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SPEAKERS

Hank Durkin, Heather Hill, Erin Bell, Beth Oljar, Dave Chow, Audience member, Announcer, Danielle Maxwell, Brian Curtis, Stephen Manning, Matt Mio, Matt Mio, Ph.D.



Announcer 00:00

The following is a special edition of Ask the Professor, recorded at Detroit Mercy Homecoming 2026.



Matt Mio, Ph.D. 00:09

The University Tower Chimes bring in another session of Ask the Professor, the show on which you match wits with University of Detroit Mercy professors in an unrehearsed session of questions and answers. I'm your host Matt Mio, and let me introduce to you our panel for today. To my right, the director of the Writing Center. It's Professor Erin Bell.



Erin Bell 00:27

Well, greetings and salutations. Long time. Haven't seen you in a while.



Matt Mio, Ph.D. 00:31

That's all right. Pop in whenever you want.

E Erin Bell 00:34
I know, I'm like -

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 00:35
Is it? Oh, jeez. I looked at myself in the mirror -

D Danielle Maxwell 00:39
I was looking at you, and I'm like, well -

M Matt Mio 00:41
I'm so sorry, Beth.

E Erin Bell 00:42
Off to a great start already.

M Matt Mio 00:43
Yep.

S Stephen Manning 00:44
Okay, who would like to host the show?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 00:45
The best part is the panel will never bring this up ever again.

H Heather Hill 00:49
Never.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 00:49
So, but how are things going in The Writing Center? We're four weeks into the semester.

E Erin Bell 00:54
It's been really great. We have a lot of great outreach right now. We're going to a lot of classrooms. Weirdly, dare I bring up A - I, But I think because of A - I, we're actually getting a lot more student visits, and we're getting invited to a lot more classrooms across the University because people want that humanistic sort of like help with their writing and lab reports. So it's actually been really great.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 01:15
Excellent, I'm really glad to hear it.

B Beth Oljar 01:17
So that their writing assignments will actually be written by a human being?

E Erin Bell 01:20
Yes, and I'm seeing a lot more people with like little calluses on their fingers now too, because I think there's a lot more assignments with like the old pen and pencil, that old technology. So pretty cool.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 01:30
Works very very well. Continuing around the table in some kind of a direction, Professor Danielle Maxwell is here from the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

 Danielle Maxwell 01:40
Hello, happy Saturday.

 Matt Mio 01:42
Happy Saturday. You're wearing the logo that is the University and your initials.

 Danielle Maxwell 01:46
And my initials. Yes, this is the Danielle Maxwell logo, also known as Detroit Mercy.

 Matt Mio 01:51
It works perfectly

 Brian Curtis 01:52
and also a D on the necklace too.

 Danielle Maxwell 01:53
Yes, a D on the necklace.

 Matt Mio 01:54
Oh my gosh!

 Danielle Maxwell 01:56
And the earrings. We got all decked out here.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 01:57
That's incredible.

B Beth Oljar 01:58
And just an all-around good guy,

D Danielle Maxwell 01:59
I've had this since sophomore year of undergrad, so it's kind of great.

D Danielle Maxwell 02:02
So just a couple years ago.

D Danielle Maxwell 02:04
Just a couple years ago, exactly.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 02:06
I wasn't that far off.

D Danielle Maxwell 02:07
No.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 02:08
Continuing around the table, Professor Brian Curtis. Now he is a professor of chemistry at Wayne State University, but he is a B.S. Chemistry undergrad graduate of Detroit Mercy, so it still works.

 Brian Curtis 02:20
And former adjunct,

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 02:21
and former adjunct at the University.

 Beth Oljar 02:23
And just an all-around good guy.

 Dave Chow 02:25
and good for one answer.

 Danielle Maxwell 02:26
Berkley neighborhood guy,

 Brian Curtis 02:27
Yes

 Matt Mio 02:29
Brian's bar is always getting one question correct, which he does at every show we've had.

 Matt Mio 02:34
That's happening today.

 Danielle Maxwell 02:35
Every year, one question.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 02:36
Yes

 Heather Hill 02:37
No pressure.

 Brian Curtis 02:37
When it's going to happen, we'll see. But it's going to happen.

 Brian Curtis 02:40
His seat doesn't even get warm,

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 02:42
That's right.

 Stephen Manning 02:42
That's my goal, week after week.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 02:45
We set the bar so low, everybody wins.

 Dave Chow 02:48
No one can limbo.

 Matt Mio 02:50
Professor Dave Chow, Mayor of Eaton Street in Berkley, is also here.

