

1  
00:00:00,270 --> 00:00:07,770  
From the Alex Trebek Stage at Sony  
Pictures Studios, this is Inside Jeopardy!

2  
00:00:08,630 --> 00:00:11,510  
Hello and welcome back to Inside  
Jeopardy!, your exclusive and official

3  
00:00:11,520 --> 00:00:14,819  
podcast destination for all things  
happening in the world of Jeopardy!.

4  
00:00:14,820 --> 00:00:18,079  
I'm Sarah Foss, and I'm  
here today with Buzzy Cohen.

5  
00:00:18,109 --> 00:00:18,904  
How you doing, Sarah?

6  
00:00:19,505 --> 00:00:20,095  
Well, I'm good.

7  
00:00:20,115 --> 00:00:25,345  
I'm coming off the heels of two big  
days of second chance competitions.

8  
00:00:25,375 --> 00:00:29,944  
This is, you know, the kickoff of the  
postseason that we were planning to kick

9  
00:00:29,944 --> 00:00:32,614  
off months ago, but it has happened.

10  
00:00:32,614 --> 00:00:38,560  
So, just this week we saw the  
return of 18 season, 39 champions.

11  
00:00:38,950 --> 00:00:39,770  
Don't say a word.

12  
00:00:39,790 --> 00:00:45,950  
All of whom came so close to a victory

that time when they came out to compete,

13

00:00:45,970 --> 00:00:50,499

but for a few different sliding door moments, they walked away without a win.

14

00:00:50,509 --> 00:00:52,580

And now is there time to come back?

15

00:00:52,940 --> 00:00:54,880

Obviously this format follows.

16

00:00:54,909 --> 00:00:56,140

We start out with nine.

17

00:00:56,635 --> 00:00:59,935

And we play three qualifying games, essentially, and then

18

00:00:59,935 --> 00:01:02,945

the winner of each advances to a two game total point of fair.

19

00:01:03,415 --> 00:01:05,915

So, we saw six people emerge as Jeopardy!

20

00:01:05,915 --> 00:01:06,535

champions.

21

00:01:06,545 --> 00:01:06,985

Nice.

22

00:01:07,005 --> 00:01:09,855

Regardless if they won the whole second chance competition, they

23

00:01:09,855 --> 00:01:12,274

can now call themselves Jeopardy!

24

00:01:12,274 --> 00:01:15,295

champions, which I know you know firsthand what that means.

25

00:01:15,335 --> 00:01:16,884  
Can't take that away from you ever.

26

00:01:16,954 --> 00:01:17,294  
Yeah.

27

00:01:17,294 --> 00:01:17,544  
Ever.

28

00:01:17,840 --> 00:01:21,770  
And our two winners are now headed  
in to Champions Wildcard, which

29

00:01:21,770 --> 00:01:24,600  
we will be featuring in January.

30

00:01:24,620 --> 00:01:28,490  
And, uh, we've got two more second  
chance competitions next week.

31

00:01:28,530 --> 00:01:30,610  
The train is not slowing down.

32

00:01:30,619 --> 00:01:30,889  
Wow.

33

00:01:31,190 --> 00:01:33,520  
We've got more in store.

34

00:01:33,539 --> 00:01:37,910  
And, uh, this was The  
launch of all new material.

35

00:01:37,920 --> 00:01:41,130  
Of course, our writers have been back  
for weeks now and they were certainly,

36

00:01:41,420 --> 00:01:44,509  
you know, contributing to some of the  
remaining champions wildcard games.

37

00:01:44,509 --> 00:01:48,469  
But this material, this second  
chance season 39 material, all

38

00:01:48,469 --> 00:01:50,690  
new, all curated by our writers.

39

00:01:50,710 --> 00:01:52,019  
And it really felt good.

40

00:01:52,020 --> 00:01:57,919  
Plus, Buzzy, spoiler alert, we've  
got a new logo and a new open

41

00:01:57,920 --> 00:01:59,539  
for the show headed your way.

42

00:01:59,540 --> 00:01:59,729  
Oh my God.

43

00:01:59,729 --> 00:02:00,559  
I love a new open.

44

00:02:00,679 --> 00:02:01,229  
Yeah.

45

00:02:01,240 --> 00:02:02,880  
So we took it in a different direction.

46

00:02:03,460 --> 00:02:06,689  
You know, we've been  
featuring the 19 boxes.

47

00:02:06,719 --> 00:02:12,000  
I call them the 19 boxes because  
every season I was one of the ones

48

00:02:12,000 --> 00:02:15,839  
who had to come up with what 19 things  
we were going to feature in those

49

00:02:15,850 --> 00:02:17,699  
boxes that, you know, rotate on.

50  
00:02:17,699 --> 00:02:21,719  
So our team kind of looked at it from  
a different perspective and we decided

51  
00:02:21,720 --> 00:02:25,820  
to kind of give you a little behind the  
scenes, you know, like a little what,

52  
00:02:25,829 --> 00:02:30,609  
what goes into the making of Jeopardy  
in those seconds leading up to the show.

53  
00:02:30,840 --> 00:02:31,640  
Hmm.

54  
00:02:31,770 --> 00:02:32,390  
That's cool.

55  
00:02:32,430 --> 00:02:35,730  
Yeah, it's kind of got like a little  
bit of a Saturday Night Live vibe, you

56  
00:02:35,730 --> 00:02:38,540  
know, they kind of show you the cue card  
guys as they go to commercial break.

57  
00:02:38,540 --> 00:02:40,550  
It's almost like we're all getting ready.

58  
00:02:40,920 --> 00:02:42,180  
You know, it's a Muppet show.

59  
00:02:42,189 --> 00:02:43,969  
It's the Muppet show basically  
is what you're telling me.

60  
00:02:44,030 --> 00:02:45,209  
Well, no,

61

00:02:45,939 --> 00:02:46,199  
it's

62  
00:02:46,210 --> 00:02:46,740  
Jeopardy.

63  
00:02:46,780 --> 00:02:47,320  
It's Jeopardy.

64  
00:02:47,320 --> 00:02:49,160  
It's time to put on makeup.

65  
00:02:49,160 --> 00:02:50,080  
It's time to light the lights.

66  
00:02:50,210 --> 00:02:50,530  
Yes.

67  
00:02:50,570 --> 00:02:55,885  
Okay, but we are not Anyway,  
this will debut along with Second

68  
00:02:55,885 --> 00:02:59,415  
Chance Season 39 on December 19th.

69  
00:02:59,525 --> 00:03:00,765  
So, tune in for that.

70  
00:03:00,785 --> 00:03:03,735  
I'll be curious to know, know  
your thoughts, get your views.

71  
00:03:03,775 --> 00:03:04,034  
Yeah, we'll be

72  
00:03:04,035 --> 00:03:05,925  
recapping it here on the show.

73  
00:03:06,145 --> 00:03:08,175  
And you read my mind, because  
my next question was going to

74

00:03:08,175 --> 00:03:09,725  
be When do these shows air?

75

00:03:09,865 --> 00:03:10,265  
Yes.

76

00:03:10,725 --> 00:03:15,155  
Tuesday, December 19th is when you're  
going to see your second chancers from

77

00:03:15,155 --> 00:03:18,295  
season 39 back on the Alex Trebek stage.

78

00:03:18,935 --> 00:03:20,924  
Lots to get through in Jeopardy!

79

00:03:20,954 --> 00:03:22,215  
airtime as well.

80

00:03:22,234 --> 00:03:26,934  
That's just a little J P T  
as M P D likes to call it.

81

00:03:27,524 --> 00:03:29,009  
Now let's get into J A P T.

82

00:03:29,149 --> 00:03:29,380  
A.

83

00:03:29,380 --> 00:03:29,880  
T.

84

00:03:29,910 --> 00:03:31,720  
Uh, lot to highlight today, Buzzy.

85

00:03:31,750 --> 00:03:36,130  
Just last week, we crowned Nick Cascone,  
our wild card champion of the Clubs group.

86

00:03:36,530 --> 00:03:39,509  
And then we moved into our

final group of our Season 37 and

87

00:03:39,510 --> 00:03:41,280  
Season 38 champs, the Hearts.

88

00:03:41,679 --> 00:03:44,529  
Nick will be joining us  
on the pod a little later.

89

00:03:44,549 --> 00:03:47,229  
He's going to talk about, of  
course, his triumphant return and

90

00:03:47,239 --> 00:03:50,739  
what it means to him to be headed  
to the Tournament of Champions.

91

00:03:51,119 --> 00:03:54,310  
And then last week in primetime, we  
saw the return of Celebrity Jeopardy!

92

00:03:54,320 --> 00:03:57,919  
Featuring Cynthia Nixon, Cedric the  
Entertainer, and Heather McMahon.

93

00:03:58,365 --> 00:04:01,855  
All competing for one of those  
coveted spots in the semi finals.

94

00:04:02,255 --> 00:04:06,725  
We'll get to all those highlights shortly,  
but first, it's time for our trip down

95

00:04:06,725 --> 00:04:09,025  
memory lane this week in Jeopardy!

96

00:04:09,025 --> 00:04:09,535  
History.

97

00:04:14,454 --> 00:04:18,225  
From the Sony Picture Studios,  
this is Celebrity Jeopardy!



98  
00:04:18,490 --> 00:04:21,350  
And now, here's the host of Jeopardy, Alex

99  
00:04:21,670 --> 00:04:21,720  
Trebek.

100  
00:04:26,370 --> 00:04:27,110  
Thank you, Johnny.

101  
00:04:28,440 --> 00:04:30,140  
Welcome to Celebrity Jeopardy.

102  
00:04:30,390 --> 00:04:33,020  
We've got three wonderful  
celebrities playing for charity.

103  
00:04:33,200 --> 00:04:33,930  
Let's meet them.

104  
00:04:34,390 --> 00:04:35,349  
Sean connery.

105  
00:04:35,430 --> 00:04:35,810  
Hello, Alex.

106  
00:04:37,539 --> 00:04:38,109  
Burt Reynolds.

107  
00:04:39,240 --> 00:04:39,599  
How you doing?

108  
00:04:40,599 --> 00:04:43,120  
And finally, comedy legend Jerry Lewis.

109  
00:04:45,105 --> 00:04:45,925  
That's right, Buzzy.

110  
00:04:45,974 --> 00:04:51,844  
It was December 7th, 1996, when  
the first Celebrity Jeopardy!

111  
00:04:51,844 --> 00:04:55,924  
sketch aired on Saturday Night Live  
with Will Ferrell playing host Alex

112  
00:04:55,935 --> 00:04:58,784  
Trebek, Daryl Hammond as Sean Connery.

113  
00:04:58,784 --> 00:05:00,055  
He was so naughty.

114  
00:05:00,375 --> 00:05:04,364  
Norm Macdonald as Burt Reynolds  
and Martin Short as Jerry Lewis.

115  
00:05:04,375 --> 00:05:07,055  
Those were the first celebrity Jeopardy!

116  
00:05:07,055 --> 00:05:08,565  
contestants that they came up with.

117  
00:05:08,905 --> 00:05:12,375  
Over the years, of course, those  
sketches featured some of comedy's best.

