

The University tower chimes ring in another session of Ask The professor to show on which you'll match with with University of Detroit mercy buzzers, in other session questions and answers. I'm your host Matt bio, and let me introduce to you our panel for today, all the way at the bottom of the screen. Sorry, Jeffe, it's Professor Jeffe Boats,

, I think it has to do with when you join Jeff so it's it's just sort of random in that respect.

Okay, whatever. any permutation you want

Any permutation that you want. Very good. So how was your week this last week done.

Not bad. I like online teaching. I'm doing a lot of it though so it's you know it's just a matter of trying to keep ahead of the storm you know it's just online teaching requires a lot of prep work, so it's like seeing into the future except you're making the future.

No, it's true, it's absolutely true. That's

a lot like being the the hero of doom. In other words, I can see the future because I am a fulcrum. Now, you are in the future, new movie coming right

Jeff is that I'm

looking forward to it I hear about this thing.

Yeah. This is how Patrick Stewart got his original starting popular acting for being the movie dude from the 80s if I remember correctly,

Now I see Dan's panel I think he said he would still be joining us even though we wouldn't see him anymore.

He's gonna be back in 10 minutes he said,

we'll be back.

It's like Duncan Idaho is on a secret mission somewhere Well, we'll see him later in the book.

How are you good okay guys a little bit of a little bit of a sniffle here as I'm sure you could tell by actually every member of my family woke up with a sore throat Wednesday morning so we went through the 24 hour freakout. My wife and I went and had the rapid covid and strep test and everything came back. So, they were like, congratulations, you have a cold it notes. Yeah it is good news. They also chose to go randomly speaking of random to an urgent care center at 10am on a Thursday, which made it so that basically nobody was there, which is great. Nice. Yeah, with my luck, I would go to get tested, pick it up from someone else with a bow. I have nothing good to say about getting a swab showed

halfway into your brain, and then follow that up with the one that goes all the way to the top of your tongue so

that's your day will be better. That's the good thing about it.

Oh yes, it can't go

nowhere to go but up from there.

Oh, Professor Heather Hill is here with us.

How are you, like, I can't ask you, classes are going because you're the classiest of a song on a completely different topic, I went to IKEA.

That was why did you buy more bookshelves.

No, we got to x shoe racks,

those are fun to me both are more fun about meatballs.

They probably haven't even changed the price of those we posted.

Lots of other goodies.

It's a fun place to go, mom,

and my daughter Olivia. You all know Olivia. Springer listeners out there she calls IKEA adult play.

There's

no question about that.

They certainly have a lot of things you've never seen before.

Yeah, cool. It's always fun.

Professor Mara Livezey is also here with us today. I am here. And how did your week go Mara.

wrapped up better than the rest of the week went. It was a roughly for a handful of different reasons because of stress and because of some things going on with students and man I'm just happy it's a Friday.

Yeah. It's Friday and fall. We've got five weekends that lead into the holiday and then who knows what God save us all after that. So, we're going to enjoy this month, if we possibly can. I hope

so. And then, just looking forward to that five week, winter break

just keep repeating it over and over again.

Yes,

Absolutely, even if they jam all those meetings in our faces right after finals but

fell care for weeks

to go big time. Professor Dave Chow is here.

Pleasure to be here. As always,

excellent so well what do you think about all this roadwork we're getting dumped all over Berkeley Dave it's all around us.

It's, I don't know, I mean it's not so bad right about now my neighbor's putting up brand new garage Have you seen what's around the block now. So you've got trusses in the middle of the street right about now.

Boy, it helps have a small car.

Yes it does. Yes.

I'm just worried about spilling over into one of those little crevasses on any of the streets, that's all.

No, it's true and then with all the rebar pointing out it's like, like a medieval torture device. We are lucky that Berkley has the money, probably do our taxes, probably. To begin, replacing the approaches of the walkways at the corners with the rumble pads for our wheelchair bound, residents which is good, but it needs a major disruption when you see other cracks and you're pulling things up into the sewers and all sorts of stuff so

I personally like the signs, they put up to, you know, talking about our textile there's hard work. Right. What do

they pay for those signs. Crazy. Professor Beth Oljar is here. Hi.

What's going on?

Not a whole lot. At the moment, relishing the last few free weekends, probably, maybe this weekend and then next weekend after that things will come in, essays for midterm exams and the grading on slot will begin.

Seasons greetings Beth

We need Carol's for this. we need something we need some sort of song,.

