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SPEAKERS

Beth Oljar, Stephen Manning, Mara Livezey, Dan Maggio, Michael Jayson, James Tubbs, Dave Chow, Heather Hill, Matt Mio

M Matt Mio 00:01

The University tower chimes bring in another session of Ask the Professor, the show in 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. He's always in the upper left, except for when he's not. It's professor Dave Chow. Oh, pleasure to be here, as always, continuing around the virtual table. We're joined today by of course, Professor Mara Livezey, or should I say, Professor Mara Livezey.

M Mara Livezey 00:34

You should say Professor Mara Livezey. (Mara and Matt laugh) Ah! When we went to get the marriage license, the guy at the county clerk had his like, whole spiel. And like midway through his spiel, he's like, "And are you changing your name?" And I'm like, "No". And he's like, surprised for a second. He's like, "Oh, that's totally fine. I just have a lot more to say. And now I don't have to say it". I'm like, "Cool".

B Beth Oljar 01:02

And why on earth does he need to know whether or not you're changing your name?

M Mara Livezey 01:08

He wanted to like, tell me the things I would need to do in order to change my name, I think,

B Beth Oljar 01:12

Oh okay. That's - Alright

Oh, okay. That's - right.

M Mara Livezey 01:16
Yeah.

M Matt Mio 01:17
What I'm taking away from this story is people helping people. That's what I'm taking away from the story.

J James Tubbs 01:22
Passport

D Dave Chow 01:23
Driver's license.

B Beth Oljar 01:24
Oh, fair enough, right. I mean, that's actually a legitimate and non offensive reason for asking.

M Matt Mio 01:30
Mara, I have to say you gave my wife Leslie and I quite a trip down memory lane, with one of your Instagram posts, where - How can I put this euphemistically - the law states in the county that you need to be counseled on the transmission of certain diseases. And Leslie's like, "Oh, I remember that vividly?" (Matt laughs)

M Mara Livezey 01:52
Yep, that was the - maybe the most awkward moment. He was like, "and just so you know, I have to give you this. We no longer require blood tests or counseling". And I'm like, "Oh, okay". And then I look down and I'm like, "Oh", And he's like, "yeah". (Matt laughs)

B Beth Oljar 02:12
What? Something about transmissible diseases?


M Mara Livezey 02:15

 Mara Livezey 02:19

Yeah, it was a pamphlet about STIs. And just like, you got to know your facts before you get married.

 Dave Chow 02:22


Mara, you at least got a pamphlet, we got a pamphlet, and a banana demonstration.

 Matt Mio 02:27


Okay -

 Mara Livezey 02:27


Ooh!

 Matt Mio 02:28


moving around the table. Um, we are joined today by Professor Beth Oljar.

 Beth Oljar 02:34


We didn't have to deal with any of this when I got married, but then it's the state of Oregon. You know, literally the least religious state in the union.

 Matt Mio 02:45

That's true. And I think that there's just some sort of, you know, public health thing tied to what we're talking about. But there was something about the use of the word pamphlet that sent my wife and I into stitches. That's all I have to say. Like, "Wait, do they still make pamphlets? Like really?"

 Beth Oljar 03:02

(Laughs) It isn't a little YouTube video now.

 Matt Mio 03:07

Hey, Beth, How was your break?



B Beth Oljar 03:10

Uh, it was fine. You know, not long enough, of course; but then they never are, you know. But it was okay.

M Matt Mio 03:19

Good. I'm glad to hear. We will take a quick U turn around the table and land directly in the lap of Professor James Tubbs.

J James Tubbs 03:30

Oh, welcome. How are you, Matt?

M Matt Mio 03:34

I - you know, I'm so glad that Beth said it. I can't believe that there were no students around this week. But it felt like the busiest first week of the semester that I've felt in about five years. It was incredible.

J James Tubbs 03:46

Well, I have to say that on New Year's Eve day, when we got the email from Pam that classes were all going online. I thought, "Whew! I'm so glad I'm not teaching this term."

M Matt Mio 04:02

It is what it is.

