

ATP 2648

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SPEAKERS

Roy Finkenbine, Speaker 1, Production Element, Kathy Bush, Michael Jayson, Dan Maggio



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 2009.



Kathy Bush 00:16

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. Today we have fewer professors with us, sad but true, but we've got great ones. So let me introduce them to you. To my left, from the College of Engineering and Science, the person who runs the pre-engineering programs for that unit. It's Professor Dan Dan, the DAPCEP man Maggio.



Dan Maggio 00:43

Hi, Kathy.



Kathy Bush 00:43

How's it going, Dan?

 Dan Maggio 00:44
Good.

 Kathy Bush 00:45
Are the students getting those midterm freakouts going on about now?

 Dan Maggio 00:49
Yeah. Well, I I teach the modular math, so we don't have midterms.

 Kathy Bush 00:53
That's right. That's right.

 Dan Maggio 00:54
So I'm a kind of separate from the normal schedule. Yeah.

 Kathy Bush 00:58
Yeah. What Dan does is that they've broken down a major math requirement, particularly for students in the College of Liberal Arts and Education, who aren't always how should we say, Dan, math Vikings.

 Dan Maggio 01:07
Some,



Kathy Bush 01:08

some, yeah. Some just miss that big long boat, and so they break it down, and they put great teachers like Dan in there, who I can tell you that if I would have had Dan instead of Sister Godzilla, I probably would not have had as many math phobias in my life, so I'm glad you're there. Going well, Dan, you to man. Okay, on the other side of the table, from the College of Liberal Arts and Education, from the History Department, it's Chair, Keeper of our Black Abolitionist Archives, and someone who can update us on the famous Darwin Lincoln birthday bash that occurred today on campus. It's Professor Roy Finkbine.



Roy Finkbine 01:41

Hey, Kathy, fresh from the Super Bowl of geeks.



Kathy Bush 01:45

Yeah, don't say that. Come on.



Roy Finkbine 01:48

Combined history faculty student team did a WWE Smackdown in combined science team in their house. In their house.



Kathy Bush 01:59

All right.



Roy Finkbine 02:00

In that historic site,



Kathy Bush 02:03

Chemistry 114. Now,

R Roy Finkbine 02:04
star of Stage and Screen.

K Kathy Bush 02:07
Why not? Why not? So Chem

R Roy Finkbine 02:08
114.

K Kathy Bush 02:09
So our student reps were Greta Hilburn and Samuel, right? Samuel

R Roy Finkbine 02:13
Ristic, Nick Zorovski. Oh, Nick. Most recently of Wheel of Fortune. I was going to

K Kathy Bush 02:17
say, and also verse cover story boy, practically. Well, page three. He would be. That was. That's like our page six with the New York Post. That's our page three here.

R Roy Finkbine 02:26
They're all proudly displaying their number one blue ribbons, excellent championship ribbons, along with a couple of professors that are doing the. Now, who did

K Kathy Bush 02:35
the pinata? I mean, who? Well,

R Roy Finkbine 02:37
actually, the pinata. We were running out of time, so we we actually brought the pinata back.
We just confiscated a few candies for a couple of people that were there with their little kids.
That's why not. That's a good

K Kathy Bush 02:48
thing to do. There were

D Dan Maggio 02:49
their kids.

R Roy Finkbine 02:50
There were there were a couple of I'm assuming students popular. I should have gone over
because there was there was pop, there was pizza, there was birthday Abe and Chuck Cake.

K Kathy Bush 03:01
They didn't say Stultus, his nickname. Oh no! But the

R Roy Finkbine 03:04
Erasmus Darwin question did come up. Did it

K Kathy Bush 03:06
come up?

R Roy Finkbine 03:07
But I couldn't. I was standing there.

 Kathy Bush 03:09
Oh, oh, trying to trying to push our team, but

 Roy Finkenbine 03:12
I couldn't give them the answer. That's okay.

 Kathy Bush 03:13
No, no, that's better that they won honestly and with integrity. So that's important. Well, this is a show where you can send us questions about pinatas or candy, or math or whatever you would like to send. And if you stump the panel, you win one of our fabulous T-shirts. And if you don't stump the panel, you can win a fabulous T-shirt. So hey, everybody can use a T-shirt. So

 Michael Jayson 03:34
you can email Ask the Professor at atp@udmercy.edu or visit the Ask the Professor Facebook page.

 Kathy Bush 03:43
And today we've got a set of questions that comes to us from Mike Wayland of South Lyon, Michigan, and questions about superstitions.

 Dan Maggio 03:51
Oh, sweet!

 Kathy Bush 03:52
Yeah.

