

The University of Detroit Mercy presents an encore presentation of a classic, ask the professor program. Today's show takes us back to October, 1992.

The University of Detroit mercy presents ask the professor the University of Detroit mercy chower times ring in another episode of Ask The Professor. Chower times. I'm back on that again. I haven't done that in over a year. That matching society. Right. Those famous chower times ring in another session of Ask The professor, the radio program on which you match wits with university Detroit mercy professors and their guests in an unrehearsed session of questions and answers. I'm your host Edwin DeWindt and we have a lot of the regular panel with us and a returning special guest. On my right from the Department of Religious Studies professor George Pickering.

Pleasure to be here as always. a pleasure to have you here as always.

On his right from the Department of English professor Claire Crabtree.

Switching from coffee to tea. Oh. Here I am, happy to be here.

On Claire's right from the Department of history professor Sarah Gravelle. Hi Edwin.

On Sarah's right, from the Department of English also Professor Hugh Culik.

Happy to be here. Happy to have you here. And on Hugh's right my left, returning again triumphantly after last week's appearance. By vote of the panel. The program director and the afternoon drive-time air personality from WQRS FM, Detroit's great classical music station. Dave Wagner.

Thanks very much and the answer is because the eyes of the statue are looking down at her. Oh. But I, that was left over from last week. I want to credit.

A lot of people were in suspense.

All right.

Most of the questions you hear in this program are sent in by our listeners. If you stump the panel you will receive the famous winners package which consists of the autographed photograph. A Parker Brothers game either Trivial Pursuit monopoly or don't go to jail we'll pick graciously provided by Parker Brothers, the famous UD mercy key chain, a CD from repeat the beat the fabulous music store in Dearborn, Michigan, and an old University of Detroit coffee mug, because we have a lot of them left over. And if you don't stump the panel you'll receive the photographed autograph and a lot of other junk. you may even get a copy of the University of Detroit. 1877 to 1977. A centennial history.

We'll send it out to you in little fascicules, chapter by chapter, for the rest of your life.

On our last program we were just beginning a set of questions from Kimberly Ross of Detroit, Michigan, and the panel had done reasonably well they've got one half right on the first question, and managed to get the second one that we teach.

And very soon, they're going to read it.

The next question is who was president of Detroit college from 1877 to 1880? McNichols.

No not Fr. McNichols. Livernois. No not Livernois.

McNichols was president in the 20's. That's right. He bought all this property. So it's the first president, that's what that's right.

How about try an Irish name.

You could try, but you'd be wrong.

German.

It's not German. Is it a name we're going to know?

No.

What about the building. It's obviously not Fr. Calihan. No, and it's not
it's not father commerce and finance.

Not Briggs, not Lansing Reilly.

No it's none of those. It's
the very Reverend John Baptist Miego.

Oh sure, on the tip of my tongue. Right Dave?

Feel free to speak up when you know the answer.

We know you won't be intimidated by the mic and you certainly not intimidated by
us.

Who was Donald Goings? Donald Going.

A Coach?

an SJ?

No. Someone associated with the university. as a writer.

And we still on U of D's history?

Well, they're on and off. on and off.

This is not about U of D at this point.

Okay, we're not in the history here. What kind of a writer.

Is he a biographer. No

Fiction? Fiction writer?

novel is a novel is he is he a white guy.

I asked because I was thinking of a novel. It's called Black Like Me.

No, no. I heard the name okay oh he's a black writer.

That's right, "He is the undisputed master of the black experience novel", is the
answer I have here.

Do we have, do we have a title of a novel.

No, no. Not here.

You know we have, or a you have that poster up in our office.

, so it's not. Okay.

Well, Okay.

All right. Where is the Columbiere center located.

Clarkston.

A truly unhappy memory.

We used to teach there.

Campus out there

and the university gave George and me the Death Mobil to drive.

It didn't work. we survived. Three light years away,

who wrote the book "Another Country."

Baldwin,

That's right. In the book another country, how did Rufus

Die?

I'm not sure I ever finished that book

Did Rufus take his own life? Yes, he did.

Yes. Would you care to elaborate how?

Off a building? Well, not a building.

A bridge.

Yes, the Brooklyn Bridge jumped off the bridge,

Who was acting president of Detroit college on December 28, 1910?

