

# ATP 2417

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## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

year, questions, professors, professor, president, good, mack, laughs, wallace, detroit, astronomer, planet, panel, flowering plant, tyler, laugh, pluto, firsts, telescope, celestial object

## SPEAKERS

Robert O'Neill, Edwin DeWindt, John Klemanski, Michael Jayson, Bernard Green, Mary Jo Nichols

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- 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 December 1985.
- E** Edwin DeWindt 00:13  
All right, well, it's it's still winter and it's still Ask The Professor
- J** John Klemanski 00:17  
And the tower chimes are still on vacation.
- E** Edwin DeWindt 00:19  
That's right. They're in Florida.
- J** John Klemanski 00:22  
Right. Lucky dogs.
- E** Edwin DeWindt 00:23  
Brought to you by the University of Detroit. This is the radio program on which you match wits with University of Detroit professors in an unrehearsed session of questions and answers. I'm your host, Edwin DeWindt and today, as we are approaching the end of 1985.

J John Klemanski 00:39  
Wow!

E Edwin DeWindt 00:40  
Isn't it amazing? We have most of our panel with us. On my right, from the Department of Psychology Professor Robert O'Neill.

R Robert O'Neill 00:46  
Pleased to be here.

E Edwin DeWindt 00:47  
Pleased to have you here. On his right, from the Department of Mathematics Professor Mary Jo Nichols.

M Mary Jo Nichols 00:52  
It's nice to be here.

E Edwin DeWindt 00:53  
It's nice to have you here. On my left, from the Department of Political Science of Oakland University, Professor John Klemanski

J John Klemanski 01:00  
Hi, Ed.

E Edwin DeWindt 01:01  
Hi, John. And friend Wallace isn't here today.

J John Klemanski 01:08  
Yeah, What happened to him?

E Edwin DeWindt 01:08

**E** Edwin DeWindt 01:08  
Oh, he's doing registrations some place.

**J** John Klemanski 01:10  
We won't be ringing out the old year with him.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 01:12  
No. We'll have to ring in the new one next week with Wallace.

**J** John Klemanski 01:16  
Yeah. Okay.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 01:16  
Most of the questions you hear in this program are sent in by our listeners. If you stump the panel, you will receive an autographed photograph, a photograph autograph and a bumper sticker.

**R** Robert O'Neill 01:24  
Why don't we continue the tradition of giving them everything this week?

**J** John Klemanski 01:27  
Well, we could do that.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 01:28  
We could do that.

**R** Robert O'Neill 01:29  
Then we'll stop the tradition immediately.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 01:30  
Yes, yes. We'll -

J John Klemanski 01:31  
I was gonna say, I hope we don't have any questions on old TV shows or lousy films or anything, because Wallace is gone.

M Mary Jo Nichols 01:37  
And we haven't said "Hi" to his mom and dad either.

E Edwin DeWindt 01:39  
That's right. Hi, Mr. and Mrs. Peace.

J John Klemanski 01:44  
Do your Wallace imitation.

E Edwin DeWindt 01:45  
I wouldn't do that. Not on the air.. Okay, let's go back to where we were last time. We were in the midst of some questions on astronomy by Daniel Snednevich, of Algonac, Michigan. And he was asking you historical astronomy questions.

J John Klemanski 02:02  
Okay.

E Edwin DeWindt 02:03  
About historical astronomers, or something like that. We

J John Klemanski 02:06  
We were kind of slogging along. Weren't we?

M Mary Jo Nichols 02:09  
Wandering around.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 02:10  
This astronomer was born in England in 1642 and lived until 1727. His tomb is in Westminster Abbey and bears the epitaph "Mortals, congratulate yourselves that so great a name has lived for the honor of the human race". Who is this man?

**R** Robert O'Neill 02:26  
Modesty Blaze? (The professors laugh)

**J** John Klemanski 02:28  
Francis Bacon?

**E** Edwin DeWindt 02:30  
No. No..

**J** John Klemanski 02:33  
An astronomer. English astronomer

**E** Edwin DeWindt 02:35  
Mm-hm

**R** Robert O'Neill 02:35  
English astronomer

**E** Edwin DeWindt 02:36  
THE biggie

**J** John Klemanski 02:37  
The biggie.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 02:37  
Mm-hm

.....

J John Klemanski 02:39  
Newton.

E Edwin DeWindt 02:40  
That's right. That's right.

J John Klemanski 02:42  
It's funny, you don't think of him as an astronomer, per se.

E Edwin DeWindt 02:45  
I know, you really don't.

J John Klemanski 02:46  
But yeah,  $F = ma$ , and some other things.

E Edwin DeWindt 02:51  
The Hale Telescope on Mount Wilson was the largest telescope in the world for 30 years. What is the diameter of the mirror of this telescope in inches?

J John Klemanski 03:00  
It's probably - It's over 30, certainly. That's a standard. About 60 maybe

E Edwin DeWindt 03:04  
Oh, more than that.

J John Klemanski 03:05  
More than that. 120

E Edwin DeWindt 03:06

**E** Edwin DeWindt 03:06  
It's higher than that.

**R** Robert O'Neill 03:07  
904

**E** Edwin DeWindt 03:08  
No, no, no

**J** John Klemanski 03:09  
but 200 let's say.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 03:10  
That's right. 200 at the bottom. That's it.

**R** Robert O'Neill 03:13  
Soon there will be a 904 inch.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 03:15  
I bet you're right. What type of glass was invented by Corning Glass Works specifically for the Hale telescope?

**R** Robert O'Neill 03:23  
Transparent

**J** John Klemanski 03:24  
Unbreakable. What kind of glass?

**E** Edwin DeWindt 03:27  
No. It's heat resistant

J John Klemanski 03:27  
Heat resistant. Yeah.

E Edwin DeWindt 03:28  
It became a brand name

J John Klemanski 03:29  
Right, because that's what you put in the oven now when you want to bake bread or whatever.

E Edwin DeWindt 03:33  
That's right. What do you call that?

