

ATP 2112

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The University of Detroit mercy presents another brand new episode of Ask The professor. Today's program was recorded using zoom video conferencing technology.

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The University tower chimes ring in another session of Ask The professor, the show on which you match wits with University of Detroit mercy professors in unrehearsed session of questions and answers. I'm your host Matt Mio, and let me introduce to you our panel for today. A little bit washed out, but because of good news there's a lot of sun in his life, it's Professor Jim Tubbs.

Hello. The North Carolina boy thinks it's just right. And the Michigan boy is glad his governor did not get kidnapped, so also a lot of things to be positive about,

I think I'm given that a big thumbs up. Although I'm gonna be as political as I probably have ever been on this show, let's just make sure we use the words terrorist organization, and not hobbyist group.

1:13

not fine people on both sides Yes How

1:16

I love the article in the free press this morning by the way that there was a very short time period that Michigan governor, Soapy Williams in the late 50s, I think, was actually held at knifepoint in a prison for a few hours so they view that as a kidnapping with a previous governor

1:39

A hostage situation, but at least they didn't haul him off to Wisconsin and try him for treason.

Yes,

yeah I don't know how a governor can commit treason, frankly, but, any way.

1:54

there's a lot of things going on in this world that I personally don't understand, or don't want to, I don't want to know things. Hey, Professor Dan Maggio is here with us today he's about ready to go into a week of vacation.

Yes. Looking forward to it.

Perfect. Please tell me you're going to sample the foilage.

We're heading up to, Glen lake. Going to enjoy the Leelanau Peninsula, and some m 22 driving and viewing so looking forward to it.

It'll be gorgeous, I'm sure.

Yeah, it was a summer absent of any vacation really so look I'm really looking forward to this break.

time has come to enjoy yourself and I can't imagine mid Michigan in middle of October, I mean it's got to be gorgeous.

That really is a perfect time for vacation in Michigan.

2:44

I've been up there many times, this time of the year so awesome. I'll send you all postcard, please do.

send us food.

Yeah. How about that.

No.

Bring back some pasties.

Yeah, there you go.

Sure. I'll eat them in front of you. Next, because I won't be able to get them to you. Unless you want - I can stand in front of my house to drive, you can drive by,

3:10

we'll do it, we'll get like

and I can give them to you.

You can put them in the trunk as you go.

3:17

I'll be glad to do that for you.

So, Professor Mara Livezey is here with us today. This is going to come totally out of left field, but not that bad Mara. You remember, we have an event in Chem club every year that coincides with our new officer elections it's been nicknamed ethnic food day in everybody's supposed to bring in some food. What was that wonderful like cheese pastry that you brought in a couple years ago. Oh my gosh, it hit me like a ton of bricks this morning I'm like, I would eat that whole thing right now.

3:49

So that kind of food goes by many names, it could be called pita Zelnick, Borek. It's basically your Macedonian pastry filled with either meats or cheeses. I've recently learned how to make this pastry, and you have to like hand stretch this until it's paper thin. The next time we do that event. I'll bring in handmade stuff, it's so good.

Speaker 2

4:14

that's awesome. Absolutely. I don't know why that hit me but I'll tell you something about. If my mind is like a whole set of shelves where things are just put up there and sometimes get jostled this pandemic is doing wonders for rearranging all those objects that's all I have to say,

Oh, yes.

This morning I woke up with like a TV theme song in my mind, and oh what was that thing that Mara brought two years ago to. That's just the way it is

you have a photographic stomach, huh.

Oh, absolutely. Absolutely. Hey Friday night at the Mio house is when the boys cook, so I have no idea what's on the menu tonight but it's not pork buns, and I always look forward to it, so we'll see. Speaking of pork buns, it's Professor Dave Chow.

Pleasure to be here as always.

Dave Are you surviving? you were working for Microsoft last night.

Yes, I was all night. I, I went to bed at 130 so if that means anything so its Okay,

It means something. it definitely means something.

It's strange. It's like I'm no longer teaching and yet my Fridays are more stressful than ever.

Yeah that's that's out of the ordinary.

Yeah I know. Well, the thing is I don't have to drive up the Lodge anymore in order to get to the radio show here, that's all.

Exactly just need to turn your chair, slightly.

How's that.

much better. It's your good side. Professor Stephen Manning is here he's furtively taking notes as like there's going to be a quiz at the end or something.

5:46

recipe. I mean, shopping list sorry, running out the food,

Are you gonna make Zalnik?