118  
00:05:12,385 --> 00:05:16,135  
Amy Poehler, Jimmy Fallon, Ben Stiller,  
Kristen Wiig, Tom Hanks, so many more.

119  
00:05:16,614 --> 00:05:22,405  
And the sketches ultimately came to an end  
in 2002, at least the regular appearances.

120  
00:05:22,405 --> 00:05:26,145  
That's when Will Ferrell, of course,  
ended his run as a regular cast member.

121  
00:05:26,760 --> 00:05:30,550  
I very much remember this because  
Alex Trebek went on to his last

122  
00:05:30,550 --> 00:05:34,180  
show to make an appearance and be

like, Oh, I'll take it from here.

123

00:05:34,180 --> 00:05:34,580  
Will.

124

00:05:34,920 --> 00:05:36,210  
Alex told great stories.

125

00:05:36,210 --> 00:05:39,070  
He got to go to the SNL  
after party when he did that.

126

00:05:39,089 --> 00:05:40,939  
I think he stayed up  
later than he ever had.

127

00:05:41,879 --> 00:05:44,300  
And I'm not judging because I  
like to be in bed by about 830.

128

00:05:44,300 --> 00:05:46,590  
But I think the SNL after  
party is a late one.

129

00:05:47,010 --> 00:05:50,000  
And of course, Celebrity  
Jeopardy, you know, it continues

130

00:05:50,000 --> 00:05:50,280  
on.

131

00:05:50,280 --> 00:05:50,630  
Yeah.

132

00:05:50,950 --> 00:05:54,455  
It's interesting because these are  
so iconic to us, but what's Also

133

00:05:54,455 --> 00:05:59,784  
fun about it is a lot of people  
overseas who don't have Jeopardy know

134

00:05:59,784 --> 00:06:02,364  
of Jeopardy from the SNL sketches.

135  
00:06:02,585 --> 00:06:02,804  
Yeah, I

136  
00:06:02,804 --> 00:06:02,955  
don't

137  
00:06:02,955 --> 00:06:04,124  
know if we're thrilled.

138  
00:06:04,135 --> 00:06:06,484  
I mean, we're thrilled that  
they know of Jeopardy, but they

139  
00:06:06,484 --> 00:06:09,385  
certainly aren't getting exactly  
the right show when you think that

140  
00:06:09,424 --> 00:06:11,674  
S words is swords and you name it.

141  
00:06:11,684 --> 00:06:12,234  
They know it's

142  
00:06:12,234 --> 00:06:15,174  
a joke, but I'm just saying that, like,  
for a lot of people, this is their first.

143  
00:06:15,255 --> 00:06:19,665  
taste of Jeopardy, which is so  
ubiquitous here, obviously big

144  
00:06:19,665 --> 00:06:21,775  
influence on me with my initial run.

145  
00:06:22,005 --> 00:06:26,964  
A lot of my joke Final Jeopardy answers  
inspired by Daryl Hammond's Sean Connery,

146  
00:06:27,244 --> 00:06:29,375

especially calling Alex Trebek, Trebek.

147

00:06:29,594 --> 00:06:32,474

Yeah, that's why I said that guy was a little naughty and so are you.

148

00:06:32,515 --> 00:06:32,854

I am

149

00:06:32,854 --> 00:06:33,234

naughty.

150

00:06:33,630 --> 00:06:36,070

Uh, but let's be nice and go into some game

151

00:06:36,070 --> 00:06:36,640

highlights.

152

00:06:36,760 --> 00:06:37,919

Alright, let's do it.

153

00:06:38,280 --> 00:06:42,590

We kicked off the two day total point of fair final on Monday with Jen

154

00:06:42,599 --> 00:06:45,669

Jazwinski, Dennis Chase, and Nick Cascone.

155

00:06:46,099 --> 00:06:48,960

It was a close game throughout with all three players in the mix, though

156

00:06:48,989 --> 00:06:53,299

Nick, thanks to a big 6, 000 daily double, took a pretty strong lead.

157

00:06:53,299 --> 00:06:57,254

Then Dennis dropped to third place after missing a big 7, 000.

158

00:06:57,315 --> 00:07:00,935

thousand dollar daily double, god would  
admire him for taking the chance though.

159

00:07:01,344 --> 00:07:03,105

All three players incorrect in final.

160

00:07:03,135 --> 00:07:06,275

So it really was anyone's  
game heading into game two.

161

00:07:06,394 --> 00:07:10,085

Interestingly enough in the post  
game chat, Ken actually pointed

162

00:07:10,085 --> 00:07:14,544

out that Jen had more than doubled  
the correct responses as Nick

163

00:07:14,825 --> 00:07:16,980

and Almost double for Dennis.

164

00:07:16,980 --> 00:07:21,780

So really shows just how you know she was  
locked in with the buzzer and yet Nick

165

00:07:21,780 --> 00:07:23,730

comes away with the lead ending that game.

166

00:07:23,850 --> 00:07:24,150

Yeah.

167

00:07:24,155 --> 00:07:26,520

Great game by all three players.

168

00:07:27,310 --> 00:07:31,330

Has the curse of final jeopardy come  
back in the Champion's wild card.

169

00:07:31,479 --> 00:07:32,169

We will see.

170

00:07:32,174 --> 00:07:32,544

Did it ever leave?

171

00:07:32,685 --> 00:07:33,344

Did it ever leave?

172

00:07:33,525 --> 00:07:33,906

Did it ever leave?

173

00:07:34,090 --> 00:07:36,280

I think last week it had kind  
of left, but a little bit.

174

00:07:36,469 --> 00:07:40,239

You know, uh, pulling it out, Nick,  
when it had to, you know, Nick,

175

00:07:40,249 --> 00:07:45,460

even though he only has, uh, 12  
correct responses compared to the 25

176

00:07:45,469 --> 00:07:47,700

of Jen has no incorrect responses.

177

00:07:47,700 --> 00:07:51,849

And if you're only right and you're  
right on high value clues, hit the

178

00:07:51,849 --> 00:07:53,289

daily double and make the big wager.

179

00:07:53,469 --> 00:07:54,629

That's how he kept himself in it.

180

00:07:54,969 --> 00:07:55,219

Yeah.

181

00:07:55,239 --> 00:07:55,999

Ken pointed that out.

182

00:07:56,000 --> 00:07:58,580

He said, you know, Nick, you only  
had six correct responses in double

183  
00:07:58,590 --> 00:08:00,210  
jeopardy, but they were the right ones.

184  
00:08:00,210 --> 00:08:01,219  
And Nick joked, yeah, that's.

185  
00:08:01,370 --> 00:08:02,050  
That's my strategy.

186  
00:08:02,850 --> 00:08:03,990  
Buzz in first and answer right.

187  
00:08:04,030 --> 00:08:06,090  
Then he said, can we  
change podium places now?

188  
00:08:06,090 --> 00:08:08,340  
I like podium position number one better.

189  
00:08:08,390 --> 00:08:11,730  
And then Jen quickly, of course, said no,  
because she was in podium position one.

190  
00:08:12,040 --> 00:08:15,140  
And then Ken added, well, yeah, but  
if you switch, you get that score too.

191  
00:08:15,140 --> 00:08:18,889  
So then Jen was like, oh yeah, I'm in,  
but needless to say, we keep people in

192  
00:08:18,890 --> 00:08:23,600  
their same podiums for both of the two  
games in the two day total point of fair.

193  
00:08:23,810 --> 00:08:28,110  
One thing we have added though, is in game  
two, if you came into it with the lead,

194  
00:08:28,340 --> 00:08:30,480  
you do get to select first as if you were.



195

00:08:30,635 --> 00:08:33,405  
the returning champion  
despite your podium position.

196

00:08:33,405 --> 00:08:36,685  
So that's what Nick had the  
chance to do in game two.

197

00:08:37,015 --> 00:08:40,634  
And on Tuesday, we closed it out  
with the second day of the finals.

198

00:08:40,634 --> 00:08:43,384  
Dennis and Nick steadily building  
up their scores neck and neck

199

00:08:43,384 --> 00:08:44,634  
throughout the entire game.

200

00:08:44,634 --> 00:08:49,854  
Jen falling victim to an incorrect 5,  
000 daily double and double jeopardy.

201

00:08:50,204 --> 00:08:55,655  
Nick entered final in the driver's seat  
and was correct with an All in wager,

202

00:08:56,045 --> 00:08:58,775  
giving him the win and that spot in the T.

203

00:08:58,825 --> 00:08:59,025  
O.

204

00:08:59,075 --> 00:08:59,535  
C.

205

00:08:59,855 --> 00:09:00,135  
Yeah.

206

00:09:00,135 --> 00:09:04,395  
Great gameplay, Dennis way to like put

yourself back in it as much as you can.

207

00:09:04,455 --> 00:09:07,605

It was another tight game  
for between the two of them.

208

00:09:07,605 --> 00:09:09,595

So, uh, congratulations.

209

00:09:09,595 --> 00:09:11,804

Well played all around tough break for

210

00:09:11,804 --> 00:09:12,094

Jen.

211

00:09:12,339 --> 00:09:15,560

Yeah, I have to say, Dennis Chase lives,  
of course, in Palm Springs, California.

212

00:09:15,560 --> 00:09:19,199

My mom and dad are out  
there, and he's all the news.

213

00:09:19,200 --> 00:09:21,749

All my mom, she's in the paper  
every day or is on the news.

214

00:09:21,750 --> 00:09:24,549

Like, everyone is so excited,  
cheering Dennis along.

215

00:09:24,549 --> 00:09:27,179

I didn't have the heart to tell her  
that he makes it to the finals, but

216

00:09:27,180 --> 00:09:29,279

he didn't quite pull off the win.

217

00:09:29,279 --> 00:09:32,830

But really, though, great  
gameplay from all three of these.

218

00:09:32,945 --> 00:09:34,795  
Champions wildcard contestants.

219  
00:09:34,835 --> 00:09:40,025  
Interesting story too, is that after not  
a very convincing first game, Nick really

220  
00:09:40,065 --> 00:09:43,025  
upped his correct responses to almost 20.

221  
00:09:43,265 --> 00:09:45,644  
Maybe that lead gave him a little,

222  
00:09:46,064 --> 00:09:46,715  
little lift.

223  
00:09:46,895 --> 00:09:50,364  
Well, we can find out a little later in  
the pod when we talk to him, but right

224  
00:09:50,365 --> 00:09:54,765  
now We're heading into the highlights of  
our last group of the Champion's Wild Card

225  
00:09:54,765 --> 00:09:57,815  
for Season 37 and Season 38, The Hearts.

226  
00:09:57,985 --> 00:10:01,414  
And we kicked off this group with  
Roan Talsma, who can forget Roan

227  
00:10:01,415 --> 00:10:04,375  
Talsma, giant killer to Amy Schneider.

228  
00:10:04,415 --> 00:10:05,415  
And Jeopardy!

229  
00:10:05,435 --> 00:10:06,435  
honors winner for Best

230  
00:10:06,435 --> 00:10:07,145  
Celebration.

231

00:10:07,355 --> 00:10:11,135  
Yeah, happy to have him back, along  
with Nell Klugman and Henry Bear.

