

1  
00:00:00,320 --> 00:00:04,710  
From the Alex Trebek Stage  
at Sony Pictures Studios, this

2  
00:00:05,190 --> 00:00:07,760  
is Inside Jeopardy!.

3  
00:00:09,250 --> 00:00:09,610  
Hello and

4  
00:00:09,610 --> 00:00:13,679  
welcome back to Inside Jeopardy! in  
2024, your exclusive and official

5  
00:00:13,690 --> 00:00:16,620  
podcast destination for all things  
happening in the world of Jeopardy.

6  
00:00:16,909 --> 00:00:19,619  
I'm Sarah Foss, I'm joined  
today by Buzzy Cohen.

7  
00:00:20,260 --> 00:00:21,409  
Happy New Year, Buzzy.

8  
00:00:21,409 --> 00:00:22,620  
Happy New Year.

9  
00:00:22,869 --> 00:00:23,439  
I love that.

10  
00:00:23,450 --> 00:00:25,650  
You know, you get to say it  
for like the first few days.

11  
00:00:25,650 --> 00:00:25,919  
Yeah.

12  
00:00:26,120 --> 00:00:27,020  
Then you can't say it anymore.

13

00:00:27,020 --> 00:00:28,435  
But today Right.

14  
00:00:28,465 --> 00:00:29,005  
We can say it all day.

15  
00:00:29,015 --> 00:00:29,525  
We can say it.

16  
00:00:29,525 --> 00:00:30,575  
Because it is January 1st.

17  
00:00:30,604 --> 00:00:31,015  
Well yeah.

18  
00:00:31,015 --> 00:00:31,045  
It's

19  
00:00:31,045 --> 00:00:31,335  
2024.

20  
00:00:31,354 --> 00:00:34,395  
We get it in January, then we get it  
in a little bit with Lunar New Year.

21  
00:00:34,445 --> 00:00:34,975  
True.

22  
00:00:35,095 --> 00:00:35,585  
Uh.

23  
00:00:35,665 --> 00:00:35,995  
Keep the fun

24  
00:00:35,995 --> 00:00:36,165  
going.

25  
00:00:36,235 --> 00:00:36,815  
Exactly.

26  
00:00:36,815 --> 00:00:38,215

So we can stretch it out a little bit.

27

00:00:38,255 --> 00:00:39,765

Did you have a fun New Year's?

28

00:00:41,135 --> 00:00:48,365

Well, yes, it was, uh, spent in Colorado  
with my oldest, bestest friend from

29

00:00:48,785 --> 00:00:52,945

growing up in my teenage years in Arizona,  
along with her husband and my husband and

30

00:00:52,945 --> 00:00:54,955

our four daughters between the two of us.

31

00:00:55,355 --> 00:00:55,925

It was great.

32

00:00:55,925 --> 00:00:56,200

That sounds amazing.

33

00:00:56,200 --> 00:00:58,425

We did the, the Polar Express.

34

00:00:58,555 --> 00:00:59,065

Fun.

35

00:00:59,534 --> 00:01:00,214

That's really fun.

36

00:01:00,254 --> 00:01:03,364

Which, you know, when you do  
it after Christmas, you get to

37

00:01:03,364 --> 00:01:04,535

thank Santa for all the things.

38

00:01:04,535 --> 00:01:05,004

That's right.

39

00:01:05,004 --> 00:01:06,245  
As opposed to ask for things.

40  
00:01:06,245 --> 00:01:06,491  
It's great.

41  
00:01:06,491 --> 00:01:07,104  
Yeah, that's better.

42  
00:01:07,104 --> 00:01:08,514  
I think it's good to be thankful.

43  
00:01:08,514 --> 00:01:08,754  
Yeah.

44  
00:01:09,014 --> 00:01:09,254  
Yeah.

45  
00:01:09,405 --> 00:01:10,495  
You know, we, we were.

46  
00:01:10,984 --> 00:01:16,354  
We tried to, you know, we do the East  
Coast feed to get everyone a bed at

47  
00:01:16,354 --> 00:01:20,474  
a reasonable hour, but we had a lot  
of fun this year for, um, my younger

48  
00:01:20,474 --> 00:01:24,745  
ones class for their like winter  
performance learned Auld Lang Syne,

49  
00:01:25,045 --> 00:01:30,040  
so we finally had somebody In the  
house, who knew all the words, all the

50  
00:01:30,040 --> 00:01:33,340  
words, that was very sweet, super cute.

51  
00:01:33,470 --> 00:01:33,940  
All that

52  
00:01:33,970 --> 00:01:34,970  
at five years old.

53  
00:01:35,030 --> 00:01:35,630  
Yes, that's

54  
00:01:35,630 --> 00:01:35,850  
right.

55  
00:01:35,890 --> 00:01:36,530  
That's impressive.

56  
00:01:36,760 --> 00:01:38,050  
Let's talk about resolutions.

57  
00:01:38,050 --> 00:01:39,090  
Are you a resolver?

