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SPEAKERS

Dan Maggio, Production Element, Matt Mio, Ph.D., Beth Oljar, Kathy Bush, Michael Jayson

M Michael Jayson 00:01

The University of Detroit Mercy presents another encore presentation of a classic Ask the Professor radio program. Today's show takes us back to February 2008.

K Kathy Bush 00:15

The University tower chimes ring in another session of Ask the Professor, the radio show where you match wits with University of Detroit Mercy professors in an unrehearsed session of questions and answers. I'm your host, Kathy Bush and today we've got three people who could mush, mush, mush across the Yukon here in beautiful snowy northwest Detroit. So let me introduce the panel to you now. At the very far end of the table from the College of Engineering and Sciences. The person who organizes the Pre College Engineering Programs, it's Dan Dan, our DAPCEP man, Maggio, I'm glad you finally get to meet Karen Selby, our Education chair.

D Dan Maggio 00:52

She seems wonderful

K Kathy Bush 00:53

She is. She's terrific. And she can run a department like 10 men - -or 10 women - she's that good.

D Dan Maggio 01:00

Enjoying the weather too.

K Kathy Bush 01:01
Absolutely. I was gonna say, because you like - because Erie -

D Dan Maggio 01:04
I love snow.

K Kathy Bush 01:05
You got hit with big snow in Erie, being on the lake. Right?

D Dan Maggio 01:08
Yep. If I was a courageous person, I would move to a snowy area.

K Kathy Bush 01:12
Like where?

D Dan Maggio 01:13
Um, outside of Vancouver maybe.

K Kathy Bush 01:15
Ooh, Nice choice.

D Dan Maggio 01:16
Or somewhere where it's basically cold and wintry, like, a lot of the year.

K Kathy Bush 01:20
Yeah, I was gonna say. Or Minnesota.?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 01:20
Like Colorado?

D Dan Maggio 01:22
(Trying to speak with a Minnesota accent) Minnesota.

K Kathy Bush 01:26
(Laughs)

D Dan Maggio 01:26
Minnesota, they get there just as hot in the summer as, you know, the Bahamas sometimes.

K Kathy Bush 01:28
Is that true?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 01:28
Sometimes. It's only for smaller period.

D Dan Maggio 01:32
For a smaller period; but still, I do - I love Minnesota.

K Kathy Bush 01:35
Dude, look at International Falls. They're always, like, in the -

D Dan Maggio 01:38
They do peak in the summertime. I go up there every summer. So -

K Kathy Bush 01:41
Yeah, it's a nice spot. And sitting to my left, from the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, is Professor Matt Mio.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 01:49
Hi. Kathv.

... really.

K Kathy Bush 01:50
And you've had experience - You lived in Minnesota, right?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 01:52
I lived in St. Paul - or Woodbury outside St. Paul for a few months. And then in St. Paul. It's great.

K Kathy Bush 01:57
Yeah

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 01:58
I called it Detroit light. (Kathy laughs) And I didn't mean that in a negative way.

K Kathy Bush 02:02
Oh, no - no.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 02:03
By way of their extended fall and extended spring, I would say maybe they have five weeks of summer. Maybe.

K Kathy Bush 02:09
Yeah,

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 02:10
but they have a very long winter

K Kathy Bush 02:12
Yeah, I had a niece who did an internship for marketing and PR up in General Foods and loved it.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 02:16
Sure.

K Kathy Bush 02:16
Loved both Minneapolis and St. Paul.

D Dan Maggio 02:19
Yeah, very eclectic.

K Kathy Bush 02:20
Yeah. That's what she said, but she also commented about the lack of summertime. (Laughs) I was like, "Okay, Maria, Honey, don't worry about that". Now on the other side of the table from the Department of Philosophy, it's Professor Beth Oljar.

B Beth Oljar 02:34
Good to be here.

K Kathy Bush 02:35
I know. Yes. Sorry. That was not good timing there.

B Beth Oljar 02:38
That's alright. As I was stuffing my face.

K Kathy Bush 02:40
That's alright. You should do that in the wintertime. It just helps you get through with the snow shoveling and facing those cold winds. You know, what my grandmother called Gut walden. I don't know what that really meant, but it sounded pretty cool. Sounded like a good reason to eat - that kind of thing.

B Beth Oljar 02:56
I'm gonna have to go home and tell Drew, " You have plenty of Gut walden".

K Kathy Bush 02:59

(Laughs) Don't tell him the source. Okay. Well, this is a show where you can send us questions about weather, about Minnesota, about snow, about Gut Walden, whatever you want to send us. And if you stump the panel, you win one of our two fabulous shirts, either a Tech Day or Ethics Bowl 2007 shirt. And if you don't stump the panel, you still get the shirt. So hook it up. Get the shirt and send us some questions.

M Michael Jayson 03:23

You can email Ask The Professor at ATP@udmercy.edu or visit the Ask the Professor Facebook page.