 Dave Chow 02:56
Pleasure to be here as always.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 02:59
So we haven't caught up in a while about, you know, new food finds you've had in the area, and so I feel like I'm behind. Like, what have you found that I don't know about?

 Danielle Maxwell 03:07
You texted me something about the cheesesteak place.

 Dave Chow 03:11
Oh yeah, the new cheese steak place happening.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 03:13
New cheesesteak place. In the old shoe shop.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 03:15
Yeah, George's Shoe Shop.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 03:16
That's right.

D Dave Chow 03:17
Easier said than done.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 03:18
The big purple hand is all you have to say.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 03:20
It's going away. Most people in Berkley know what it is, but it is going away. Yeah.

D Dave Chow 03:24
Sad.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 03:25
It's a giant mural of this sort of creepy purple hand coming down. It's kind of iconic, but like many other murals in Berkley, looks like it's getting painted over.

D Dave Chow 03:35
It's okay. It keeps us employed.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 03:36
Yes, Oh, that's true. There's always room for more art, right, Dave?

D Dave Chow 03:39
Always,

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 03:40
Always. Continuing around the table, Professor Stephen Manning is here from that glorious department of being retired.

M Matt Mio 03:46
Hey, wait a minute! Hold now, now it's left and right, now it's another table too.

M Matt Mio 03:50
Yeah, it's another table. We just keep going around in circles.

S Stephen Manning 03:59
Good afternoon, Matt.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 03:59
Good afternoon. Excited about a potential. At this point, it's in the bag like Sox - Yanks wild card series.

S Stephen Manning 04:03
Yes, but I'm disturbed that they all three games are at Skanky Stadium, and I think this is a change from before. It used to be you know one.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 04:12
That's right.

S

Stephen Manning 04:14

You know, I don't know why they're changing this. I don't like it, and I wouldn't like it even if all three games were played at Fenway. I just don't like the rule.

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 04:23

Completely understood.

D

Dave Chow 04:23

But what about the home record? Remember?

S

Stephen Manning 04:25

Well, yes. They - so they get games one and three because they have a better record, and the team with the less record gets the second game. That's the way it's always been, and it should be now.

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 04:35

However, I'm sure the Sox series win will be all the sweeter for having won it in the Bronx

M

Matt Mio 04:41

first two games starting Tuesday in New York. Yes, you can rest up for the next series.

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 04:47

First week of baseball playoffs coming up.

S

Stephen Manning 04:49

Of course, they had to move out to play the last game, which is inconsequential. They had to fly to Tampa after and play in that -

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 04:57
just for kicks.

S Stephen Manning 04:57
that ghastly Tropicana indoor stadium with the pool with the Rays swimming around center field

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 05:06
center field that's right

S Stephen Manning 05:08
so stupid

M Matt Mio 05:08
Oh, what a weird world. Professor Heather Hill is here from the Department of English

H Heather Hill 05:14
the Sox have a better win record on the road

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 05:17
They do

H Heather Hill 05:19
so we'll keep that in our back pocket

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 05:21
And they've been playing a little more consistent recently, which is the rule of baseball.

 Heather Hill 05:25
Yeah, a little, but not a whole lot of offense, but yeah.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 05:29
Okay.

 Heather Hill 05:29
Anyway, how did you get - ? Dear listeners: Our dear host is elevated above us for this particular recording session.

 Danielle Maxwell 05:37
A position of power - Literally.

 Dave Chow 05:38
The air is thinner. That's what it is.

 Heather Hill 05:39
Yeah How is the air up there? I

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 05:42
I don't think I could get much higher.

B Beth Oljar 05:44
That's right. He's in the nosebleed seat.

S Stephen Manning 05:46
With all the royal ribbonry and royalty.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 05:50
This does look a little bit like medieval times. Now that I'm seeing it.

D Dave Chow 05:53
We need you with a big turkey leg.

B Brian Curtis 05:55
Yeah, we need food.

D Dave Chow 05:56
Yeah. Turkey legs.

M Matt Mio 05:58
Thanks for helping Dave give him a couple of doodling prompts for today, Heather. That's actually perfect. The turkey leg.

H Heather Hill 06:05
You're welcome. That is always my goal.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 06:06
Run with it. One question correct, and doodle prompts. Got it.

H Heather Hill 06:10
That's it. That's it.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 06:11
I gotta take some pictures for photos. To my actual real right is Professor Beth Oljar from the Department of Philosophy.

B Beth Oljar 06:18
Good to be here. Yeah.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 06:20
Oh, you've got the remarkably bright creatures in print here.

