

The university tower chimes ring in 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 Dave. Pleasure to be here. As always. Just trying to go minimalist. What do you think? I had to pick up the pen real quickly before we got to me. When you and Heather are here I'm always afraid I'm gonna give you something to do without shoving something in your face, face full of food in our last recording we were talking about food in general. Like, went for the 30,000 foot view anyway. Food. Food is good you know. It's wonderful. Food is good. I mean come on I just had Louie's the other night, I mean, remember we were talking about popular restaurants. Oh I know and we went to, I think you'll appreciate this, but me and the family made it to Green Lantern last weekend, which was pretty packed but we enjoyed ourselves. I love my aunt and uncle to death. We're at Green Lantern pizzeria, and they ordered a burger and a Reuben, although the Reuben is very, very good. It's a solid sandwich oh now did they get the turkey one or the corn beef one? Not sure, but what cracked me up was, we do this thing once a month where we go and we check out new restaurants and stuff like that and everybody knows what's coming it's on a very logical date on the calendar we sit down, they order Reuben, my dad and mom are looking at him like what the heck is your guy's problem. My uncle, sort of, you know, covers the mic. We've been here twice in the last two weeks, it's time to expand our interesting business model by the way they are not taking any phone orders. It's all on line. And there are many many incentives to get you to do it, but the tickets literally just print out of the wall, and then they're making pizzas, I'm just, I'm just wondering, you know that model I mean so what's going to happen older people who aren't online. They're gonna have to get Rubens and burgers. Yeah, find a friend, I guess. Find a kindergartener that knows how to use the computer. Call grub hub. That is more true than you can believe. Can you move my decimal to the right, please. Jason is here with us today. And I'm happy to be here. We're happy that you are here. Thanks. I still can't get over looking at you and thinking of the fish that saved Pittsburgh right now. So, I've never seen the movie I just remember the name I oh did not miss much, I guess what I understand too so pretty bad pretty fun. Dan is here with us to come at what's going on, on a much okay week yeah it is a little tired, it is. I'm wondering what's for dinner tonight, right now what am I gonna be able to make for dinner without completely breaking down, you know, so we go out every Friday. So, let's see. Yeah, I know. We did that the other night my middle child turned 12, so I saw that, what do you guys do celebrate, he got gets to pick what he wants for dinner and wisely. He chose something that his mother makes and makes very well, Leslie makes a very mean red beans and rice. But we got home, and we were looking at the time. And looking at making the rice and all that, and we're like "Enzo, What's your favorite takeout?" So we did some Pad Thai and it was delicious. Okay. Now, which one, everybody was actually you know we go to. There's a plate. Well, I mean Bangkok cafe in Ferndale is very very good. Classic, but the one in Royal Oak is usually where we go, because it's closer to where we live, so that's at Lincoln, and Washington, Washington. I forget the name, they've changed hands twice. Oh, okay, the one that we did it together. Yes, again. So, yeah, continuing around the table Jim is here. Yes, yes. He's here, Jim. Third