232

00:10:11,535 --> 00:10:14,605  
Roan started off strong in the  
Jeopardy round, and Henry was actually

233

00:10:14,625 --> 00:10:17,494  
right on his tail, but then he  
unfortunately dropped down to zero

234

00:10:17,495 --> 00:10:19,275  
after missing a true Daily Double.

235

00:10:19,645 --> 00:10:24,865  
In Double Jeopardy, it was Nell who found  
the last Daily Double win all in for 5,

236

00:10:24,924 --> 00:10:30,875  
600 and was correct to take a commanding  
lead over Roan, a lead that she protected

237

00:10:30,944 --> 00:10:32,375  
throughout the rest of the round.

238

00:10:32,385 --> 00:10:37,460  
But in Final, it was a triple stumper,  
so Henry With a minimal wager,

239

00:10:37,490 --> 00:10:39,140  
secures a win from third place.

240

00:10:39,560 --> 00:10:43,700  
Savvy wager from Henry, well  
played by Roan and Nell.

241

00:10:43,700 --> 00:10:47,650  
And once again, the Champion's  
Wild Card, Final Jeopardy,

242

00:10:48,010 --> 00:10:48,950  
strikes.

243  
00:10:49,050 --> 00:10:52,669  
Well this one I want to remind  
everyone, because this was a tricky one.

244  
00:10:52,669 --> 00:10:54,620  
The category, A Bit of Britain.

245  
00:10:55,050 --> 00:11:01,310  
In disarray, it was sold at auction in  
1915 to a local Wiltshire man who would

246  
00:11:01,320 --> 00:11:03,189  
donate it to the British government.

247  
00:11:03,680 --> 00:11:07,310  
Three years later, all three of our  
contestants were really thinking of,

248  
00:11:07,569 --> 00:11:11,319  
you know, some small object you just  
hand over to the British government.

249  
00:11:11,330 --> 00:11:12,030  
Not thinking of.

250  
00:11:12,760 --> 00:11:13,240  
Stonehenge.

251  
00:11:13,320 --> 00:11:16,260  
I would not have gotten this at  
all and even Nell was like, I'm

252  
00:11:16,260 --> 00:11:17,130  
never gonna have the end of this.

253  
00:11:17,130 --> 00:11:21,870  
I just visited Stonehenge, but it really,  
you know, it's one of those once you hear

254

00:11:21,870 --> 00:11:23,620  
the response, you're like, oh, of course.

255  
00:11:23,629 --> 00:11:24,019  
Yeah.

256  
00:11:24,030 --> 00:11:27,120  
In the moment, you just don't  
picture you can, you know, just

257  
00:11:27,129 --> 00:11:29,150  
donate something like Stonehenge.

258  
00:11:29,159 --> 00:11:29,909  
Yeah, also

259  
00:11:29,909 --> 00:11:34,190  
a bit of Britain kind of puts you  
in a, your head in a small space.

260  
00:11:34,200 --> 00:11:34,600  
Small, a bit.

261  
00:11:34,760 --> 00:11:35,340  
Yeah.

262  
00:11:35,785 --> 00:11:38,545  
Maybe a copy of the Magna  
Carta or something like that.

263  
00:11:38,695 --> 00:11:43,504  
Well, we of course know that we were using  
some redeployed material in these games,

264  
00:11:43,504 --> 00:11:49,235  
and I couldn't help but notice when Making  
Waves came up that I felt like I had,

265  
00:11:49,605 --> 00:11:53,884  
I had maybe seen or heard this clue or  
maybe lived some of these clues before.

266

00:11:54,374 --> 00:11:57,915  
So, yeah, let's just see what it was  
like back when we didn't have these as

267  
00:11:57,915 --> 00:11:59,845  
text clues, and I was actually the one.

268  
00:12:00,125 --> 00:12:00,825  
Delivering them.

269  
00:12:00,825 --> 00:12:03,823  
You just can't imagine the thrill of

270  
00:12:03,823 --> 00:12:09,390  
shooting the curls of this 90 You  
just can't imagine the thrill of

271  
00:12:09,390 --> 00:12:14,530  
shooting the curls of this You  
just can't imagine the thrill of

272  
00:12:14,530 --> 00:12:17,528  
shooting the Yeah, I did a wipeout.

273  
00:12:17,528 --> 00:12:17,956  
Yes.

274  
00:12:17,956 --> 00:12:18,384  
A

275  
00:12:24,705 --> 00:12:25,905  
lot of times.

276  
00:12:26,195 --> 00:12:26,535  
Yeah.

277  
00:12:26,535 --> 00:12:27,325  
Just to that one clue alone.

278  
00:12:28,425 --> 00:12:30,725  
I mean, at what point did  
you say enough is enough?

279

00:12:30,725 --> 00:12:30,835

Oh,

280

00:12:30,845 --> 00:12:31,215

never.

281

00:12:31,275 --> 00:12:35,775

And I had even gone down, you know, this was when flowboarding was kind of new.

282

00:12:35,784 --> 00:12:36,824

This was a while ago.

283

00:12:37,095 --> 00:12:40,465

And so they sent me down ahead of time to like do a day of flowboarding

284

00:12:40,475 --> 00:12:44,595

practice, which, you know, I think the fact that I could even get up was good.

285

00:12:44,614 --> 00:12:48,475

But then you try to like put a microphone on and deliver a clue while flowboarding.

286

00:12:48,485 --> 00:12:49,325

It wasn't easy.

287

00:12:49,345 --> 00:12:50,945

And I was up for the challenge.

288

00:12:51,395 --> 00:12:52,964

It looks much more painful.

289

00:12:53,015 --> 00:12:54,865

In the outtakes than it actually was.

290

00:12:54,895 --> 00:12:59,125

And then they thought it would be so funny to take all of my falls and edit



291  
00:12:59,125 --> 00:13:01,454  
them together to the song Wipeout.

292  
00:13:02,165 --> 00:13:03,865  
Well, I was going to say,  
at least, you know, you're

293  
00:13:03,904 --> 00:13:06,365  
delivering a clue about a wipeout.

294  
00:13:06,415 --> 00:13:08,824  
Yeah, it worked out well in that case.

295  
00:13:08,824 --> 00:13:13,415  
It was, it was a natural ending  
to each of my many, many takes.

296  
00:13:13,415 --> 00:13:13,874  
Yeah.

297  
00:13:13,875 --> 00:13:16,805  
And now a quick word from our sponsor,

298  
00:13:18,745 --> 00:13:22,315  
selling a little or a lot  
Shopify helps you do your thing.

299  
00:13:22,345 --> 00:13:23,725  
However you cha-Ching.

300  
00:13:23,905 --> 00:13:27,415  
Shopify is the global commerce  
platform that helps you sell at

301  
00:13:27,415 --> 00:13:29,155  
every stage of your business.

302  
00:13:29,215 --> 00:13:33,265  
From the launcher online shop  
stage to the first real life

303

00:13:33,265 --> 00:13:35,065  
store stage, all the way to the.

304  
00:13:35,285 --> 00:13:37,255  
Did we just hit a million orders stage?

305  
00:13:37,265 --> 00:13:39,315  
Shopify is there to help you grow.

306  
00:13:39,395 --> 00:13:41,545  
Shopify helps you sell everywhere.

307  
00:13:41,555 --> 00:13:45,784  
From their all in one e commerce platform,  
to their in person point of sale system.

308  
00:13:45,895 --> 00:13:49,684  
Wherever and whatever you're  
selling, Shopify's got you covered.

309  
00:13:49,805 --> 00:13:52,504  
They help you turn browsers  
into buyers with the internet's

310  
00:13:52,735 --> 00:13:54,084  
best converting checkout.

311  
00:13:54,235 --> 00:13:58,415  
36 percent better on average, compared  
to other leading commerce platforms.

312  
00:13:58,575 --> 00:14:01,845  
What I love about Shopify  
is how user friendly it is.

313  
00:14:01,855 --> 00:14:03,375  
It's so easy to build.

314  
00:14:03,555 --> 00:14:07,025  
the webshop of your dreams and  
Shopify gives you everything you

315

00:14:07,025 --> 00:14:11,295  
need to take control and take  
your business to that next level.

316  
00:14:11,355 --> 00:14:14,685  
Shopify powers 10 percent of all  
e commerce in the U S they're

317  
00:14:14,685 --> 00:14:18,244  
the global force behind all  
birds, Rothies and Brooklyn and

318  
00:14:18,745 --> 00:14:23,765  
millions of other entrepreneurs of  
every size across 175 countries.

319  
00:14:23,905 --> 00:14:28,815  
Plus Shopify is award winning help is  
there to support your success every step

320  
00:14:28,815 --> 00:14:30,825  
of the way because businesses that grow.

321  
00:14:32,430 --> 00:14:35,970  
Sign up for a 1 per month  
trial period at shopify.

322  
00:14:35,990 --> 00:14:38,650  
com slash jeopardy all lowercase.

323  
00:14:38,690 --> 00:14:39,690  
Go to shopify.

324  
00:14:39,720 --> 00:14:44,040  
com slash jeopardy now to grow your  
business no matter what stage you're in.

325  
00:14:44,110 --> 00:14:44,920  
shopify.

326  
00:14:44,929 --> 00:14:50,239  
com slash jeopardy You can  
understand sounds no matter what

327

00:14:50,239 --> 00:14:52,180  
language you speak or are learning.

328

00:14:52,790 --> 00:14:53,290  
Like that.

329

00:14:53,400 --> 00:14:55,300  
The sound of a right answer in Babbel.

330

00:14:55,329 --> 00:14:58,069  
This fall, you can start speaking  
a new language with Babbel.

331

00:14:58,130 --> 00:14:58,689  
Why Babbel?

332

00:14:58,720 --> 00:14:59,829  
Because it works.

333

00:14:59,869 --> 00:15:03,869  
Instead of paying hundreds of dollars for  
a private tutor, Babbel's quick 10 minute

334

00:15:03,869 --> 00:15:08,180  
lessons are designed by over 150 language  
experts to help you start speaking a new

335

00:15:08,180 --> 00:15:10,250  
language in as little as three weeks.

336

00:15:10,319 --> 00:15:12,180  
Babbel is designed by real people.

337

00:15:12,335 --> 00:15:13,955  
for real conversations.

338

00:15:14,025 --> 00:15:16,505  
All of Babbel's tips and tools  
for learning a new language are

339

00:15:16,505 --> 00:15:20,505  
approachable, accessible, rooted in  
real life situations, and delivered

340  
00:15:20,535 --> 00:15:22,585  
with conversation based teaching.

341  
00:15:22,625 --> 00:15:26,094  
All of you know what a fashion lover  
I am, so when I found myself in Paris

342  
00:15:26,094 --> 00:15:28,404  
this summer, I had to do some shopping.

343  
00:15:28,435 --> 00:15:31,975  
And Babbel's French courses helped  
me navigate the shopping experience.

344  
00:15:31,975 --> 00:15:35,865  
With over 10 million subscriptions  
sold, Babbel is real language learning.

345  
00:15:35,935 --> 00:15:37,765  
For real conversations.

346  
00:15:37,795 --> 00:15:41,515  
Here is a very special limited time  
deal For our listeners to get you

347  
00:15:41,515 --> 00:15:46,615  
started right now, get 55% off your  
Babel subscription, but only for our

348  
00:15:46,620 --> 00:15:49,825  
listeners at [babel.com/inside](https://babel.com/inside) J.