5:53

although I was hoping Dr Oljar would be here, because she has turned us on to Westborn soups.

5:59

Oh yes.

6:01

Yes, very good call.

And I was out running around yesterday and decided to get some soup and discovered a, I know that she's recommended the roasted corn and shrimp chowder which. Huh. Yesterday, they didn't have that I get texts from her saying, by the way, Westborn has that chowder a couple times a week, but they change the one I had yesterday and strongly recommend. It is a Thai chicken and rice soup. And it has uh, I was happy when I lifted the lid at Westborn to get some, and I smelled all this wonderful lemon grass scent. I love that. And of course, the big news was it convinced me that I didn't have the COVID, because I smelled so much of that wonderful lemongrass and absolutely delicious, delicious soup. So I'd recommend that.

6:52

Wait a minute, so your COVID test is smelling good food?

Yes.

Yes, being able to smell at all.

7:00

I like that.

7:00

I was worried about it. Oh, I'm good.

7:04

I'm not sure how far the radio waves are going to reach but our sort of secondary provider on campus this semester is Westborn market for the first time ever, and they are serving some things in both The Loft and over at the zfitness center so

7:21

If you get a container that serves two people like for dinner. It's uh, well we bought, we bought two of these containers, we had one of them last night we have another one for - And I think that total soup bill we had some other things, but I think the total soup bill was like 28 bucks. So, you're talking about \$7, a serving, you know,

7:40

You get what you pay for. Buy good soup you know
you live life once you know, Westborn's motto says, eat good food.

7:49

Either that or you can have a \$1 59 can of something

Right. Exactly, exactly. You know folks it's been a while since we've had a set of questions about soup. But this is a program where you send us questions regarding anything. if you stump the panel you win a prize. You can send us the questions in a number of ways you can email us at ATP at UD mercy.edu, you can reach us on Facebook or Instagram or listen on your favorite smart speaker by asking it to play ask the professor at University of Detroit mercy. You know, we've got a grand list of questions from all over the map, and today's questions are 10 questions that are all about, uh let's see weather they are from Sara Abu Laila. I'm a sophomore pursuing a career as a physician assistant. And so I decided to send your illustrious panel these questions about weather, let's see what we can do with them.

8:46

Hey, Sarah was in my Algebra class. Hey Sara, how's it going.

8:49

Perfect, perfect

8:50

I'll step out of stealth mode now.

8:53

Oh, Jeffe, I forgot to introduce you.

8:55

I'm dressed like a ninja you can't see me.

9:01P

Professor Jeffe Boats is here. I'm so sorry.

How's it going? Uh, Usually -

I'll just step

back into my corner like my like my pet Gecko and and eat a bug.

9:12

I'm so sorry Jeffe, it's good to have you here on the panel,

9:15

I forgive you.

9:17

Jeffe we gotta set -, We need a profile picture from you at least, you know what I mean,

9:21

I was trying to figure out how to do it but I'm really old and tech non savvy what's the word for non savvy.

9:27

Uh, Luddite?

9:30

find something ghoulish to be your avatar there.

9:33

Yeah, I mean,

9:35

I got a few pictures of my face that might do I

come on

oh no, no. that's not good enough.

9:41

I was going to classify you as a boomer. That's the word to classify non tech savvy.

9:48

I'm not quite old enough to be a boomer but maybe in spirit,

9:51

It's a state of mind, not age,

9:55

No numbers. So,

Yeah, apologies, Jeffe, we're very, very happy to have you on the panel. Let's see. Questions about the weather. What is the fundamental difference., be careful, fundamental difference between a tornado, and hurricane

Land, water,

10:13

A tornado is a funnel meaning

Where it starts

It's running around in a - It comes down from a cloud as a, as a twisting um um wind, as opposed to being a big widespread out wind.

So,

10:29

At least according to the NOAA, it's sort of a combination of Dave Mara and Jim's explanation. It says that hurricanes always form over water and tornadoes always form overland

overland Yeah,

They do have a lot in common though because of what Jim described and it has a lot to do, I understand, with whether it's warm air or cold air hitting the other one first.

Although waterspouts are a form of tornado and they form over water.

That is true. Um, which country recorded the highest temperature so far, of 2020, it was not the United States.

11:04

Oh, India.