Person. In the third person, and first and second and maybe fourth, and all the other person. How's your term going Jim? Well, it's going fine, I don't have any classes this term so I'm just getting other things done and it's it's coming along. It's like when I asked Beth a few weeks ago, how's the term going she's like "it's great. I have no classes." It's, uh, you know, she didn't say I don't have class. Oh no. I mean it's it's nice to have a break every once in a while. Mm hmm. Right. So, you see yourself back in summer or fall. Oh, I'm gonna teach in the fall. Oh that's cool teach, that's cool, because we that means we get to have you here which is always good. Mm hmm. Let me tell you folks this is a program that could send us questions regarding anything if you stumped the panel you win a prize and if you don't stump the panel you win a prize you could send us the questions in a number of ways you can email us at ATP at UT mercy that edu. You can reach us on the web at UD mercy dot EDU slash ATP, find us on Facebook, or listen on your favorite smart speaker by asking it to play ask the professor at University of Detroit mercy. We have a set of questions sent by long time many time question sender Kymberleigh Richards from Van Nuys, California, "this set", Kymberleigh says "has three special St Patrick's Day questions and 20 general subject questions. "Oh", she says, "to answer the question about Francis time zones remember that question, won't live 12 on a technicality metropolitan France covers one time zone with territories covers 12 total, not counting territories, Russia, actually touches 11." Yeah, so it's so does the US if you kind of its territory so everything's a technicality I swear, everything, everything. So let's work, right here on these St. Patrick's Day questions. Top of the morning to you, lads. Okay. The official color of the Republic of Ireland is - green. Nope, in gold, no orange. Nope. It's the original color associated with St. Patrick actually is what it is but what is it, white, purple Nope. Ran running out of coal, I know you are running out of colors. Chartreuse? you know it's blue St Patrick's blue. It is still seen on ancient Irish flags, the original Irish flag was a blue field with a golden harp. It wasn't purple just faded? Oh, I remember the golden harp I just remember the background was blue from 1542 until 1801 that was the flag of Ireland that all changed in the 17th century with the association with the color green began during the 1798 Rebellion. When the clover became the symbol of nationalism, yes, there you go. And now the flag is green, white and gold but it really looks like green, white and orange. A little bit problematic. And that was actually the very next question we're getting the flag colors for current Ireland, are a tri-colour of green, white and orange. The green Of course for the Irish peoples, the Catholics, the white for peace and unification and the orange usually representing the Protestants, usually. However, the most interesting thing that, I know I brought this up on the show before, about Brexit, is that it may nudge Ireland towards reunification like nothing in the last 900 years has ever done, which is fascinating, just absolutely fascinating. And then what's gonna happen to Scotland? I don't know, but only Nixon can go to China, that's all I have to say, separate, they do keep trying to vote themselves out of the United Kingdom, don't they Yes they do. Why is St Patrick's Day associated with the 17th of March. It was available. I'm gonna give you a partial credit on this is that day they drove all the snakes out? That's good, but you know it does have something traditionally to do with St. Patrick. It just not snake day. Is it his birthday? Nope, how about the other end? He died? He died on that day, in popular - . After getting bit by one of

the snakes on the way out last night. And of course in another one of those cool historical twists thanks to my wife who's an historian and has reminded me of this many times. There are more people of Irish descent that live in the United States than there are in the country of Ireland, and as a result of that, Ireland doesn't care very much about St Patrick's Day until just about 1931, but we've been celebrating it here for over 100 years. Yes, it's more of a religious holiday there. Yeah, they get offended by all our drinking and partying and wearing of the green. I can only imagine what the Mexican peoples think of our Cinco de Mayo another excuse to drink ourselves to death. That's it, we got to come up with our own holiday, it's a fourth of July Dave something. Oh my gosh, how about a set of questions on a variety of topics, what's the tallest building the Empire State Building in the United States of America. It is not the Empire. The Willis Tower. When finished, all the the tallest building in the United States, the new one in New York, that is our free one that's got the, the balcony on the 18th floor, you have to start tower. One in New York I'm giving partial credit for they're calling it One World Trade Center with the highly symbolic 1776 feet in total. Well that's already finished. Oh is it finished? Yeah. I didn't realize that. Yeah, yeah. Yes. The building of course sits atop the rebuilt World Trade Center complex in New York it's slightly north of the Twin Towers, it's the tallest building in the Western Hemisphere and the let's see if you can fill in the blank, blank tallest in the world. Fourth, it's the sixth I'll give you the fourth. That's pretty close Heather would make fun of me but yeah, it's the six other would yeah she, which celebrity like to shower, up to four times per day. Oh, this is interesting man Marlon Brando, no not Marlon Brando we've been before Brando's time. Michael Phelps. Celebrity, Charlie Chaplin? Showering four times a day is just one of the many quirky characteristics that they made this person one of the most beloved of Hollywood's leading men, Jimmy Cagney his offbeat life began with an error on his birth certificate listing him as female. When he began in Hollywood in 1924. He billed himself by a slightly different name WCG. WC Fields? Wcg. He changed his stage name to what we know him as in 1925. Rudolph Valentino. No, no, this is Clark Gable that I'm talking about. Clark Gable was W Clark Gable. William Clark Gable was his name. So, yes. Do they say why he showered, I think, probably, that would be very logical But otherwise, perhaps a quirky kind of guy. In a Scrabble game which five letters are worth the highest number of points? QXJQXJZ z and C. You haven't said it yet. It's five letters I have j qZ and V. No, no. Oh see the, The I know the blanks, no blanks aren't worth anything. yeah they have no point value there, they help yours, but the 10 points if the other person goes on. Yeah, it's not what it says here they're talking about letter tiles. So, x j qZ and k is k are both five. That's not what it says here. That's not what it says these might be letter K is five. But it says f h v w and y are four points each, and then you got BC, and all the rest of one except for BC, MP D and G which are to wonder who came up with these numbers on words with friend. It's v as phi. Oh I see, I see. Oh, I have been lied to. They have to change scramble enough that they don't get sued. Yeah, no, what's the longest non polar glacier, in the world so not at the poles. You maybe you can tell me what country a green live be great. It's not because that would be polar. I believe that that would be polar, and it would be the Fed Chenko Glacier that's in this country. Russia? Russia, it's not Russia. Is it one of the