B Beth Oljar 06:23
Oh, yeah. You know, actually, it was when I was having physical therapy after my hand surgeries that the therapist recommended this, and I thought, well, this sounds just sort of odd enough to be clever, and I fell in love with the octopus.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 06:37
That's so cool.

B Beth Oljar 06:38
I fell in love with Marcellus, who's perennially hoping for someone to throw him a pity scallop

H Heather Hill 06:44
Actually. I just brought that back to her. I've had it for two years and finally finished it because you know, as an English professor, I don't read much.

D Danielle Maxwell 06:53
Not at all

H Heather Hill 06:53
No, there's no time.

S Stephen Manning 06:54
They're known as careful readers, which means slow.

H Heather Hill 06:57
yeah

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 06:58
There's nothing wrong with that. Nothing wrong with that at all, folks. This is a program. You can send us questions regarding anything. If you stump the panel, you'll receive a brand new edition of the ATP coffee mug and our autograph photograph of the professors. If you don't stump the panel, we'll still send you the autograph photograph. You can send us the questions in a number of ways. Email us at atp@udmercy.edu. Find us on Facebook and Instagram, or listen on your favorite smart speaker by asking it to play "Ask the Professor" at University of Detroit Mercy. Professors, over the summer we received this set of questions. 'Hi', it starts. "Attached are a few questions for your show. I started listening back in the early 1970s, and was happy to rediscover the show in 2020. I've been listening to the archives and new shows since then. Professor Chow posted on Facebook back in May and June that you were looking for questions, and I finally came up with enough to send in. I hope the professors enjoy this random group of questions", Our good friend Karen Carnes of Easton, Pennsylvania. Thanks for sending questions

 Beth Oljar 08:04
Always love random sets of questions.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 08:06
Absolutely, absolutely. The year is 1886. Winifred Edgerton Merrill became the first American woman to earn a Ph.D. in math. Named the Ivy League university where she earned the degree.

 Stephen Manning 08:23
Yale,

 Danielle Maxwell 08:24
Harvard,

 Heather Hill 08:24
Brown,

 Danielle Maxwell 08:26
Cornell,

 Stephen Manning 08:26
Dartmouth,

 Erin Bell 08:27
Princeton. I don't know.

 Dave Chow 08:28
McGill.

 Danielle Maxwell 08:29
We've said them all now.

 Matt Mio 08:30
McGill. Okay, It's the Canadian Ivy. Yeah,

 Heather Hill 08:33
it is the Canadian Ivy.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 08:34
I haven't heard it yet.

 Heather Hill 08:35
Really? Not

 Danielle Maxwell 08:36
Not Princeton, Brown, Yale, Harvard, UPenn, Cornell, Brown. What are the other ones?

 Stephen Manning 08:40
Dartmouth.

 Beth Oljar 08:43
Stanford.

 Heather Hill 08:44
Stanford.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 08:44
You're missing one of them.

 Heather Hill 08:45
Oh my goodness!

 Brian Curtis 08:47
Columbia.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 08:47
Columbia.

 Erin Bell 08:47
You're done.

 Dave Chow 08:52
All right, head home.

 Danielle Maxwell 08:53
Your one for the year.

 Danielle Maxwell 08:54
Brian is going to go and -

 Beth Oljar 08:56
Brian has met his quota.

 Dave Chow 08:57
Met the bar and drank from it.

 Beth Oljar 08:59
That's right. Yo

 Stephen Manning 09:00
You are free to leave.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 09:00
Yes. 1886, first woman to earn a PhD in math.

 Stephen Manning 09:06
Wow,

B

Beth Oljar 09:06

That's pathetic, but okay.

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 09:08

For many other reasons. Elizabeth Taylor's introduction at the 1974 Oscars was interrupted by someone running onto the stage. Who was making the introduction and made the comment, "Well, ladies and gentlemen, that was almost bound to happen. But isn't it fascinating to think that probably the only laugh that man will ever get in his life is by stripping all his clothes off and showing all of his shortcomings?"

B

Beth Oljar 09:31

So someone was streaking.

D

Dave Chow 09:32

It was David Niven, right?

M

Matt Mio 09:33

Yeah, it was David Niven who was making the off-the-cuff remark.

D

Dave Chow 09:37

I'm done too. Goodnight.

M

Matt Mio 09:37

Yeah, in the middle of the Oscars.

B

Brian Curtis 09:40

We're gonna have a latte outside the library now.

 Dave Chow 09:42
Peace out.

 Heather Hill 09:42
What was the interruption? I mean, who interrupted?

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 09:45
Somebody streaked across the stage.

 Heather Hill 09:46
Oh, I kinda missed that. I'm sorry. So was it Richard Burton that was streaking?