J James Tubbs 04:03

And the Boston sewage numbers are dipping. So we're hoping that that's a good harbinger of things to come.

M Matt Mio 04:09

Once I saw the headline about 50% of Europe, I'm like, "Yeah, that that's not something I ever expected to see in my lifetime". So you know, here we are. Continuing around the table, we are joined today by Professor Heather Hill. What's going on, Heather?

H Heather Hill 04:22

I'm I don't know I'm on three job search committees

Oh, I don't know. I'm on three job search committees.

M Matt Mio 04:26

Oh, my gosh, Heather. That's incredible. Yeah.

H Heather Hill 04:29

The president, and then the dean, and then in the department, right? Oh, my

M Matt Mio 04:35

gosh. Wow. That's like your whole job.

B Beth Oljar 04:40

This is what happens when people trust you and think you will do a good job. You're penalized by getting lots of work. It's a really weird compliment.

H Heather Hill 04:48

And then I'm on the tenure and promotion committee to how do these things happen?

M Matt Mio 04:52

Oh my gosh. You know, it's

J James Tubbs 04:53

sad that the only way you can avoid getting put on all these committees is by doing a bad job

D Dave Chow 04:59

or not. can retire.


J James Tubbs 05:01

Well that too.

B Beth Oljar 05:02

 Beth Oljar 05:03


Except I think it's just a fact sort of about the work world. It's not clear to me that it's unique to academia.

 Matt Mio 05:11

It's true. It's true.

 Heather Hill 05:12


I don't know why I blurted that out it just, you know, I just came from a three hour job search committee meeting and well, that wouldn't be why Matt asked how things were going. So that's

 Matt Mio 05:22


why Yeah, exactly. It's a reminds me of I believe it was the eights right, you know, aren't the worst full of passionate intensity, but, you know, the best of us are quite quiet, something like that. I'm sure someone's gonna write a question set to correct me.

 Heather Hill 05:37


I should say that. It's my daughter's 22nd. birthday today.

 Matt Mio 05:40


Happy birthday, Olivia.

 Beth Oljar 05:42

We wished her happy birthday on Facebook.

 Heather Hill 05:44

Thank you.

 Matt Mio 05:45

That's awesome. And congrats to Heather as well. Continuing around the table. Professor Stephen Manning is here with us today. What's going on Stephen?



B Beth Oljar 05:54
Where's the puppy?

S Stephen Manning 05:56
Moving on.

J James Tubbs 05:59
Yes.

H Heather Hill 05:59
Where is the puppy?

S Stephen Manning 06:01
I have no idea.

M Matt Mio 06:03
Uh-oh.

S Stephen Manning 06:03
He's outside. I hope you closed the gate.

H Heather Hill 06:05
Is he outside?

S Stephen Manning 06:07
No, I don't think so.

D Dave Chow 06:09
He's on outbound bus to Roanoke or something like that.

D Dan Maggio 06:13
Why don't you call him and ask him.

S Stephen Manning 06:14
Puppy is in.

M Matt Mio 06:15
Wait, I think I hear the kitchen cupboards. What's going on?

D Dave Chow 06:19
I hear your Visa card. Oh.

M Matt Mio 06:22
Oh, my. That's going off the rails right there.

S Stephen Manning 06:26
He loves the cold weather, of course.

B Beth Oljar 06:29
Well, yeah.

S Stephen Manning 06:30
Loves the cold weather. We can't wait to get in, and he would rather stay outside - which we let him do generally. The yard is gated. If someone remembers to close the gate, it's gated. If they don't remember, then it's not gated. He has escaped several times. Of course, you probably know this breed is known to be - they're runners.

B Beth Oljar 06:55
Well, yeah.

S Stephen Manning 06:57

With my previous husky, he would go for five days. He was gone once for five days - in Maine. God knows where he was in Maine. And why he wasn't mauled by a pack of wolves or bears or something. I come home from school one day, and he's on the front porch.

M Matt Mio 07:16
Wow.

M Matt Mio 07:16
After five days of doing whatever he was doing.

D Dave Chow 07:20
Because your credit card ran out. He reached his limit. That's why.