11:06

No, it's not India. Oh,

11:08

Saudi Arabia,

11:10

Saudi Arabia is a good guess, India's a good guess but those are both incorrect

Ethiopia

somewhere in -

It starts with the letter S,

11:17

Somalia,

11:19

somewhere in South Asia?

11:21

Senegal?

11:22

no you know it's in Africa,

11:25

Somalia, Senegal, Sierra Leone,

11:28

um, South Africa?

11:31

No.

11:34

It's the easiest S II can come up with,

11:36

Sudan?

Oh yeah.

11:38

Yes, Sudan, Sudan

And how hot was it?

11:45

I was waiting for that.

Speaker 2

11:48

Uh, My arms are tired. No, unfortunately, it does not have the actual recording here. however it also asked for, in which country was the lowest temperature so far recorded in 2020. The year is still young, but it is not the United States

12:06

Greenland,

Russia?

Russia is what it says here. Yeah.

12:10

These are relevant as records as recently as the 22nd of September.

My brother has the daily temperature of Irkutsk Russia on his phone, so he can check that every day.

12:27

Why?

Do we want to know why?

12:30

I mean, it got up to like 99 this summer. They have extremes.

12:35

That's incredible.

I mean that's always one of those obscure, you know, run-right-over-them risk pieces isn't it.

it's frequently in big time negative numbers.

12:48

So, we all know Well, okay, some people know that there is a swath of the heartland, that's referred to as Tornado Alley that the disproportionate number of tornadoes hit the United States, but did you know there are two other tornado alleys. In the United States? Can you give me a rough idea geographically where they are.

13:11

Besides Kansas and Iowa

13:13

I would say like Mississippi or Louisiana.

The Ohio

So there's one around where Dan is talking, in sort of Mississippi, Alabama, it's called Dixie Alley not too surprisingly. And there's another stretch, that's in the northern part of this very southern state,

Texas.

One of the Virginia's

Double double the coverage there Dave,

Yeah, just in case,

Louisiana.

No, it says northern Florida has a swath where tornados form.

13:46

It must be all those swamp gases,

13:48

Blame it on the gas, why not. Let's see, in Florida they have thunderstorms in May, annually, almost every single day of the month. Do you know why?

14:01

the heat during the day and and it's um it's about it's usually about five o'clock in the afternoon, that you get a, you get a thunderstorm because of the, the, its heat and something else, I forget what the other thing is

14:16

Well, it says here that you're just getting to the point of real extreme heat by the time you get to May; and since they get plenty of sun and they're surrounded so much by water, there is some part of the state of Florida, every single day of the month of May that has a thunderstorm. So,

14:31

yeah, when I lived in Richmond, Virginia, we would get them in like July, pretty much every afternoon about 430 or five o'clock.

Incredible.

14:40

You're listening to a special edition of ask the professor, in which each of the seven 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 show, and we welcome your questions at ATP at UD Mercy.edu. Now, let's return to our host Matt Mio, with more questions for the panel.

15:08

We've got questions from Sara Abu Laila. Why is it that the closer you are to the equator, the more likely thunderstorms are to happen.

I'm gonna guess that because you're close to the equator, there's less Coriolis effect; so these things don't spin out as quickly.

15:24

That is exactly correct because technically if you're standing at the top of the South Pole, you're not moving, if you think about the rotation of the Earth. However, at the equator, you've got 25,000 miles a day in to your galactic journey so it's Coriolis. yeah that's exactly right.

Wow.

It reminds me of, and maybe we're not allowed to mention Neil deGrasse Tyson anymore, maybe just this once. But he shows up on The Daily Show about 15 years ago and they all clap for him and everything and everybody calms down and the host is like "thanks for coming on" he goes, "you know, the Earth is rotating in the wrong direction in your logo right" like well you would know buddy. Okay. What happens to an individual, if you end up too close to a tornado,

16:17

he gets sucked up in it

16:19

you go to Oz.

16:21

You get smashed with debris.

16:23

I'm pretty sure that all of those are correct. There is an unfortunate reference being made here that this guy was a few yards away when the tornado hit, and he had a good chunk of the flesh removed from his skeleton by the power of the wind. Oh, I haven't heard that, and I never want to hear that again.

16:48

Well that's probably because of all the grit and everything that's in the, in the tornado already that -

He's been sandblasted.

sandblasted yeah

It's like a cheese grater.

16:57

Did he survive it.

I don't think so. I have flesh and flay in the same sentence here.

17:05

Yeah, I hope not.

17:07

But, no joke – was it a you Mara, it says basically it was like a giant cheese grater is what he has here.