J John Klemanski 03:34  
What do you call it?

R Robert O'Neill 03:35  
Corningware.

E Edwin DeWindt 03:35  
Well, yes

J John Klemanski 03:39  
Oh, Pyrex

E Edwin DeWindt 03:39  
Pyrex. (Laughing) Corningware.

J John Klemanski 03:42  
That is a brand name.



R Robert O'Neill 03:43  
They might want to put a pizza on it.

E Edwin DeWindt 03:46  
That's true. I never thought of that. In the year 1582, Pope Gregory the 13th issued a proclamation that stated that 10 days will be dropped from the current year. Why?

R Robert O'Neill 03:58  
We had 10 days too many. We needed to readjust the calendar.

E Edwin DeWindt 04:01  
That's right. That's essentially it. That's right.

R Robert O'Neill 04:05  
So much for the Julian calendar.

E Edwin DeWindt 04:07  
That's right. It was the end of the Julian calendar.

R Robert O'Neill 04:09  
I still like it.

E Edwin DeWindt 04:10  
Well, you know, it's funny because I have to do all kinds of readjusting now. I'm working in the history of Ramsey as if anybody's -

R Robert O'Neill 04:17  
Greater Ramsey. We did know that. Yes,

E Edwin DeWindt 04:19

but I'm into the 16th century. And for the first time in my historical career, I have to consciously be aware of the fact that there's this great shift in the dating around that period; because suddenly, you can't take anybody for granted anymore.

J John Klemanski 04:34

You have to put an asterisk by all these things.

E Edwin DeWindt 04:36

That's right. The old date, the new date and all. It's terrible.

M Mary Jo Nichols 04:40

And there was a saint - wasn't there - that died during the night of November 2nd to the 12th. Something like that.

E Edwin DeWindt 04:47

Yes. Yes.

R Robert O'Neill 04:48

I think it was Maria Goretti.

E Edwin DeWindt 04:49

(Laughs) Well, we thank Mr. Snednevich . He didn't stump the panel -

R Robert O'Neill 04:55

but he gave it a darn good try.

E Edwin DeWindt 04:57

We're gonna give him the whole Christmas package anyway. So we'll call him a winner because those were winning questions.

J John Klemanski 05:03

Yes, those were good. Those were those really challenged us I thought.

**R** Robert O'Neill 05:06  
I thought so too.

**J** John Klemanski 05:07  
But we were equal to the task.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 05:08  
Of course. Of course.

**R** Robert O'Neill 05:09  
More than equal.

**J** John Klemanski 05:10  
And not many hints either.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 05:11  
Not many. No Our next set of questions comes from Neil Roberts of Detroit, Michigan, who says "Dear professors: We've all seen those presidential firsts, you know, the first president to wear false teeth, etc. How about a slightly offbeat list of presidential firsts?"

**J** John Klemanski 05:12  
Not too bad. Who was the first vice president to wear false teeth?

**E** Edwin DeWindt 05:31  
George Washington

**J** John Klemanski 05:32  
Oh

**E** Edwin DeWindt 05:32  
but he wants seven out of 10.

**R** Robert O'Neill 05:34  
Okay.

**J** John Klemanski 05:34  
All right.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 05:35  
Who was the first president to be a college dropout?

**R** Robert O'Neill 05:40  
Oh, my!

**J** John Klemanski 05:41  
Early on?

**E** Edwin DeWindt 05:42  
Yes.

**J** John Klemanski 05:44  
Very early?

**E** Edwin DeWindt 05:45  
Well, no. Not very, very early.

**J** John Klemanski 05:48  
We're talking mid 1800s, maybe?

**E** Edwin DeWindt 05:50  
Earlier.

**R** Robert O'Neill 05:51  
Yeah, it wasn't Millard Fillmore. We know that.

**J** John Klemanski 05:52  
Marty Van Buren.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 05:53  
No, he had a doctrine named after him.

**J** John Klemanski 05:56  
Monroe.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 05:57  
Yes. Yes.

**R** Robert O'Neill 05:58  
A college dropout.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 05:59  
Who was the first president to never vote in any presidential election?

**J** John Klemanski 06:04  
How could that be?

**M** Mary Jo Nichols 06:05  
Washington.

**R** Robert O'Neill 06:07  
That's gotta be Fillmore.

**J** John Klemanski 06:08  
Taft.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 06:09  
Taft.

**J** John Klemanski 06:10  
This must be early also.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 06:12  
Yes. Yes. It's in that bunch of presidents I always think "Who would ever know their names?"

**J** John Klemanski 06:18  
Like Tyler

**E** Edwin DeWindt 06:19  
Yes. That group.

**R** Robert O'Neill 06:20  
Clay.

**J** John Klemanski 06:21  
Clay wasn't a president. Uh, we're talking early to mid 1800s.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 06:28  
That's right. That's right.

R Robert O'Neill 06:30  
Fillmore.

E Edwin DeWindt 06:30  
No, no, no.

J John Klemanski 06:31  
Tyler. Taylor.

E Edwin DeWindt 06:32  
It was Taylor. Yes.

J John Klemanski 06:34  
Well, he was a general in the army. He didn't know what he was doing.

E Edwin DeWindt 06:36  
That's right.

J John Klemanski 06:36  
He was busy.

E Edwin DeWindt 06:37  
Well, Eisenhower used to brag, remember, that he had never voted his entire life. Yeah.

J John Klemanski 06:41  
You're kidding. Did he vote in 52 or 56?

E Edwin DeWindt 06:43  
Because he was a general in the army, and in the army he just took orders. He didn't bother to

because he was a general in the army, and in the army he just took orders. He didn't bother to involve himself in the political process.

**J** John Klemanski 06:50  
Yeah. Right. They didn't believe in democracy.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 06:52  
No. They just marched.

**J** John Klemanski 06:54  
Right.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 06:55  
Who was the first president to have illegitimate children?

