor Facebook page as the professor is transcribing facilities of the Briggs building and the Department of Communication Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and education at University of Detroit Mercy's McNichols campus as the professor is produced and technically directed today by Michael Jayson, and technically, our executive producer is Professor Jason Roche. Until next week. I'm your host Matt Mio.