S Stephen Manning 07:24
I guess. Yeah,

M Matt Mio 07:25
Five days of well mannered frivolity.

B Beth Oljar 07:31
I'm sure it was well mannered.

M Matt Mio 07:33
Last, but most certainly not least, is Professor Dan Maggio.

H Heather Hill 07:37
Dan, Dan. Dan.

H Heather Hill 07:38
Hi, Matt. Hi everybody. Heather. I'm willing to help you - on your committee work

H Heather Hill 07:43
Are you?

D Dan Maggio 07:44
Yeah, absolutely.

M Matt Mio 07:45
That's incredible.

H Heather Hill 07:47
I had to sign a confidentiality agreement.

D Dan Maggio 07:50
I won't say anything. Don't worry.

H Heather Hill 07:52
All right. Okay.

H Heather Hill 07:54
You can trust Dan. Oh, absolutely.

D Dave Chow 07:56
Yeah. Look at that face. Look how honest it is.

H Heather Hill 07:59
Okay.

H Heather Hill 07:59
Dan, this is it. It's really here. The Winter Olympics. This is every curler's dream.

D Dan Maggio 08:05

It is. I'm looking forward to it.

B Beth Oljar 08:07

And they're gonna be streaming. You'll be able to see literally all of it. Right, because it's streaming.

D Dan Maggio 08:13

I haven't looked at the schedule yet.

B Beth Oljar 08:15

If you have Peacock. Maybe it's if you have Peacock, because Drew was saying "Dan's gonna be able to watch all the curling" and then I think he said, if he has peacock.

D Dan Maggio 08:24

I wonder if I have to pay for it.

D Dave Chow 08:25

Yeah, it's four bucks a month.

D Dan Maggio 08:27

It's the principle.

D Dave Chow 08:29

Yeah, it's another cup of coffee gone to our television. That's all.

M Matt Mio 08:32

Dan, you don't need to worry about NBC. Every red blooded Detroiter knows - The best way to watch the Winter Olympics is CBC anyway, you'll get your fill.

D Dan Maggio 08:42
It is, honestly. Their coverage is far superior.

B Beth Oljar 08:44
That's what Kathy always said.

M Matt Mio 08:46
Absolutely.

D Dave Chow 08:47
It's us crazy Canadians. What can we say?

M Matt Mio 08:50
Yep.

D Dan Maggio 08:51
Although Brian, uh - What was his last name? Brian - Who was the host for years?

B Beth Oljar 08:59
Boitano?

D Dan Maggio 09:00
No, no, no, no. So

M Matt Mio 09:04
Are you thinking of the Bob Costas?

J James Tubbs 09:05
You mean the CBC host.

D Dan Maggio 09:07
Yeah, the CBC host. Maybe it wasn't Brian. No.

D Dave Chow 09:11
Scott Okes?

D Dan Maggio 09:12
No.

D Dave Chow 09:15
Ron MaClain?

D Dan Maggio 09:17
That could have been it.

D Dave Chow 09:19
It's all the Hockey Night In Canada guys stepping over for the other job.

M Matt Mio 09:22
Exactly. It's their shadow job. Right? Well, folks, I'll tell you what, this is a program we could send us questions regarding anything. It's been a while since we've had a question set about the old Canadian Broadcasting Company. If you stump the panel, you win one of our prizes. You can send us the questions in a number of ways. You can email us at ATP at UDMercy dot edu. Find 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. So, the folks at - sure - stylist.com came up with a list of Every Day Sayings and Their Origins, everyday sayings and their origins. The origins, meaning and authors behind popular phrases and sayings. So I will give you the popular phrase or saying, and you will hilariously reflect back some origin for this saying, okay? As an example, "the apple of my eye" is actually an old English phrase from actually AD 885. It was one of the first Kings of the United Britain. But it also was picked up by Shakespeare's Midsummer Night's Dream, just as an example. The first one has been done for you. Where does the phrase "holding a candle to" something referred to? Where does it come from?

M Matt Mio 09:28
Because you can't - you can't see it?

because you can't - you can't see it.