K Kathy Bush 03:31

On our last show we were leaving off - we had just a few more questions left. These were questions that came to us from Harry Carpenter. And these were questions that Harry had used at the quiz at the local bar.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 03:41

Mm-hm Yeah, he doesn't think our educational system is succeeding. (Laughs)

B Beth Oljar 03:45

I would agree with him there.

K Kathy Bush 03:48

Well, you know - there's some ups and there are some downs. So there were two questions left and he wanted to get eight out of 10. And so far, you only have two wrong so you better get these next two, right, or else. He wins. All right.

B Beth Oljar 04:02

80%.

K Kathy Bush 04:03

Okay

B Beth Oljar 04:03
So we're running at 80%

K Kathy Bush 04:04
We're running at 80% now. Even I can do that.

B Beth Oljar 04:07
Which is the extent of my math ability right there.

K Kathy Bush 04:09
That's okay. You extended it as far as it needed to go, my friend. Okay. Who replaced Chevy Chase on Saturday Night Live after he left?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 04:18
Bill Murray.

K Kathy Bush 04:19
Yeah, so you got that.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 04:21
Mm-hm

K Kathy Bush 04:23
Yeah, Harry notes here that "after working in Los Angeles with a gorilla video commune called TV TV, Murray rose to prominence when he replaced Chevy Chase on the program.

B Beth Oljar 04:34
Well, what's interesting about him is that he's now become like a serious actor.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 04:40

Yeah, I think so too.

K Kathy Bush 04:40
Yeah, in some ways he has

D Dan Maggio 04:42
His performance in Charlie's Angels was really just spectacular. (Kathy and Dan laugh)

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 04:48
I believe you're referring, Beth, to like Lost In Translation.

B Beth Oljar 04:52
Yeah, which I haven't seen, but I hear is a great - Razor's Edge I think was the first movie I saw him in.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 04:53
Rushmore.

K Kathy Bush 04:53
Yeah, Rushmore, which I thought was amazing. He tried to do - Yes, and that was an old Tyrone Power film. That's a remake of a 1940s film. And it seemed like people weren't willing to accept him as a serious actor at that point. I think they still wanted him to do his shtick from like -

D Dan Maggio 05:10
Caddyshack?

K Kathy Bush 05:10
Caddyshack. Yeah.

B Beth Oljar 05:12
Well, that is truly a landmark performance.

- K** Kathy Bush 05:15
It is funny. That's true enough. It is classic. But, you know, everybody has the right to break out in a different way. And can't you just see Dr. Leever dressed up for Halloween as Carl? Uh, Yeah, I can, and that's like hysterical. He did that?
- B** Beth Oljar 05:30
Little gopher sewn to his shirt.
- K** Kathy Bush 05:32
Oh, my gosh!
- B** Beth Oljar 05:33
His wife claims to have photographic evidence of this. I want proof.
- K** Kathy Bush 05:36
I not only want proof I want publication of those photos. I think that's only fitting.
- B** Beth Oljar 05:41
because he does the best impersonation of Bill Murray in that role. It's so funny.
- K** Kathy Bush 05:44
Well, another Chicago boy. There you go. He's got the accent down. And our last question from Harry is "Who was the first NFL rusher to gain 2000 yards in a single season?"
- B** Beth Oljar 05:57
Walter Payton?
- K** Kathy Bush 05:58
No.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 05:59
Mercury Morris.

K Kathy Bush 06:01
Don't you wish - because I love - I just love Mercury Morris.

B Beth Oljar 06:04
Gale Sayers

K Kathy Bush 06:04
No no. Sadly -

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 06:07
it's not Barry. Is it?

K Kathy Bush 06:09
No, not Barry. I wish - We could only wish BS - Barry Sanders from the Lions.

B Beth Oljar 06:15
O - J?

K Kathy Bush 06:16
It's OJ Simpson.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 06:17
Ah, there we go.

K Kathy Bush 06:18
Yes, it is. In 1973, Simpson rushed for the then record 2003 yards, becoming the first player to ever pass the 2000 yard mark.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 06:28

It was a long time before - it was Barry that beat that record the first time.

K Kathy Bush 06:32

Yeah

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 06:32

I wanna say early 90s. Something like that.

B Beth Oljar 06:34

Well, so were you bummed about the Super Bowl. That the Patriots - I was really surprised

K Kathy Bush 06:39

I was dead surprised. Again, my real hope truly had been that The Pack would have made it in. But you know, when The Pack didn't make it in, and I thought "Okay, okay". But my uncle in New York was so happy, he called everybody. He must have run up like a \$9,000 phone bill. He called every niece - I mean everybody.

B Beth Oljar 06:55

I was pretty happy for - I mean that play -

K Kathy Bush 06:57

Yeah. You know -

B Beth Oljar 06:58

where he managed to escape the sack and Tyree - You know, that catch where he's -

K Kathy Bush 07:01

Ah!

B Beth Oljar 07:02
Where he's breaking his spine.

K Kathy Bush 07:03
Thank you.

B Beth Oljar 07:04
Ughh!