349  
00:15:49,885 --> 00:15:58,405  
Get 55% off at [babel.com/inside](https://babel.com/inside) j  
spelled B-A-B-B-E l.com/inside j.

350  
00:15:58,435 --> 00:15:59,485  
Rules and restrictions

351

00:15:59,535 --> 00:16:01,454  
Now back to inside Jeopardy.

352

00:16:02,925 --> 00:16:06,024  
All right, moving on to Thursday  
with Tyler Vandenberg, Kira

353

00:16:06,074 --> 00:16:08,564  
Donegan, and Elisa Hovey.

354

00:16:08,584 --> 00:16:11,864  
Of course, Tyler, you may remember,  
was defeated by our champions

355

00:16:11,884 --> 00:16:14,544  
wild card spades winner Josh Sack.

356

00:16:15,165 --> 00:16:20,264  
Kira, sister of 2022 National College  
Championship semi finalist Kristen

357

00:16:20,264 --> 00:16:24,604  
Donegan, and also the daughter of one  
of our season 39 players, Laura Donegan.

358

00:16:24,614 --> 00:16:25,614  
What a family that is.

359

00:16:26,514 --> 00:16:27,654  
gals are wow.

360

00:16:28,024 --> 00:16:31,744  
And then Elisa was a professor's  
tournament finalist, so she lost

361

00:16:31,754 --> 00:16:34,854  
to, you know, none other than  
Sam Buttrey in a two day final.

362

00:16:35,244 --> 00:16:36,974  
A lot at stake in this game.

363  
00:16:37,374 --> 00:16:40,544  
Tyler and Kira battled back and forth  
throughout the game, and it was on the

364  
00:16:40,544 --> 00:16:44,914  
last daily double when Tyler took the  
lead and maintained it heading into final.

365  
00:16:45,364 --> 00:16:48,624  
He was the only one who was  
correct in final, and he went

366  
00:16:48,655 --> 00:16:50,744  
all in, so he secured that win.

367  
00:16:50,944 --> 00:16:51,375  
Good for you,

368  
00:16:51,375 --> 00:16:51,734  
Tyler.

369  
00:16:51,765 --> 00:16:52,675  
Incredible game.

370  
00:16:52,685 --> 00:16:53,614  
Really well played.

371  
00:16:53,625 --> 00:16:56,574  
Didn't let the first Daily  
Double of Double Jeopardy

372  
00:16:56,574 --> 00:16:57,834  
stop him from going in again.

373  
00:16:58,125 --> 00:17:03,464  
Really close finish, and once again, those  
pesky Final Jeopardys rear their ugly

374  
00:17:03,464 --> 00:17:03,734  
heads.

375

00:17:03,755 --> 00:17:06,545  
Yeah, and Tyler, you never knew  
if he was really gonna smile.

376  
00:17:06,554 --> 00:17:09,795  
You know, we tell our contestants to  
kind of keep a poker face and tell Ken

377  
00:17:09,804 --> 00:17:11,275  
lets you know if you are correct or not.

378  
00:17:11,599 --> 00:17:13,739  
Tyler really takes that to the next level.

379  
00:17:13,770 --> 00:17:17,420  
You know, you don't know if he wins  
or loses until the very last second.

380  
00:17:17,489 --> 00:17:21,839  
Well, in his interview, Tyler did praise  
the Jeopardy staff and crew for how they

381  
00:17:21,839 --> 00:17:23,739  
treated him on his initial appearance.

382  
00:17:23,779 --> 00:17:27,560  
He said, quote, If you have any questions  
about what being on Jeopardy is like and

383  
00:17:27,560 --> 00:17:31,589  
what the crew is like, it was the best  
part of my experience during my time here.

384  
00:17:31,699 --> 00:17:32,539  
They made it so fun.

385  
00:17:32,539 --> 00:17:33,679  
They were so ready to help us.

386  
00:17:33,849 --> 00:17:35,369  
It was my favorite part.

387



00:17:35,560 --> 00:17:36,460  
That was something that.

388  
00:17:37,679 --> 00:17:39,799  
and I can certainly agree with as well.

389  
00:17:39,820 --> 00:17:43,409  
This is a real one of a kind  
staff that makes the contestants,

390  
00:17:43,409 --> 00:17:44,759  
it's a special moment for them.

391  
00:17:44,759 --> 00:17:47,169  
And I think the staff treats it

392  
00:17:47,199 --> 00:17:48,000  
as such.

393  
00:17:48,080 --> 00:17:51,399  
I love hearing that because we  
look at these jeopardy champions,

394  
00:17:51,429 --> 00:17:53,139  
any of our contestants in awe.

395  
00:17:53,139 --> 00:17:56,479  
And so to know that when they have their  
experience, that they leave feeling.

396  
00:17:56,855 --> 00:18:00,275  
That it was a great one, whether they  
win or lose is a, is a good thing.

397  
00:18:00,905 --> 00:18:05,685  
Well, we closed out the week with Garrett  
Marcotte, Bryce Hwang, and Brianne Barker.

398  
00:18:05,695 --> 00:18:08,264  
Garrett got out to an early  
lead and never looked back.

399

00:18:08,264 --> 00:18:13,354  
He responded correctly to all three daily  
doubles, adding 9, 000 to his score.

400  
00:18:13,745 --> 00:18:17,995  
And he pulls off The first  
runaway win in the hearts group

401  
00:18:18,085 --> 00:18:20,614  
Garrett with the lockout, incredible play.

402  
00:18:20,634 --> 00:18:24,674  
Perfect 12 for 12 in the  
double jeopardy round.

403  
00:18:24,685 --> 00:18:25,965  
That is really impressive.

404  
00:18:26,005 --> 00:18:29,784  
I know that this is the end of the  
week, but I have a question, Sarah.

405  
00:18:30,405 --> 00:18:31,785  
The hearts will go on.

406  
00:18:32,275 --> 00:18:34,514  
Oh yes, Buzzy, you know they will!

407  
00:18:34,985 --> 00:18:36,864  
Wow, have you been waiting all pod?

408  
00:18:36,865 --> 00:18:37,105  
I've been waiting

409  
00:18:37,105 --> 00:18:37,955  
all pod to say that!

410  
00:18:40,625 --> 00:18:43,934  
I hope everyone enjoyed  
it as much as Buzzy did.

411  
00:18:44,014 --> 00:18:49,465

Alright, well with that, my heart  
is going to move on to Wednesday in

412

00:18:49,465 --> 00:18:53,830  
primetime where Cynthia Nixon, Cedric the  
Entertainer, and Heather McMahon competed

413

00:18:53,830 --> 00:18:55,889  
for one of those spots in the semifinals.

414

00:18:55,899 --> 00:18:58,609  
All three players showed strong play  
throughout the first two rounds, but

415

00:18:58,609 --> 00:19:02,029  
it was Cynthia and Heather who really  
turned it on in Triple Jeopardy.

416

00:19:02,029 --> 00:19:06,329  
We saw eight lead changes between  
the two of them in that round alone.

417

00:19:06,699 --> 00:19:09,829  
Cynthia was able to take the lead  
heading into final on the strength

418

00:19:09,829 --> 00:19:11,329  
of a late round daily double.

419

00:19:11,739 --> 00:19:15,000  
But she was unable to come up with the  
correct response in final, and Heather

420

00:19:15,020 --> 00:19:20,779  
did have that response, so it gave Heather  
that exciting come from behind win.

421

00:19:21,330 --> 00:19:24,250  
I loved in the interview when  
Cedric was talking to Ken, you

422

00:19:24,250 --> 00:19:27,899  
know, cause Cedric joked that this

is a bit of a demotion for him.

423

00:19:27,909 --> 00:19:31,969  
You know, he's going from hosting  
back in season 12 of Who Wants to Be a

424

00:19:31,969 --> 00:19:34,310  
Millionaire to, to being a contestant.

425

00:19:34,310 --> 00:19:37,350  
And, and he said, no, no, no, it's  
actually really fun being here playing

426

00:19:37,350 --> 00:19:38,690  
the game because I'm here with you.

427

00:19:38,690 --> 00:19:40,094  
I mean, You're the GOAT.

428

00:19:40,114 --> 00:19:42,404  
You are the Tom Brady of knowledge.

429

00:19:42,475 --> 00:19:43,784  
That's what he had to say about Ken.

430

00:19:43,835 --> 00:19:44,304  
I loved it.

431

00:19:44,375 --> 00:19:46,725  
Yeah, this was a really exciting game.

432

00:19:46,824 --> 00:19:48,774  
These are big numbers  
they're putting up there.

433

00:19:48,884 --> 00:19:51,475  
And I do want to say,  
future Celebrity Jeopardy!

434

00:19:51,475 --> 00:19:54,544  
contestants, wager a little  
bigger on those Daily Doubles.

435

00:19:54,545 --> 00:19:56,624

There are a lot of them in the game.

436

00:19:56,804 --> 00:19:57,834

And there's a lot of clues.

437

00:19:57,875 --> 00:19:58,855

You can make up some ground.

438

00:19:59,065 --> 00:20:02,864

This game didn't have to be as tight as it was, but it was extremely exciting.

439

00:20:02,864 --> 00:20:04,344

These are some people I'd like to see back.

440

00:20:04,375 --> 00:20:08,475

I know, um, Michael Davies likes to talk about who he would invite back,

441

00:20:08,525 --> 00:20:09,895

you know, for future celebrities.

442

00:20:10,125 --> 00:20:12,645

I think, um, you know, whatever happens in the rest of this

443

00:20:12,665 --> 00:20:14,005

tournament, these are three great

444

00:20:14,005 --> 00:20:14,534

players.

445

00:20:14,965 --> 00:20:19,264

Yeah, I mean, you look at those attempts, Cynthia Nixon in the 50s for attempts,

446

00:20:19,284 --> 00:20:20,754

that's a pretty good stat to put up.

447  
00:20:20,755 --> 00:20:22,304  
It means you know a lot of that material.

448  
00:20:22,334 --> 00:20:23,024  
Yeah, overall

449  
00:20:23,024 --> 00:20:25,174  
correct percentage, 91%.

450  
00:20:25,344 --> 00:20:29,625  
Heather with 90%, even Cedric, 82%,  
even though he was not quite in

451  
00:20:29,625 --> 00:20:31,385  
that fight at the end, but really

452  
00:20:31,385 --> 00:20:31,775  
strong.

453  
00:20:32,025 --> 00:20:34,835  
That's right, okay, now  
it's time for our host chat.

454  
00:20:34,864 --> 00:20:38,844  
An audience member asked Ken, did  
you watch game shows as a kid?

455  
00:20:39,745 --> 00:20:40,274  
I was always a huge

456  
00:20:40,274 --> 00:20:41,254  
game show kid.

457  
00:20:41,274 --> 00:20:44,984  
Uh, I remember crying on the first  
day of kindergarten because I realized

458  
00:20:44,984 --> 00:20:49,495  
that as excited I was for school, I  
was gonna miss Pyramid and Match Game

459

00:20:49,495 --> 00:20:51,375  
and Password and all my favorite shows.