B Beth Oljar 10:54
I'm thinking theater.

D Dave Chow 10:56
Stage lighting is what you're thinking, Beth?

B Beth Oljar 11:00
Something like that. Yeah. Or the little lighters we all used when we were at concerts.

D Dave Chow 11:07
Freebird!

M Matt Mio 11:08
It actually, does not say theater here. It's a little more boring than that

D Dan Maggio 11:14
Does it have to do with being able to see something?

M Matt Mio 11:16
Yeah, I mean, I would at least give you 70% credit, Dan. So the easiest way -

D Dan Maggio 11:22
Just 70?

M Matt Mio 11:22
for you to be an acolyte to anybody of any profession during medieval times was to hold the candle so they could do their work.

D Dan Maggio 11:26

D Dan Maggio 11:29

Oh, there you go.

M Matt Mio 11:29

So this was a way to say that you were assisting somebody.

D Dave Chow 11:33

Oh, the medieval internship.

B Beth Oljar 11:35

So if you were holding the candle - I get it. So, to say of someone that you couldn't hold a candle to - They're not -

D Dave Chow 11:42

You're not worthy.

B Beth Oljar 11:43

There are actually some inferences there. But okay, I get it.

M Matt Mio 11:46

Exactly.

B Beth Oljar 11:47

I think.

M Matt Mio 11:51

I think that this one's going to go off the rails, but probably hilariously so. Where do we get the word "Trump" from, as in coming up trumps or Trump suit?

B Beth Oljar 12:02

Bridge

D Dave Chow 12:04
Under the bridge. Oh,

D Dan Maggio 12:05
That'd be a good guess.

B Beth Oljar 12:06
No, I mean, Trumps are a move or something?

M Matt Mio 12:10
Right. But where does that come from, Beth?

B Beth Oljar 12:12
Oh, sorry.

D Dan Maggio 12:14
It's a bid in Bridge.

M Matt Mio 12:16
That is true.

M Mara Livezey 12:18
From the musical instrument, the trumpet?

M Matt Mio 12:21
That's a very, very good guess. Because of course, I believe we all went through that autocorrect phase, (laughing): when texting friends over the last couple of years, where trumpet was the word that was inserted into my text.

B Beth Oljar 12:25

B Beth Oljar 12:35
Mm-hm.

D Dave Chow 12:36
Yeah. So is it like a weird mashup between two words, possibly?

M Matt Mio 12:40
No, actually, it's almost direct from the word. There was both a card game of, and then the concept of winning a card game was usually referred to as triumph. And it basically became a shortened version from that.

B Beth Oljar 12:56
You know, now that term has been, I mean, as a verb, right, It's just been sort of ruined. I mean, it's not uncommon for at least philosophers of a certain stripe to point out that rights trump majoritarian interests, right? That is to say, they outweigh them. And now, of course, when you use that phrase, unfortunately for wrong marking, you know, now it just makes people think of -

M Matt Mio 13:31
other things. Professors, where did the phrase "off the record" originate from?

D Dave Chow 13:39
That was a store in Royal Oak. Oh,

M Matt Mio 13:42
True. Partial credit.

B Beth Oljar 13:44
Well, would reporters ever use literal recorders? I mean, you know, gramophones to record?

D Dan Maggio 13:51
or taped?

D Dave Chow 13:52
Or is it a legal thing like transcripts?

M Mara Livezey 13:56
I was gonna say, like, songs that never made it to record?

M Matt Mio 14:01
That's actually pretty good. That's good. It was journalism, but it's been attributed to a very important American. The first use, because I believe what stylists did when they made this they, you know, they did their own research. What they did is they found the first occurrence in print of each of these phrases, which is a pretty good starting point. 1932.

B Beth Oljar 14:25
Okay.

M Matt Mio 14:26
Who would have used "off the record" first?


B Beth Oljar 14:29
Roosevelt?

M Matt Mio 14:31
It was Franklin Roosevelt.

B Beth Oljar 14:32
Okay.