K Kathy Bush 07:04
Yeah. Yeah.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 07:05
Pushed it against his head.

K Kathy Bush 07:06
You know, it was a really tight game. It was an interesting game. I thought it was like, "Oh, this is gonna be dead boring". And, you know -Dan, did you like the commercials? (Laughs)

D Dan Maggio 07:15
I watched the game. But I've gotta tell you - Who's the coach of The Patriots?

B Beth Oljar 07:21
Bill Belichick?

D Dan Maggio 07:21
When he left the field before it was over.

B Beth Oljar 07:24
Yeah. That was wierd. but didn't think - Drew said that Belechick didn't think they were going to actually make him do a play to run the clock out.

K Kathy Bush 07:26
Yeah.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 07:33
And there was another rumor that said he didn't even know that time hadn't expired.

K Kathy Bush 07:37
Oh, come on. The guy's a head coach for the NFL and doesn't know that the time has expired?

D Dan Maggio 07:41
Well, because you don't know what's going on, and you're at that level -

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 07:43
Yeah, but the timer went down to zero and they put one second back on the clock

K Kathy Bush 07:47
Oh, okay.

D Dan Maggio 07:48
But the best part was they interviewed him like right after the game, as he was coming out locker room. I just love it. (Kathy laughs)

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 07:55
It was more like comfortable to watch than the offense.

B Beth Oljar 07:58
Oh, and at every press conference, he's so - I mean, if I were the owner of the Patriots, I would be just like "Get me somebody with some PR ability!"

K Kathy Bush 08:06
Really. Take a Dale Carnegie course.

B Beth Oljar 08:07
I mean, he has the personality of wet sand.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 08:11
Yeah, he does.

K Kathy Bush 08:11
You know, yeah.

B Beth Oljar 08:13
Great coach -

D Dan Maggio 08:14
And then - I think on the TODAY show, there was a comment by Meredith Vieira.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 08:18
Oh, no!

D Dan Maggio 08:18
She said, even though I never watch those morning shows, because Malcolm in the Middle is on at the same time, and that gets priority. She goes "I wonder if Gisele left with Eli"

K Kathy Bush 08:31
Oh. Oh, my Goodness me.

D Dan Maggio 08:37
Just the way she said it, and everybody goes "Oooh!"

K Kathy Bush 08:39
I bet. Well, Harry, we will send you a non winners package. But nevertheless, we liked those -

B Beth Oljar 08:44
Those are great questions. Send more of them.

K Kathy Bush 08:46
Those were wonderful, wonderful. Okay. Our next set of questions comes to us from Michael Whelan of Milford, Michigan. Now, sadly, he just does not give us any kind of a grading scale, which we've got to start asking folks to give us.

D Dan Maggio 09:00
We should get three quarters, right.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 09:01
D is passing (Kathy laughs) 75% or 70%.

B Beth Oljar 09:07
I don't give A's until 95%.


M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 09:08
alright, well use Beth's scale. We're screwed.


K Kathy Bush 09:14
Okay, I was gonna say


B Beth Oljar 09:15
Students say, "That's a hard grading scale". Yeah,


K Kathy Bush 09:19


 Kathy Bush 09:19
because college is supposed to be hard. Hello.


 Beth Oljar 09:22
And for as much help as I give them, they shouldn't complain.


 Kathy Bush 09:24
Well, there you go. Okay. Well, these are just categorized under "amusing facts". And he says "Have fun with them". So I can handle that.


 Beth Oljar 09:32
I'm laughing already. Because I'm sitting across the table from Matt.


 Kathy Bush 09:37
Now, some of these are true and false, which are kind of interesting. True or false, It's impossible to sneeze with your eyes open.

 Beth Oljar 09:44
True.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 09:45
Okay

 Dan Maggio 09:46
True.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 09:46
Yeah?

 Dan Maggio 09:47
I think that's true.

K Kathy Bush 09:48
It is true. I guess I never thought about sneezing with my eyes open.

D Dan Maggio 09:52
Maybe we can experiment.

K Kathy Bush 09:53
I was gonna say, at break let's get something - (laughs)

B Beth Oljar 09:59
I mean, you're driving, and of course you're wanting to keep your eyes on the road. There's no way when you have to sneeze you're going to blink.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 10:06
Reminds me of an old Calvin and Hobbes cartoon where he wanted to hold his nose shut to see if his shoes would blow off. (The professors laugh)

K Kathy Bush 10:15
I love that cartoon.

B Beth Oljar 10:16
Or his head would explode, right?


D Dan Maggio 10:17
True.

B Beth Oljar 10:17
True.


K Kathy Bush 10:17

 Kathy Bush 10:17


Yeah. Okay, true or false: You cannot kill yourself by holding your breath.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 10:18


I'd say that's true.

 Kathy Bush 10:19


You're right. You can't do it. I mean - I'm trying to imagine death by holding your breath suicide? I'm just trying to like imagine that.

 Beth Oljar 10:33

It's an autonomic response.