Oh 1910 was it a president. An acting president.

It wasn't like president for a day. No.

I'll bet you can guess one thing about him.

He was a Jesuit.

Yes. You see you got that already. you're halfway home.

okay so he's an SJ.

You got the SJ part. That's right.

You might have to give one of your famous hints. Is there anything named after him.

No, no, what is it that a bull has on the top of his head. Horns. that's right and what is it that produces honey? A bee.

You've got it. Hornsby. Reverend William L. Hornsby.

Go Claire. You're really sharp today.

I'm good at the word level.

It's knowledge, free association has a role here. Hey.

What was the most impressive happening that took place at the University of Detroit on November 14 1962,

The abolition of football.

No.

Some people we know were here then.

Is that the year the mafia put out the contract on that dean of the graduate school.

That was a little later. What happened in November '62?

Somebody appeared here? Yes.

John Kennedy? No.

Robert Frost. Yes. I was there, in fact.

It was an evening of poetry and informal talk. 8500 people crowded in Memorial Hall 8500. It was the year it was the, he was wonderful. It was the semester after to the university had sponsored this week long Symposium on the arts in American life they went on from eight in the morning till 10 at night every day and they had Isaac Stern and Saroyan.

You name it, anybody who was here and in the country was involved in the arts was here for the entire week and boy we haven't done that since.

We don't have books in the library anymore. Okay, let's do it again next budget.

That's the Jesuit tradition.

Sarah, when is this going to happen?

Sarah's in charge of our faculty colloquia

I'll look into the honorarium. Right.

Next question. final question. When were Reno Hall and Shiple Hall completed.

Not yet.

Is the honest answer. That's the honest answer yeah right. It's like a great European cathedral.

It's still being built.

In the 50s?

Well, one of them was.
Probably Shiple.
no, there's Reno
Shiple is in the 40s? no.
Very early in the 60's.
Oh, I think it's got 50's written all over it.
it was completed in February of 1960. Reno was September 55. Okay. Well,
She must have beat us.
She did. You got 10 questions and you got four wrong.
Oh wow. It's not really passing.
no i think i think she's won, so she gets the winner's package and. And I'd like to
get her in a class.
Remember that name Kimberly Ross.
Actually I've had her and not unfortunately but she is a good student, and you won't
be able to get away I'm flunking this kid.
Next set of
questions comes from from Fernanda Segundo of Detroit, Michigan. And she says
doubtless yeah doubtless, you whitty professors read the New York Times, and read
it last June and will recall these names for some of the buttons on your computer.
Please describe what button each refers to:
The Snail,
snail. Maybe the cursor, no comma. Nope. Oh, the Tilda or whatever, you know.
Wait I haven't gotten this,
somebody has gone to a computer keyboard
and they've given names that's based on
their usage or
their visual appearance. something like that,
something computer people make up. They're very witty. Well, I never.
They do it in Japanese and then it gets translated somehow and it gets lost in the
translation, what key looks like a nail. What's a snail look like it's kind of shell got
around. Common Law.
Not making the sign.
Oh, an at sign. Yeah.
What I used to call the each Sign
Up arrow. As one word, the arrow that
what what do you mean pushes the cursor up and down. No, it's not. You'd think it
would be
up. No, no.
I'm looking at that keyboard and you look at something you say, Oh, that's an up
arrow
or down arrow or
something, it goes executive who has no it's bad shape. That's right.
That's right. What do you call it. The carrot.
Well, I'll accept that.
The circumflex.

The octo Thorpe

Wait.

Oglethorpe,

not the asterisk. But the,

you find it on telephones.

It's sounds like a musical instrument.

The pound sign.

I have no idea.

Don't, don't, not to reason why

a computer person didn't know what the word Octo meant made this one up or four.

I think we hit on one of those things up so I was listening to the show was you're talking about it being a mystery to Canada and Australia. That's very cool. Let's just accept these things.

What's another name for an octothorpe? Besides the pound sign?

This is the one that looks like tic tac toe.

Well, Go ahead, deny it.

I did I did I go ahead.

How about a bi del quad lathorpe?

Why one hallucination.

But there isn't there is one name for it that is very common that I always think of when I say

The cross hatch.