**R** Robert O'Neill 06:59  
Well, let's see.

**M** Mary Jo Nichols 07:00  
Jefferson.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 07:00  
That's right.

**J** John Klemanski 07:01  
Hey - good, Mary Jo.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 07:02  
That's right.

**J** John Klemanski 07:03



J John Klemanski 07:03  
The first of many probably. Right?

E Edwin DeWindt 07:05  
Probably. Yes. Who was the first president to remarry while in the White House?

J John Klemanski 07:11  
While in the White House.

E Edwin DeWindt 07:13  
To remarry.

J John Klemanski 07:13  
So that leaves out President Reagan.

E Edwin DeWindt 07:15  
That's right.

M Mary Jo Nichols 07:17  
Right.

E Edwin DeWindt 07:17  
It's another one of those forgotten presidents

J John Klemanski 07:21  
Fairly early, or -?

E Edwin DeWindt 07:22  
Uh, same -

R Robert O'Neill 07:24  
Tyler

E Edwin DeWindt 07:24  
That's right. Tyler

R Robert O'Neill 07:26  
If it's not Taylor, it's gotta be Tyler.

J John Klemanski 07:26  
Very good Well, his first wife fell over in that canoe probably - right?

E Edwin DeWindt 07:30  
Yes. She tipped the canoe. And Mrs. Tyler went too. (Laughs) Okay, who was the first president to be gay? Or as the question says here, "Or what they used to call a lifelong bachelor".

J John Klemanski 07:31  
Tippecanoe Oh, yeah. What's-his-name didn't ever marry.

E Edwin DeWindt 07:48  
Yeah.

J John Klemanski 07:50  
Oh, what was his name? Uh, Buchanan.

E Edwin DeWindt 07:53  
That's right.

J John Klemanski 07:54  
Yeah,

**E** Edwin DeWindt 07:54  
That's right. It should be pointed out, however, that there were people in the past who were simply lifelong bachelors.

**J** John Klemanski 08:00  
Yeah, that's true. If that's a value judgment that this questioner's probably making -

**E** Edwin DeWindt 08:04  
Yeah, you have to be careful of that. Who was the first president to be left handed?

**M** Mary Jo Nichols 08:12  
We just did this. And it was Harry Truman, and before that -

**J** John Klemanski 08:15  
Truman, Garfield -

**E** Edwin DeWindt 08:17  
It was one of those.

**J** John Klemanski 08:19  
There's three of them, right?

**E** Edwin DeWindt 08:20  
Yes.

**J** John Klemanski 08:20  
Oh, it's one of those?

**E** Edwin DeWindt 08:21  
One of those two

One of those two.

**J** John Klemanski 08:22  
Well, it's got to be Garfield then. Who was the third one? Do we know?

**M** Mary Jo Nichols 08:27  
Uh, Jerry Ford

**J** John Klemanski 08:27  
Jerry Ford.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 08:28  
That's right. Who was the first president to be an alcoholic?

**M** Mary Jo Nichols 08:32  
Grant

**J** John Klemanski 08:33  
The first of many also, probably.

**R** Robert O'Neill 08:35  
Well, certainly the more illustrious

**E** Edwin DeWindt 08:36  
It wasn't Grant.

**J** John Klemanski 08:38  
Earlier than Grant?

**E** Edwin DeWindt 08:40

— Uh-huh.

J John Klemanski 08:40  
Earlier than Grant. Earlier than - let's say - Andy Jackson? He's in the late 1820s.

E Edwin DeWindt 08:46  
No, after after

J John Klemanski 08:47  
So it's between 1830 and 1860.

R Robert O'Neill 08:50  
Now we're back to Tyler, Taylor, Polk, Van Buren.

E Edwin DeWindt 08:54  
Yes.

J John Klemanski 08:55  
Is it one of those?


E Edwin DeWindt 08:56  
It's in that crowd


R Robert O'Neill 08:59  
How about Van Buuren

E Edwin DeWindt 09:00  
No.


R Robert O'Neill 09:00


 ROBERT O'NEIL 09:00  
Is it before Van Buren?

 Edwin DeWindt 09:01  
I don't know the dates.


 John Klemanski 09:08  
Okay, we've got your basic Andrew Jackson then you have a Martin Van Buren. You have a Tyler, Taylor, Polk, Lincoln Johnson. Johnson?


 Edwin DeWindt 09:18  
No


 John Klemanski 09:18  
Grant.

 Edwin DeWindt 09:19  
This one must be - I don't know when this one is then. He must be before -

 John Klemanski 09:23  
Chester A Arthur.

 Edwin DeWindt 09:24  
No, Franklin Pierce.

 John Klemanski 09:26  
Oh

 Edwin DeWindt 09:27  
When is Pierce?

J John Klemanski 09:28  
He's in the 50s, I think.

E Edwin DeWindt 09:31  
Oh, well. Who was the first president to never attend school?

R Robert O'Neill 09:37  
Never attend school at all.

J John Klemanski 09:39  
So we're not even talking about college dropout. We're talking about -

E Edwin DeWindt 09:41  
No

M Mary Jo Nichols 09:42  
No school at all.

E Edwin DeWindt 09:43  
That's right.

J John Klemanski 09:43  
Never fully matriculating anywhere.

R Robert O'Neill 09:45  
How about "Rough and Ready" Jackson.

E Edwin DeWindt 09:47  
Nope.

J John Klemanski 09:47  
Before Jackson?

E Edwin DeWindt 09:48  
After Jackson.

J John Klemanski 09:49  
After Jackson.

E Edwin DeWindt 09:50  
After Lincoln too.

J John Klemanski 09:51  
After Lincoln.

E Edwin DeWindt 09:53  
Mm-hm

J John Klemanski 09:53  
That's unusual.

M Mary Jo Nichols 09:54  
Johnson.

E Edwin DeWindt 09:54  
That's right. Andrew Johnson.

J John Klemanski 09:55  
That's quite unusual.