republics, it's one of the former Soviet republics, Georgia. Are you ready for this? Is it one of the world's, the third leading producer of potassium? Kazakhstan? No, it's not Kazakhstan. This glacier is 48 miles long and covers 270 square miles. That's 35 cubic miles of ice volume. Wow, Estonia. No, it starts with a T. T? Turkmenistan, nope, but it's the other one. Tajikistan. Oh, and the glacier is most of the country. Everyone moves along it. There's three cities on top of it. What zip code are you in this week? In what event did Patrick Henry deliver his classic "give me liberty or give me death" speech in 1775. Oh, this was at the New Hampshire caucus. No, no, it was at St John's Church in Richmond, but I don't know what the event was. His Bar mitzvah.

I know where it was. I used to live down the street from it. That's so cool. I would have never thought that happened so far south. Richmond. Yes, well you're very very close to getting the correct response with that sort of deduction there Jim. Like a Christmas morning thing or. No, it was at a very important meeting of 1775. Constitutional Convention? It would have to be before that. The Virginia House of Burgesses. I mean, I'll give you at least partial credit as they call them the Virginia conventions leading up to the writing of the Declaration of Independence. Patrick Henry initiated a program for defensive action and presented his celebrated speech, declaring I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death. You know the number of references that I make in my lectures on organic chemistry are very remarkable the number, and just the other day the students filled in with no prompting whatsoever, "the only two things in life that are certain are death and taxes" and I was like I'm kind of impressed that would be one where I would expect them almost not to know it because they didn't pay attention in history, or whatever they pay taxes, this one, they do pay taxes, which can share it oh and Vivaldi's The Four Seasons honors spring? I don't think winters first course a spring was the first. I think spring is first yeah basically you're right it's number one in E major is the one of the four seasons for spring. Very good. That's good stuff. He wrote his best known work around 1720, and solid published five years later in Amsterdam. Kimberleigh's always so good at giving us the background info. Thank goodness. What popular chocolate candy was originally developed for the armed forces? m&ms, Yes, absolutely, first introduced by Forrest Mars Sr. in 1941. He got the idea after observing soldiers eating chocolate bars and of course they were melting like absolute crazy. It was actually during the Spanish Civil War. Very interesting stuff. Melts in your mouth, not in your hand. That's right. Certainly after wartime quotas ended, the candies were made available for the general public. What would they say now with all these different flavors that we have and what have you. What is the longest river of the United States, Colorado, Mississippi, Missouri, says the Missouri here at 2341 miles the Missouri River is the longest in the US starts in the Rockies of Montana flows across the US until it meets the Mississippi, which by the way is a full 139 miles shorter than the Missouri in St. Louis, the Missouri River has long been vital to the people of North America having served as a key root for westward expansion during the 19th century. I remember seeing something where technically we're talking about directions but why not just add the rest of the Mississippi that happens after the Missouri, on to the length of the Missouri it's all perspective, right. So, all those things happen very very politically. Right, like Abraham Lincoln charging our bravest