 Roy Finkenbine 03:53
Let me get my. I was going to get your

 Kathy Bush 03:55
Lucky Charms or whatever that was. I

 Production Element 03:57
have

 Roy Finkenbine 03:58
my rabbit's footy.

 Dan Maggio 03:59
You ever see my phobia shirt.

 Kathy Bush 04:00
Yes,

 Dan Maggio 04:01
I have a phobia shirt.

 Kathy Bush 04:02
Yes,

 Dan Maggio 04:03
and it's a shame that I don't have it on. I was going to

 Kathy Bush 04:05
say that would be a great, great, great, great one. Okay, I'm going to give you the item, and you describe what this item is supposed to do. That is how it is supposed to ward off an evil or harm.

 Dan Maggio 04:17
Okay.

 Kathy Bush 04:18
Yeah. So I mean, they're not like.

 Dan Maggio 04:19
I thought it was going to be kind of fear phobias, but oh, I mean like erectophobia

 Kathy Bush 04:23
or hydrophobia or agoraphobia. Yes, there we go. Okay, all right. An acorn. What what is the power of the acorn?

 Dan Maggio 04:35
Well, it's not squirrels.

 Kathy Bush 04:38
No, because they will just come and chomp them down, as they always do. So what's

 Dan Maggio 04:42
anti-squirrel? Anti-squirrel.

 Kathy Bush 04:45
Me, me. I'm anti. I'm very anti-squirrel. I hate them. I

 Dan Maggio 04:48
feed the squirrels in the back. My dog is very squirrel. Oh well, yeah,

 Kathy Bush 04:51
and yeah. Father Frank used to feed them. They would come up and almost eat out of his hand.

 Dan Maggio 04:55
Yeah, yeah.

 Kathy Bush 04:56
And I used to say, Father Frank, they could be rabid and they're nasty. I don't

 Dan Maggio 04:59
know. Does this. Well, one is

 Kathy Bush 05:01
if you specifically keep an acorn at a window, it will save you from being hit by this bit of nature.

R Roy Finkenbine 05:08
Lightning.

K Kathy Bush 05:09
Yeah, that an acorn at the window will keep the lightning out, which I've never had lightning or heard of it coming through a window. But

R Roy Finkenbine 05:16
there was that apparently relatively light a tornado that hit in Hawaii, which is rare in Hawaii. Do you see that in the picked up? I think it was a journalist and threw him through a window glass. Yeah, I knew

K Kathy Bush 05:29
that, but a person didn't. But they showed it, and

R Roy Finkenbine 05:31
it was. I mean, it wasn't a full fledged, but it was enough that it was doing damage. Yeah,

K Kathy Bush 05:36
yeah. I just didn't think Hawaii was like.

D Dan Maggio 05:37
No, I would have guessed never.

K Kathy Bush 05:39
And the other is that if you carry an acorn along with you on with you, that it's supposed to ensure a long life for you?

 Michael Jayson 05:46
Oh,

 Kathy Bush 05:47
yeah, and I just never knew that.

 Dan Maggio 05:49
I shall try that.

 Kathy Bush 05:50
Okay, amber. That is, you know, the material amber. The it's semi precious, I believe. Amber is, isn't

 Roy Finkenbine 05:58
it? I believe you. I know

 Kathy Bush 05:59
there's a ton of it in Poland. I know that when my when Anne came back, my sister from visiting Poland on vacation. Oh my God, she came back with amber rosaries, necklaces, bracelets, all types of of amber because it's really big there, and a lot of people wear it. So this is supposed to protect you against something amber beads.

 Michael Jayson 06:17
Oh boy.

 Kathy Bush 06:19
Well, something that right now I think a lot of students have that we we certainly in class have

 Dan Maggio 06:24
tests

 Kathy Bush 06:24
no yeah that's ward off those exams Amber Amber illness yes illnesses particularly coughs or colds

 Roy Finkenbine 06:31
and a lot of that going around I was

 Kathy Bush 06:33
going to say aren't they hacking in your classes huh

 Dan Maggio 06:35
some are I've been lucky

 Roy Finkenbine 06:37
I had to and and one of our instructors so I you know very good instructor, but we all get those points where we hack in class, and I'm observing this instructor, and there's a whole lot of hacking going on.

 Kathy Bush 06:48
Oh my! Okay, all right. Seeing an ambulance is very unlucky unless you do or see this.