I'll accept that. I have to cross hatch

Are they looking for shorter words isn't that

it. One of the things he's looking for is the number sign. If we get so bitter.

And why is he even called the pound sign, I don't know it's another glorious mystery.

It's because in my old printer, the old spin writer I had, you had to push that in order to make it produce the British Pound on the thimble that was located in that spot, and that's why I'm certain they called it the pound sign.

I'm sure you're wrong. I know I am.

Tilda. What is the tilda?

It didn't walk, it waltzed in.

How would you describe the tilda.

How would you? What is it, he is the word inside of it.

Isn't it. Yeah.

. Yeah. The squiggle.

Right. And do they know Spanish? It's like the use of manana.

Let's take a break here. during the ask the professor show, we'd like to tell you what the professors are really like, well, frankly, we've held this secret for me long enough. Big Daddy Edwin De windt is the leader of the brothers of mercy motorcycle gang, and nothing bothers these rebel professors more than that receiving questions when they make their weekly out into the post office. Don't make Harley Hugh, jammin George, sister Sarah, clutchin Claire and Big Daddy Dewindt angry, send those questions to 3800 Puritan, Detroit, Michigan, 48238. We're back. Oh, goodness. It's like a Lazarus reaction.

We're answering questions from Fernando Segundo of Detroit, Michigan.
that I just forgot we were back.

If the next set of questions is from Isabella, I am out of here. Struedel, these are computer terms. What do you call the strudel.

The "a" thing. That's right the "at" sign.

Asterisk?

The octothorp?

The octopoint. Well, there really isn't it. That's right. Exactly. Is the answer. Well, they're flying word. One, star, star.

Copy c colon backslash backslash D backslash English 130 right I'm gonna start up calling up a bio period. One of the shorter form for the period.

Yes, that's right, that's right.

ampersand that

got, you know, the ampersand What are those.

Well think of something else, you can eat pretzel pretzel. Yeah, yeah.

red pill I might even emphasize again, different names for that.

Really everything.

This is somebody's private hallucination.

Looking at time these private hallucinations, widely shared.

Okay, well, you never know we're all getting a red balloon they're

all wearing those shoes. Yeah, yeah all computer guys, what is the left banana. Parentheses.

You bet here.

What do they call bracelets? They parentheses. Well, yeah, the brackets That's

right, that's right. And let's see, the left angle bracket,

sometimes called bra for short, is, the less than. That's right, the less than inside.

Very good.

Well, we thank Fernando Segundo of Detroit. She didn't stump the panel, but she tried.

I'll tell you what

they actually do use their keyboard. We hope to hear from her again.

They don't call it by those names, no.

Latin terms maybe.

Yeah, mostly, I'm sorry.

Okay, this is good. This is the William James key.

What do you call your B key?

Next set of questions comes from Stephanie Dunford of Detroit, Michigan, who has 10 questions for you. And these kind, again, are all over the landscape.

How many varieties of popcorn are there?

There's a number to this?

There's a number? No, no, there's only two kinds. Buttered and not buttered.

Okay. Good and bad.

That's a big one. That's a big one, like cheese and butter.

Like the British actually sell potato chips that are cheese and onion flavored.

potato chips that
are cheese and onions and only with vinegar.

I don't know why but.

How many? 22 oh
man oh many more.

150.

150 is a little too high.

116,

you're a little low now.

130.

Why did you wait. I just, I just have a
thing about numbers.

Yeah.

I want to see the list. Yeah, they're big on prime numbers.

125. I don't want to see the list. That way I
want to take each one.

What is palegra?

Palegra makes you scrawny, the old Tom Lehr song,

It's a protein deficiency.

What does how does it manifest. You get sick and die. Well,
I mean,

they bury your bones No. You're reincarnated, I mean what do they want. How far
do they want to push this.

Well, you get sores. I think yours is

Do you remember the story about the people who brought corn
to Italy to try to cure the polio epidemic. and then they found that people in Italy did
not thrive, because the people in South America were eating the bugs and the
maggots and getting their protein that way. No one had figured that into the
calculation.