 Kathy Bush 10:35


Yeah. Isn't it? I thought that was like, Yeah,

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 10:38

You'll go coma first, I think

 Dan Maggio 10:39


And then I think your hand would relax.

 Kathy Bush 10:41

Yeah.

 Dan Maggio 10:42

And then move away from your face.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 10:45

Yeah.

K Kathy Bush 10:45
What is the strongest muscle in the body? Strongest muscle in the body.

B Beth Oljar 10:52
Well, the biggest is the gluteus.

K Kathy Bush 10:54
Right. But that's not it. I thought. That's what -

B Beth Oljar 10:56
It's gotta be some abdominal muscle, I'm thinking

K Kathy Bush 11:00
Strange, but true. That's not what it says here. I thought for sure you were thinking like, yeah,

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:05
The jaw?

K Kathy Bush 11:06
It's somewhere close to the jaw.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:09
Eyes? Eyelids?

K Kathy Bush 11:10
No.

B Beth Oljar 11:12
Is it a face muscle?

K Kathy Bush 11:14
It's located inside of the facial muscles

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:17
Your esophagus.

D Dan Maggio 11:20
Yeah, no, that's too low.

K Kathy Bush 11:22
Too low.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:22
Oh, your tongue.

K Kathy Bush 11:24
It is! It's your tongue!

D Dan Maggio 11:25
The tongue is the strongest muscle?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:27
Weird.

K Kathy Bush 11:27
That's what it's listing.

D Dan Maggio 11:29
Really?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:29
I think it is a muscle.

K Kathy Bush 11:30
It is a muscle. It is classified as a muscle. Okay. Every time you lick a stamp, you actually are burning up a calorie. What percent of a calorie do you burn up by licking to stamp?

D Dan Maggio 11:48
Of a calorie?

K Kathy Bush 11:48
Of a calorie.

D Dan Maggio 11:49
I would say 10%

K Kathy Bush 11:50
You got it right on the nose. Did you know that?


D Dan Maggio 11:53
Well, but the other thing you can do is you can not move your tongue and just move your hand.


K Kathy Bush 11:56
(Laughs) Well I guess then what - Would you be burning up some kind of muscle with your finger - with your pincher reflex? I was gonna say - get your cat to do it


M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 12:07
Do the make lickable stamps anymore?


K Kathy Bush 12:08


 Kathy Bush 12:00
I was gonna say, I haven't seen lickable stamps


 Dan Maggio 12:11
I haven't seen him either. But the envelopes - Ask George Costanza.


 Kathy Bush 12:14
(Laughs) Oh, that's right. They got those really cheap wedding invitations. Didn't she die from that?


 Dan Maggio 12:20
She died. Yeah, because she poisoned herself.


 Kathy Bush 12:23
Ohhh!


 Dan Maggio 12:24
Only in that show.


 Kathy Bush 12:25
That episode. That was so horrible!


 Dan Maggio 12:27
And they just said "She died". Oh, okay. What are you gonna do?" "Go home and watch TV".


 Kathy Bush 12:31
Like, he totally didn't care. You're right. Oh my gosh. Now, speaking of calories, how many calories an hour would you burn up by banging your head against the wall? I'm not kidding. I don't make them up, folks. I just read 'em as we get 'em.


 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 12:44
Is it in the hundreds?


 Kathy Bush 12:44
It is over 100.


 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 12:46
Okay,


 Kathy Bush 12:46
It's over 100.


 Dan Maggio 12:48
175

 Kathy Bush 12:49
That's a little high.

 Beth Oljar 12:51
150

 Kathy Bush 12:51
Right on the nose, folks.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 12:53
Wierd.

 Kathy Bush 12:54
I don't know if I'm gonna give that out for like extra credit for my history class or something.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 13:00
...

It's an overlooked form of exercise, banging your head -

K Kathy Bush 13:02
your head against the wall.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 13:04
And if there's data by the way, the experiment has been run at some point.

K Kathy Bush 13:08
I know. But I'm just thinking of how you set up the - What's the hypotheses? How that got set up is just sort of fascinating to me. The human heart creates enough pressure while pumping to squirt blood how many feet?

B Beth Oljar 13:24
Oh, quite a ways.

D Dan Maggio 13:26
12

K Kathy Bush 13:26
That's low. I'm - again -

B Beth Oljar 13:28
More like 30.

K Kathy Bush 13:29
It is 30, right on the nose.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 13:31
(Laughing) What the heck!

B Beth Oljar 13:33
I mean, come on. You taught - You did the CSI course

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 13:35
I know

B Beth Oljar 13:35
I'm thinking of the arterial spray.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 13:36
Well, the spray is a big deal when it comes to -

B Beth Oljar 13:38
So it's gonna go "Pssst!"

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 13:39
guns and stuff like that. It's - Oh, that's horrid! It's just horrid!

K Kathy Bush 13:43
Yeah, just the thought of it. Myth Busters?

D Dan Maggio 13:44
It sounds like something off of Myth Busters.