**E** Edwin DeWindt 09:57  
Who was the first to have an epileptic wife?

**J** John Klemanski 10:01  
That's talking trivia.

**M** Mary Jo Nichols 10:02  
Yeah. really.

**R** Robert O'Neill 10:04  
Gossipy.

**M** Mary Jo Nichols 10:07  
Early?

**J** John Klemanski 10:07  
We're talking 1800's still?

**E** Edwin DeWindt 10:10  
Well, he was elected in the 1800's

**J** John Klemanski 10:13  
It's got to be McKinley then

**E** Edwin DeWindt 10:14  
Yes.

**J** John Klemanski 10:16  
Good question, huh?

**E** Edwin DeWindt 10:18  
Who was the first president to have no interesting first in his life or career?

**J** John Klemanski 10:23  
Fillmore.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 10:23  
That's right. Millard Fillmore.

**R** Robert O'Neill 10:25  
Oh, he did have a couple of interesting firsts.

**J** John Klemanski 10:26  
Well, yeah. Didn't we have that whole set of questions about having the first bathtub?

**E** Edwin DeWindt 10:32  
Apparently that was either made up by H. L. Mencken or someone like that

**J** John Klemanski 10:37  
Didn't he have the first library too and stuff. I remember those.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 10:37  
Yeah. He has done something. He must have.

**J** John Klemanski 10:42  
Too bad George wasn't here for that.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 10:43  
That's right. Well -

That's right. Well -

**R** Robert O'Neill 10:44  
Shuffling back to Buffalo.

**J** John Klemanski 10:45  
Right.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 10:46  
Well, we thank Mr. Roberts. He didn't stump the panel. That's it.

**J** John Klemanski 10:50  
Hey, pretty good.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 10:51  
But, uh, he'll get the complete package anyway.

**J** John Klemanski 10:54  
The ersatz winners package.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 10:56  
That's right. And now we're going to end up 1985 - if it takes us all the rest of this show -

**J** John Klemanski 11:03  
(Laughs)

**M** Mary Jo Nichols 11:03  
(Laughs) The rest of this year.

**R** Robert O'Neill 11:04

Don't turn that dial.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 11:05  
with Mack Smith of Mendocino County, California.

**J** John Klemanski 11:10  
Let's close out '85 with Mack and never hear from him again.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 11:13  
I think Mack's finally left Mendocino. Heaven knows where he is. I don't know if we have enough  
- No, I don't think we have enough. Yes, yes. We may have to start all over again. (laughs) And  
the producer just shot himself.

**J** John Klemanski 11:31  
We'll have enough. Yeah.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 11:32  
Oh, no, we do. We do. I just noticed here. Yes, yes. We're good.

**J** John Klemanski 11:35  
Okay.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 11:35  
We're all set.

**J** John Klemanski 11:36  
All right.

**R** Robert O'Neill 11:36  
Okay, lay it on us.

**J** John Klemanski 11:38  
Let's have it.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 11:38  
Okay. Okay. But first, let's have a little break.

**M** Michael Jayson 11:44  
You can email Ask The Professor at ATP@UDMercy.edu, or visit the Ask the Professor Facebook page. You're listening to a special encore presentation of a classic Ask the Professor show from December 1985. Matt Mio and the current panel of ATP professors will return in January with more brand new episodes. So email your questions today to ATP@udmercy.edu. Now let's return to this classic episode of Ask the Professor from December 1985.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 12:20  
And we're back to end up 1985 with our questions from Mack Smith of Mendocino County.

**B** Bernard Green 12:27  
Mack's been with us the entire year.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 12:29  
Yes, he has.

**R** Robert O'Neill 12:30  
He's been a groupie.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 12:31  
That's right. Hammer, anvil and stirrup are what?

**J** John Klemanski 12:35  
Parts of the ear.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 12:36  
That's right.

**J** John Klemanski 12:37  
Oh, yeah. Bones.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 12:38  
Very good. Okay. What was the year of the San Francisco earthquake? That's right. 1906.  
Would anybody care to hum a few bars of "San Francisco"? If Wallace were here, he would go on talking about what a horrible movie it was.

**M** Mary Jo Nichols 12:47  
1906

**B** Bernard Green 12:48  
That he saw four times.


**E** Edwin DeWindt 12:52  
Yes. And it wasn't as good as Satragon Attacks San Francisco, or something of that sort. But he's not here, so we can't talk about that.


**J** John Klemanski 13:11  
Right.


**E** Edwin DeWindt 13:12  
On the Celsius temperature scale, the boiling point of water is what?

**J** John Klemanski 13:16  
100


**E** Edwin DeWindt 13:18


 That's right. 100

 John Klemanski 13:20  
What's the freezing point?


 Robert O'Neill 13:22  
Zero.

 Mary Jo Nichols 13:23  
Zero


 Edwin DeWindt 13:24  
That's right. Very good. What is the largest flying bird?

 Robert O'Neill 13:30  
Pterodactyls


 Edwin DeWindt 13:31  
No.


 John Klemanski 13:32  
That are presently alive?


 Edwin DeWindt 13:33  
Yes.


 John Klemanski 13:36  
The Condor?


 Edwin DeWindt 13:37


 Edwin DeWindt 13:37  
No. Think of The Rime of the Ancient Mariner


 John Klemanski 13:41  
Albatross?


 Edwin DeWindt 13:42  
Albatross.


 John Klemanski 13:43  
Okay.


 Edwin DeWindt 13:43  
Albatross. That's right. Okay, what is the world's fastest running animal?

 John Klemanski 13:50  
For short distances, long distances or - ?

 Edwin DeWindt 13:52  
It doesn't say.

 John Klemanski 13:53  
Well, there's the cheetah.

 Edwin DeWindt 13:54  
Yeah. Cheetah is the answer I have here.

 John Klemanski 13:56  
They don't have much staying power, but they are darn fast in a sprint.





R Robert O'Neill 13:59  
It depends what's chasing them.

E Edwin DeWindt 14:01  
Well, if you're caught cheating (The professors laugh). How much food will you eat in your lifetime?