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 09:51
You know, it's not clear who was streaking.

 Beth Oljar 09:53
Then Elizabeth would have gone after it.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 09:55
Yes, yes.

 Heather Hill 09:57
For, you know, five times or however.

B Beth Oljar 09:58
That's right. Yeah.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 10:00
Your bicentennial minute. Bicentennial minute was a series of 912. - Wow, that's a lot - Episodes commemorating the bicentennial of the American Revolution. The segments were produced by CBS and ran nightly from July 4, 1974, until December 31, 1976. Each segment had a different narrator. The first episode was narrated by the late great Charlton Heston. What vice president of the United States narrated the last episode, July 3, 1976? Curr

E Erin Bell 10:35
Current vice president or former?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 10:37
I believe that he was vice president at that day, if I'm reading it correctly.

B Beth Oljar 10:42
Carter's vice president wasn't he?

D Dave Chow 10:45
Mondale?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 10:46
Oh, maybe it would be former. I'm so sorry. You'll get it when I give you the initials N R

D Dave Chow 10:53
Nelson Rockefeller

 Matt Mio 10:54
Nelson Rockefeller. Yes

 Heather Hill 10:56
76. Yeah, of course.

 Beth Oljar 11:01
Under Ford

 Erin Bell 11:01
I'm a bicentennial baby, so -

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:04
It's okay.

 Matt Mio 11:04
You learned it from the womb.

 Danielle Maxwell 11:06
20 years before I was born, yeah. So, no idea,

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:10
We did have some pretty interesting, Detroit sports history today with Justin Verlander starting for the Tigers, and they put the lineup for the opposing team, the Pittsburgh Pirates, and how many years they had been born by the time JV started his career, and several of the entries were negative eight months, negative nine months.

H Heather Hill 11:30
That's funny.

B Beth Oljar 11:30
That must have made him feel great.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:32
I'm sure, at 41 years old, starting a Major League baseball game. The Pennsylvania Dutch are known for having a variety of odd and strange foods. Perhaps you've heard of scrapple, cracker pudding, a Shoofly pie, to name a few. But what makes the Pennsylvania Dutch pot pie so controversial?

B Beth Oljar 11:32
The crust?

H Heather Hill 11:33
It's not actually a pot.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:56
Well. I'm giving it to you. It's not actually a pie. There's no crust. There's no tin, and there's no baking involved. It's basically just a stew of meat, potato, and noodles.

D Dave Chow 12:08
So, they just give it to you in the palm of your hand?

B Brian Curtis 12:11
Yeah.

H Heather Hill 12:12
Isn't that how you serve stuff at Halloween?

D Dave Chow 12:15
Yeah, I mean it's like my clam chowder for Halloween, right?

M Matt Mio 12:18
You're just gonna ladle it into the kids' bags?

H Heather Hill 12:21
He's claimed that before.

M Matt Mio 12:23
I love that story. Apparently, according to the backup information here, this is wonderful, Karen. There was a noodle controversy in Pennsylvania. Families argue over the preparation of the noodles, whether eggs should be included in the noodle dough, how thick the noodles should be rolled, and whether they should be dropped raw directly into boiling broth or pre-cooked before doing so,. Great controversy.

B Beth Oljar 12:47
Well, some - among the Pennsylvania Dutch, they tend to like noodles so thick you have to chew them. That's their -

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 12:53
That sounds about right.

 Beth Oljar 12:54
Yeah

 Matt Mio 12:55
I mean, very hearty, right?

 Beth Oljar 12:56
Yes.

 Matt Mio 12:56
It's a long winter,

 Dave Chow 12:57
like shoe leather.

 Matt Mio 12:58
There also is a great controversy. She says a soup versus the pot pie in quotes. True PA Dutch pot pie has no vegetables, only meat, potatoes, and noodles. Many cooks believe if you add a vegetable, that makes it a soup.

 Danielle Maxwell 13:14
Sounds lovely.

 Matt Mio 13:15
We call Vernor's mixed with vanilla ice cream a Boston Cooler, but nobody outside of Detroit does that, so we've got our oddities too. In 2011, this handheld baked treat was officially designated the state treat of Maine, despite a controversial history.

 Heather Hill 13:34
Whoopie Pie

 Matt Mio 13:34
Yeah, it is a Whoopie Pie. Oh, that's great. Five states have claimed to be the birthplace of the Whoopie Pie, it traditionally consists of two outer layers of a cross between chocolate sponge cake and a thick soft cookie. The center is typically a thick creamy layer using marshmallow fluff. This is interesting. It says, Heather, Whoopie Pie or G-O-B, gob. It's sometimes called.