B Beth Oljar 13:46
I mean, that's why, if your jugular vein is severed, you're gonna bleed out really? It's you're gonna die really fast - because -

K Kathy Bush 13:55
Oh, yeah.

B Beth Oljar 13:55
your heart will be pumping all this blood

K Kathy Bush 13:57
Yeah, you know, that's pretty tough stuff that way. (laughs)

B Beth Oljar 14:01
I like CSI Detroit

D Dan Maggio 14:02
I don't like blood.

K Kathy Bush 14:04
Well, who Yeah, who does? I mean outside of the Red Cross.

B Beth Oljar 14:07
Vampires?

K Kathy Bush 14:08
Yeah. I mean, if there is a kind of thing in that sense. On an average people fear this more than they do death.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:16
Oh, public speaking.

K Kathy Bush 14:17
No

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:18

Flying. No

B Beth Oljar 14:18
Heights

K Kathy Bush 14:19
Uh-uh.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:19
Oh, come on those are the top two.

K Kathy Bush 14:20
Those should be at the top. I know

B Beth Oljar 14:22
Spiders?


K Kathy Bush 14:22
Spiders!


M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:22
Oh, my gosh.


B Beth Oljar 14:24
Word! I mean, come on.


K Kathy Bush 14:25
That's what it says here.

D Dan Maggio 14:26


 Dan Maggio 14:29
as long as they're smaller than a quarter.


 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:31
See, That's the thing. It's always relative. Like, I can handle the little guys.


 Kathy Bush 14:34
Yeah, right.


 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:35
But if someone came at me through the door, I'd be like, "alright, that's it".


 Dan Maggio 14:37
If it's centipedes I'm out of here.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:40
Snakes - I love so much. I hate bugs.

 Kathy Bush 14:42
Yeah, there's just -

 Dan Maggio 14:43
Snakes are not a problem.

 Kathy Bush 14:44
You know, if it's a common annoying housefly - When we were kids, I remember the nuna used to teach us that there was a purpose for every one of God's creatures; and I would want to always say, "What about houseflies?"

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:53
Except for that one.

K Kathy Bush 14:54
Yeah, "I'm sorry, sister. I just don't buy into that." I mean, maybe that was when God was like being funny or something but -

B Beth Oljar 15:00
No, that was the duckbill platypus.

K Kathy Bush 15:01
Yeah, that's true.

B Beth Oljar 15:03
It shows that as a sense of humor.

K Kathy Bush 15:04
Yeah. Really. But yeah, bugs as you say, Matt, it's all to do with the size of them. You know, the small ones - who cares?

B Beth Oljar 15:14
No. If it's a spider or an insect of any kind, even. I mean, they all get killed in my house. (laughs) I realize they perform an important function in nature.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 15:25
Yes. They do.

K Kathy Bush 15:26
Oh, yeah.

B Beth Oljar 15:27
But they don't perform any function in my house.

K Kathy Bush 15:29
I mean, bees. Yes. You know, the pollen. I'm totally down with that.

D Dan Maggio 15:33
Yeah. Don't touch bees.

K Kathy Bush 15:34
Yeah, don't touch the bees, man. Leave them alone.

B Beth Oljar 15:35
Well, if I get stung by one -

K Kathy Bush 15:37
Oh, that's right.

B Beth Oljar 15:38
Yeah. That would not good. So I'm killing them.

D Dan Maggio 15:40
But by killing them, you could get the result that you're not looking for? Because if you miss them, they could get mad. Generally bees are docile if you just leave them alone.

K Kathy Bush 15:52
Oh, absolutely. Oh, yeah.

D Dan Maggio 15:53
And I'm trying to teach myself so that when I'm like, messing around my garden -

K Kathy Bush 15:57
Yeah.

D Dan Maggio 15:58
Not running from the bees. And I just - I didn't and everything was fine.

K Kathy Bush 16:01
You'll begin to peacefully coexist with them.

B Beth Oljar 16:04
Well, then it makes sense, right.

K Kathy Bush 16:07
Is it? Well, okay. Then do Star Trek with the bees. Okay. True or False: Polar bears are right handed.

D Dan Maggio 16:07
Peacefully coexist - That's from a Star Trek episode.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 16:18
First. They have paws.

K Kathy Bush 16:19
Yeah

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 16:21
Second, they're ambidextrous - dang it. False

D Dan Maggio 16:24
False.

K Kathy Bush 16:25
.....

They list here that "bears are left handed - that they prefer to go to objects with their left -

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 16:26
You know -

B Beth Oljar 16:30
Oh, okay

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 16:31
that is one of the like, the ultimate unsolved problems in biology about differentiation. between the right and the left side of the body.

K Kathy Bush 16:37
I know

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 16:37
Weirdness. Totally weird.

K Kathy Bush 16:39
Yeah, I never knew that they really had a preferred hand to - like - fish with.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 16:44
Or wacking the things off.

K Kathy Bush 16:46
Yeah, right.