That would have alluded me. I can certainly tell I wouldn't get it. Well, The first time
they tried citrus fruit, picking taking it out on the sea there's some variety of lime
that has almost no vitamin C in it,

and they did this big experiment they took them out there they gave them all their
Lime juice, and they all got scurvy,

and then they said

they were right. Unfortunately, it was repeated
money left over in their grants.

You can be sure the gin hasn't run out.

How long is the Panama Canal.

It's long enough to get from the Pacific to the Caribbean.

Is it like 150. Well, I have an answer here that I can't
read.

Oh well, whatever we decide then. Go ahead, go ahead, David, what is it,
four and a half miles. Yeah.

That's it. Yeah.

I was trying to figure out what this is, though this is a decimal point here of 50 point 72.

Next. Now that Noriega is gone.

I'd forgotten that. Golly gee.

that really affected

things. When was penicillin discovered and who discovered it?

1941 by somebody whose name started with an F. even with a with an app but it

The name was an F, but wasn't 41.

36.

earlier earlier.

Oh really, I thought it was during the war, it wasn't.

20s, late 20s, late 20s like 28.

Exactly.

Okay.

And it was at St. Mary's Hospital in Paddington.

Do we have to know the guy's name.

Yes.

Is it Fletcher?

Not Fletcher.

Fleming.

That's right, I was about to come up with a truly grotesque clue.

We've caught it in time.

Where are the Rocky Mountains?

With. Well, some of them are in Colorado.

How tall are they in Alaska.

Mount Mckinley is the highest elevation in North America.

It's 23,500.

Oh, I just want to give every state that

I climbed one of them this summer.

Which one?

It's very poetically named flat top mountain. When you get to the top in the rain, you've had your shorts and then it got to drop 30 degrees in there's hail and snow, and rain.

I'd like to see you in the rain in shorts. That would be interesting.

Well, you do see the Continental Divide when you look down. And that's not really pretty, but it's exciting.

And it goes way down, with all sorts of glaciated stuff. Some people wax poetic about.

What was the second planet to be discovered?

Is this a trick question?

When? You mean in Babylonia?

Don't ask me.

Do they count earth?

Think of water.

I mean, Neptune

Neptune.

Neptune isn't even visible.

Is it maybe well maybe three or something. Maybe.

Maybe they mean of those that were not visible, while

I think we got it right automatically that's my final point.

I don't know I'll give you that as a student.

What state is called the sagebrush,

Nevada,

what is called the old Kilpatrick in a place.

No, no, it's that column is the

place

where do you think it would be.

Not in Ireland, or any Celtic Celtic country, rittany,

Scotland problem.

A parish in Scotland. It is an old Kilpatrick.

Well, it certainly doesn't have a famous fort,

or Dave would have known about it.

He'd probably have an accordion.

All those Scot's Calvinists probably having an accordion or

Bagpipe.

harmonica.

Does anyone ever play the bagpipes badly?

Has anyone ever played them well?

Yes, you want to.

The only record in my home growing up was

Of the Blacklot Pipe Dancers.

He was 32 years old before he knew he didn't hate records.

What was the first newspaper in the world. And when was it founded in the world.

Germany.

No.

England?

It's Paper. China. They invented paper.

Egyptian.

No, it has to be in China. When we have to say when a long time ago. Well, yeah.

During the Tang Dynasty.

It's shortly before the Black Death, if that helps you.

Yeah, so it was in the 14th Century.

1340.

When with Marco Polo there?

before they could read about Marco Polo they just sat there and find out who that person is running back and forth. There was no gossip column. No, no Liz Smith, whatever her name is.

magnificent Marco last night.

Why was the nightclub established.

To drink.

Yeah.

But typically to avoid the drinking laws during World War 1.

Well, we thank Stephanie. She didn't stump the panel, but those were fun, and we hope to hear from her again. In the meantime, I'd like to thank the panel,

Professor Pickering

Professor Crabtree, Professor Gravelle,

Professor Culik and our really special guest,

Dr. Dave Wagner, and now this word from the University of Detroit Mercy.

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 facilities the Smith Media Center on the University of Detroit Mercy McNichols campus. Ask the professor is produced by Pete Eldred, technical director is Michael Jayson and our executive producer is Vivian Dicks. And until next week it's me DeWindt, bye! And we're back next week with another edition of Ask The professor, so please plan to join us.