J John Klemanski 14:11  
I don't think that's any of your business frankly, but -

M Mary Jo Nichols 14:14  
Tons

E Edwin DeWindt 14:14  
That's right. How many tons?

J John Klemanski 14:15  
Four.

E Edwin DeWindt 14:16  
No.

R Robert O'Neill 14:17  
44

E Edwin DeWindt 14:18  
That's getting there.

M Mary Jo Nichols 14:20  
Really?

J John Klemanski 14:20  
64

E Edwin DeWindt 14:20  
That's too high.

M Mary Jo Nichols 14:21  
50.

E Edwin DeWindt 14:21  
That's right. 50 tons. The average American eats 50 tons of food

R Robert O'Neill 14:25  
50 tons, How much prune juice? (The professors laugh

J John Klemanski 14:29  
That's how you keep slim.

E Edwin DeWindt 14:31  
Yes

J John Klemanski 14:32  
Four quarts

E Edwin DeWindt 14:33  
Name the theoretical restriction on the accuracy of measuring the position and momentum of very small particles.


R Robert O'Neill 14:42  
Name the theoretical restriction -


NAME THE THEORETICAL RESTRICTION -


- E** Edwin DeWindt 14:44  
on the accuracy of measuring the position and momentum of very small particles.
- J** John Klemanski 14:50  
As far as the eye can see. (The professors laugh) As small as the eye can see. Is
- R** Robert O'Neill 14:54  
Is this a mathematical - Or is this named after someone?
- E** Edwin DeWindt 14:56  
It's named after someone. Yes
- R** Robert O'Neill 14:58  
Heisenberg
- E** Edwin DeWindt 14:59  
That's it.
- R** Robert O'Neill 15:00  
Of course.
- E** Edwin DeWindt 15:01  
The Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle
- R** Robert O'Neill 15:03  
Of course. I taught the interdisciplinary course.
- J** John Klemanski 15:07


That is truly amazing.


 Mary Jo Nichols 15:08  
Yes.


 Edwin DeWindt 15:09  
The lightest noble gas is what?


 John Klemanski 15:12  
Noble?


 Edwin DeWindt 15:13  
That's what it says. Noble.

 Robert O'Neill 15:14  
Noble


 John Klemanski 15:15  
Well. Helium.


 Edwin DeWindt 15:18  
That's right.

 John Klemanski 15:19  
Why is that a noble gas?


 Robert O'Neill 15:21  
It rises.


 John Klemanski 15:22


 John Klemanski 15:22  
I see. It's a very classy gas. It is. It's quite noble


 Robert O'Neill 15:27  
Yeah, it's not as much fun as nitrous oxide.

 Edwin DeWindt 15:27  
Okay


 John Klemanski 15:29  
No


 Edwin DeWindt 15:29  
There are four conic sections, four sections of a cone.

 Mary Jo Nichols 15:33  
Right.

 Edwin DeWindt 15:34  
Circle is one.

 John Klemanski 15:35  
Okay. Mary Jo, go for it.

 Mary Jo Nichols 15:36  
Parabola,

 Edwin DeWindt 15:37  
That's right.



M Mary Jo Nichols 15:38  
Hyperbola and Ellipse.

E Edwin DeWindt 15:40  
That's it.

M Mary Jo Nichols 15:41  
(Laughs) Point at the tip of the cone.

R Robert O'Neill 15:41  
And point That's where the ice cream drips out. It's the part you bite first.

E Edwin DeWindt 15:50  
Very good. The ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter is called pi

R Robert O'Neill 15:55  
Pi r squared

M Mary Jo Nichols 15:57  
Of the circumference to its diameter? Pi.

E Edwin DeWindt 15:59  
That's right. Just plain old pi.

M Mary Jo Nichols 16:01  
That's the definition of pi too.

E Edwin DeWindt 16:05  
The longest and strongest bone in your body is what?

J John Klemanski 16:10  
the longest and strongest

M Mary Jo Nichols 16:12  
The backbone.

J John Klemanski 16:13  
The spine

E Edwin DeWindt 16:14  
You'd think -Yeah, you'd think it would be.

M Mary Jo Nichols 16:15  
Yeah.

J John Klemanski 16:16  
The fibula.

E Edwin DeWindt 16:17  
It begins with an F

R Robert O'Neill 16:18  
The femur

E Edwin DeWindt 16:19  
The femur. That's right.

R Robert O'Neill 16:20  
Femur

**E** Edwin DeWindt 16:23  
What do you call the Aurora Borealis?

**J** John Klemanski 16:26  
Northern Lights?

**E** Edwin DeWindt 16:26  
That's right. The sun has is whatt proportion of the total mass of the solar system.?

**J** John Klemanski 16:34  
99 point -

**E** Edwin DeWindt 16:35  
That's it.

**J** John Klemanski 16:36  
Is it? 99%?

**E** Edwin DeWindt 16:38  
Yep.

**J** John Klemanski 16:38  
How about that.

**R** Robert O'Neill 16:41  
Don't seek extra praise where none is needed. (Mary Jo laughs)

**E** Edwin DeWindt 16:46  
What flowering plant contains the drug digitalis?



J John Klemanski 16:49  
Oh, what is -

R Robert O'Neill 16:50  
The digit plant

J John Klemanski 16:52  
Is it a common plant?

E Edwin DeWindt 16:53  
Yeah. It's a bi annual

J John Klemanski 16:55  
Biannual. Um - What are biannuals?

E Edwin DeWindt 16:59  
It means that one year they grow well, and the next year - nothing.

B Bernard Green 17:03  
Mums? Geraniums -

E Edwin DeWindt 17:05  
No. They are very common. They're kind of pinkish. A lot of them are

J John Klemanski 17:09  
Begonias.

E Edwin DeWindt 17:10  
We had one in our backyard that was six feet high.

J John Klemanski 17:12  
Wow.

E Edwin DeWindt 17:13  
Since then, the rest have collapsed at about eight inches.