460  
00:20:51,764 --> 00:20:52,124  
Jeopardy!

461  
00:20:52,174 --> 00:20:54,455  
was always my first love, but  
before it came back on the air in

462  
00:20:54,455 --> 00:20:56,614  
84, I was a family feud diehard.

463  
00:20:56,634 --> 00:20:57,384  
My favorite show.

464  
00:20:57,884 --> 00:21:01,145  
When my sister was born in 1979,  
I was so excited because we

465  
00:21:01,145 --> 00:21:02,725  
were finally a family of five.

466  
00:21:03,774 --> 00:21:05,004  
And now we could go on the feud.

467  
00:21:05,105 --> 00:21:07,855  
I think my mom had to break the  
news to me that a newborn baby would

468  
00:21:07,864 --> 00:21:09,524  
be a terrible family feud player.

469  
00:21:10,104 --> 00:21:11,844  
And, uh, it was not going  
to happen anytime soon.

470  
00:21:13,014 --> 00:21:14,274  
He still watches game shows.

471  
00:21:14,534 --> 00:21:15,024  
He does.

472

00:21:15,464 --> 00:21:16,564

He hosts one now too.

473

00:21:16,645 --> 00:21:16,964

Yep.

474

00:21:17,054 --> 00:21:21,764

Alright, well now it is time to  
welcome our champions wildcard

475

00:21:21,764 --> 00:21:24,444

winner for the clubs, Nick Cascone.

476

00:21:24,854 --> 00:21:26,144

Nick, welcome to the pod.

477

00:21:26,144 --> 00:21:27,024

Thanks for joining us.

478

00:21:27,379 --> 00:21:28,230

Thank you so much.

479

00:21:28,230 --> 00:21:29,790

I'm so excited to be here with you

480

00:21:29,790 --> 00:21:30,310

guys.

481

00:21:30,409 --> 00:21:32,919

Haven't gotten tired of  
that intro, have you, Nick?

482

00:21:32,960 --> 00:21:33,449

It's, uh,

483

00:21:33,649 --> 00:21:36,629

I think you might be the first  
official, no, on the set, of course.

484

00:21:36,889 --> 00:21:40,039



But, after the air, this is  
the first time I'm being, uh,

485

00:21:40,650 --> 00:21:42,060  
I'm with you, so it's awesome.

486

00:21:42,179 --> 00:21:45,319  
Yes, well, and you, you knew what  
it was like to be a champion, but

487

00:21:45,319 --> 00:21:47,859  
not a champion's wildcard champion.

488

00:21:47,879 --> 00:21:49,159  
That's a whole other level.

489

00:21:49,320 --> 00:21:49,570  
It's

490

00:21:49,570 --> 00:21:54,110  
a level that I could never have expected  
or imagined that I could get to.

491

00:21:54,110 --> 00:21:57,759  
I mean, when I walked into that green  
room on the first day, my first thought

492

00:21:57,759 --> 00:21:59,239  
was, you know what, 5, 000 for a

493

00:21:59,239 --> 00:22:00,029  
day is pretty good.

494

00:22:00,340 --> 00:22:05,859  
Yeah, and one person who knew just  
what a competitor you are is Jelana

495

00:22:05,860 --> 00:22:10,750  
Cotter, who, of course, you played  
during your initial game and then

496

00:22:10,949 --> 00:22:15,540

you got to sit back and watch her put  
on quite a show in her second chance

497

00:22:15,600 --> 00:22:17,540  
and Champions Wildcard competition.

498

00:22:17,639 --> 00:22:18,070  
I mean, she

499

00:22:18,070 --> 00:22:18,690  
was amazing.

500

00:22:19,155 --> 00:22:24,425  
I did not know how lucky I was to  
get past her in that initial game.

501

00:22:25,089 --> 00:22:27,699  
And now the only people who  
have beaten her are people who

502

00:22:27,699 --> 00:22:28,580  
are going to the Tournament

503

00:22:28,580 --> 00:22:29,150  
of Champions.

504

00:22:29,350 --> 00:22:30,690  
Yeah, that's pretty impressive.

505

00:22:30,699 --> 00:22:34,509  
But she also just really  
was so complimentary of you.

506

00:22:34,549 --> 00:22:38,020  
And I guess complimentary in a way  
that was frustrating in that you

507

00:22:38,020 --> 00:22:39,730  
were just so good on the buzzer.

508

00:22:40,110 --> 00:22:43,654  
And she also talked about that, you

know, you taught her to To bring

509

00:22:43,654 --> 00:22:46,884  
some light reading and maybe a little  
study materials when you're going

510

00:22:46,884 --> 00:22:48,844  
to compete on the Alex Trebek stage.

511

00:22:48,984 --> 00:22:49,495  
I thought that

512

00:22:49,495 --> 00:22:53,545  
was so funny that she decided that, you  
know, I was, I was cramming in the green

513

00:22:53,545 --> 00:22:55,264  
room, so she thought that was a good idea.

514

00:22:55,364 --> 00:22:58,045  
And you know, we both took a little  
bit of ribbing in the green room

515

00:22:58,045 --> 00:22:59,114  
for having our books with us.

516

00:22:59,699 --> 00:23:04,509  
So, tell me what it was like when you  
initially lost in the World of Jeopardy

517

00:23:04,509 --> 00:23:06,819  
at the time when you lost in Season 37.

518

00:23:06,839 --> 00:23:08,100  
Obviously, a lot was going on.

519

00:23:08,100 --> 00:23:09,440  
You played with guest hosts.

520

00:23:09,460 --> 00:23:13,859  
But, it was a time when, if you  
lose as someone who's only won

521

00:23:13,859 --> 00:23:18,169  
one game, the chances of ever  
coming back are, are pretty small.

522

00:23:18,190 --> 00:23:22,489  
So, talk me through kind of the  
transition of first knowing, Wow,

523

00:23:22,489 --> 00:23:23,759  
they're going to have champions back.

524

00:23:23,759 --> 00:23:25,790  
It's not going to be me, but they're  
going to have champions back.

525

00:23:25,819 --> 00:23:28,074  
And then actually  
realizing, Wait a minute.

526

00:23:28,315 --> 00:23:30,815  
I could be making another  
trip back to the Alex Trebek

527

00:23:30,824 --> 00:23:31,355  
stage.

528

00:23:31,424 --> 00:23:33,114  
I'm gonna be perfectly honest with you.

529

00:23:33,784 --> 00:23:36,744  
After I lost my game, I stopped watching.

530

00:23:36,944 --> 00:23:38,544  
I stopped thinking about trivia.

531

00:23:38,574 --> 00:23:42,304  
It was so depressing and  
sad that my ride was over.

532

00:23:42,964 --> 00:23:46,855  
I couldn't even watch anymore because,

like, what's the point of doing

533

00:23:46,855 --> 00:23:50,904  
well on Jeopardy on television and  
keeping track of my choreo score

534

00:23:51,154 --> 00:23:52,784  
when that part of my life is over?

535

00:23:52,915 --> 00:23:55,474  
So I did not know anything  
about Champions Wildcard.

536

00:23:55,935 --> 00:23:59,814  
I did not know anything about that  
Champions were being invited back

537

00:24:00,314 --> 00:24:04,000  
until I got a text on my phone  
saying, We're doing this thing.

538

00:24:04,230 --> 00:24:05,330  
Do you want to be involved?

539

00:24:05,550 --> 00:24:08,719  
And that's a sentiment that is not  
uncommon, so I don't think you need to

540

00:24:08,850 --> 00:24:12,980  
feel, feel bad about it, but I think a lot  
of people, after fulfilling this lifelong

541

00:24:12,989 --> 00:24:15,210  
dream, there's a little bit of a letdown.

542

00:24:15,259 --> 00:24:16,440  
You've dreamt the dream.

543

00:24:16,659 --> 00:24:17,279  
Honestly,

544

00:24:17,389 --> 00:24:20,469

after my first game, I thought  
I was ready to go on a tear.

545

00:24:20,500 --> 00:24:21,130  
I really did.

546

00:24:21,130 --> 00:24:24,759  
I thought I had good buzzer skills, and  
I thought I was ready to win a bunch

547

00:24:24,759 --> 00:24:28,999  
of games in a row, and then I just had  
the perfect storm in the next game.

548

00:24:29,389 --> 00:24:32,980  
of categories that I wasn't  
familiar with to really well.

549

00:24:33,290 --> 00:24:37,209  
And, um, Catherine was  
really a strong player.

550

00:24:37,469 --> 00:24:39,830  
And before I knew it, I was retired.

551

00:24:40,659 --> 00:24:41,959  
Well, you did go on a storm.

552

00:24:41,959 --> 00:24:43,620  
It was just two years later.

553

00:24:44,129 --> 00:24:45,039  
It was two years

554

00:24:45,040 --> 00:24:45,969  
later, exactly.

555

00:24:46,120 --> 00:24:46,429  
Yes,

556

00:24:46,429 --> 00:24:46,799  
indeed.

557

00:24:46,919 --> 00:24:51,540

So once you receive the call  
And now you have to wake back up

558

00:24:51,549 --> 00:24:53,439

because the dream is not over.

559

00:24:53,449 --> 00:24:54,389

You're coming back.

560

00:24:54,399 --> 00:24:57,659

What do you do to kind of get  
yourself back in clue shape, if

561

00:24:57,659 --> 00:24:59,429

you will, to come back and compete?

562

00:24:59,719 --> 00:25:05,509

Well, I went out and I bought a trivia  
book called Ken Jennings Trivia Almanac.

563

00:25:05,649 --> 00:25:08,549

That is the book that I  
use to drill every night.

564

00:25:08,580 --> 00:25:12,889

We would watch the show and then spend  
an hour or so drilling out of that book.

565

00:25:13,370 --> 00:25:14,610

That was my preparation.

566

00:25:14,870 --> 00:25:16,860

I guess I dove back into the

567

00:25:16,860 --> 00:25:17,380

deep end.

568

00:25:17,449 --> 00:25:19,820

But you were also really  
strong on the buzzer.

569

00:25:19,830 --> 00:25:23,190  
So how did you, you know, hone  
that skill or did you just kind of

570

00:25:23,210 --> 00:25:24,800  
stay with you, you never lost it?

571

00:25:24,949 --> 00:25:25,210  
When

572

00:25:25,210 --> 00:25:29,260  
I got the call, I went to the  
archive and looked at my statistics.

573

00:25:29,289 --> 00:25:32,969  
And I found out that I had  
gotten five wrong in each of the

574

00:25:32,969 --> 00:25:35,010  
games that I had played in 2021.

575

00:25:36,000 --> 00:25:37,920  
And I just thought that  
was too many to get wrong.

576

00:25:38,030 --> 00:25:40,139  
I don't think you can be successful.

577

00:25:40,179 --> 00:25:43,940  
I don't think the strategy of  
just buzzing in on everything and

578

00:25:43,940 --> 00:25:47,550  
then getting some wrong and some  
right would be successful for me.

579

00:25:47,719 --> 00:25:52,939  
I decided that I was going to raise  
the threshold for wanting to buzz in.