M Matt Mio 14:32
FDR

B Beth Oljar 14:33


 Dean Ojima 14:39
So not for attribution, right. That's typically what it means. Right? So, okay.


 M Matt Mio 14:41
How about where do we get something being evaluated by saying "it needs to undergo an acid test"?


 D Dave Chow 14:47
It has to be a chemist. Come on, Mara. It's your ilk.


 J James Tubbs 14:52
Kohli's thing with acid to discern the metal content of them.


 M Mara Livezey 14:56
Probably some Alchemist back in the day.

 D Dave Chow 14:59
Oh, you mean like the pure Do you have gold or something like that? Yeah,

 M Matt Mio 15:03
yeah, Jim and Dave, together. It's actually the California gold rush because there is only one combination of acids that can dissolve gold. So that was the acid test to see if it would actually go into solution. Then you've got real gold. There's gold in them thar hills. Who? Oh, this one is right up Heather's alley. first recorded use of busy as a bee. busy as a bee.

 J James Tubbs 15:32
Must be poetic.

 M Mara Livezey 15:34
name all the authors, you know?

 D Dave Chow 15:36

Yeah. Is it?

B Beth Oljar 15:37
So? Is it some medieval like Chaucer or something?

M Matt Mio 15:41
They did Chaucer. Nice. It's 1386 as well. That's pretty wild. Wow. This is B. First use Heather was the squares tails.

H Heather Hill 15:54
myerstown.

S Stephen Manning 15:55
Okay. Five years from the peasants revolt, Heather.

M Matt Mio 16:00
Oh my gosh.

H Heather Hill 16:01
I know. 1381 1381

M Matt Mio 16:05
Yeah. Oh my gosh.

H Heather Hill 16:07
He is learning. Yeah, he's he's read a couple of my articles. So he's got that. Oh, boat.

M Matt Mio 16:12
Baker's Dozen.

D Dave Chow 16:17
Sounds like our bread off from three years ago.

D Dan Maggio 16:19
I think today you should throw in one for free. Yeah.

B Beth Oljar 16:22
No, there's got to be one for the baker to try.

D Dave Chow 16:25
Oh, I like that. That's a good one. Or is it one to ruin possibly.

B Beth Oljar 16:31
I thought it was one to test but I could be wrong.

M Matt Mio 16:34
So based on timetable here, it's medieval as far as people can tell.

H Heather Hill 16:40
Everything's freakin medieval. Let's move on.

M Matt Mio 16:42
Everything's freakin medieval. That is the title of Heather's memoir. Everything's freakin medieval. It's awesome. No, it looks like there was a pretty stiff penalty, considering how ubiquitous bread would have been at the time, for underselling; and the only way to overshoot it was to make sure that your mass exceeded the weight that was being asked for. So you would give somebody extra, which is kind of what Dan said,

B Beth Oljar 17:10
I like mine better.



J James Tubbs 17:12

To this day, when you order a pint in Ireland, it's got to come all the way to the top of the barrel, even scrape the foam off to make sure that it's even with the top of the glass.

D Dave Chow 17:20

We need to go test that out.

J James Tubbs 17:22

Yes, we should.

M Mara Livezey 17:23

We should.

M Matt Mio 17:24

In the 1920s, 1930s we saw origination of the phrase "a basket case" coming through what did that refer to?

D Dave Chow 17:35

A coroner kind of thing? Dead people showed up in baskets?

M Mara Livezey 17:38

Ooh!

H Heather Hill 17:39

Was it the way that they kept crazy people constrained?

M Matt Mio 17:44

It's kind of a hybridization of Dave's comment and Heather's comment. Sadly, for the folks in the first war of modern warfare, I'm not a historian. In World War One, many, many soldiers lost all or most of their limbs and they were carried in baskets, and referred to as basket cases -

M Mara Livezey 18:04

Oh, man!

M Matt Mio 18:05

And transported. Yeah, that's pretty rough. Pretty rough.

D Dave Chow 18:09

Well, I guess the good thing is, at least there's enough to put into a basket.

M Matt Mio 18:14

Uh, Yes.