J John Klemanski 17:18  
And that's a flowering plant.

E Edwin DeWindt 17:19  
Yes. And they look like artificial fingers that you'd put on your fingers.

J John Klemanski 17:27  
What are those things?

E Edwin DeWindt 17:27  
Foxglove

J John Klemanski 17:28  
Oh, Foxglove

E Edwin DeWindt 17:31  
Okay. Do planets have overlapping orbits?

J John Klemanski 17:35  
Yes.

E Edwin DeWindt 17:36  
What are they?

J John Klemanski 17:37  
Pluto and Uranus

E Edwin DeWindt 17:39  
Not Uranus.

J John Klemanski 17:40  
Pluto and Neptune.

E Edwin DeWindt 17:41  
That's right. Pluto and Neptune. in 1774 Joseph Priestley discovered what?

J John Klemanski 17:47  
Oxygen

E Edwin DeWindt 17:48  
That's right. Oxygen. Very good.

J John Klemanski 17:50  
And it was good - (The professors laugh) -because people were getting people are blue in the face.

E Edwin DeWindt 17:55  
Oh, brother, people didn't know what to breathe. It was terrible.

J John Klemanski 17:59  
Just in the nick of time.

E Edwin DeWindt 18:02

My old hometown, Flint, Michigan is 62 miles from Detroit. How many kilometers is 62 miles?  
That's right. That's right. Where do the highest tides in the world occur?

R

Robert O'Neill 18:09

100.

M

Mary Jo Nichols 18:15

The Bay of Fundy.

E

Edwin DeWindt 18:16

That's right. The highest tides are in the Bay of Fundy.

R

Robert O'Neill 18:19

Not very fundy.

E

Edwin DeWindt 18:20

And what Detroit blacksmith built a boat trailer for a customer who went on to create a huge manufacturing operation?

J

John Klemanski 18:26

Fruehauf

E

Edwin DeWindt 18:27

That's right. That's right. And finally, an ampere is a unit of what Yeah. Electrical current.

J

John Klemanski 18:34

Electrical - something

E

Edwin DeWindt 18:39

And the last question. This will be the final one

J John Klemanski 18:42  
There's one more after this too. Thie ultra. This is the last final.

E Edwin DeWindt 18:47  
The final Mack Smith question. Mack's gotta send in more questions. Who nvented bifocals?

J John Klemanski 18:56  
Benjamin Franklin.

E Edwin DeWindt 18:58  
That's it.

R Robert O'Neill 18:58  
And the first ones were wooden. (The professors laugh)

E Edwin DeWindt 19:00  
Well, we thank Mack Smith. Mack's gonna get the whole package.

J John Klemanski 19:04  
Wow. Of course. He should.

E Edwin DeWindt 19:05  
He's kept us occupied for a whole year -

J John Klemanski 19:08  
And we finally finished

E Edwin DeWindt 19:09  
We finally got through the whole box.

J John Klemanski 19:10  
Thanks, Mack. That was terrific.

E Edwin DeWindt 19:11  
We wanna thank Mack . That was a lot of fun.

M Mary Jo Nichols 19:14  
It was.

E Edwin DeWindt 19:14  
Send another box. (laughs)

J John Klemanski 19:17  
Yes.

E Edwin DeWindt 19:19  
Our next set of questions comes from Pat McGee of Chatham Ontario.

R Robert O'Neill 19:22  
An international listener.

J John Klemanski 19:24  
Yeah, we're really doing good.

M Mary Jo Nichols 19:25  
We've had a lot from Chatham

E Edwin DeWindt 19:26  
That's right. He says "This is my second set of questions. There are 21 questions on

astronomy". Ooh,

**J** John Klemanski 19:31  
Hey - what's this deal here?

**E** Edwin DeWindt 19:33  
I guess it's because it's a new year.

**M** Mary Jo Nichols 19:34  
Remember the answers from the year before.

**J** John Klemanski 19:36  
And Halley's comet is coming and all that stuff.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 19:38  
18 is a passing score, plus five bonus questions on music.


**J** John Klemanski 19:42  
Oh, great. Oh, good. Why don't we go to those right now.


**M** Mary Jo Nichols 19:45  
(Laughs) Let's go to those.


**E** Edwin DeWindt 19:46  
What prominent celestial object is most incorrectly reported as a UFO?


**J** John Klemanski 19:52  
Probably like Venus.


**E** Edwin DeWindt 19:54


 Edwin DeWindt 20:04  
That's it. Venus. That's right. By using the best telescope on Earth, can the landing craft left on the moon by the Apollo astronauts be seen?


 John Klemanski 20:04  
Yeah,


 Robert O'Neill 20:05  
No


 John Klemanski 20:06  
You know why - because it's the same color as the moon's surface.


 Edwin DeWindt 20:06  
No That's right.

 Robert O'Neill 20:11  
Why didn't they paint it fluorescent?

 Edwin DeWindt 20:12  
I don't know. They were -

 John Klemanski 20:14  
Somebody could hit it on the way down, you know, next time around.

 Edwin DeWindt 20:16  
That's right. Bump right into it. What are believed to be the most remote celestial objects in the universe?

 Robert O'Neill 20:22  
Quarks



**E** Edwin DeWindt 20:23  
Not quarks

**R** Robert O'Neill 20:24  
Quasars,

**E** Edwin DeWindt 20:25  
(Sings) Quasars. Which of the solar system's nine planets have no moons?

**J** John Klemanski 20:33  
Mercury.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 20:34  
That's right. And there's one more.

**J** John Klemanski 20:35  
Venus.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 20:35  
Venus. That's right.

**J** John Klemanski 20:36  
Is that it?

**E** Edwin DeWindt 20:37  
That's it.

**R** Robert O'Neill 20:37  
That's all?

J John Klemanski 20:38  
Pluto has one?

E Edwin DeWindt 20:39  
Apparently. What constellation does the North Star belong to?