580

00:25:53,650 --> 00:25:57,110



I would have, I would want to  
be even more certain that I had

581

00:25:57,110 --> 00:25:59,210  
the answer before buzzing in.

582

00:25:59,780 --> 00:26:04,740  
And so I went from five wrong in  
the, in my, in 21 to two wrong

583

00:26:04,749 --> 00:26:06,030  
in the quarters and in the semis.

584

00:26:06,824 --> 00:26:11,904  
To zero wrong in both games of the  
finals and that I'm very proud of that at

585

00:26:11,904 --> 00:26:15,915  
that level I think you've already heard  
Everybody knows everything if you put the

586

00:26:15,915 --> 00:26:20,705  
Venn diagram of people's knowledge over  
each other at the champions wildcard level

587

00:26:21,044 --> 00:26:26,145  
It's 90 percent identical knowledge And  
there's a little sliver of 10 percent that

588

00:26:26,145 --> 00:26:29,625  
I know that the other two don't know and  
a little sliver that they know it That

589

00:26:29,625 --> 00:26:36,020  
I don't know but at that level It's it's  
the metagame of being certain by the time

590

00:26:36,020 --> 00:26:39,920  
the clue is read that you are going to  
buzz And then whether you're listening

591

00:26:39,929 --> 00:26:43,850  
or whether you're watching for the lights

having that reaction time, you know, I

592

00:26:43,869 --> 00:26:49,904

had very different experiences In the semi final, where I had a 78 percent buzz rate,

593

00:26:49,955 --> 00:26:54,384

according to the archive, and then in the first game of the finals, it was like 30%!

594

00:26:55,105 --> 00:26:57,005

You mentioned the lights versus listening.

595

00:26:57,215 --> 00:27:01,594

Where do you fall in that very divisive, uh, question?

596

00:27:03,094 --> 00:27:03,984

100 percent lights.

597

00:27:04,489 --> 00:27:05,310

Wow.

598

00:27:05,320 --> 00:27:05,730

Okay.

599

00:27:05,980 --> 00:27:10,270

Well, you talk about not wanting to get much wrong and knowing

600

00:27:10,270 --> 00:27:13,239

that your competitors all have the correct responses as well.

601

00:27:13,239 --> 00:27:15,139

But when it came to the first final Jeopardy!

602

00:27:15,139 --> 00:27:16,949

of the quarterfinals, you were correct.

603

00:27:16,989 --> 00:27:18,189

Brandon was incorrect.

604

00:27:18,189 --> 00:27:21,250  
And it happened to be the Liberty  
Bell was the correct response.

605

00:27:21,280 --> 00:27:25,940  
And you told us you had recently  
visited and read the exact plaque

606

00:27:25,949 --> 00:27:30,844  
where the quote So that's a pretty  
good, uh, luck of your travels.

607

00:27:30,985 --> 00:27:31,654  
Pretty lucky.

608

00:27:31,735 --> 00:27:34,205  
My, uh, stepdaughter  
lives in Philadelphia.

609

00:27:34,384 --> 00:27:35,945  
And so we were there to visit her.

610

00:27:36,514 --> 00:27:41,335  
Um, and I had actually, I was actually,  
grew up back in New York, so I had made

611

00:27:41,344 --> 00:27:45,814  
multiple trips to Philadelphia, saw all  
of the patriotic stuff that they have

612

00:27:45,815 --> 00:27:49,045  
there, and the Liberty Hall exhibit  
is really, really nice, very fun, and

613

00:27:49,045 --> 00:27:50,424  
you can almost get right up to the

614

00:27:50,424 --> 00:27:50,714  
bell.

615

00:27:51,174 --> 00:27:56,444  
So, you get into your semi final, and  
in that, you pull off a runaway win.

616  
00:27:56,475 --> 00:28:01,054  
Was that on one of your, like, things  
I need to do on Jeopardy, like, true

617  
00:28:01,084 --> 00:28:04,685  
daily double, runaway, like, you know,  
were you crossing things off your list

618  
00:28:04,685 --> 00:28:05,934  
as you were going through these games?

619  
00:28:05,949 --> 00:28:07,020  
I mean, everybody

620  
00:28:07,020 --> 00:28:08,029  
wants a runaway win.

621  
00:28:08,040 --> 00:28:12,400  
You want to go to Final Jeopardy  
with, and I took so much ribbing for

622  
00:28:12,400 --> 00:28:16,360  
not knowing Frank Sinatra, let me  
tell you, it has been relentless.

623  
00:28:16,850 --> 00:28:20,975  
But my answer is, look, once he gave  
me Ypres, And I had to run away.

624  
00:28:21,385 --> 00:28:23,255  
My brain was shut down.

625  
00:28:23,264 --> 00:28:24,585  
I just turned it off.

626  
00:28:24,755 --> 00:28:26,534  
I had no idea what was happening.

627

00:28:26,534 --> 00:28:27,215  
I was out.

628  
00:28:27,525 --> 00:28:29,445  
Interesting about, about that game.

629  
00:28:30,054 --> 00:28:32,844  
If you go back and look, as  
we go to the commercial break,

630  
00:28:32,864 --> 00:28:34,215  
I think I'm at goose egg.

631  
00:28:34,344 --> 00:28:38,674  
I think I missed a daily double and  
then had no score or very low score.

632  
00:28:38,935 --> 00:28:40,014  
I was not getting in.

633  
00:28:40,500 --> 00:28:42,960  
For that first half of  
that single Jeopardy round.

634  
00:28:44,100 --> 00:28:47,520  
And I, I think I figured I'm too early.

635  
00:28:48,070 --> 00:28:52,739  
So I actually had to slow down a  
little bit to, to begin to get in.

636  
00:28:53,219 --> 00:28:54,719  
And then that was the sweet spot.

637  
00:28:54,739 --> 00:28:59,280  
And for the rest of that game, I,  
like I said, I was over 75 percent and

638  
00:28:59,280 --> 00:29:02,360  
yeah, 15 correct responses  
in double jeopardy alone.

639

00:29:02,790 --> 00:29:07,009  
So you come away from the semifinals with  
a runaway that has to put you into the

640  
00:29:07,009 --> 00:29:10,669  
finals, feeling pretty confident in that  
you had hit your stride at the right time.

641  
00:29:10,929 --> 00:29:11,929  
I never expected

642  
00:29:11,939 --> 00:29:14,150  
to be in the finals,  
but after the runaway.

643  
00:29:14,440 --> 00:29:18,699  
And I was the first semi final, so  
I had a nice long time to relax and

644  
00:29:18,699 --> 00:29:20,670  
watch the other semi finalists play.

645  
00:29:21,279 --> 00:29:25,819  
And then we went to lunch, so I had  
a nice sort of gap there to regroup.

646  
00:29:26,159 --> 00:29:30,400  
And going into the finals, you know, I  
thought, hey, maybe I got a shot at this.

647  
00:29:30,619 --> 00:29:31,650  
Maybe I can actually

648  
00:29:31,650 --> 00:29:32,259  
pull this off.

649  
00:29:32,549 --> 00:29:37,129  
Well, and in Game 1 of the finals,  
Dennis unfortunately loses.

650  
00:29:37,675 --> 00:29:41,935  
a big daily double so you know you guys  
come out of game one and it's really

651  
00:29:41,935 --> 00:29:45,245  
anyone's game at that point because  
it was a triple stumper in final.

652  
00:29:45,355 --> 00:29:50,165  
I was ahead but it wasn't a large  
lead so I knew as long as I kept

653  
00:29:50,165 --> 00:29:54,635  
close to the other two if we could  
get to final jeopardy with a higher

654  
00:29:54,635 --> 00:29:56,515  
total for both games overall.

655  
00:29:56,625 --> 00:30:00,225  
I mean most games between good players  
come down to do you know final or not.

656  
00:30:00,800 --> 00:30:01,080  
Right?

657  
00:30:01,150 --> 00:30:01,940  
That's just how it is.

658  
00:30:01,990 --> 00:30:05,950  
One thing I noticed looking at the  
stats of the first final game and the

659  
00:30:05,950 --> 00:30:09,530  
second final game, uh, which Sarah  
and I spoke about earlier in the

660  
00:30:09,530 --> 00:30:14,600  
podcast, was you had a very low buzzer  
percentage in the first game, and then

661  
00:30:14,940 --> 00:30:16,760  
did much better in the second game.

662  
00:30:16,760 --> 00:30:18,700

Did you feel like there was  
a little confidence boost?

663

00:30:18,700 --> 00:30:22,390

Like, what happened between those two  
games that kind of shifted for you?

664

00:30:22,800 --> 00:30:24,050

I have no idea.

665

00:30:24,050 --> 00:30:27,380

I don't know if it was worse categories  
for them or they were fatigued.

666

00:30:28,305 --> 00:30:32,575

Or, they were trying to catch up, so  
that they were coming a little early.

667

00:30:32,925 --> 00:30:37,255

I, I, I really can't explain why,  
all of a sudden, I mean, I think

668

00:30:37,255 --> 00:30:40,785

I went up like 20 or 30 percent in  
buzz through for the second game.

669

00:30:41,225 --> 00:30:43,325

And, I'm at a loss to explain.

670

00:30:43,355 --> 00:30:45,435

I, I, I didn't make any adjustments.

671

00:30:45,950 --> 00:30:46,320

I don't know.

672

00:30:46,320 --> 00:30:48,180

I wish I could tell you.

673

00:30:48,640 --> 00:30:53,620

I did feel like, since I was playing  
from a position of being ahead, I

674



00:30:53,860 --> 00:30:58,100  
raised the bar again, so that you  
just don't want to give money back.

675  
00:30:58,100 --> 00:31:02,050  
It's such a disaster if you get a big  
clue wrong, because not only do you lose

676  
00:31:02,050 --> 00:31:06,700  
that, but somebody can rebound you, and  
now you're having like a 4, 000 flip

677  
00:31:06,700 --> 00:31:08,650  
in just one question, which is just not

678  
00:31:08,660 --> 00:31:08,930  
tenable.

679  
00:31:09,080 --> 00:31:09,960  
I know what you're saying.

680  
00:31:10,120 --> 00:31:14,120  
Especially, sometimes there are those  
clues where you're deciding between

681  
00:31:14,120 --> 00:31:18,410  
two things, and If you make a guess,  
you're like, Oh, it's a coin toss.

682  
00:31:18,410 --> 00:31:20,590  
Well, you just ruled out heads.

683  
00:31:20,730 --> 00:31:23,080  
So your competitors can say tails.

684  
00:31:23,330 --> 00:31:23,540  
You're

685  
00:31:23,540 --> 00:31:24,490  
very vulnerable.

686  
00:31:24,490 --> 00:31:27,890

If you're buzzing in without a really high threshold of being certain.

687

00:31:27,960 --> 00:31:31,530

I mean, you can tell when somebody is guessing they have that little upwards

688

00:31:31,530 --> 00:31:33,480

inflection in their, in their answer.

689

00:31:33,970 --> 00:31:35,030

and it's usually

690

00:31:35,030 --> 00:31:35,660

a disaster.

691

00:31:35,710 --> 00:31:36,980

That's like 90 percent of my

692

00:31:36,980 --> 00:31:37,400

answers.