 Heather Hill 13:57
Mm-hm. It's sometimes called that.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 13:59
In Pittsburgh, they call it a gob.

 Heather Hill 14:01
Yeah. Jason,

 Dave Chow 14:02
Jason, what's wrong with you guys?

 Heather Hill 14:03
Just the Mainers don't like that.

 Danielle Maxwell 14:05
The Mainers?

 Heather Hill 14:07
Yeah, the Mainers. My dad used to call them the Maniacs.

 Stephen Manning 14:13
And if you order a lobster dinner from a place in Maine, they will send you the chowder, the lobster, and they'll include a Whoopie Pie.

 Dave Chow 14:22
Not to be confused with a Whoopie Cushion, I hope.

 Matt Mio 14:26
Exactly. I knew that was coming.

 Dave Chow 14:28
I'm sorry.

 Matt Mio 14:28
It was just a matter of time.

 Danielle Maxwell 14:29
This explains so much about why I was getting Whoopie Pies in Maine - with the lobsters. I did not know that.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:36
You can look forward to it at the next the conference.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:38
The GRC - exactly - that you will not be at.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:41
Born in 1782, he was the first president born an American citizen. Prior to him, all others were British subjects.

E Erin Bell 14:49
1782.

D Dave Chow 14:50
Van Buren.

M Matt Mio 14:51
It was Martin Van Buren. (Laughing) Sometimes -

D Dave Chow 14:55
from the Canuck. I'm sorry.

M Matt Mio 14:56
The Canadian answers the American history question immediately first.

H Heather Hill 15:00
I'm sure there are other people born in 1782 though.

 Matt Mio 15:02
There were others, from what I've heard.

 Stephen Manning 15:06
Well, they've banned the teaching of American history to Americans, haven't they?

 Beth Oljar 15:08
That's right,

 Danielle Maxwell 15:09
Pretty much.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 15:10
That's also true.

 Stephen Manning 15:11
That's why we don't know.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 15:13
Only one president has paid off the entire national debt. Unfortunately, while the country's debt went to zero, the sudden removal of federal funds from the central bank led to crazy inflation and triggered a full-scale economic panic. Who was the president?

 Dave Chow 15:29
Washington?

 Stephen Manning 15:29
Hoover?

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 15:30
Mm-mm

 Erin Bell 15:31
Warren G. Harding.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 15:31
No

 Danielle Maxwell 15:32
of the Roosevelts.

 Dave Chow 15:33
I figure Washington got a head start.

 Heather Hill 15:35
Clinton.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 15:36
No.

 Beth Oljar 15:36
Is this back in like the 1870s?

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 15:39
You're very close. Beth's like zeroing in. I can see the gears turning.

 Beth Oljar 15:44
Was it Grant?

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 15:46
I always - Oh, whoa! We have an audience member that might have a response. Go for it,

 Heather Hill 15:51
Hank.

 Dave Chow 15:52
Come on, Hank.

 Hank Durkin 15:52
I said Andrew Jackson.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 15:54
Oh yeah, you're absolutely right. It was Andrew Jackson.

B

Beth Oljar 15:56

So I hadn't gone back far enough.

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 15:58

You were almost there. I always remember this from, of course, one of my storied chemistry professors. Andrew Jackson was the only person who campaigned for president. His opponent, whoever that was, accused him of killing babies.

D

Dave Chow 16:15

Cannibalism.

M

Matt Mio 16:15

Yeah, it was just sort of like - that's a very specific thing to accuse somebody of.

B

Beth Oljar 16:21

Well, if it's a reference to Native Americans, it's probably true.

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 16:23

That's probably true.

B

Beth Oljar 16:24

He did bring us the Trail of Tears.

S

Stephen Manning 16:27

The birth of negative advertising.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 16:29
Necco wafers, pastel-colored, disc-shaped candies, first produced in 1847. What does Necco stand for? N-E-C-C-O.

S Stephen Manning 16:39
New England Candy Company,

D Danielle Maxwell 16:41
Northeastern Candy Organization,

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 16:42
New England Confectionary Company. I mean, we we put it all together and we get there. I actually ate NECCO wafers when I was a lad.

D Dave Chow 16:46
And they also pass for tokens on the Chicago Skyway. Oh, did I say that?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 16:54
They are very much, very much, almost inedible.

S Stephen Manning 16:58
They're made in a Boston suburb.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 16:59
Are they?

 Stephen Manning 17:00
Yep.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 17:00
Okay. Yeah, that makes sense.