J John Klemanski 20:46  
Orion

E Edwin DeWindt 20:47  
No.

B Bernard Green 20:48  
The big, the small? it's the small dipper.

E Edwin DeWindt 20:51  
Not the dipper

M Mary Jo Nichols 20:52  
The bear.

E Edwin DeWindt 20:53  
The bear.

J John Klemanski 20:53  
Ursa Minor

E Edwin DeWindt 20:54  
That's right. What television talk show host is an avid amateur astronomer?

J John Klemanski 21:00  
Carl Sagan. (The professors laugh)

E Edwin DeWindt 21:02  
No

R Robert O'Neill 21:02  
Billions and billions.

M Mary Jo Nichols 21:05  
Dick Cavett?

E Edwin DeWindt 21:06  
No, but late night..

J John Klemanski 21:08  
Johnny Carson.

E Edwin DeWindt 21:09  
Johnny Carson.

J John Klemanski 21:10  
Is there any other?

M Mary Jo Nichols 21:11  
No

E Edwin DeWindt 21:12  
.....

What bizarre type of cosmic body is Cygnus X-1 believed to be?

**R** Robert O'Neill 21:12  
a bizarre type of cosmic body.

**J** John Klemanski 21:22  
It's a nova.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 21:24  
No.

**R** Robert O'Neill 21:24  
A black hole

**E** Edwin DeWindt 21:25  
A black hole. That's right. How many times farther away is the sun compared with the moon?

**J** John Klemanski 21:33  
Oh, it's gotta be -

**E** Edwin DeWindt 21:34  
Is it 40 times, 400 times, 40,000 times or 400,000 times?

**R** Robert O'Neill 21:40  
400,000

**E** Edwin DeWindt 21:40  
No.

**J** John Klemanski 21:40

40,000

**E** Edwin DeWindt 21:40  
No.

**J** John Klemanski 21:40  
400.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 21:40  
It's 400.

**J** John Klemanski 21:40  
Is that all?

**E** Edwin DeWindt 21:40  
Yeah. 400

**J** John Klemanski 21:42  
You know, they're now taking deposits for the first tourist flight out into the - to wherever they're going. I'm not sure, but it's an outer space. It's going to cost \$50,000

**E** Edwin DeWindt 22:00  
Oh, my gosh.

**J** John Klemanski 22:01  
And you have to put five down. It's not too bad.

**M** Mary Jo Nichols 22:04  
Just five dollars is not bad at all.

J John Klemanski 22:05  
Five thousand. Five big bills there Mary Jo.

E Edwin DeWindt 22:10  
What planet will be farthest from the Sun until the year 1999?

J John Klemanski 22:16  
Neptune probably.

E Edwin DeWindt 22:16  
That's right.

J John Klemanski 22:17  
Because Pluto's crossed already.

E Edwin DeWindt 22:19  
That's right. Is the full moon higher in the sky during summer or winter?

M Mary Jo Nichols 22:24  
Yes

J John Klemanski 22:25  
Winter.

E Edwin DeWindt 22:26  
(Laughs) Winter, that's right. What major world power is not sending a spacecraft close to Halley's Comet?

J John Klemanski 22:34  
None.

E Edwin DeWindt 22:35  
Nope.

J John Klemanski 22:35  
Which one isn't?

E Edwin DeWindt 22:36  
Which one is not sending a spacecraft close to Halley's Comet?

J John Klemanski 22:38  
The U.S.

E Edwin DeWindt 22:41  
That's right.

J John Klemanski 22:43  
Pretty good guess.

E Edwin DeWindt 22:45  
Yep.

J John Klemanski 22:46  
The traffic's going to be terrible one day.

E Edwin DeWindt 22:47  
It certainly is. Does the North Pole or the South Pole receive the most daylight during the year?

J John Klemanski 22:53  
North?

E Edwin DeWindt 22:54  
That's right. North.

R Robert O'Neill 22:55  
That would be the North

E Edwin DeWindt 22:57  
Yes.

J John Klemanski 22:57  
Tilted on an axis, you see.

E Edwin DeWindt 22:59  
What is the brilliant object seen in the December skies in the southwest sky at dusk?

J John Klemanski 23:07  
Is it a planet?

E Edwin DeWindt 23:08  
It's a planet.

J John Klemanski 23:09  
Is it Mars?

E Edwin DeWindt 23:10  
Nope.

J John Klemanski 23:11  
Is it Jupiter? Saturn?



is it Jupiter? Saturn.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 23:12  
No.

**R** Robert O'Neill 23:13  
Venus.

**J** John Klemanski 23:13  
Venus. I thought that was a morning star.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 23:13  
Venus. Yeah, that's an Evening Star.

**J** John Klemanski 23:18  
What's the Morningstar?

**E** Edwin DeWindt 23:19  
I don't know. My nephew would know that. How many stars are there in the Big Dipper?

**J** John Klemanski 23:26  
Billions and billions in the Big Dipper.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 23:27  
No. Seven. Bob had it. Seven. What constellation contains the Pleiades star cluster? The Pleiades - what constellation?

**R** Robert O'Neill 23:28  
Seven

**J** John Klemanski 23:30

J Jonn Klemanski 23:42  
Is it in the northern sky or southern sky?

E Edwin DeWindt 23:44  
Well, it's not a lot of bull. I'll tell you that.

J John Klemanski 23:46  
Taurus.

E Edwin DeWindt 23:46  
That's right. Taurus

R Robert O'Neill 23:48  
That would be Taurus.

E Edwin DeWindt 23:52  
What country has the largest number of identified meteorite craters?

J John Klemanski 23:56  
Is it in Africa?

M Mary Jo Nichols 23:58  
Africa.

E Edwin DeWindt 23:58  
No, it isn't.