No, but I know what you mean about that cadence but you could sort of like set your watch to it, we're going to have a really cool weekend here in the Detroit area and so all I can think about is going to a place to get hot donuts.

the last four and a half good ones, and you live two minutes from there.

Two minutes one of these

slow down. Oh yeah, I guess.

Yeah. Professor Jim Tubbs is here with us today. hello hello hello hello to you. So, Jim, I was going to ask you this last week but I think we've reached that point you know close to midterm, where you also be teaching, along with us this winter.

No, no, no, you know, in retirement I'm at least taking the winter terrible.

It's a good idea to take some time off. Yes,

yes indeed. Oh my gosh,

I have no new preps for the winter. So, that will be super awesome because that will be,

yeah, that should be done and I'm teaching synchronously so all I have to do is make sure they've got PowerPoint slides to look at instead of me and I'm good

to go. Let's do that that's a big step in our department we have a number of situations where people quickly volunteered to reteach with the teaching this semester for just those reasons, so they can perfect what they've been working on for so long. So apparently

Juan Carlos needed more sections of intro covered I imagine that it's harder to get adjuncts at the moment so I said sure I'll do another section of intro instead of contemporary moral problems that's fine with me. And then the prep is done.

Nice. I tell you what folks this is a show where you can send us questions regarding anything. If you stumped the panel you win one of our prizes if you don't stop the prize. You can send us the questions in a number of ways you can email ATP at UD mercy.edu, find us on Facebook or Instagram or listen on your favorite smart speaker by saying play ask the professor at University of Detroit mercy. Okey dokey. I've got a handful of questions about my favorite holiday. And I promise they won't be too esoteric Halloween is a unique holiday in one major respect, until the 1990s was essentially only celebrated in two countries. What are us. Yes, absolutely. More recently, in the last 20 or so years we've seen a pickup in activity in Australia, if you can believe it is become the best number three on this list. Yes. And what specific date. Do the people of Mexico celebrate the Day of the Dead

May the fifth November No no no.

November the first

November 2 November 2. Yes, that's right. Okay.

May the sixth is the day they all wake up feeling good.

Yeah. Oh,

that's really a celebration of Cinco de Mayo tradition of trick or treating goes back to ancient times, it was sometimes called mum in like mummy, mummy, or guising. What did you do if you were mumming or guising that sort of became trick or treating dressing up as part of it but you, you did something of the address stuff,

same as for food caroling

begging playing the ukulele.

And

it could have involved pots and pans or ukuleles no you dressed up and you did a little skit, you did a little play, basically,

we call it teaching.

Right. Yeah. I love it, I love it.

Oh, ask for candy corn.

We're talking about two things. I'm a big fan

According to Irish tradition, you see a spider on Halloween night. What does it mean?

you're going to get married.

That's it. That's a really good guess but that's not what

it's gonna rain no luck for the next 10 years.

Wow, that was someone from your past that's come from visit.

Yeah that's right it's a loved one who passed away is actually watching over you oh okay

I was gonna say great power comes great responsibility but also

partial credit.

Nice. That was Uncle Ben.

I see the original tradition of selling is that's supposed to be the night when the dead can in contact with you again. I hope so we still leave out an empty plate so our dead ancestors can come join us for a meal on Halloween night

until. Apparently, the late 1600s pumpkins only grew in one place where were they native to

the ground, Massachusetts.

Think globally,

Africa,

Australia,

Mexico is Eastern Europe. No, they were only found in North America, all now, they're all

North American ground.

Yes.

Oh my god, I'm sure those pyramids and stuff. JACK o' lanterns were satanic, so I'm

sure, but remember they started as turnips, but if you ever see some little kid holding on to a turnip that looks like a current pet it is pretty, pretty scary stuff,

you know, um,

there are different trick or treating traditions across the United States. Most of them are actually kind of lame but there's one that always stood out to me, primarily in the heartland so southern Minnesota and Iowa trick or treaters will come to your door and say Trick or treat. They have to do something before they can get your candy Do you know what it is,

perform some kind of song or dance or

something yeah that's that's basically it. So, my uncle grew up in Northern Iowa, and he said that they would spend the whole year perfecting the telling of a new joke, and then you would use that joke at every trick or treating place that you went to. It's kind of cool. Actually I was on the phone for a very serious business call yesterday in this basement and Emmett just bounded down the stairs in his Halloween costume that had come in the mail, and we agreed to based on what I was discussing at the time, and it will be considering he's eight years old, a very large baby Yoda.