 Stephen Manning 17:01
Lynn,Massachusetts.

 Dave Chow 17:03
Substitute poker chips too.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 17:05
Very, very local term apparently. But what is a Snickelway?

 Dave Chow 17:09
About a pound.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 17:09
S N I C K E L W A Y. A Snickelway.

 Danielle Maxwell 17:09
Is it a food?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 17:14
It is not a food. You're immediately thinking of candy bars. It's not a candy bar.

B Brian Curtis 17:16
It's a bike trail.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 17:22
I mean, you're closer than candy bar, but not really. It's not a bike trail.

S Stephen Manning 17:27
A road.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 17:28
It's a road. It's an alley in a very specific city in England.

E Erin Bell 17:34
Sounds very British, right?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 17:35
Doesn't it sound very British?

E Erin Bell 17:36
A Snickelway.

 Beth Oljar 17:38
somewhere in London.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 17:39
It's not London. That's a good guess.

 Stephen Manning 17:41
Oxford.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 17:41
It's not Oxford,

 Beth Oljar 17:42
Cambridge.

 Erin Bell 17:43
Liverpool

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 17:43
I mean, we're running out of cities that folks know. It's a collection of alleys in the city of York in England.

 Beth Oljar 17:51
You could have said north of England. That would have helped.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 17:54
Sorry about that. I don't know my British geography that well.

D Dave Chow 17:57
We need Drew here.

B Beth Oljar 18:00
Drew would be handy.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 18:02
George Washington took command of the newly formed Continental Army July 3, 1775. This was not the first significant event in his career to take place on July 3. What happened 21 years before that?

B Beth Oljar 18:16
He lost at Fort Duquesne to -

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 18:20
You know, it only names the battle, and it's not Fort Duquesne. But I think you're on the right track from my Ken Burns last summer.

B Beth Oljar 18:27
Ticonderoga

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 18:28
is the always appropriately named fort with a capital N as the first letter.

H Heather Hill 18:34
Niagara.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 18:37
It's literally a concept and not a geographic term. This is like my classic leading up to yeah. It's weird. It's Fort Necessity. It was his loss at Fort Necessity. Why do we have to take Fort Necessity? I thought it was obvious.

B Beth Oljar 18:52
It's a necessity.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 18:58
I believe Washington lost the battle at Fort Necessity, but he made his fame at the -

B Beth Oljar 19:03
It's amazing how many battles he lost, and yet is so, I mean, revered. I think more for his leadership than his military strategy skill, but still.

A Audience member 19:15
He lost the battle, won the war

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 19:16
lost the battle, won the war. That's not not a bad epithet. Exactly. Medicare was signed into law in 1965 by Lyndon Johnson in Independence, Missouri. Hint, hint. Who were the first two traditional recipients of Medicare symbolically? Sick people. Old partial credit. The audience gets it right again. Harry and Bess Truman. Yep, because we were in independence.

 Heather Hill 19:41
Hank is on today.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 19:43
He is on.

 Dave Chow 19:44
Get that man a mic.

 Heather Hill 19:46
Give the man a mic. Yep.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 19:48
Where in North America is the only remaining territory of the former colonial empire of New France? Ooh my! I don't know if I've ever heard this before.

 Beth Oljar 20:00
Quebec?

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:00
No, but you're not too far.

 Dave Chow 20:01
Halifax? Nova Scotia,?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:05
I mean, how about I just say what the answer is so that you can tell us where it is, Dave?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:10
Saint Pierre and Miquelon.

D Dave Chow 20:10
Brian, help me out. Help me out, buddy.

B Brian Curtis 20:16
I got my one right. I don't have to think anymore.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:18
Brian's completely shut down.

B Brian Curtis 20:20
Yeah, I'm done.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:21
It's a small archipelago off the southern coast of Newfoundland. That's New France.

H Heather Hill 20:27
Archipelago or archipelago?

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:29
Archipelago. Archipelago.

 Danielle Maxwell 20:31
I like archipelago. It's a fun way of saying it.

 Heather Hill 20:34
It's like aluminum.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:35
Aluminum.

 Dave Chow 20:36
Where's Prasad when we need him?

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:38
Exactly.

 Beth Oljar 20:39
Who still calls cookies biscuits?

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:42
and the lift. Take the lift. Thank you for those questions, Karen. That was actually really awesome. Send us questions any other time. That's awesome. "Dear Matt and ATP panelists, I saw there's a call for new questions." Thanks, Dave, "for the upcoming year, and I stepped up. Below are 20 questions from all over the map. I hope you and the panelists will enjoy them. Thanks, and sincerely" (our very good friend) Judy Palmer", who's in Dallas, Texas now.