explorers, you must find the source of the Mississippi, and then they go up there and just find this little trickle It's alright, mission accomplished in Bemidji Minnesota very weird. Okay, great question let's see if we can figure it out mathematically. Which has the largest population: The country of Sweden, the city of Chicago, The island of Madagascar or the state of Arizona? Hmm, let's see what would Diane Manica say right about now. Oh, well, so the city of Chicago, probably has about three to four million. No, I think they're larger than Detroit. Yeah, so 6 million. Okay, so the country of Sweden probably has about 20 million people, Arizona. No, No, You're not buying that? Madagascar probably has less than Chicago. It probably has more lemurs. Oh my gosh, I would say, Arizona probably has more people than Sweden. I say Sweden has about six or 7 million people maybe. So, Arizona has the most. I'm fascinated by what I'm hearing here. I'm gonna go with Chicago. And I bet I got it completely wrong. Right. Okay so here we go. Uh Oh. Madagascar has a population of more than 25 million inhabitants. Really? Yeah, lemur owners. With the lemurs? Yes, it's the fourth largest island in the world, and almost twice by landmass the size of the state of Arizona. So that gives you an idea. Okay, Arizona population 7 million. Oh, I just remember conquering Madagascar in the game of Risk. A critical claim. By comparison, the City of Chicago proper being the third most populous in the United States is 2.7 million people, and the current population of Sweden is 9.9. So there you go, all so. So, by the way, there's only 10 million people in the state of Michigan so Michigan versus Sweden. So it's Chicago, Sweden, Arizona, Madagascar. Basically. So they're saying that Chicago only has two point” “No, but that's proper. Proper. Not Chicago land, just the city. So I would say Chicago must have over 10 million alone in the metro area. Yeah, I mean, that's like Detroit. Detroit Proper has like 750. Yeah. But proper is like 3 million right? Yeah, a good round number is that the state of Michigan contains about 10 million people, so it looks like we basically have the same population as the country of Sweden. So, who's the most famous Madagascarin? Or what would you call someone from there? Madagasc. Madagascarite. Yeah. Or Madagander. Michigander. Yeah, no, I mean, for all those people isn't there somebody, No offence, but isn't there somebody famous from there? You know, like. Of course there is. Who? I don't know. Okay, All right, just asking. I'm curious. A study published in Behavioral Processes found cats preferred what stimulus over food? Catnip? Just to give you something to narrow it down to, they tested, food, social interaction, toys, or scents. What do they actually like most of all over food? Well, it's not toys. No, you know what. Any cat owner would tell you - Social interaction? No, it was interacting with human beings. The bottom line here from Kimberly, it turns out they don't hate you after all. They want to toy with you. No, they just want taste you, that's all. Well, you know the old saying, dogs have owners cats have staff. And what, wasn't there that one hypothesis a while back if you know like if house cats were the size of like tigers, we would be toast. Yeah, hundred percent. The next time princess fluffy or Cat trick Stewart claws your hand to shreds, know the pain comes from love. They're showing cat videos at the Detroit Film theater. Oh, I think I'm gonna have to miss that. I know I'm gonna have to miss it. It's just a tragedy. All right, Stan Laurel, Lana Turner, Mickey Rooney and Zsa Zsa Gabor. What do they all have in common? I'll give you a hint, that it has something to do with the Guinness Book of World Records. Married

multiple times? Absolutely correct. Stan Laurel participated in eight official wedding ceremonies. He only had four official wives, marrying one Grover Cleveland style, non consecutively, twice. He married Virginia Ruth Rogers after it became known that his first marriage to her was invalid. It seems he neglected to divorce his previous wife. Oh lovely. Two of the others were extra ceremonies, during the duration of his third marriage and lesser known actress Georgia Holt, better known for being Cher's mother, was also married eight times. So, these people are all serial marriage folks. Where's Mickey Rooney, you know, Elizabeth Taylor in all this? He was on the list. Lana Turner, Mickey Rooney, Zsa Zsa Gabor. Which makes perfect sense in retrospect. So, so who's the current marriage person in today's society. That's, there's not many left. Pam Anderson?