B Beth Oljar 18:15

Well, it's like that scene in Lincoln, right, where Lincoln is hoping that Robert will not want to join the Union Army, and takes him to - There's this huge pit, right, where they're literally dumping all of the amputated limbs.

M Matt Mio 18:29

Ugh! Crazy. How about saying that someone likes the cut of your jib?

D Dave Chow 18:29

Ohh!

H Heather Hill 18:37

It's a tailor, isn't it? Isn't it a tailor?

D Dave Chow 18:41

Ooh

M Matt Mio 18:41

Yeah, yes. Heather's got it from the start here. The jib is the triangular sail used on a sailing ship. And each country or sailing club or whatever has a different style. So you would look at

that and be able to recognize who's coming your way. However, the phrase was coined directly in 1824 by Sir Walter Scott.

D Dave Chow 18:42
Okay.

M Matt Mio 18:43
How about referring to jealousy as the green eyed monster? Where does that come from?

B Beth Oljar 19:11
That's got to go back to like Greek mythology or something.

M Matt Mio 19:15
Pretty close. Pretty close. It's a little more modern than that.

J James Tubbs 19:19
Diago?

M Matt Mio 19:19
And it may have been drawn. I'm sorry, Jim.

M Matt Mio 19:23
Um, yeah, basically, I have, um, Merchant of Venice, actually; and Othello both used that. Isn't Iago from mythology?

J James Tubbs 19:23
Iago?

B Beth Oljar 19:34
Yeah. He's the bad guy.

J James Tubbs 19:34
Yes.

M Matt Mio 19:38
Yep. So they're saying Shakespeare, but the truth is, you go online and you find that list where it's like, "did you know all these modern idioms are from Shakespeare"; but, I mean, he probably didn't make them up. They were already in use at the time when he penned them, right. Do I have that right, Heather?

H Heather Hill 19:53
Yeah, of course.

J James Tubbs 19:54
I expect so yes. Although he could turn a phrase, that's for sure.

B Beth Oljar 20:00
Well, and a number of people today who have, I'm sure, no idea how many of our common phrases and sayings actually come from Shakespeare would probably astonish - Well, maybe not. Maybe it wouldn't astonish us. We'd just say "Yeah, well, what do you expect?"

D Dave Chow 20:16
Yeah. He got busy. So -

M Matt Mio 20:20
He was busy.

H Heather Hill 20:21
Arlo wrote half of those plays anyway.

M Matt Mio 20:23
Oh, I forgot about that. Of course, of course. Another one from the 1920s - seems to be really hot for language. 1922, the first record of the phrase, "I'll be there with bells on".

S Stephen Manning 20:38
That was the beginning of the Jazz Age,

M Matt Mio 20:40
very good.

D Dan Maggio 20:44
Was it part of how you dressed up?

S Stephen Manning 20:47
Going to a party?

B Beth Oljar 20:49
Actually, in some Amish - Well, in some Amish communities, when you came - returned from a long journey, you had a big set of bells. And if for some reason, you'd had to accept help from some other teamster on that journey, you had to give them up. So, you know, for someone to say "I'll be there with bells on" - right? - indicated that, you know, they were finished with their journey and had completed it successfully.

M Matt Mio 21:18
I'm giving you full credit for that. You know, it actually doesn't say that at all here, Beth, but - (Heather laughs)

B Beth Oljar 21:24
(Laughing) So I get full credit anyway?

M Matt Mio 21:27
Since it was originally penned by F Scott Fitzgerald in the Beautiful and the Damned, it makes perfect sense during the 20s that he would have picked up on that kind of a tradition and, and put it into a novel. So I like that, that that makes perfect sense.

D Dan Maggio 21:40

D Dave Chow 21:40
Yeah, I like your version better. Beth.

M Matt Mio 21:42
How about "to laugh so hard that it puts you into stitches"? Where does that come from?

B Beth Oljar 21:48
Probably people actually did burst stitches -

J James Tubbs 21:51
Busted a gut.

D Dave Chow 21:52
Yeah.