 Heather Hill 21:06
Thanks, Judy.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 21:14
What do the Australian ships Manuda, Wonganella, Centaur, and Aranhe have in common.

 Dave Chow 21:24
Jim Tubbs rode in them.

 Danielle Maxwell 21:24
They're all ships

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 21:24
They're all ships, partial credit.

 Stephen Manning 21:24
They're all fishing vessels.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 21:28
They didn't fish, but they all did the same thing. So you're on the right track.

 Beth Oljar 21:31
Transported prisoners from Britain to Australia.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 21:34
You're getting closer, but a little more maybe beneficial than transporting prisoners.

 Dave Chow 21:39
Food?

 Danielle Maxwell 21:40
Like, resources,?

 Dave Chow 21:41
Hospitals.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 21:42
They were hospital ships.

 Heather Hill 21:43
Oh, good job.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 21:44
during World War II. Yeah, Manuda, Wanganala, Centaur, and Aranhe. Sure, because you know the name of the ship says that it was a hospital. Name the Robinson children from the show and/or movie Lost in Space.

 Dave Chow 21:44
Judy, Penny, and Will

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 21:54
in the order that they're on the paper.

E Erin Bell 22:03
No idea.

D Dave Chow 22:03
Well, age and height.

B Beth Oljar 22:05
"Danger, Will Robinson"

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:05
That was incredible. absolutely incredible.

S Stephen Manning 22:08
Obvious, right?

B Beth Oljar 22:09
The remake of the show I thought was pretty good.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:12
People said it was good, right?

B Beth Oljar 22:13
Molly Parker as the mom.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:16
Yeah. What is the largest park in New York City at 2772 acres?

D Danielle Maxwell 22:23
Central Park.

B Beth Oljar 22:24
Central Park.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:25
It is not. Central Park is only 843 acres. This is more than triple that. That's incredible.

D Dave Chow 22:33
Long Island, Staten Island, one of the - ?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:37
No. Greenbelt, Staten Island is 2316 acres.

D Dave Chow 22:42
Okay,

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:42
and Fresh Kills - because that's a great name - Fresh Kills Park in Staten Island is 2200 acres.

S Stephen Manning 22:49
It's not Manhattan or another borough?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:51
No, it says that it's in the Bronx, actually.

B Beth Oljar 22:56
Oh, is there a botanical gardens in the Bronx?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:59
If there is one, it doesn't say it here.

H Heather Hill 23:02
I wonder if the zoo is there too, the Bronx Zoo.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 23:04
Other unacceptable answers, according to the set of questions, Van Cortlandt Park is 1100 acres, and Flushing Meadows in Queens is 897. Flushing Meadows is bigger than Central Park.

H Heather Hill 23:18
Really?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 23:19
So the all-time biggest is Pelham Bay in the Bronx 2,772 acres.

D Danielle Maxwell 23:24
Okay.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 23:25
Yep. And we can't be good Detroiters without mentioning that Central Park was the experiment, but Belle Isle was the proper execution. What movie was Ben Stiller's directorial debut? Oh, very interesting Gen X question.

D Danielle Maxwell 23:28
Night At The Musuem? No, it's way before then.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 23:45
Not Zoolander.

B Beth Oljar 23:47
Dodgeball.

E Erin Bell 23:48
Modeling one. I can't think of anything.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 23:50
It's not Zoolander. It's not Zoolander. It's before that.

B Beth Oljar 23:53
A Night at the Museum.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 23:55
When we were teens, Erin. (Laughs)

E Erin Bell 23:56
Oh my gosh. I only remember him from the - Wasn't he on the MTV show? I feel like my my mind's -

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:03
You're right.

E Erin Bell 24:04
I've got to think back to the '90s.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:06
This was a drama from the '90s with some comedy, but it still primarily was a drama.

B Beth Oljar 24:12
Home for the Holidays.

S Stephen Manning 24:14
The Fockers.?

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:16
No.

 Brian Curtis 24:16
Who starred in it?

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:16
Oh my gosh. I want it - I mean, wasn't Ethan Hawke in everything at that time? So I want to say that he was there.

 Erin Bell 24:23
Oh, the one from Seattle, right? You know, you know it.

 Danielle Maxwell 24:27
Sleepless In Seattle?

 Erin Bell 24:27
No, no, no, no, no. Singles.

 Beth Oljar 24:28
You've Got Mail.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:29
Not Singles.

E Erin Bell 24:30
Not singles. Reality Bites.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:32
Reality Bites.