693

00:31:38,620 --> 00:31:40,730

Well, we head into Final Jeopardy!

694

00:31:40,740 --> 00:31:44,870

in game 2 and you go all in.

695

00:31:45,160 --> 00:31:49,100

You have since talked about the fact that if we're really looking back at

696

00:31:49,100 --> 00:31:52,350

it, it obviously worked out for you and you had it correct, but that maybe

697

00:31:52,440 --> 00:31:54,520

you miscalculated that Final Jeopardy!

698

00:31:54,520 --> 00:31:54,970

wager.

699  
00:31:55,400 --> 00:32:00,560  
I know 100 percent I miscalculated and the way that I miscalculated was that I added

700  
00:32:00,570 --> 00:32:03,190  
Dennis 3, 000 from the previous game.

701  
00:32:03,550 --> 00:32:09,520  
Into his score before doubling for a correct answer, which made me think

702  
00:32:09,550 --> 00:32:11,819  
that I had to bet that much more.

703  
00:32:12,080 --> 00:32:14,050  
Which was actually more than I had.

704  
00:32:14,060 --> 00:32:16,230  
So I wrote a number greater than what I had.

705  
00:32:16,230 --> 00:32:20,540  
And John had to say, uh, Nick, you're not allowed to bet more than you have.

706  
00:32:21,360 --> 00:32:24,170  
So then when I corrected it, I just corrected it to everything

707  
00:32:24,350 --> 00:32:26,040  
thinking that I had to do that.

708  
00:32:26,100 --> 00:32:27,009  
In reality, I was.

709  
00:32:27,010 --> 00:32:30,270  
was 3, 000, roughly 3, 000 more than I actually had to bet.

710  
00:32:30,270 --> 00:32:31,250  
So that was a mistake.

711  
00:32:31,250 --> 00:32:32,800  
And luckily it worked out.

712  
00:32:32,860 --> 00:32:33,250  
Maybe

713  
00:32:33,250 --> 00:32:36,500  
Jeopardy, you know, maybe Michael  
Davies could, you know, start a loan

714  
00:32:36,500 --> 00:32:41,289  
sharking business for people in final  
Jeopardy, like, Hey, another 5, 000,

715  
00:32:41,290 --> 00:32:42,600  
you know, for me to play with here

716  
00:32:42,600 --> 00:32:43,040  
in final.

717  
00:32:43,110 --> 00:32:46,160  
We did see you write that down and  
we're like, uh, nice try, Nick,

718  
00:32:46,260 --> 00:32:47,530  
you don't have that much money.

719  
00:32:47,530 --> 00:32:48,410  
We're going to go ahead.

720  
00:32:48,780 --> 00:32:53,310  
As we say, uh, clean up on aisle  
C or B or A, depending on which

721  
00:32:53,310 --> 00:32:54,850  
contestant needs to rewrite

722  
00:32:54,850 --> 00:32:55,490  
something.

723  
00:32:55,610 --> 00:32:56,270

How about.

724

00:32:56,600 --> 00:33:02,010

Almost not placing my answer in the form  
of a question for heavy Chevy levy I

725

00:33:02,010 --> 00:33:07,220

mean talk about a rookie mistake You can  
hear my wife on the playback after it.

726

00:33:07,250 --> 00:33:07,930

I correct it.

727

00:33:07,950 --> 00:33:09,065

She shouts Dude!

728

00:33:10,795 --> 00:33:12,375

It was, it was awful.

729

00:33:12,485 --> 00:33:13,495

That was terrible.

730

00:33:13,885 --> 00:33:15,085

You mentioned your wife.

731

00:33:15,105 --> 00:33:17,455

You got to have your  
family in the audience.

732

00:33:17,455 --> 00:33:20,775

They got to watch you  
win this whole thing.

733

00:33:20,785 --> 00:33:23,115

And that's something that, you  
know, wasn't able to happen

734

00:33:23,125 --> 00:33:24,685

for you back in season 37.

735

00:33:25,085 --> 00:33:27,905

I'm, I'm so happy they could make

it because they were my team.

736

00:33:27,975 --> 00:33:30,035

You know, they, they drilled me nonstop.

737

00:33:30,045 --> 00:33:31,965

They would ask me, have  
you worked out yet?

738

00:33:32,255 --> 00:33:35,605

Susan was very funny because  
she told, she said, my son Stan.

739

00:33:36,360 --> 00:33:40,150

My, his leg was bouncing for  
eight solid hours on both days.

740

00:33:41,270 --> 00:33:45,340

And he said afterwards, it's so  
hard to just be there and watch.

741

00:33:45,340 --> 00:33:46,640

It's out of your control.

742

00:33:46,650 --> 00:33:50,000

You're just watching the other person  
do whatever it is they're going to do.

743

00:33:50,370 --> 00:33:51,760

He said it was a nerve wracking

744

00:33:51,830 --> 00:33:52,640

with that in mind.

745

00:33:52,640 --> 00:33:55,180

Will he be coming back to the  
tournament of champions then?

746

00:33:55,780 --> 00:33:56,040

Well,

747

00:33:56,040 --> 00:33:57,480

they're my, they're my good luck charms.

748

00:33:57,480 --> 00:33:58,350

They better come back.

749

00:33:59,560 --> 00:33:59,680

I

750

00:33:59,680 --> 00:34:00,560

can't do it without them.

751

00:34:00,830 --> 00:34:05,740

You've done many an interview with us at this point, Nick, and we

752

00:34:05,740 --> 00:34:08,100

always introduce you as a physician.

753

00:34:08,470 --> 00:34:14,470

Assistant, but never have you shared your past, and we've come to find out that

754

00:34:14,530 --> 00:34:16,910

you're pretty famous on a few big films.

755

00:34:17,010 --> 00:34:17,580

I have to

756

00:34:17,580 --> 00:34:20,040

differ, because if you go back to the Dr.

757

00:34:20,040 --> 00:34:23,150

Oz show, he asks me in the interview about being

758

00:34:23,150 --> 00:34:23,920

on Titanic.

759

00:34:23,960 --> 00:34:24,780

Oh my goodness.

760

00:34:24,830 --> 00:34:27,260  
I don't remember, Nick, and I was there.

761  
00:34:27,460 --> 00:34:28,300  
I'm so sorry.

762  
00:34:28,310 --> 00:34:28,620  
We all

763  
00:34:28,620 --> 00:34:29,300  
blacked out.

764  
00:34:29,400 --> 00:34:29,450  
We did.

765  
00:34:30,375 --> 00:34:30,615  
That's

766  
00:34:30,615 --> 00:34:31,215  
quite all right.

767  
00:34:31,235 --> 00:34:34,745  
Even Ken said, did we know  
that Nick was on Titanic?

768  
00:34:35,055 --> 00:34:38,365  
You know, because obviously it's  
been on Reddit, those famous images

769  
00:34:38,365 --> 00:34:40,545  
of you on that recovery ship.

770  
00:34:40,625 --> 00:34:43,725  
I'm sure Jeopardy is a highlight,  
but that has to be one as well.

771  
00:34:44,045 --> 00:34:44,965  
I was a working

772  
00:34:44,965 --> 00:34:48,415  
actor between 1986 and 2003.



773

00:34:48,505 --> 00:34:53,200

I have about 75 credits on  
IMDb in Film and television.

774

00:34:53,720 --> 00:34:57,890

I did a lot of stage acting out here  
as well, and that was the reason

775

00:34:57,890 --> 00:34:59,360

that I came out to Los Angeles.

776

00:34:59,360 --> 00:35:04,600

I went to conservatory and was  
trained in in classical acting, stage

777

00:35:04,600 --> 00:35:08,980

acting, and then took many, many  
courses out here in acting for the

778

00:35:08,980 --> 00:35:13,010

camera with my great, great teacher,  
John Lenn, who's no longer with us.

779

00:35:13,635 --> 00:35:17,665

I had a wonderful time doing it and  
was right on the verge of breaking

780

00:35:17,705 --> 00:35:22,115

through when 9 11 happened and the  
whole business went black for years.

781

00:35:22,535 --> 00:35:26,335

I lost representation and wound up  
being back at the very beginning.

782

00:35:26,365 --> 00:35:29,555

And at that point, I had a  
family and did not feel that

783

00:35:29,555 --> 00:35:30,915

I could start all over again.

784

00:35:30,925 --> 00:35:34,695  
And so at the age of 40, it was  
back to school and, and that's what

785  
00:35:34,695 --> 00:35:35,015  
happened.

786  
00:35:35,235 --> 00:35:36,925  
Well, it seems this new career.

787  
00:35:37,155 --> 00:35:39,635  
that you find so much joy in it as well.

788  
00:35:39,635 --> 00:35:43,275  
You've talked about the support of your  
colleagues and everyone who is, you

789  
00:35:43,275 --> 00:35:46,685  
know, helping out so that you could  
come and take those days off and be

790  
00:35:46,685 --> 00:35:50,035  
with us for the three days that we  
needed you for Champions Wild Card

791  
00:35:50,035 --> 00:35:52,105  
and now several days to come for T.

792  
00:35:52,105 --> 00:35:52,215  
O.

793  
00:35:52,215 --> 00:35:52,615  
C.

794  
00:35:52,685 --> 00:35:56,155  
The best thing about the job that I  
do now is that at the end of the day,

795  
00:35:56,205 --> 00:36:01,205  
I can look at a list of patients and  
people who I have Helped that day.

796

00:36:01,295 --> 00:36:05,185  
You know, whether it's just to help  
them with pain or whether it's helped

797

00:36:05,185 --> 00:36:11,395  
them to live a healthier lifestyle or to  
take control of, of their injury and to

798

00:36:11,455 --> 00:36:13,825  
learn how to overcome or live with it.

799

00:36:13,830 --> 00:36:18,435  
If it can't be overcome, it's  
very, very, uh, material.

800

00:36:18,435 --> 00:36:21,735  
I mean, there is a list of people  
at the end of the day who are better

801

00:36:21,735 --> 00:36:23,205  
off because I showed up at work.

802

00:36:23,205 --> 00:36:23,830  
That's very gratifying.

803

00:36:24,275 --> 00:36:28,955  
So, you've revealed that you're already  
starting to study for the upcoming TOC.

804

00:36:29,165 --> 00:36:32,335  
What is going to stay the same,  
and what's going to change?

805

00:36:32,685 --> 00:36:39,215  
My soft spot is, since I'm an old guy,  
my soft spot is pop culture, right?

806

00:36:39,315 --> 00:36:45,085  
Films, books, TV, movies, uh,  
music from the 21st century.

807

00:36:45,085 --> 00:36:49,105  
Because I stopped being, you know,

a young person in the 21st century.

808

00:36:49,485 --> 00:36:51,175

So I'm out of touch with a lot of that.

809

00:36:51,215 --> 00:36:56,230

And so, the clubs, which, by the way, Are 100 percent the

810

00:36:56,230 --> 00:36:58,560

greatest group of the four.

811

00:36:59,185 --> 00:37:01,635

You can fight me, this is a hill I will die on.

812

00:37:02,455 --> 00:37:07,445

We have our, uh, GroupMe chat, and I have already put out the call for resources.