58  
00:01:39,160 --> 00:01:39,379  
Do you

59  
00:01:39,380 --> 00:01:39,900  
resolve?

60  
00:01:40,320 --> 00:01:42,950  
Well, it's funny, because as we  
were preparing for this podcast,

61  
00:01:42,999 --> 00:01:46,929  
uh, we reflected back on our  
resolutions from last year, which

62  
00:01:46,979 --> 00:01:48,479  
mine, um, really hard hitting.

63  
00:01:48,489 --> 00:01:50,169  
It was to wash my face.

64  
00:01:50,619 --> 00:01:51,869  
and brush my teeth every night.

65

00:01:52,050 --> 00:01:52,190

Yeah.

66

00:01:52,220 --> 00:01:57,460

And what I can say is that my year only got busier last year and so I was lucky

67

00:01:57,950 --> 00:02:01,649

if I did that at least before midnight because oftentimes what would happen

68

00:02:01,650 --> 00:02:04,930

is I would put either of my children to bed and then fall asleep with them.

69

00:02:04,940 --> 00:02:05,420

Yes.

70

00:02:05,490 --> 00:02:07,599

And then wake up in the middle of the night and be like, I haven't

71

00:02:07,599 --> 00:02:10,780

brushed my teeth or washed my face and kind of staggered to

72

00:02:10,780 --> 00:02:11,880

my bedroom to do those things.

73

00:02:11,880 --> 00:02:12,130

So.

74

00:02:12,609 --> 00:02:14,460

Not the best habit, I would say.

75

00:02:14,640 --> 00:02:17,740

So I think it's a sign for me that what I need in the new year

76

00:02:17,760 --> 00:02:18,920

is just a little more balance.

77

00:02:19,490 --> 00:02:22,990  
So I'm going for just  
balance, you know, work life.

78

00:02:23,395 --> 00:02:24,185  
That sounds great.

79

00:02:24,275 --> 00:02:24,975  
That sounds great.

80

00:02:25,305 --> 00:02:29,515  
Well, last year, my resolution  
was to get on the television show

81

00:02:29,515 --> 00:02:36,045  
Jeopardy and I made it into a bumper  
going into a commercial break.

82

00:02:36,085 --> 00:02:39,124  
Yes, that was an Easter egg for anyone  
who was really paying attention.

83

00:02:39,134 --> 00:02:39,995  
You know, we take that.

84

00:02:40,605 --> 00:02:43,434  
We'll be back for Final  
Jeopardy right after this.

85

00:02:43,614 --> 00:02:43,784  
You

86

00:02:43,784 --> 00:02:48,679  
know, it's a technically correct,  
which is the best form of correct.

87

00:02:49,080 --> 00:02:51,270  
I have a little story about  
this year's resolution.

88

00:02:51,300 --> 00:02:53,430

If I may, I would love  
a little buzzy story.

89

00:02:53,490 --> 00:02:55,340  
Um, let's start the new year with a buzzy

90

00:02:55,340 --> 00:02:55,700  
story.

91

00:02:55,920 --> 00:03:02,880  
So this past year, as many people know,  
I became addicted to short fiction and

92

00:03:02,889 --> 00:03:05,499  
especially the work of George Saunders.

93

00:03:05,549 --> 00:03:07,839  
And I decided to write him an email.

94

00:03:08,084 --> 00:03:10,825  
In appreciation, you  
know, he's a professor.

95

00:03:10,825 --> 00:03:13,415  
I found his email through  
the his department's website,

96

00:03:13,965 --> 00:03:14,975  
and I just sent him an email.

97

00:03:15,005 --> 00:03:18,015  
Didn't expect to hear anything  
back, and I got like the kindest,

98

00:03:18,025 --> 00:03:19,945  
sweetest, you know, email back.

99

00:03:20,474 --> 00:03:24,839  
And so I know that people, you know, will  
sometimes DM me or email our Twitter.

100

00:03:25,000 --> 00:03:29,460



Podcast email, and I want to resolve to  
get better about, you know, being more

101

00:03:29,460 --> 00:03:33,000  
proactive about responding to that stuff  
because I saw how much it meant to me and

102

00:03:33,000 --> 00:03:35,590  
I want to be more, uh, attentive to that.

103

00:03:35,689 --> 00:03:36,059  
I love

104

00:03:36,059 --> 00:03:36,319  
that.

105

00:03:36,460 --> 00:03:37,180  
Who knows?

106

00:03:37,589 --> 00:03:40,009  
Any of you listening, you  
might be receiving a very

107

00:03:40,009 --> 00:03:41,369  
kind email from Buzzy Cohen

108

00:03:41,779 --> 00:03:42,049  
if you reach

109

00:03:42,049 --> 00:03:42,249  
out.

110

00:03:42,329 --> 00:03:45,489  
I'm going to shout out to our podcast  
producers to make sure to forward

111

00:03:45,489 --> 00:03:47,320  
me those emails so I can respond.

112

00:03:47,450 --> 00:03:49,450  
Alexa, Carlos, you heard it here first.