Oh Speaking of which, Matt, um, I know you know you've had this theory about who wins the elections in November based on the Halloween sales of masks, right, who is who's leading right now.

To me, that's a good question because apparently it's, quote unquote, unscientific but it's never been wrong. Whoever sells the most mass wins the election. You know the following couple days so so baby Yoda is gonna be our next president baby Yoda, and Jason Vorhees will be our president and vice.

Okay, sounds like a good combo.

Everyone knows the night before Halloween, especially in Detroit is called Devil's Night. At its peak. How many fires were set on that night in 1984 4400 gets this one, even though she didn't use the number is 810. I mean that's a lot for the fire, a lot.

Yeah,

yeah, you know, one of my professors in graduate school, grew up here in actually in Southfield. And he thought until he was like 21 he thought Devil's Night was the national holiday.

Well, yeah, I never heard of it until I moved here.

That's right. That's exactly I mean I've heard mischief night before, in the south in certain places but nothing that that approximates.

It's a stream that has gone from like soaping windows and typing How is this the setting fires you know I mean, right.

According to the Bureau of national statistics of the United States of America. What rank is Michigan in pumpkin production and its top 10. That's your clue

second

It's a sixth, it's six. Oh, you're behind, Illinois, California Ohio New York and number one is Pennsylvania.

Truly the sincerest pumpkin patches are in Michigan.

Absolutely.

You're listening to a special edition of Ask The professor, in which each of the nine professors participating in this recording session, were connecting to each other from different locations, thanks to zoom video conferencing technology. We're grateful to those listeners who submitted questions for today's program, and we welcome your questions at ATP at UD mercy.edu, the professors return to answer more questions in just 75 seconds. But first, it's an ask the professor flashback

(ATP Flashback)

Note

It is Tuesday November 3.

I believe that most red blooded traders know this one. One very very famous person died Halloween night 1926 in Detroit, Michigan, Harry Houdini

museum forum in new Niagara Falls

here even Dini is what it says here. That's right. He had for the record not anything wrong it had to do a matte day he had done his classic Cannonball in the stomach trick, but someone's surprised him by shooting the cannon too early, he didn't tighten his muscles yet. It could be suffering internal bleeding for days did his show. And I've always wondered about this and only recently found it out like in the last couple years, went back to his hotel room for the night and then just never woke up. But, um, he was very well known on Halloween night for being sort of the James Randi of this time that he wanted to

disprove spiritualist using science which is pretty interesting. The hotel that he stayed at was knocked down a number of decades ago so you can actually go to the building where Harry Houdini died. He actually died at Henry Ford hospital. You might have died at the hospital but it was again from it previously incurred injury, a funeral home was still standing. So,

I thought the internal injuries prevented him from completing an escape attempt. Oh that's also waters escape attempt that he wasn't able to complete basically because he

was in a movie about him but

that really was the one with Paul Michael Glaser right yep yeah not not

the Tony Curtis one. I mean

I saw the Starsky

was ruptured, and he died of the consequences index conferences, is the largest Halloween parade in the world tunneled your house here Yeah.

No, No.

It's New York it's the village Halloween parade which has been. I'd say in the last 30 or 40 years sort of overtaken by the LGBTQIA community but it's a pretty spectacular event that's look forward to all year long you can go out and dress however you wish, sort of their version of a one afternoon Mardi Gras in a lot of ways, it's pretty interesting to watch. It's cool. Until about the 1950s, did you know trick or treating in the United States was essentially a regional affair. What, historically, is the biologically has been credited with spreading to the treating to every corner of the United States. Always television, the candy industry, no desire for food. Yeah, Jeff Jeff's got it it was, it's the Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown brought freedom to every house in the hands of TV in America and then it just took off. Yeah I know when my dad was a kid it was just tricks. They went out and did all kinds of tricks like zactly cars up telephone poles and stuff like that. Oh, and that's led to a movement to try to give kids something better to do than that. Well, probably a contrast question. What is the most popular can be sold a year run by volume in the United States, in contrast to a different answer. The most popular candy that sees a spike for sale for Halloween. What like last year, snipers. I'd say, you know, snicker Reese's cup answer for the one that sees the spike for Halloween. Oh,

cheese, racers. Three Musketeers.

I'm afraid that someone said it, I might have missed it it says the most popular candy in the United States your round is m&ms is what oh, and not

the right boring.