B Beth Oljar 21:52
laughing. I mean, literally, you know, it's not like there were staples like we have now.

D Dave Chow 21:59
But is it stitches in regards to surgery, or are we talking pants? And seams?

H Heather Hill 22:04
Right. Yeah. Seams

D Dave Chow 22:06
Yeah.

H Heather Hill 22:06
Yeah.

—

M Matt Mio 22:07
Yeah. First used - it says here, 1602. And what makes "laughing so hard that it puts you in stitches" so unique is it's one of those phrases, uh, technically first written form was 12th Night, Shakespeare. But it had a desert of usage that lasted over 350 years before it came back into modern language. I find that sort of stuff absolutely fascinating.

B Beth Oljar 22:34
But you know what else it could be is laughing so hard you get a cramp.

M Matt Mio 22:40
Sure.

B Beth Oljar 22:41
In your side, so it might refer to that kind of a stitch, right.

D Dave Chow 22:46
As opposed to blowing out the seam in your pants.

M Mara Livezey 22:48
I assume it fell out of use, just because no one was laughing for those 300 years.

M Matt Mio 22:53
100% Yeah, absolutely. Absolutely. I mean, let's be serious. What was happening during the 1700s? Nobody was laughing.

M Mara Livezey 23:00
Nothing good.

B Beth Oljar 23:03
Uh, well, some things - you know, the formation of our country.

D Dave Chow 23:00

D Dave Chow 23:09

Oh, that thing.

M Matt Mio 23:11

Last one. And I'm pretty sure this is a fairly popular explanation. To say someone is mad as a hatter. Because mostly people think it's Lewis Carroll. But it's not. Right?

D Dave Chow 23:23

Sure.

J James Tubbs 23:23

Yeah. Well, I know it's because the people, the Hatters who worked with leather used mercury. And they went crazy from the fumes that they were -

M Matt Mio 23:32

That's exactly right. They were pressing felt and leather using implements that could be sort of dulled or sharpened in a certain way with mercury and they would, you know, lick the end of their tongue like you're turning the page -

D Dave Chow 23:45

Ughh!

M Matt Mio 23:45

They basically gave themselves mercury poisoning at such a low dose - because mercury usually kills within 24 hours - that made them mad.

B Beth Oljar 23:54

This happened to women and probably men too, who were making matches, right? They got sick from sulfur. You could, like, literally lose parts of your face, right?

M Matt Mio 24:04

Yep, That's exactly right. You know, professors, you did really really well with that list. So it's time for your reward. And of course, that's going to be something from the Burroughs family asking you your Ask The Professor IMPONDERABLE.

D Dave Chow 24:19
Uh- oh.

M Matt Mio 24:19
I've been saving this one for a special show. I think this is it. What is your favorite kitchen equipment or appliance?

D Dan Maggio 24:29
Oh, my

D Dave Chow 24:30
Oh,

M Mara Livezey 24:31
So, I'm gonna go first and say it's definitely my KitchenAid stand mixer. Because you can also put sweet attachments on it like the pasta roller and you just do all sorts of stuff.

B Beth Oljar 24:45
Dan, we're just gonna have to break down and buy one of those things. Dan and I were talking about this a little bit over break.

D Dan Maggio 24:51
Uh, I already did.

B Beth Oljar 24:53
Oh, did you? (Dave laughs)

M Mara Livezey 24:55
Good for you.

D Dave Chow 24:56
The confessions.

D Dan Maggio 24:57
Sorry, I didn't - I didn't get one for you.

M Matt Mio 25:00
Dan, Did you put the flames on the side of it? Did you, like -

D Dan Maggio 25:03
No - I did not.

D Dave Chow 25:04
You pinstriped it. Right?

M Matt Mio 25:05
(Laughs)

J James Tubbs 25:05
I would have to say the coffeemaker.

B Beth Oljar 25:08
Oh, that's a good one.

M Matt Mio 25:09
Oh, yeah, of course. No, I was just gonna say very blandly that we have had these four or five shish kebab skewers made of stainless steel for the longest time.

D Dan Maggio 25:21
They're great.