 Dan Maggio 06:59
Seeing an ambulance is unlucky. If you see



Kathy Bush 07:01

an ambulance, it's unlucky. It is, according to superstitious people. Yeah, I suppose a problem. Unless you



Roy Finkenbine 07:07

see it before you step up. I was going to say there's that. Yes,



Kathy Bush 07:11

but this is something. Is that the answer? Oh no, no. But I love Roy's answer. It makes so much sense. There are two answers to this. Unless



Dan Maggio 07:18

you, unless you. One of them is seeing



Kathy Bush 07:23

a certain animal in the



Dan Maggio 07:25

black cat,



Kathy Bush 07:25

not a black cat. That's



Dan Maggio 07:26

allowed. The squirrel.

 Kathy Bush 07:27
Not the squirrel. Squirt

 Dan Maggio 07:28
carrying an acorn.

 Kathy Bush 07:29
Another popular pet squirrel with a dog. Yes, unless you see a black or brown dog, that that takes away the unluckiness, or if you pinch your nose and hold your breath,

 Roy Finkenbine 07:42
and pass out. Unfortunately, the ambulance is there

 Kathy Bush 07:45
to pick you up. I never, I've never. All right,

 Dan Maggio 07:48
I want to know the history behind that one. These are not widely known.

 Kathy Bush 07:51
I was superstitious, obviously. Were you ever superstitious about an ambulance? I'm not.

 Dan Maggio 07:55
I'm not superstitious at all.



Kathy Bush 07:57

Yeah, I just. So. Okay. All right. Now this is not so much a superstition as he says as a myth. If you cut an apple in half and count how many seeds inside, what will you know about your future?



Dan Maggio 08:11

How many children you're going to have? Yes. Now,



Kathy Bush 08:12

how did you know that? I mean, we said because I



Dan Maggio 08:15

tried to improve the rock. It was just a guess. Oh, okay. I just



Kathy Bush 08:20

wondered if it was. You know, I thought it might come from your Italian heritage that there might be a superstition or something that way. Ah,



Dan Maggio 08:26

no, no. A matter of fact, my relatives weren't superstitious at all that I know of.



Kathy Bush 08:31

Okay, like your gran, your Italian gran, was she not? No,



Dan Maggio 08:34

I didn't know her that well. Oh, okay.

K Kathy Bush 08:36
Oh, okay. Yeah, that would be there. Oh, okay. What makes a baseball bat, or what can you do to make a baseball bat lucky for the first time that you use it?

D Dan Maggio 08:45
Have it blessed, cork it. Oh well,

K Kathy Bush 08:49
yeah. Some people would definitely go with that.

D Dan Maggio 08:51
I thought I may have a priest bless it.

K Kathy Bush 08:54
Well, I think that would be the Catholic youth organization correct answer. Absolutely, but this is something pretty simple that baseball players spit on it. Yeah, I was gonna say hockey players disgustingly do it even. You cut down

R Roy Finkenbine 09:06
on the chance of it being stolen. Yeah, I was about to say like, dude. Yeah,

K Kathy Bush 09:10
thanks, but like, no thanks. Oh no, it is unlucky to put a hat on this item of furniture in your home, or people claim it's unlucky to put this

R Roy Finkenbine 09:22
your cat, especially if it's a man. Yeah, no, my cats put the fur

K Kathy Bush 09:26
into furniture. Okay,

D Dan Maggio 09:28
especially if it's a man, a vacuum cleaner.

K Kathy Bush 09:33
I'm just trying to put man to this cat. You

D Dan Maggio 09:35
said furniture,

K Kathy Bush 09:36
piece of furniture in your home,

D Dan Maggio 09:37
especially if it's a man. So this if it's

K Kathy Bush 09:39
a man, man. Piece of

D Dan Maggio 09:40
furniture used by women.

K Kathy Bush 09:42
Women use it, yes,

R Roy Finkenbine 09:44
but not exclusively. But

K Kathy Bush 09:45
not exclusively. Men use this piece of furniture as well.

D Dan Maggio 09:50
The lower toilet seat. No, it's a hat on

K Kathy Bush 09:54
a bed.

D Dan Maggio 09:55
A bed that if you put a hat on a

K Kathy Bush 09:57
bed, and actually, I've read that. I'm trying to think. Southern woman writer, I read that that it was. But don't

R Roy Finkenbine 10:02
lots of people like hang their hat on their bedpost or something. That's what I

 Kathy Bush 10:05
thought. I'm more interested

 Dan Maggio 10:06
in the history behind these. Yeah, like why would that be? So Mike, is it Mike right, Waylon?

 Kathy Bush 10:11
Yeah,

 Dan Maggio 10:12
I'd be curious. Where did he get these from? I'll have to

 Kathy Bush 10:14
ask him because he's my nephew.

 Dan Maggio 10:17
Oh, that is. Yeah. Oh, so

 Kathy Bush 10:18
there we go. Okay, some other bed superstitions that if you place a bed north, what will it bring you?