B Beth Oljar 16:48
They're cool, so they chose the left hand. (Laughs) Oh, is that it?



M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 16:51
They're all sinister

K Kathy Bush 16:52
I guess, but I just never really -

B Beth Oljar 16:55
Hey, I'm a lefty

K Kathy Bush 16:55
I never really thought of that.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 16:57
It's a Latin word.

K Kathy Bush 16:58
Okay. But while we think about that, let's take a break.

P Production Element 17:19
(Ask The Professor FLASHBACK)


K Kathy Bush 17:54
And we're back with questions from Michael Whelan. And we were just talking about left handedness. And go ahead Beth. Tell the story.

B Beth Oljar 18:00
Well, that's - The reason that I actually ended up with good handwriting was because of my pigheadedness when my teacher in fourth grade told me, "You will never write neatly because you're left handed". And my attitude. Of course, whenever anyone told me I couldn't do anything, especially at that age was "Well, I'll show you".


K Kathy Bush 18:18

 Kathy Bush 18:10


And you do, because you truly have writing that - again - You look like you could teach elementary school

 Beth Oljar 18:22


and I don't write the hook

 Kathy Bush 18:23


Right

 Beth Oljar 18:24

I turn the paper at a really funny angle, and it freaks out Dave Koukal out, whenever he's like, "Why do you have the paper turned that way?"

 Kathy Bush 18:29


Well, I gotta ask Matt. You must know Dave McCall. And Dave McCall was my former debate partner at the old University of Detroit, and I had to learn - Dave was the leader of the Left Handed Revolution. And he writes from left to right, and can do - Yes. and can do it quickly. So we'd be in a debate round, and he would be writing me notes.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 18:33


Right. Yes.

 Dan Maggio 18:43

Left to right or Right to left?

 Kathy Bush 18:50

Right to left. He's left handed. And that's how he writes.

 Beth Oljar 18:53

Did he used to be in the College of Engineering and Science. Did he work -

 Kathy Bush 18:54

K Kathy Bush 18:56

Oh, that's sweet.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 18:56

Actually it's interesting, you bring that up; because just this term, we've rehired him. It's not like he's been gone. But he's retired from whatever he was doing, and he's back teaching again. Isn't that weird?

K Kathy Bush 19:00

He's a smart guy

B Beth Oljar 19:02

Someone was telling me about a faculty member who who wrote that way.

K Kathy Bush 19:09

He was also one of the few - Part of the thing about the left-handed revolution was that - desks in lecture halls like in our Life Sciences Building - He raised a huge stink and got desks for left handed students in there, because he said he had the hardest time sitting or writing his examinations, trying to maneuver himself to write; so Dave went all the way up to the president's office to lead this movement to get left handed - So I made it this vow that every year that we were debate partners, I would find something from the left hand shop in New York City to get for him because I was so inspired by somebody that could do that. And he actually taught me how to read without taking out a pocket mirror. I was able to read his notes and evidence that I got so used to it.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 19:17

Oh, of course.

B Beth Oljar 19:51

Yeah, that made my - when I was an undergraduate, that was a nightmare being in the big lecture halls for biology because -

K Kathy Bush 19:56

And that's what he said. He was fed to the teeth and he went ahead did something about it. So I do admire Dava-o. He was -

B Beth Oljar 20:03
It's discrimination!

K Kathy Bush 20:04
It truly was. That's what he said. True or false, right handed people live nine years longer than left handed people do.

D Dan Maggio 20:11
Ah - false

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:12
False.

B Beth Oljar 20:13
True.

K Kathy Bush 20:13
It's true, at least according to - Now, again, who puts together these studies?

B Beth Oljar 20:18
There can't be any causal connections?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:19
Actually, I'm gonna disagree - because not everybody is as strong and courageous as Professor Oljar is and maybe stress adds to shorter lifespan.

K Kathy Bush 20:29
Could be.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:29

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:29
What if you had to live in a right-handed society?

K Kathy Bush 20:31
Yeah,

B Beth Oljar 20:32
I do have to live in a right-handed society. What are you talking about?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:36
That came out wrong. What if I had to live in a left-handed society? My head would have exploded several years ago. That's wild.

K Kathy Bush 20:36
(Laughs) But, again, I just - I'm wondering from a social science perspective, how do you set up these experiments? I want to know how you get the data.

B Beth Oljar 20:43
And what is the causal connection between handedness and lifespan? I just don't get it.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:45
Stress

B Beth Oljar 20:46
You know what, because we know how debilitating stress is

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:59
Yeah,

K Kathy Bush 20:59
on the cardiovascular - Yeah, everything in that way.

B Beth Oljar 21:03
That's why I have to take a leave next year - because I'm left-handed (Beth and Kathy laugh)

K Kathy Bush 21:09
But you'd think that would be more exercise, eh?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 21:09
Cause for concern

D Dan Maggio 21:09
I think it's your right if you're left handed and your heart's on your left side? Are you exercising your heart?