D Dan Maggio 25:22

And they are my - I never have used them once for what their purpose is. But I use those things as a tool to open things, close things, poke holes in things, do stuff like all the time. I'm big into Alton Brown's "No Unitaskers". You can't have a tool that only does one thing.

D Dan Maggio 25:39

Yeah.

B Beth Oljar 25:39

I guess I'd have to say, because Jim took the coffee maker - which really, if you don't have that, nothing else that's going to get done in the kitchen anyway.

J James Tubbs 25:47

Why start?

B Beth Oljar 25:49

Exactly. So a good - I think a good sharp chef's knife, my 10 inch saute pan that's nonstick.

D Dan Maggio 25:56

Yeah,

B Beth Oljar 25:56

my zester.

D Dave Chow 25:57

Oh

B Beth Oljar 25:58

couldn't live without those.

H Heather Hill 25:59
That's three.

D Dave Chow 26:00
Yeah

B Beth Oljar 26:01
I know.

D Dan Maggio 26:02
My cast iron pan is also one of my favorites.

D Dave Chow 26:06
Okay, Stephen, I guess it's up to you and I. We've got to come up with something.

B Beth Oljar 26:09
The mic drop there.

S Stephen Manning 26:11
It's easier for me to come up with my least favorite appliance, which is this stupid stove that I paid a small fortune for. It's been a piece of junk since I got it.

M Matt Mio 26:21
Ohhh

S Stephen Manning 26:22
If anybody would like to buy this from me. I don't know why you would after that.

D Dave Chow 26:27
It's such a ringing endorsement.

S Stephen Manning 26:29
My most favorite is - somebody mentioned knives. I have an old set. This is probably 40 years old of French Sabatier knives.

S Stephen Manning 26:39
Nice, longer one than the shorter one.

B Beth Oljar 26:42
Mm-hm

M Matt Mio 26:42
Nice.

S Stephen Manning 26:43
Right.

M Matt Mio 26:43
I was gonna follow up with Dan though. Dan, what do you do with a cast iron? What's your favorite thing to make in it?

D Dan Maggio 26:50
Oh, I don't know that there's a favorite thing to make. It's just so - It's so seasoned that you never have to - I mean, literally just wipe it with a plain rag and hot water, and you're done.

M Matt Mio 27:02
Wow.

D Dan Maggio 27:02
But the just the the thing that I like about it is that it's stovetop-to-oven. Just you can move - finish off in the oven. I just love it.

B Beth Oljar 27:10
It's heavy. It'll conduct heat really well when you - Yeah,

D Dave Chow 27:14
I was gonna go - See, I've got - Now my dad passed on his cast iron to me. So that thing's got 45 years of seasoning on it.

M Matt Mio 27:24
Oh my gosh.

J James Tubbs 27:25
Those skilletts are great for making cornbread in.

D Dave Chow 27:27
Oh!


D Dan Maggio 27:27
Yeah, you can do that. I've done that.


M Matt Mio 27:29
Professors, we have reached the limit of what kitchen implements can teach us, I'm afraid, at this time. So the time has come for us to say goodbye, Dan.


D Dan Maggio 27:40
Goodbye,


M Matt Mio 27:41
Stephen.


S Stephen M... 27:42


 Stephen Manning 27:42
Bye


 Matt Mio 27:43
Heather


 Heather Hill 27:43
Bye


 Matt Mio 27:44
Jim,

 James Tubbs 27:45
bye

 Matt Mio 27:46
Beth


 Beth Oljar 27:47
Goodbye.


 Matt Mio 27:48
Mara,


 Mara Livezey 27:49
See ya.

 Matt Mio 27:50
and Dave.

—

 Dave Chow 27:51
See ya.

 Matt Mio 27:52
And now these words.

 Michael Jayson 27:54
You can email Ask The Professor at ATP @ UDMercy.edu or visit the Ask the Professor Facebook page.

 Matt Mio 28:03
Ask The Professor is produced and directed by Michael Jayson and Brian Maisonville and our executive producer is Professor Jason Roche. Till next week. I'm your host Matt Mio.