 Dan Maggio 10:28
Money, good fortune.



Kathy Bush 10:30

Good fortune, yeah. And if you put it south, it'll bring you what?



Roy Finkenbine 10:33

Nothing but trouble.



Kathy Bush 10:34

That's



Roy Finkenbine 10:36

right.



Kathy Bush 10:36

It would make sense, but I wonder why that is. I mean, why? You know



Dan Maggio 10:40

these. I'm just curious about how they started. Some of these, I wonder if they started from just a silly conversation in a room between two people, evolved over. Yeah, I mean, like or whatever. Was it one of those things that people?



Kathy Bush 10:52

Yeah,



Dan Maggio 10:52

superstition. You know, like how



Kathy Bush 10:53

they believed in the spontaneous generation. You know that, and they had this idea that like rats came out of a pile of rags or something. Well, no, but I mean, you know, that kind of obscure



Dan Maggio 11:02

role of Harry Potter, maybe.



Kathy Bush 11:03

Well, it's true. I mean, those things started like in the 14th century. I mean, people had that kind of idea. Okay, there are a number of superstitions about lucky and unlucky things connected to bees. Okay, so if a bee enters your home, it's a sign of what?



Dan Maggio 11:18

I would say good luck.



Kathy Bush 11:20

Not good luck. Time



Roy Finkenbine 11:21

to get the spray.



Kathy Bush 11:22

I was yeah. I was gonna say get the swatter.



Dan Maggio 11:23

Fertility.

 Kathy Bush 11:26
Not fertility. Something that's something that all humans want and need.

 Dan Maggio 11:31
Food, sleep. How about

 Kathy Bush 11:35
visitor company?

 Dan Maggio 11:36
Oh, company. That if

 Kathy Bush 11:36
B comes in, I actually in my house it's usually that one of the kids left the darn screen door open. My mother was

 Roy Finkenbine 11:42
if she dropped something, it was a sign company was coming.

 Kathy Bush 11:44
Yes, if we dropped silverware, my gran used to say that company's going to come or somebody's going to come if you drop like if you're drying dishes and you drop the cutlery in some way. A dish

 Roy Finkenbine 11:53
towel or anything. Yeah,

 Kathy Bush 11:54
and I don't know. I wonder where that came from. I never asked my grand that if a swarm of bees settles up on a rooftop. It's an omen that what will happen to the house?

 Dan Maggio 12:05
Gonna get infested. Well, yes.

 Dan Maggio 12:09
It's gonna be called orchid by the devil.

 Kathy Bush 12:12
Well, something pretty bad for a house. Let's just say that way. Yeah, that the house will burn down. Which again, that's something. Very

 Roy Finkenbine 12:20
good guesses going on this today. Yeah,

 Kathy Bush 12:21
yeah, that's kind of weird. A bird in the house is a sign of what? Oh,

 Dan Maggio 12:26
that's bad. The answer: This is bad, right?

 Kathy Bush 12:29
Yes. Oh, this is bad. Yeah, it's death. That's a bad thing. Absolutely. You did from? Do you remember where?

 Dan Maggio 12:35
No, I don't. I do not remember. Probably from a movie.

 Kathy Bush 12:38
Okay, I remember an episode of The Sopranos where Christopher, who was not exactly the sharpest tool in the shed, I mean Christopher Montesanti, the character, and the bird didn't come in the house; it was sitting outside. But he was so overcome by the superstition about the birds. This

 Roy Finkenbine 12:53
fully explains now the story behind Alfred Hitchcock's *The Birds* right? It could. And when we think about

 Kathy Bush 12:59
superstitions, let's take a break.

 Michael Jayson 13:02
It's an Ask the Professor flashback.

 Production Element 13:04
On my right, from the Department of Religious Studies, the chair of that department, Professor George Pickering.

 Michael Jayson 13:10
Pleasure to be here as always.

P

Production Element 13:12

Pleasure to have you here as always. On his right, in the Department of Theater and Performing Arts, Professor Arthur Beaver. It's been a long three weeks, and on Arthur's right from the Department of History and the Assistant Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and the Director of the Learning Center, Kathy Bush. I'm too tired to say hello. I know it's one of those months, anyway. And on my left, from the Department of History, the Chair of that department, Professor Sarah Gravel. Why,

S

Speaker 1 13:42

Evan, you must have in whose car is this way? I just want to get out, but I can't get that car in my way. Rossel of the car. I've been trying to back up, but I just can't. She's been hitting my car.