Yes, that's what I was saying.

absolutely horrible

Oz doesn't sound so bad now.

Oh my gosh, oh my gosh. Okay.

Why does the calm come before the storm.

Is that a reference to the eye of a hurricane.

Yeah. Is it the calm of the eye.

It's it's something like that. it basically says that you're going to get warm before you get cold when it comes to a storm no matter what it is and warm dry air is more stable. So, anyway, you know, when people say the calm before the storm that's usually what they're referring to. Hey, where is the safest place, we need to know this in the state of Michigan, we really do. Where's the safest place to go during a tsunami?

high ground?

Yeah, California,

In a boat

Why is the answer California?.

In a boat would be one way, but you know we're talking about a gigantic tidal wave here so, it says you should be wherever you can be that's protected from water. It's best to be on the landward side of a building inside away from windows Tsunamis can occur in multiple waves that can occur just minutes apart. So don't think that you're safe.

Yeah,

18:36

And you can get dragged back out between them.

Yeah, actually, I mean, I'm on my cousin's emergency call list because they're on the west coast, in case anything ever happens to them I'm the emergency call. They're all supposed to check in with me for the tsunami watches all year round. It's always a spooky thing

18:55

on the Big Island of Hawaii on the East Coast, like all of the phone booths, that dates this, but all the phone booths have instructions about what to do if the tsunami sirens go off.

Sure,

19:10

So what are you supposed to do, if you're in a phone booth,

19:12

head to higher ground,

19:14

oh okay I suppose I can call a relative and you know or whatever I wasn't sure so

no there were all these stories about, I think it was in the 40s, there was a major tsunami and it dragged the tide so far out that all the fish were just flapping around on this - , and the schoolchildren started running out to pick things up. And then, you know, it came back in so no a lot of fatality.

19:40

It's unfortunate.

It's not the way I want to get fresh fish.

19:43

No

19:44

What's a phone booth Uncle Jim.

You mean, Grandpa Jim.

19:53

It reminds me of my many trips to San Francisco, one of my favorite cities and seeing the sign outside some of their older buildings., "If you choose personally to enter this building and there's an earthquake the state of California indemnifies itself versus your death, because this place is not built for earthquakes and may fall down all upon you."

interesting.

It's a standard sign. it's a standard sign, you know this this product known by the state of California to collapse on your head, you know like, that sort of thing.

20:23

Wouldn't a submarine also be a good place to be during a -

Excellent. Oh yeah that'd be the best

20:31

I thought you said boat, but a boat under the water might be even better.

20:35

Or what about dirigible, I mean,

yeah, that too.

Or in a plane that's left the ground

A plane, right.

20:44

Okay, thanks for those questions Sarah. Sarah's from Dearborn heights, by the way, thanks for sending those questions in those were great. We have a another set of questions from Jasmine Jefferson, "Dear professors, here's a list of 10 questions about chocolate and who wouldn't want questions about chocolate."

Mmm.

This is the name for the casing that cocoa beans grow on cocoa trees in.

like husk or -

husk is a good guess, you're close,

Is it a generic kind of name

It's a generic kind of name.

Shell?

Shell, husk,

Casing.

How about If I tell you that peas also come in this kind of thing, right.

Pods?

Cocoa pods and pea pods together

21:35

I have to write chocolate on the list.

21:36

Oh yeah, the shopping list. This is how Stephen puts together a shopping list by just listening to the questions. Don't forget to buy - - a tornado. Okay.

Buy a dirigible

21:49

and a whistlepig

21:53

How many cocoa beans could a single pod contain? now this is very different from peas, which usually is about what five or six?

One.

Two or three,

It's quite a bit more.

Ten.

It's more

22

200

(Laughs) Overshot it.

No, it's 50. There's about 50 seeds.

22:19

Oh! How big are these things?

22:21

They're like the size of a chihuahua's head. I mean they're big. After the cocoa beans are retrieved, Uh freed from the pod, if you will, what process comes next, in the making of chocolate,

They're roasted.

Actually before they're roasted, they can be just left out, and what happens next?

22:40

They get dried

Dry yes, but there's something else that happens as a result of the drying,

Formented?

Yeah, they get fermented, they actually stew in their own juices.

That's even better.

Stephen, fermentation. add that to your list.