I know it's not boring. I honestly would rather have candy corn, you

see if you can hit the error bars within five. How many licks does it take to get to the center of a Tootsie Roll Tootsie. Oh my god. 675 152 77. Well, well, all of you are very far off. There actually was a real, is anybody know those. I mean, it's terrible. 10,000. No, but there was an ignoble society that was generated a few decades ago that gives rewards for real scientific papers that are just totally ludicrous like the one group did something about dropping cats from certain heights to see if they would always land on their feet and stuff like that. There was a real honest to god scientific paper that was published, it's like we modeled everything pig's tongue, we hooked it up to a robot, the mean was 250 licks to get to this of the Tootsie Pop. If you're a pig. Yes, if you used a pig's tongue. That's right.

I am disturbed but also amazed.

Somebody's got to do that, that's for sure. I'm just thinking about billing

that ring spending their time on.

Know that the costume industry is essentially a billion dollar industry, but a full third of the costume industry goes directly to

not my pocket. Well,

no, they stated, like what a Christmas. No, those masks mean the costumes go through a third of the cost, go directly to costumes go to a very specific subset of the populace adopt cosplay. it's, it's

animals. It's pets, one. No, no, no. Mara got it. Come on. Yes, never

do. And basically, he wouldn't be friends with me anymore if I dressed up my cat so I really event. Yeah. Wow. Yeah, although I might have to get me a pretty little boat to prep where around here.

That's not a costume Oh

be okay. Yeah, because they don't wear colors. Oh yeah. So,

what about you look adorable little red bow my cats

would murder me if I tried to pull back.

Well the old ones won't even wear collars they kept, because of course they're their breakaway collars so that they don't strangle themselves well they managed to break them away pretty much every time and I just thought, well, they're not going outside anyway because they don't have any claws so why bother. Well, I haven't put one on me since I got her either.

So it's fairly well known by the year 2020, especially after surviving the 70s and 80s. There never have been any, like, basically zero substantiated reports of poisoned Halloween candy being widespread. However, Halloween night does see a double rate of what with regard to children's safety and decay. Yes, it's got to be partial credit. but no, it's something else do Jen, parents, stealing the trick or treat bags before the kids get to them like you do. Getting hit by Carly dad's got it it's being hit by a Congress. Man, I'm fascinated by the change from the preparation I needed to get my driver's license now that my,

my oldest son, Joe got his driver's license the training that they make you go through is very statistically based to the Heather would know this from her daughter I think that they have to memorize a lot of facts for the exam now like it. There was a 75% extra chance of getting into an accident, if you're riding with another teenager, you know, things like that, just those those rates are fascinating to me

as I say when I got my license in Illinois I had to retake the test and one of the questions asked. What does this sign say, and it was an aka red octagon. Okay, I think octagon is that very first outside. Like, stop

means you have an MMA fight coming up.

rigorous.

So one of the absolute Halloween classics of all time, was a movie released by the Walt Disney Company entitled The Adventures of Escobar and Mr Toad that told the tale of Sleepy Hollow classic and animation right Professor Chow, Yep. What year was that movie released in. Morty something that was 49. Wow, okay. In a while. Been a while. What famous cartoon debuted in 1969 with an episode titled. What a night with an M for a night with the cat.

Is it bugs. No, it couldn't be Bugs Bunny could it

show its TV show

Knight Rider.

Nope, that's good though. That too early for Scooby Doo, it's Scooby Doo Oh hey, no wait Oh, getting the hang of this so list here we have a couple more minutes for a couple more questions. Let's see what we can do here. All right. The most popular Halloween costume of 1996 was based on a character called the ghost face killer. From what movie

free scream,

cream, one of my all time favorites something that parodies the horror genre, it does it very very well I have to say.

There are rules for surviving a horror

movie for surviving Absolutely. What's the name of jack Skellington dog. He's the main character of the Nightmare Before Christmas. I doesn't make tough to remember like not lightning, he has no legs and his nose is glowing Jacqueline. I know that, Elmo or know the dog's name was zero. I'm afraid that professors The time has come for us to say goodbye. Jim.

Goodbye.

Mara.

Heather.

Take care,

Stephen

And Jeff . Have a good weekend everybody. And now these words, you can email ask the professor at ATP at [UT mercy.edu](mailto:asktheprofessor@utmercy.edu), or visit the Ask the professor Facebook page. Ask the professor is transcribed the facilities of all the places where we live in work, but if we were actually here we would be in the Briggs building the Department of Communication Studies at the College of Liberal Arts and education at University of Detroit Mercy's Mc Nichols campus were produced and directed by Michael Jayson and Brian Maisonville, and our executive producer is Professor Jason Roche until next week. I'm your host Matt Mio