K

Kathy Bush 14:06

And we're back with questions regarding superstition. And Dan is just teasing me about my fun work and my job. But sometimes I have to admit, when I leave work, I think to myself, some people go into work every day and do the same thing over and over again at their desk, but not me. I never know what's gonna come running across my desktop. This

R

Roy Finkenbine 14:29

sounds like a bad B movie. It is, but

K

Kathy Bush 14:31

it yeah, it's like really interesting. But you know, I guess you got to say it keeps you on your toes, doesn't it, Jos? That's probably one of the joys of teaching, isn't it, guys? You know that we never really know. Oh,

D

Dan Maggio 14:42

that's always original. Yes.

 Kathy Bush 14:43
Yeah, yeah. Like we have people go

 Roy Finkenbine 14:45
berserk in front of a class in the middle of class. Yeah,

 Kathy Bush 14:48
that's don't want to have happen. Okay. So there's a story

 Dan Maggio 14:51
there, which we'll hear when the when we're done taping.

 Kathy Bush 14:54
Okay. All right. Some people believe that the day that you were born. Gives you either luck or ill luck. So there's an old poem. So let's see if you know how to fill that in. Monday's child is what?

 Dan Maggio 15:08
Oh, this

 Roy Finkenbine 15:09
grace.

 Kathy Bush 15:11
That's you're good. That's I'm too far. Yeah.

 Roy Finkenbine 15:13
Yeah. Is

 Kathy Bush 15:14
fair of face. Tuesday's child is full of grace. Full of grace. Okay. Wednesday's child.

 Dan Maggio 15:23
What was Monday's again?

 Kathy Bush 15:25
Monday's is fair of face. Tuesday is full of grace. This child is full of something sad.

 Roy Finkenbine 15:32
Whoa! Whoa!

 Kathy Bush 15:32
And Thursday's child has far to go. Oh, far to go. Poor little Thursday's child. Friday's child is what?

 Dan Maggio 15:40
Happy.

 Roy Finkenbine 15:41
It's the weekend.



Kathy Bush 15:43

well, is is loving and loving. I was going to say they're the happy childrens. Okay. And Saturday's child, however, has to what?



Roy Finkenbine 15:51

Work for a living. Ye



Kathy Bush 15:52

Yeah, work hard for a living. That poor Saturday kid. But the child that's born on Sunday, on the Sabbath day, is what?



Dan Maggio 15:59

Blessed.



Kathy Bush 16:00

Well, they're fair and wise, good and gay.



Dan Maggio 16:03

Go see. I wouldn't.



Kathy Bush 16:05

Oh. Okay. Do you know what day of the week you were born?



Dan Maggio 16:06

I do not. I could probably figure it out. I was

 Kathy Bush 16:08
going to say you should ask your mom. I was a Tuesday kid.

 Roy Finkenbine 16:14
Have to get my perpetual calendar. I was

 Kathy Bush 16:15
going to say, get out that perpetual calendar and look all that up. Okay. You know why not do that? All right, to protect yourself from witches, what colors should you wear?

 Michael Jayson 16:25
Black. No, I knew that

 Dan Maggio 16:28
was wrong. But white.

 Kathy Bush 16:30
I would have thought white, but I'm kind of surprised by this. I'm going to

 Dan Maggio 16:32
suggest red.

 Kathy Bush 16:34
No. No.

 Dan Maggio 16:35
Then

 Kathy Bush 16:35
this is a very popular color, but I I'm wondering why this color does that

 Dan Maggio 16:42
orange, blue, yellow. It says you

 Kathy Bush 16:44
need to wear blue and say touch blue, and no harm will come to you. I've never heard of

 Roy Finkenbine 16:51
that. That's because blue rhymes with harm come to you. Maybe that would that would destroy
a lot of those the the the plots of a lot of those. I was going to

 Kathy Bush 16:58
say I thought yeah, Cinson

 Roy Finkenbine 16:59
Price. Yeah, I thought silver,

 Kathy Bush 17:01
like like, or is that because it's a cross? That's vampires. Okay, duh.

 Dan Maggio 17:05
Well, cross is for vampires. Well, silver could be for werewolves.

 Kathy Bush 17:08
Okay. Oh, really?

 Dan Maggio 17:09
Silver bullets.

 Kathy Bush 17:10
Oh, silver bullets. Okay. So you can just

 Dan Maggio 17:13
shoot those into the. I

 Kathy Bush 17:13
mean, they were drinking Coors back there. Garlic works for almost any other. I was gonna say garlic. For anything. Yeah. Although, who would not want to do that? Okay. If you say goodbye to your friend while crossing a bridge, what will happen? You'll never see him again. That's right. How did you know that?

 Dan Maggio 17:28
Because it seemed like illogical answer. Oh,

 Kathy Bush 17:32
so you-that's why you don't believe in superstition because it's very logical to you, eh?