So yes, then we get to "what is the first thing that chocolate manufacturers do when they're supplied with the fermented beans" yes they roast them at that point. now we're talking. I gotta say, as an organic chemist, probably the last thing on anybody's list when they're hungry and cooking something that contain seeds of any type is to remember to roast them. But if you just give it like a minute or two in a frying pan, everything's going to taste better.

23:22

Or maybe they chew a few and then roast the rest.

23:24

Yes. Yes. After roasting, the leftover shells become brittle and are now called this form of cocoa, what are they usually called? it starts with the letter N. It's a very specific word.

Nibs.

Yeah nibs cocoa nibs, and if you taste them, they taste at the same time, if you've ever had them, like chocolate and the bitterest thing that you've ever put in your mouth. Yeah, not pleasant. So how do we get to what's called cocoa mass or cocoa powder from the nibs what happens next?

23:59

You crush it.



24:01

Yeah, you grind them

Yeah, you put them in front of the tornado and let the cheese grater work.

Yep, But these two ingredients are 99.9% of the time, added to the cocoa liquor that you have when you're on your way to chocolate -

cream

What else

sugar.

Okay, we'll take sugar yeah and I'll take cream for milk. sugar and milk are usually added. I should have said in the American cocoa process. And then I get really snooty about how much I hate milk chocolate, but we'll talk about that some other time. When you can get the flavor of dark, why would you buy a Hershey bar

Absolutely

I don't understand

that's sugary plastic,

24:40

there goes our sponsorship with Hershey's

I know.

24:46

The last step involves pouring essentially the molten chocolate into something and letting it harden, which is a process called -

Forming, casting?

Oh, I know this.

It's soundslike, you're letting something grow on it but that's not what you're doing,

tempering

Molding

Jeffere got it .Yeah, molding. You already covered it I think when we made the liquid chocolate, but molding is how we get, you know, things that have different shapes and what have you. So, thanks. Jasmine from Pontiac, Michigan for sending us those questions about cocoa. Now My stomach is doing somersaults. The time has come on our show where we go to that long list of things sent to us by the Burroughs family - ATP favorites, and we've got some humdingers coming up here, let me tell you.

Uh-Oh,

One tank of gas in your car, Professor Maggio. Where do you go for the weekend before the gas runs out. I'm assuming Dan you would say the Traverse City area.

I can't get there on a tank and back.

Oh no!

What, really.

I can get to Traverse City on a tank, but I can't get back.

25:58

How about we just want to go away.

Oh, Traverse City, for sure. I can get to Mackinac too.

Yeah, that's true. That's true.

26:07

I think I might go to Toronto.

There you go.

Toronto, yes.

Whenever they open it back up.

Chicago, when it's open.

yeah, Chicago would be nice.

I might run out of gas, but -

now come out Dan your car gets better mileage than that.

26:26

I'd probably go visit my dad in western New York.

There you go

26:30

I could get to Erie, you can get to New York, Jeff. Yeah.

Yeah, it's about six hours. I can get there on a tank.

26:37

when Dan had originally said that he didn't think he could get to Traverse City on one tank, I was like do I not know that he has like a smart car or like a Le Car.

I was assuming round trip,

That's fine, that's fine. Yeah, I don't know what my answer would be. I mean I Love Little Travers dearly from traveling up there with my in-laws, but I wouldn't mind going to Chicago or you could take the ferry, but we've got lots of options here I actually like all of these.

What was Mara's?

27:06

You know I'd be really happy with Toronto. If I could make it all the way to Niagara, I'd do that.

27:11

That'd be nice too

27:14

Hangin' out in the Buffalo area, and why not.

27:17

Shuffle on to Buffalo

You would just make it around the lake if he couldn't go through Canada, you can make on a tank

True

I don't know how many of you have ever been to Pittsburgh; but man, that's a fun city too.

27:30

Yeah, Pittsburgh's nice.

Yeah.

27:32

Very nice.

So when you drop the compass on Detroit, you know, thinking one tank of gas there's actually quite a number of things on the list that's pretty cool. All right folks, I'm afraid. We've reached the end of everything that we can offer the world for this week. So, the time has come to say goodbye, Jeffe

27:51

See yins all later.

Dave

see ya

27:56

Jim

Goodbye,

Dan

27:58

goodbye.

Mara

See you later, alligator.

Stephen.

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 in the Department of Communication Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and education at the University of Detroit Mercy's McNichols campus, were produced and directed by Michael Jayson and Brian Maisonville, and our executive producer is Professor Jason Roche. Till next time, I'm your host Matt Mio.