B Beth Oljar 21:19
I have the heart of a rhino, as Drew Barrymore said in Charlie's Angels

K Kathy Bush 21:24
True or False - butterflies taste with their feet. Their sense of taste -

B Beth Oljar 21:28
True.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 21:28
True.

K Kathy Bush 21:29
It is true

D Dan Maggio 21:29
Right

Did they ask them?

K Kathy Bush 21:32
Well, no, I think - you know -

D Dan Maggio 21:33
That's true. I have heard that.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 21:34
I gave them the cola wars thing, and they stepped into it.

K Kathy Bush 21:36
There you go. That worked from that way. Ants are known as extremely strong little creatures. How many times of their own weight can an ant lift?

B Beth Oljar 21:47
Like 300 times.

D Dan Maggio 21:48
50

K Kathy Bush 21:49
50. Dan, Did you know that? Oh,

D Dan Maggio 21:50
Yes. There's a little weevil - No, boll weevil

K Kathy Bush 21:56
Yeah, boll weevils. Yeah,



D Dan Maggio 21:56
A bug. It's like armored with red claws. It can lift like - I want to say 450 times

K Kathy Bush 22:03
Oh my gosh, come on.

D Dan Maggio 22:04
The strongest animal. You know, with respect to their size -

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:07
Weird

D Dan Maggio 22:08
on the planet. If I can dig this up, I'll bring it in next time.

K Kathy Bush 22:10
Please do, because you know, they're the ones that killed the whole cotton crop down south and like poor people

D Dan Maggio 22:14
I don't think it's the bo weevil, but it's in that family. Let me look at it again.

K Kathy Bush 22:18
Yeah, I would be interested.

D Dan Maggio 22:19
It was on that Animal Planet, and they were doing like the strongest animals. And it was just amazing.

K Kathy Bush 22:23
I want to know about weak animals. I'm down with those weak animals.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:26
Well, a kitten -

K Kathy Bush 22:27
That's right. I don't want any pitbulls chasing me. I want - yeah, I want some weak kind of animal that way.

D Dan Maggio 22:32
Before anybody quotes me, let me look that up.

K Kathy Bush 22:34
How many days can a cockroach live without its head?

B Beth Oljar 22:38
As many as it wants - (Kathy laughs) because it was in my student housing unit in Seattle.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:42
I mean, if the answer is one or greater, we're all doomed.

D Dan Maggio 22:48
I would say two minutes like everybody else.

K Kathy Bush 22:52
It's days, folks.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:53
Ugh! Anybody willing to take a guess?

D Dan Maggio 22:54



Without its head.



Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:54

14 days.



Kathy Bush 22:55

That's a little much.



Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:56

Okay. Well -



Beth Oljar 22:57

Three days



Kathy Bush 22:58

That's a little low.



Beth Oljar 23:00

A week.



Kathy Bush 23:01

It's nine days.



Dan Maggio 23:02

Really?



Kathy Bush 23:03

It says "the reason is because it would starve to death after the ninth day".



Matt Mio, Ph.D. 23:07

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 23:07
So it's still going, basically.

K Kathy Bush 23:08
It's still going. It takes a lickin' and keeps on tickin'.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 23:14
If only Greg were here.

B Beth Oljar 23:14
But if there's no central nervous system connection -

K Kathy Bush 23:15
I know.

B Beth Oljar 23:17
How does that work?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 23:18
I don't think that's the way that exoskeletal animals work.

D Dan Maggio 23:18
because don't you need your brain to direct your body?

K Kathy Bush 23:24
Yeah, there not the same as humans in that sense, but I thought it might be four or five days. The cockroaches I lived with in New York City could call their own taxi. So it was like, Okay, I could, I would have said like a week, but nine days has got to be -

B Beth Oljar 23:24
Oh, okay. I know some of the ones that I killed when we were in student housing in Seattle were - like - came back later. It was like a Stephen King story.

K Kathy Bush 23:43
Oh, no!

B Beth Oljar 23:44
Sometimes they come back.

K Kathy Bush 23:45
(Laughs) How many times it's body length can a flea jump? This is incredible.

D Dan Maggio 23:54
I would say a little flea a jump three feet.

K Kathy Bush 23:58
So this is how - Yeah. Okay.

D Dan Maggio 24:00
A little flea is about a quarter of an inch.

K Kathy Bush 24:02
So, you're doing this mathematically!

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:05
50

D Dan Maggio 24:05
48 Um, 1200

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:07

1200 times it's body length?

D Dan Maggio 24:09
Yeah

K Kathy Bush 24:10
That's a little high. (Laughs)

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:14
So like 500?

D Dan Maggio 24:15
48 times

K Kathy Bush 24:16
450. I'll give it to you.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:18
Okay. So it says, "That is like -"

D Dan Maggio 24:20
A flea is about a quarter of an inch or less?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:22
Maybe less

K Kathy Bush 24:23
Yeah, maybe less. They're tiny. That's the problem with the little buggers.