 Dan Maggio 17:36
It's not logical at all.

 Kathy Bush 17:37
Okay, there are many superstitions or different ideas about brooms-that is, sweeping brooms. Why should you not lean a broom against a bed?

 Roy Finkenbine 17:49
Because it'll get knocked off and it'll hit you in the face in the middle of the

 Kathy Bush 17:53
night. Which in my world would happen, or I'd step on it and flap up at me because I'm such a those

 Roy Finkenbine 17:58
rakes are dangerous too. Yeah.

 Kathy Bush 18:00
Oh, please. I

 Roy Finkenbine 18:00
did that once when I was about 10 years old. I stepped on the tines of a you know one of the heavy garden rakes, and wham! I was down for about my brother, and he had a

 Kathy Bush 18:10
huge. Well, my mother thought he practiced. That doesn't

 Dan Maggio 18:12
happen. That happens in other places other than the movies. Yeah, it

 Kathy Bush 18:16
does. I saw it happen up in the Thumb of Michigan. It was not pretty.

 Roy Finkenbine 18:20
When people leave them carelessly propped inside of my uncle,

 Kathy Bush 18:23
did he just

 Roy Finkenbine 18:23
barn or

 Kathy Bush 18:24
by the tool shed, and he just left it there. And my brother went in to grab another tool, and it was really horrible to watch. Physics,

 Roy Finkenbine 18:31
it actually it is.

 Kathy Bush 18:32
Except my sister was like doubled over with laughter. The evil spirits in the broom will cast a spell on the bed, causing evil to come to the person that you lean that broom against. So, if you want to get back at somebody, lean a broom against them. Okay, if you sweep trash outside of your door with a broom after dark, who? What will happen? The

 Dan Maggio 18:51
goblins will come.

 Kathy Bush 18:53
Well, someone will come. Yeah, a stranger. When you wake

 Roy Finkenbine 18:56
up in the morning and it's light, there'll be a mess outside your door. It says here

 Kathy Bush 18:59
that a stranger will come and visit you for the first time. Okay, if someone is sweeping the floor at your home and they sweep the dirt over your feet, what does that mean? What will happen? You have to

 Roy Finkenbine 19:11
polish your shoes.

 Michael Jayson 19:12
Oh,

 Kathy Bush 19:12
yes, of course. But

 Dan Maggio 19:15
I, I don't know. I

 Kathy Bush 19:16
that you'll never get married. That you'll be a spinster.

 Michael Jayson 19:19
Oh.

 Kathy Bush 19:20
Okay.

 Dan Maggio 19:21
These are bizarre. I

 Kathy Bush 19:22
know. Again, I've never

 Dan Maggio 19:24
like. Where do they come up with these?

 Kathy Bush 19:26
Well, and that's what I'm wondering. Like, what's the mythology of that? Because I certainly know in the African American community, jumping the broom is connected to the marriage ceremony, right?

 Roy Finkenbine 19:36
Right. No.

K Kathy Bush 19:36

And that has a connection to like housekeeping and sharing and things that way, so that's a kind of cool tradition about the broom. These are kind of wacked. Should you take a broom along with you when you move?

D Dan Maggio 19:50

No, you should leave it for the other owner.

K Kathy Bush 19:52

It says here you should thread and buy a new one. The old broom will bring bring bad luck to your home.

D Dan Maggio 19:57

Oh, that makes sense.

K Kathy Bush 19:58

I'm just not sure how a broom can. Bring that lock. We're

R Roy Finkenbine 20:01

investing it with way too much power. Yeah,

K Kathy Bush 20:03

I just kind of like don't get that one there. If the first butterfly you see in the year is white, what does that mean?

D Dan Maggio 20:13

It'll be sterile year. No,

K Kathy Bush 20:19
it'll bring you good luck.

R Roy Finkenbine 20:20
Oh,

K Kathy Bush 20:21
it's sort of like the groundhog thing, except for the groundhog that bit Mayor Bloomberg. Go, go, you little! I'm sure your cages at the Bronx Zoo is going to be horrible now in that way. If a candle is lighted as part of a ceremony and it blows out, what does that signify?

D Dan Maggio 20:35
Ooh, you're in trouble.

K Kathy Bush 20:37
Yeah, it does. It means that they're evil spirits meaning to do danger or harm to you, and very close by.

R Roy Finkenbine 20:42
Candles did harm to me today because they asked Barb Holler and I to blow out all the candles and cake, and I I went into fake cardiac arrest and did they put 200

K Kathy Bush 20:53
candles on there?

R

Roy Finkenbine 20:54

No, they had a they had a bunch of them, and I swear there must have been like the four in the corner were trick ones because we kept.