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It's not as popular in Hollywood anymore because they just live together. Yeah, it says, Pam Anderson would probably mean. I would put Kim Kardashian on the list for only having a marriage that lasted X number of seconds you know. but Britney Spears. Britney Spears, yeah that's another. On what day is No Pants Day celebrated? oh that's from Improv Everywhere. It is in March. I know it's very cold weather month because obviously, you know, I actually have first Friday of May. So, no pants day. So, what's the origin. Well it's Improv Everywhere, a New York based improv group, and they did a no Pants Subway. That's right, they started a no Pants Subway so they would just go on subway with no pants and underwear. So if you ever get a chance to go look at Improv Everywhere site and look at the some of the skits that they've put on, they're very fun. It's pretty funny. So the story goes, a man asked his wife to iron his pants one morning because he an important meeting, he was running late. However, and so stressed that without wearing pants. When he realized the error, he was already on the train and unable to go back; so he simply pretended there was nothing wrong, and went about the business of the day, at least in the tradition of no pants day, the first Friday of May. Where is the oldest working light house? The U.P? That would be a good beginning. In Michigan? No, this would be anywhere on planet Earth. I would say somewhere in like the Netherlands or Scandinavia, it is not there, but I will give you it's in Europe. How about Greece? Okay, it's not Greece. Ireland, and UK, so we're Crete. No. Oh, interesting. We'll need to go I keep looking at the United States, a little bit further south. Uh, Spain? It's in Spain. Actually, yes, the Tower of Hercules in Caronia Spain, not only has this beautiful structure been standing for almost 2000 years, but it's inspired many myths that have been passed on for centuries Hercules, the son of Zeus is said to defeated, a giant at this site. In fact, the surrounding city of Corona his coat of arms depicts the lighthouse on top of a giant bow. Ooh, as a result of that, what actor is one of the most Academy Awards, Tom Hanks initials k h, very easy to figure out. Katharine Hepburn Katharine Hepburn for moil factor in the history, driven by actor you meant. Oh, that's all right. Five actors have one three Ingrid Bergman, Walter Brennan, jack Nicholson, Meryl Streep there we go and can you name the last one. Betty Davis. No, it's more of a semi modern more like 80s 90s, Tom Hanks, no it's not Tom Hanks, what do you think about my left foot, do you remember that. Oh, Daniel Day Lewis. I saw I had to stop myself. I was gonna say Christian Bale, no close ish. In which state can you find the town of Santa Claus? Oh, we've heard this before. Minnesota, Arizona? Nope, it's a little

more Midwestern than both of your. Illinois? No, Kansas? It's Indiana, and the town was established in 1854. It's Santa Fe. Oh, but in 1856 when the town tried to build its post office, it found out there was already a Santa Fe, Indiana. When the citizens voted to pick a new name they chose Santa Claus. And they, the whole town gets together every holiday season and responds to as much kid mail that comes their way. Yeah. What are the longest and shortest commercial flights in the world? Longest would be like, L.A. to Sydney? I mean, you're in the wheelhouse. It would be like London to Brisbane, or something like that, wouldn't it? Well it was New York to Singapore, I mean, New York to Singapore, but now it's because that's what it says here Jim 18 hours 45 minutes well New York to Singapore, but now there's another one that's, I think there's like a nonstop from, from London to - Like a Tokyo? No, somewhere in Australia. That's, um, that's, that's supposed to be even longer but it may not have started yet. Why would anybody want to be on a plane for a day. That's great. I've done it. Yeah, another one from Atlanta to Johannesburg, South Africa that was 17 hours well, because there's no lay overs in the middle of the ocean. That's right. Also, to me that would seem to be a long time to be on a plane. Well, shortest would be what like Detroit to Toledo or something like that. I mean, No, actually it's even shorter than that. It's a, there's a set of folks, about 90 of them that live on an island outside of the realm of mainland Scotland called West rain, and the 17 pound, two minute flight is made a couple times a day. Yeah. There wasn't a Garden City to Taylor? Yeah, exactly. The majority of passengers on the two minute flight consists of students and teachers traveling to visit archaeological sites. So that's kind of cool, as well as doctors traveling to treat the 90 residents who actually live on the island so that's good. I'm glad it's cheap. although somehow 17 British pounds actually seems kind of expensive now that I. No, it's because it's only worth about \$1.30 now. Oh, really? It's like the U.S. / Canadian dollar. I'll tell you what, we're gonna have to do our research on all of our exchange rates here; but the time, unfortunately, has come to say goodbye. Dave? See ya. Jim? Good bye, and now these words, you can email ask the professor at ATP at UD mercy.edu or visit the Ask the professor Facebook page. Ask the professor is transcribed at the facilities of the Briggs building in the Department of Communication Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Education, at University of Detroit Mercy's McNichols campus. ask the professor is produced and directed today by Michael Jayson, and our executive producer is Professor Jason Roche. Until next week. I'm your host Matt Mio.