E Erin Bell 24:34
Oh,, that was that was harder than it needed to be.

H Heather Hill 24:37
Winona Ryder was in that too, I think.

E Erin Bell 24:39
Yeah. Janine Garofalo. That's who I remember. She's cool.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:44
Okay. I mean, that was the touchstone movie for Gen X from a lot of different perspectives.

E Erin Bell 24:48
Yeah, I remember that.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:49
Because it was being made by by a famous X-er.

E Erin Bell 24:52
Yes.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:53
What famous children's book character was invented by Hans Augusto and Margarete Rey?

D Dave Chow 25:00
This is Curious George.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 25:02
Curious George, yeah. I believe it just had their initials on the cover, right? It just said H. A. Rey and M. Rey. Name two popular American bands named after steamrollers. I bet you can get one of them.

S Stephen Manning 25:16
Manheim Steamroller. M

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 25:16
Manheim Steamroller is the first. But did you know the other one was also named after a steamroller?

E Erin Bell 25:23
Like, a specific type, like a brand name steamroller?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 25:26
This - I'm gonna - I have to be very very careful to not screw this up. This is classic sort of 60 s, 70 s, really good rock. Ah, what was the name of the two?

 Dave Chow 25:37
Is it yacht rock?

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 25:39
No, We're not at the yacht rock stage yet. We're still transitioning over from Summer of Love into '70s style rock. Two words of this band, initials B.S. named after a steamroller.

 Erin Bell 25:53
Boston.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 25:54
No.

 Dave Chow 25:54
Oh, I was gonna say Bachman Turner Overdrive

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 25:56
One is the same as a very, very snowy city in the state of New York,

 Danielle Maxwell 26:02
Buffalo,

 Erin Bell 26:03
Buffalo Springfield.

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:03

Buffalo Springfield is the name of the other steamroller. Gives me a chance to bring up - Never forget that Michigan Public Works for the state of Michigan names every single snowplow in the state - and they all have hilarious pun-based names, and you can look them all up and see which one is plowing in your area.

E

Erin Bell 26:23

Snowy McSnowface.

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:24

Snowy McSnowface. I mean, you know, stuff like that.

S

Stephen Manning 26:26

They're probably too busy doing that to plow my street in a winter snowstorm.

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:30

That I can't help you with.

S

Stephen Manning 26:31

But he previous question: Buffalo Springfield

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:34

is named after a steamroller. A steamroller had the nickname Buffalo Springfield, and it sprung into the same -

D

Dave Chow 26:39

Was that a brand?

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:40
Yeah

 Stephen Manning 26:40
That's why they named the band that?

 Stephen Manning 26:42
Yeah,

 Stephen Manning 26:42
I didn't know that.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:43
Yeah, there you go.

 Stephen Manning 26:43
Neil Young was in that band.

 Beth Oljar 26:45
Stephen Stills was in that band,

 Stephen Manning 26:47
Canadian

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:47
That's right.

 Stephen Manning 26:48
Yeah

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:48
And if had two Neil Youngs, it would be Neils Young. That's for my niece. What cocktail has been called an act of mixological atrocity favored by college students and wastrels?

 Erin Bell 27:01
A Borg? No.

 Beth Oljar 27:04
Do you mean wastrels?

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:05
Wastrels? Thank you. What cocktail has been called an act of mixological atrocity?

 Beth Oljar 27:12
The way they make a Long Island iced tea?

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:14
Long Island iced tea is what it is.

B Beth Oljar 27:17
This generation does not drink, as far as I can tell.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:22
Not the same way that our generation did.

E Erin Bell 27:25
I think it's really smart.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:26
Frankly, too many Long Island iced teas, and your short A's and long A's get all mixed up. That's all I got to say. Oh my gosh, this has been a lot of fun, but I'm so sorry. The time has come for us to say goodbye, Beth.

B Beth Oljar 27:43
Goodbye,

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:44
Heather.

H Heather Hill 27:45
Bye.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:45
Stephen.

 Stephen Manning 27:46
Goodbye.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:46
Dave.

 Dave Chow 27:47
See ya.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:47
Brian.

 Brian Curtis 27:48
See you later.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:49
And Danielle.

 Danielle Maxwell 27:50
Adios.

 Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:50
And now these words,

A

Announcer 27:52

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

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 28:02

Ask The Professor today is transcribed at the facilities of the lobby of the University library, but we're still out of the Department of Communication Studies in the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences at University of Detroit Mercy's McNichols Campus. Ask the Professor is produced and directed by Michael Jayson, and our executive producer is Professor Jason Roche. Until next week, I'm your host, Matt Mio.