K

Kathy Bush 21:00

I was going to say, knowing the students, they probably did hogs. You guys are going to do that. If the first calf that is born to a farmer during the winter is white, what does that mean about the weather? So it's going to be a long

D

Dan Maggio 21:12

winter. Yeah,

K

Kathy Bush 21:12

that it's going to be a hard, cold winter. I we never any farmers I knew only had maybe some truth in that. They were never white. They were black and white milk cows. Well,

R

Roy Finkenbine 21:23

once in a while, I mean, generally they'd be the preponderance of color would be black with white marks. But once in a while, you get ones that were largely white with very limited black markers. Really?

K

Kathy Bush 21:32

Gosh, my uncle never had. He just they were all Holsteins. Did you have milk cows or do

R

Roy Finkenbine 21:37

we had milk cows, Holsteins? Oh, okay. Yeah.

 Kathy Bush 21:40

Yeah. I always envied like people that had like Guernseys and Jerseys. They were so pretty, that brownish and really soft color. And their milk was like really yellow, like full of butter fat. Looked pretty cool that way. Okay.

 Roy Finkenbine 21:52

My dad's herd started from a cow, given as a wedding gift.

 Kathy Bush 21:57

Oh, cool. Named

 Roy Finkenbine 21:58

Big Bertha, which was also Bertha was the name of my grandmother. Now I have never figured that one out. That's okay. You know

 Kathy Bush 22:05

that's kind of cool thing that way. If you get chills up your back or goosebumps, what does that mean?

 Dan Maggio 22:12

There's evil spirits in the room,

 Roy Finkenbine 22:15

hanging around with too many brooms. Yeah, there you go. Now

 Kathy Bush 22:18

it says here that it means somebody is walking over your grave, and I'm not really sure. Oh,

R Roy Finkbine 22:23
you bought that pre-packaged thing where you got the plot. That's the who

K Kathy Bush 22:27
owns her. Yeah, I mean that's that's kind of strange. Because if you're

R Roy Finkbine 22:30
in it already, then you got bigger problems. I think. Yeah.

K Kathy Bush 22:33
True or false? A cat on a ship is good or bad luck?

D Dan Maggio 22:36
Bad luck.

K Kathy Bush 22:37
That's correct.

R Roy Finkbine 22:38
Except they can help keep the mice pop. Yeah, you would

K Kathy Bush 22:41
think. I mean, I know that Labradors and that some like schooners and things you see in the Atlantic. The beds were designed so the dog could fit in and sleep with the captain because that was a warmth thing. You know, I'm sure it would get pretty cold in the North Atlantic. I wonder how many

D Dan Maggio 22:54
animals they lost by like the boat when the waves come and it rocks the boat of animals that slid off.

K Kathy Bush 23:00
Oh, probably. It could have. You're right. I didn't think of that. I wouldn't

D Dan Maggio 23:03
want to put an animal on a boat.

K Kathy Bush 23:04
Okay. Now this one I know, and I know the reason, the actual historical reason for that. True or false? It's good luck to light three cigarettes with the same match. You'll burn your fingers the time you

R Roy Finkenbine 23:16
get the third one.

K Kathy Bush 23:16
Yeah. It's no, it isn't. It's bad luck. No, and that comes actually from the First World War, from the trenches, that the notion of lighting a cigarette-that if you lit three cigarettes, the light would be long enough that a sniper could see where you were, either in the trenches or whatever. Yeah, because there are some science. Yeah, so there's-I mean, that's a-I mean-that's a true one. That has historic basis. No, I mean, think about it. I mean, trench warfare was-you know-not that they were the longest range of rifles or machine guns, you know, automated rifles or that, but that would be long enough for somebody to see that there were people there. The Surgeon

R Roy Finkenbine 23:50
General has said that smoking in the trenches could be bad. Yeah, I was going to say really,

K Kathy Bush 23:54

yeah. Besides the mustard gas and everything else in that way. Oh my goodness. Oh, here we go. If a clock has not been working suddenly, has not been working, and suddenly it begins to chime the hours, what does that mean?

D Dan Maggio 24:08

Well, I would say that's good luck. I would say no. Does that mean death is coming? Yes, it does. Yeah, that there will be a death of someone close to the family,

K Kathy Bush 24:18

which is kind of strange. Okay, if you find a coin like on the ground or somewhere, and you pick it up and it's tails up, is that good or bad luck?

R Roy Finkenbine 24:29

I figure if I find a coin on the ground, it's good luck to me.

D Dan Maggio 24:33

I, it's bad luck.