J John Klemanski 23:59  
Is it the United States? It's

—

- E** Edwin DeWindt 24:01  
It's on our part of the world.
- J** John Klemanski 24:03  
Mexico? Canada?
- E** Edwin DeWindt 24:06  
Canada.
- J** John Klemanski 24:07  
It's a big country.
- E** Edwin DeWindt 24:08  
Yeah. What is the only planet whose surface features not atmosphere can be clearly seen in backyard telescopes?
- J** John Klemanski 24:10  
It's a meteorite
- M** Mary Jo Nichols 24:10  
Mm-hm.
- J** John Klemanski 24:24  
Mars
- E** Edwin DeWindt 24:24  
That's right, Mars. Now we go on to the bonus questions.
- J** John Klemanski 24:31  
We're doing pretty good even without the bonuses In the Addams Family TV series, what is the name of the two Piranha fish? They're obviously the names of planets or stars or something?

**E** Edwin DeWindt 24:41  
No they're not. This is the name of a Wagnerian musical

**M** Mary Jo Nichols 24:45  
These are music questions.

**J** John Klemanski 24:46  
Oh, these are music questions. Uh, Isolde and Tristan

**E** Edwin DeWindt 24:49  
That's right

**J** John Klemanski 24:50  
Is it really?

**E** Edwin DeWindt 24:50  
That's right. That's right. What four operas make up the ring of the the ring of the Nibelung?

**J** John Klemanski 24:56  
Where's Wallace when we need him?

**M** Mary Jo Nichols 24:58  
He left

**J** John Klemanski 24:59  
Where are you when we need you?

**M** Mary Jo Nichols 25:00  
Yeah

Yeah,

**R** Robert O'Neill 25:00  
Sigmund

**E** Edwin DeWindt 25:01  
Think of a brand of New York beer. Rheingold Rheingold.

**J** John Klemanski 25:05  
Rheingold

**E** Edwin DeWindt 25:06  
Alright. Then what's the name of the warrior maidens that used to carry the dead? Oh the Walküre Walküre. That's right. Uh, the name of a Germanic hero

**R** Robert O'Neill 25:17  
Sigmund

**E** Edwin DeWindt 25:18  
Not Sigmund

**J** John Klemanski 25:19  
Sigfried

**R** Robert O'Neill 25:20  
Sigfried.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 25:21  
And the last one deals with the, um - literally the Twilight of the gods.

**R** Robert O'Neill 25:22

R Robert O'Neill 25:31  
Götterdämmerung

E Edwin DeWindt 25:32  
Götterdämmerung. That's it. In what year was the first televised complete opera? And what was the opera?

J John Klemanski 25:44  
It was just this year

E Edwin DeWindt 25:45  
No.

M Mary Jo Nichols 25:48  
1960 something.

E Edwin DeWindt 25:49  
No. It's earlier than that.

J John Klemanski 25:50  
52

E Edwin DeWindt 25:50  
Earlier than that.

J John Klemanski 25:51  
Really?

E Edwin DeWindt 25:52  
Mm-hm

J John Klemanski 25:52  
Forty -

E Edwin DeWindt 25:53  
This would have been in the 40s

J John Klemanski 25:54  
48

E Edwin DeWindt 25:55  
Earlier than that.

R Robert O'Neill 25:56  
43

E Edwin DeWindt 25:56  
43

R Robert O'Neill 25:58  
Stars and Stripes Forever.

E Edwin DeWindt 25:59  
No, it was an opera frequently associated with Christmas - - and kids.

M Mary Jo Nichols 26:06  
Amahl and the Night Visitors

E Edwin DeWindt 26:08  
No. That was written in 51 or so and this is a written by Engelbert Humperdinck

J John Klemanski 26:13  
Oh, Hansel and Gretel

E Edwin DeWindt 26:16  
Hansel and Gretel. That's it. That's it. It must be one of those things just in the New York City area.

J John Klemanski 26:21  
Yeah.

E Edwin DeWindt 26:21  
And when they were inventing TV.

J John Klemanski 26:23  
Right.

E Edwin DeWindt 26:24  
What was Rossini's last opera?


J John Klemanski 26:26  
His last? Is it one of the biggies or - ?


E Edwin DeWindt 26:27  
Mm-hm. It's not a biggie, but it certainly has an overture that without it, the Lone Ranger would have gone nowhere.


J John Klemanski 26:34  
William Tell Overture.


E Edwin DeWindt 26:35





 Edwin DeWindt 26:35  
That's right. William Tell


 Robert O'Neill 26:36  
Whatever happened to bill?


 John Klemanski 26:38  
He didn't tell.

 Edwin DeWindt 26:40  
Finally, what music was used as the as a theme in the 1981 movie Excalibur?


 John Klemanski 26:48  
I didn't see that.

 Robert O'Neill 26:49  
I didn't either.

 Edwin DeWindt 26:51  
This was not Wagner. This was a big choral number. A 20th century choral number based on medieval songs. Medieval erotic drinking songs -what have you

 John Klemanski 27:03  
99 bottles of beer on the wall?

 Edwin DeWindt 27:05  
No. It was Carmina Burana

 John Klemanski 27:06  
Oh, Yeah.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 27:08  
Okay. Well panel, you did pretty darn well.

**J** John Klemanski 27:12  
Actually, we did worse on those music questions than we did on astronomy.

**E** Edwin DeWindt 27:17  
Yeah, but you did pretty well.

**J** John Klemanski 27:18  
Not too bad. (The end-of-show bell rings)

**E** Edwin DeWindt 27:20  
Oh, my goodness. My goodness. Well, that's the end of the show for the day. In fact, that's the end of the year. And on that note, I'd like to thank the panel Professor O'Neill, Professor Nichols and Professor Klemanski. Ask The Professor was transcribed in the facilities of the E.J. and A.U. Smith Media Center on the University of Detroit campus. Ask The Professor was produced by Tom McFarlane, our technical director is Jim Muir, executive producer is Vivian Dicks and until next time, this is your host Edwin DeWindt.

**M** Michael Jayson 27:49  
Matt Miio and the current panel of ATP professors will return with more brand new episodes in late January, but we're back next week with another classic episode of Ask the Professor from January 2004.