D Dan Maggio 24:25

If they could jump a foot, that would be 48 times it's length. Wait a minute, you said 400. Yeah, okay. Okay. I get it. Yeah,

K Kathy Bush 24:35

He notes that "this is like a human being jumping nearly the entire length of a football field". So again, I'm just kind of boggled by, you know, the visual of that

B Beth Oljar 24:45

They should get fleas in the long jump at the Olympics.

K Kathy Bush 24:47

I mean, or something something like that. This is the one thing that crocodile cannot stick out of its mouth. What is it?

D Dan Maggio 24:56

Its tongue?

K Kathy Bush 24:57

Yeah. That's a weird question, but I'm just trying to imagine a crocodile tongue. That'd be nasty.

B Beth Oljar 25:03

Well, it's probably attached to that lower jaw.

K Kathy Bush 25:05

Jaw. That's it Yeah. That was one thing that scared me about golfing in Florida. (laughing)

B Beth Oljar 25:12

Crocs?

K Kathy Bush 25:12

.....

Well, yeah, that you know, my sister said, "By the way, we go on this course - If a ball goes like into the rough, don't worry about it. Leave it" she said "you don't want to stick your hands in and this and this. I'm like, "Why" She said "because of the gators". I'm like, "What!" She goes, "Yeah, there's like , you know, wildlife on this course". And it was beautiful. But I was so freaked out the whole time on the course, like - yeah, I shouldn't watch those bad episodes of, uh -

B Beth Oljar 25:38
Miami Vice.

K Kathy Bush 25:39
Yeah, things like that. What is the only animal that cannot jump? And I think by this they mean mammal that cannot jump.

B Beth Oljar 25:49
Whales are mammals and they can't jump

K Kathy Bush 25:50
Yeah, I was gonna say. So let's say land mammals.

B Beth Oljar 25:53
Oh, okay. Yeah, this is such a huge - I was gonna say, what the - ?

D Dan Maggio 25:58
I mean, my first guess is to go big - like, elephant.

K Kathy Bush 26:02
You're right. That's it.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:03
Yeah, that's true. I mean, to count that as jumping.

D Dan Maggio 26:03

Oh

- K** Kathy Bush 26:03
They say "Elephants are the only he animals that can't jump". But as you say, Beth, mammals are. Yeah, it's a whale. Do they dive though? Do, like, whales can they like - Okay, well, yeah,
- D** Dan Maggio 26:17
I would say penguins,
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:19
but they're not mammals.
- D** Dan Maggio 26:20
Oh, that's right.
- K** Kathy Bush 26:21
Yeah. (Dan laughs)
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:23
Were you hatched? (Beth laughs)
- K** Kathy Bush 26:26
Dan, you're thinking of "Happy Feet" now.
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:31
March of the Maggios.
- D** Dan Maggio 26:32
I couldn't remember. Do they jump? They do jump out of the water.

K Kathy Bush 26:36
They dive. Yeah

D Dan Maggio 26:37
They do dive, and then they kinda jump when they come back.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:39
I agree, actually.

K Kathy Bush 26:40
Yeah.

D Dan Maggio 26:40
They propel themselves up.

K Kathy Bush 26:41
On an ostrich, this part of their body is bigger than its brain.

D Dan Maggio 26:47
The rest of it.

K Kathy Bush 26:48
(Laughs) This particular feature. It's the eyes. You're absolutely right.

D Dan Maggio 26:53
The eyes.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:55
Gross!

K Kathy Bush 26:56
Well, they do. I mean - It's a bird brain. I mean - that's what it's all about. Right. I know, that expression is so true biologically, but you know, it's just kind of -

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:05
Turkeys are dumb.

K Kathy Bush 27:07
Turkeys - my father - I don't know if this is true, but he told us this as kids - that turkeys could actually drown when it was raining, that they would look up and they would drown.

D Dan Maggio 27:15
Because they're so stupid.

K Kathy Bush 27:16
Because they're so stupid.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:17
They're really stupid.

K Kathy Bush 27:17
They're dumb, like beyond belief. He used to say they're dumb as dirt and - you know. And he had a great aunt that raised turkeys and he said that some of them if there was a big rainstorm that they'd had to go out to shoo them in, because they would just stand up there with their beaks open and they would like drown in the rain. (The end-of-show bell rings) Oh, but we have to stop there on that happy thought. Professor Mio.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:39
Why does it always coming back to turkeys?

K Kathy Bush 27:41
I know - why? Professor Maggio.

D Dan Maggio 27:44
Thanks.

K Kathy Bush 27:45
Professor Oljar

B Beth Oljar 27:45
See ya' next week. Ask The Professor is transcribed in the facilities of the Communication Studies Department studios on the University of Detroit Mercy McNichols campus. Ask The Professor is produced, technically directed, and everything else connected to it is done by Michael Jayson. And our executive producer is Dr. Vivian Dicks. Until next week, I'm your host, Kathy Bush.

M Michael Jayson 28:10
And we're back next week with another classic edition of Ask the Professor, so please plan to join us.