813

00:37:07,845 --> 00:37:12,335

And we are taking this on as a group, and, uh, my performance

814

00:37:12,335 --> 00:37:13,625

is gonna reflect their help.

815

00:37:14,225 --> 00:37:15,975

So, what you asked me, what's different?

816

00:37:16,615 --> 00:37:20,715

Prior to this, it was just general trivia, but I think between now and

817

00:37:20,715 --> 00:37:25,645

then, I'm going to add sessions of really focusing in on my soft spots.

818

00:37:25,685 --> 00:37:28,565

Cause I don't want to have a subject flash up there and say,

819

00:37:28,795 --> 00:37:29,945  
Okay, that's five questions.

820  
00:37:29,945 --> 00:37:31,785  
I'm not going to answer unless it's opera.

821  
00:37:31,795 --> 00:37:31,815  
So

822  
00:37:33,045 --> 00:37:36,985  
the gauntlet has been thrown to  
the diamonds group, you know, they

823  
00:37:36,985 --> 00:37:40,025  
kind of think they're the ultimate  
group, but here come the clubs.

824  
00:37:40,490 --> 00:37:42,620  
Well, this is tribalism, right?

825  
00:37:42,640 --> 00:37:46,090  
This is how human beings are, you know,  
you put them in a random group and

826  
00:37:46,090 --> 00:37:47,650  
pretty soon Their random group is the

827  
00:37:47,650 --> 00:37:51,350  
best random group So let's forget about  
the groups because I want to talk a

828  
00:37:51,350 --> 00:37:54,120  
little bit about you as you if you've  
listened to the podcast You know, I

829  
00:37:54,120 --> 00:37:59,460  
have two very hard hitting questions  
here one when you are here at Sony.

830  
00:37:59,470 --> 00:38:01,520  
What is your lunch order?

831

00:38:01,970 --> 00:38:02,600

I am

832

00:38:02,740 --> 00:38:08,490

the very strictly, a very light  
salad, with a little bit of protein,

833

00:38:09,140 --> 00:38:14,000

don't even finish it, just gas up,  
you don't want blood going to your

834

00:38:14,000 --> 00:38:17,840

gut, you want blood going to the  
brain, I think being a little hungry

835

00:38:17,840 --> 00:38:18,250

is good.

836

00:38:18,370 --> 00:38:22,230

Okay, protein source, uh, we've got  
a few choices at the salad bar, we've

837

00:38:22,230 --> 00:38:25,820

got chicken breast, we've got the  
tuna salad, sometimes there's a little

838

00:38:25,830 --> 00:38:27,710

salmon, what, what are you going for, for

839

00:38:27,710 --> 00:38:28,120

protein?

840

00:38:28,130 --> 00:38:29,180

Uh, mostly greens.

841

00:38:29,490 --> 00:38:33,860

Um, a healthy dose of croutons for  
quick energy and then just a little

842

00:38:33,860 --> 00:38:36,100

bit of the, the chicken for protein.

843

00:38:36,440 --> 00:38:36,740  
Okay.

844  
00:38:36,770 --> 00:38:39,700  
And honestly, I think I ate  
maybe a half of it or two thirds

845  
00:38:39,700 --> 00:38:40,000  
of it.

846  
00:38:40,210 --> 00:38:42,620  
Are you a caffeinator in  
the morning and afternoon?

847  
00:38:43,050 --> 00:38:43,400  
Uh, in

848  
00:38:43,400 --> 00:38:43,970  
the afternoon.

849  
00:38:44,290 --> 00:38:45,820  
So, uh, Coke Zero.

850  
00:38:46,275 --> 00:38:47,035  
This is my poison.

851  
00:38:47,125 --> 00:38:51,875  
Add a nice, uh, 16 ounce of Coke Zero  
and ready to go for the afternoon.

852  
00:38:52,545 --> 00:38:55,695  
I can tell you that you have a  
friend in James Holzhauer who

853  
00:38:55,695 --> 00:38:58,725  
is also a big soda drinker.

854  
00:38:58,865 --> 00:39:00,585  
But never a salad will you have him.

855  
00:39:00,585 --> 00:39:01,535  
Never a salad.

856

00:39:01,535 --> 00:39:04,924

He will not see him eating any  
salad on a good, uh, tape day.

857

00:39:05,665 --> 00:39:08,205

My next question, what is the Jeopardy!

858

00:39:08,235 --> 00:39:10,675

stat that you are most proud of?

859

00:39:10,725 --> 00:39:14,825

I think we already talked about it,  
getting from 5 wrong per game to a perfect

860

00:39:14,825 --> 00:39:19,555

game, you know, 19 and 1 in the first  
final, 20 and 0 in the second final,

861

00:39:19,915 --> 00:39:21,905

I mean, I'll put that on my tombstone.

862

00:39:22,245 --> 00:39:26,625

Well, you've also been commenting a  
bit on some of, I'm going to call them

863

00:39:26,625 --> 00:39:32,135

the haters, that are just like, they're  
in tournament overkill, you know, when

864

00:39:32,135 --> 00:39:34,085

are we getting back to regular games?

865

00:39:34,115 --> 00:39:39,535

And you're speaking up on behalf of  
fellow champions like yourself, who were

866

00:39:39,535 --> 00:39:41,705

given this unbelievable opportunity.

867

00:39:41,705 --> 00:39:42,905

Talk about that a little bit.



868

00:39:42,955 --> 00:39:43,535

I think

869

00:39:43,555 --> 00:39:46,615

online people forget that  
there are actual human beings.

870

00:39:46,900 --> 00:39:50,730

Behind the keyboards and, and  
that are involved in this stuff.

871

00:39:51,230 --> 00:39:55,500

And so, I mean, I understand that people  
have preferences and, and, you know,

872

00:39:55,580 --> 00:39:58,794

if they're tired of the tournament and  
they want to see new players and that.

873

00:39:59,145 --> 00:40:04,285

I totally get that, but when you  
come on and just kind of blindly just

874

00:40:04,285 --> 00:40:08,175

criticize, I hate this, this is dumb,  
I don't want to see this anymore.

875

00:40:08,605 --> 00:40:12,225

There are, there are people who are making  
these decisions, and there are people

876

00:40:12,225 --> 00:40:16,945

who are involved in making these shows,  
and the shows are excellent television.

877

00:40:17,150 --> 00:40:21,510

You know, and so I tried to just  
gently remind people that, you know,

878

00:40:21,560 --> 00:40:24,880

human beings are involved in this  
and you're entitled to your opinion.

879

00:40:24,880 --> 00:40:29,740

But look, this sounds like somebody from the 19th century, you know, but when you

880

00:40:29,950 --> 00:40:35,020

express an opinion, it might be nice to consider that people have feelings and are

881

00:40:35,020 --> 00:40:36,840

trying to do the best job that they can.

882

00:40:37,170 --> 00:40:40,200

And they're working with a strike situation, which means that new

883

00:40:40,200 --> 00:40:42,060

questions aren't able to be produced.

884

00:40:42,580 --> 00:40:44,520

And so I'm not trying to guilt anybody.

885

00:40:44,860 --> 00:40:47,800

I just think I'm on a quixotic quest for civility.

886

00:40:48,455 --> 00:40:49,435

And the online

887

00:40:49,435 --> 00:40:49,875

space.

888

00:40:50,435 --> 00:40:53,575

I love it, because I'm a human too, Nick.

889

00:40:53,575 --> 00:40:54,795

I read those comments.

890

00:40:55,035 --> 00:40:55,135

I know.

891

00:40:55,755 --> 00:40:59,205  
We're just trying to put on some great  
shows, and what I've said time and

892  
00:40:59,205 --> 00:41:01,795  
time again is that is what happened.

893  
00:41:01,935 --> 00:41:02,275  
This is

894  
00:41:02,275 --> 00:41:02,645  
amazing.

895  
00:41:03,695 --> 00:41:07,515  
I know I was involved in a lot of  
it, but this was amazing television.

896  
00:41:07,515 --> 00:41:09,105  
Those games were something else.

897  
00:41:09,495 --> 00:41:11,322  
I mean, it was great Jeopardy.

898  
00:41:11,322 --> 00:41:15,571  
Whether it's with new players or it's  
not, these are great Jeopardy shows.

899  
00:41:15,571 --> 00:41:19,640  
And if you can't see that because  
You're so locked in, I just want to

900  
00:41:19,650 --> 00:41:21,000  
see new people, then I don't know what

901  
00:41:21,000 --> 00:41:21,410  
to say.

902  
00:41:21,630 --> 00:41:22,070  
Yeah.

903  
00:41:22,250 --> 00:41:24,550  
And Michael Davies has said

it time and time again.

904

00:41:24,550 --> 00:41:28,920

What he wants is to see the  
best players playing Jeopardy!

905

00:41:28,990 --> 00:41:30,330

on the Alex Trebek stage.

906

00:41:30,350 --> 00:41:33,330

You know, we didn't know what would  
happen, but it's certainly what you and

907

00:41:33,340 --> 00:41:38,160

all of your competitors have provided  
for us in this first half of Season 40.

908

00:41:38,680 --> 00:41:39,850

And we can't wait, Nick!

909

00:41:39,850 --> 00:41:42,520

We're gonna welcome you  
back very soon for the TOC!

910

00:41:42,540 --> 00:41:45,430

We know you'll be studying, we  
know you're gonna have some of your

911

00:41:45,430 --> 00:41:49,185

club's members in the audience, and  
We can't wait to see what happens.

912

00:41:49,455 --> 00:41:53,325

I'm going to actually have a larger hat  
size when I come back because so many

913

00:41:53,325 --> 00:41:55,225

more facts will be stuffed up in there.

914

00:41:55,555 --> 00:41:55,765

Well,

915

00:41:55,765 --> 00:41:56,415  
good luck.

916  
00:41:56,445 --> 00:41:58,605  
And thank you so much for  
joining us on the pod.

917  
00:41:58,665 --> 00:42:00,025  
Thank you so much for having me.

918  
00:42:00,555 --> 00:42:02,415  
That brings us to the end of today's show.

919  
00:42:02,425 --> 00:42:06,325  
Join us next week as we discuss  
more champions, wildcard highlights,

920  
00:42:06,335 --> 00:42:10,275  
plus the last quarterfinal game  
for Celebrity Jeopardy with Kira

921  
00:42:10,275 --> 00:42:12,005  
Sedgwick, Mo Rocca, and Amanda Seals.

922  
00:42:12,500 --> 00:42:16,730  
And we're going to talk with Champions  
wildcard finalist, Dennis Chase.

923  
00:42:16,730 --> 00:42:17,830  
Can't wait to catch up with him.

924  
00:42:17,880 --> 00:42:18,940  
I'm looking forward to it.

925  
00:42:18,940 --> 00:42:22,490  
And as always, be sure to subscribe  
to the podcast and follow us at

926  
00:42:22,490 --> 00:42:26,350  
Jeopardy on Instagram, on Facebook,  
on YouTube, on TikTok, on Twitter,

927

00:42:26,440 --> 00:42:27,770  
or X, whatever you want to call it.

928  
00:42:27,810 --> 00:42:28,880  
And we will see you all

929  
00:42:29,070 --> 00:42:29,480  
next week.

930  
00:42:29,850 --> 00:42:30,300  
See you then.