K Kathy Bush 24:34

It is. It's it's bad luck to pick a coin up. But I agree with Roy. I don't touch my toes a lot, but I do when it comes time to pick up water off the ground. Yeah. Okay. Yeah. That that that doesn't make

D Dan Maggio 24:46

any sense. It doesn't really that whatsoever.

 Kathy Bush 24:49
Okay. Cows lifting their tail is a sure sign of what

 Dan Maggio 24:52
he's gonna. If you're

 Roy Finkenbine 24:53
downwind, you got big drops. You better run. Actually,

 Kathy Bush 24:56
it's a weather condition that they. It's gonna

 Dan Maggio 24:58
rain.

 Kathy Bush 24:58
Yeah. No, that's odd. Because my gran used to insist that if we saw cows laying down in the field, that meant there was going to be a rainstorm, and for years I totally believed her until my father said it might mean they're tired. Okay, that's really all it means. So she had these little weird sayings that way. Okay, crickets in the house bring good or bad luck.

 Dan Maggio 25:19
I would say good luck.

 Roy Finkenbine 25:22
Having had a cricket infestation in the house, I said bad luck,

 Dan Maggio 25:27
and it's different than having a cricket singular.

 Kathy Bush 25:29
Okay, and it does mean good luck. Yeah, they claim it means good luck. Okay, a dog howling in the night when someone in the house is sick is good or bad luck.

 Dan Maggio 25:38
Bad luck means they're.

 Kathy Bush 25:40
That's what it does. It means the person is not. We said dog. I've heard that too. Really? I don't know why I've heard all

 Dan Maggio 25:45
these, but I can. Yeah, I don't know. I don't know. Okay. Are they eerie eerieisms? No, maybe I was going to say that you hear

 Kathy Bush 25:52
this at home or no.

 Dan Maggio 25:54
This I don't know. I'm probably just my brain followed them after watching a movie or something.

-  Kathy Bush 26:00
It could possibly be okay. If your right ear itches, what does that mean? Right ear is itching or feels itchy. It
-  Dan Maggio 26:14
doesn't mean somebody's talking about you. Yes, it does in a certain manner. Badly.
-  Kathy Bush 26:18
No.
-  Dan Maggio 26:19
Good in a good way. Yes, in
-  Kathy Bush 26:20
a good way. It means that somebody's speaking well, and left is somebody is speaking ill or say badly.
-  Dan Maggio 26:27
Usually, when somebody's talk, when your ear burns, it means somebody's talking about you badly. But I've I've never heard of one where they're talking in a good way. So, okay, I was right. Right is good. Right ear, yeah.
-  Kathy Bush 26:38
Right ear good. A
-  Dan Maggio 26:39
right-handed person probably made that up.

-  Kathy Bush 26:40
Left here, yeah. Possibly, I think that really is okay. Is it good or bad luck to leave a house through a different door than the one that you came into the house? Good luck.
-  Kathy Bush 26:50
They claim here it's bad luck that you should enter the house in the same way.
-  Dan Maggio 26:55
He left.
-  Kathy Bush 26:56
Yeah.
-  Roy Finkenbine 26:56
Garbage in, garbage out. I guess that's what I'm thinking. Yeah, I
-  Kathy Bush 26:59
know. I wonder why that would be. I mean, that just doesn't. Again, that doesn't really logical. For safety's
-  Dan Maggio 27:04
sake. Okay,
-  Kathy Bush 27:05
pictures of elephants bring luck, but only if the picture faces what

 Dan Maggio 27:10
west. North, south, not

 Kathy Bush 27:15
a direction. Something in the room.

 Dan Maggio 27:17
Oh, faces window.

 Kathy Bush 27:19
Not a window, but a door, and I wonder why that would be

 Dan Maggio 27:23
like the elephant would fit through the door.

 Kathy Bush 27:25
Well, yeah. Oh, it's got to

 Roy Finkenbine 27:27
do with Zumanji. Maybe that says something that way. Well,

 Kathy Bush 27:33
enough superstitious stuff here. So let me thank our panel, Professor Mechio.

 Dan Maggio 27:37
Thank you,

 Kathy Bush 27:37
Professor Finkenbine.

 Roy Finkenbine 27:38
I'm going to go out and itch my ears.

 Kathy Bush 27:40
You should. Now this word

 Michael Jayson 27:41
You can email Ask the Professor at atp@udmercy.edu or visit the Ask the Professor Facebook page.

 Kathy Bush 27:59
Ask the Professor is transcribed in the facilities of the Communication Studies radio studios here at the University of Detroit Mercy's McNichols Campus. Ask the Professor is produced, technically directed, and saved week after week by Michael Jayson, and our executive producer is Dr. Vivian Dicks. Until next week, I'm your host Kathy Bush, let's go stimulus package.