113  
00:03:50,120 --> 00:03:51,350  
You might be very busy, but

114  
00:03:51,560 --> 00:03:52,010  
try.

115  
00:03:52,030 --> 00:03:56,289  
I like how my, my resolution makes  
more work for Alexa and Carlos.

116  
00:03:56,289 --> 00:03:56,790  
That's great.

117  
00:03:56,829 --> 00:03:58,410  
That's really that giving  
spirit you were going for.

118  
00:03:58,420 --> 00:03:59,639  
That's exactly right.

119  
00:04:00,400 --> 00:04:03,240  
Well, Buzzy, we can't really head  
into the new year without first

120  
00:04:03,240 --> 00:04:08,400  
highlighting the final week of games  
from 2023 and what a week it was.

121  
00:04:08,780 --> 00:04:12,790  
On Christmas Day, that's when we  
saw Javeria Zaheer become the first

122  
00:04:12,800 --> 00:04:17,149  
Second Chance Champion to advance  
to Champions Wildcard with her two

123  
00:04:17,149 --> 00:04:18,830  
daughters and husband in the audience.

124  
00:04:19,150 --> 00:04:22,450  
We also saw nine more contestants  
battle it out on their return

125

00:04:22,450 --> 00:04:23,540  
to the Alex Trebek stage.

126

00:04:23,810 --> 00:04:26,170  
So we're going to discuss  
each of those games shortly.

127

00:04:26,180 --> 00:04:29,724  
And as promised, All the  
way from Stuttgart, Germany.

128

00:04:29,755 --> 00:04:32,794  
We're going to talk with  
champions wildcard finalist of the

129

00:04:32,794 --> 00:04:35,104  
hearts group, Tyler Vandenberg.

130

00:04:35,145 --> 00:04:36,065  
Can't wait for that.

131

00:04:36,554 --> 00:04:40,344  
First though, we're going to take  
a quick trip down my favorite lane.

132

00:04:40,354 --> 00:04:41,304  
It's memory lane.

133

00:04:41,414 --> 00:04:42,954  
It's this week in jeopardy history.

134

00:04:49,090 --> 00:04:50,119  
Tonight, three

135

00:04:50,130 --> 00:04:54,520  
legendary players will battle it out  
for one million dollars on Jeopardy.

136

00:04:55,369 --> 00:04:58,079  
No one has won more  
games than Ken Jennings.

137  
00:04:59,759 --> 00:05:01,879  
Or won more money than Brad Rutter.

138  
00:05:03,689 --> 00:05:04,119  
Or

139  
00:05:04,149 --> 00:05:05,609  
set more records than

140  
00:05:05,609 --> 00:05:06,539  
James Holzhauer.

141  
00:05:07,869 --> 00:05:08,519  
But only

142  
00:05:08,519 --> 00:05:11,539  
one will be crowned the  
greatest of all time.

143  
00:05:12,289 --> 00:05:17,449  
And now, here is the host  
of Jeopardy, Alex Prevek!

144  
00:05:20,245 --> 00:05:20,805  
That's right.

145  
00:05:20,805 --> 00:05:26,055  
It was January 7th, 2020, when we  
premiered the greatest of all time.

146  
00:05:26,065 --> 00:05:30,035  
Our prime time competition, a  
tournament featuring Ken Jennings,

147  
00:05:30,045 --> 00:05:35,694  
Brad Rudder and James Holzhauer, each  
competing for that 1 million prize.

148  
00:05:35,745 --> 00:05:38,865  
And, you know, the  
title of being the goat.

149

00:05:39,354 --> 00:05:44,039

It was, of course, the first player  
to win three Two game matches that

150

00:05:44,099 --> 00:05:49,530

earned the title in the end, it was  
Ken who came out as our champion, James

151

00:05:49,530 --> 00:05:52,000

taking home the honor of second place.

152

00:05:52,049 --> 00:05:54,560

I don't know if he would  
consider that an honor and Brad

153

00:05:54,570 --> 00:05:56,709

Rudder taking home third place.

154

00:05:57,079 --> 00:06:00,199

I actually had the chance to interview  
Ken right after he had locked up

155

00:06:00,229 --> 00:06:01,710

that first win of the tournament.

156

00:06:02,070 --> 00:06:05,850

And he explained that he was  
feeling a lot of relief, you know,

157

00:06:05,950 --> 00:06:09,589

because he will say he didn't want  
to come back and compete in goat.

158

00:06:09,600 --> 00:06:10,120

He thought.

159

00:06:10,760 --> 00:06:11,960

Hey, I've had a great run.

160

00:06:11,990 --> 00:06:15,620

I don't know that I can compete at that

level, you know, with champions like

161

00:06:15,620 --> 00:06:17,940

James, who had come up since Ken's time.

162

00:06:17,940 --> 00:06:22,029

And then of course, Brad Rutter,  
who Ken had never defeated before.

163

00:06:22,240 --> 00:06:25,469

So he wasn't really wanting  
to do this competition.

164

00:06:25,469 --> 00:06:27,289

He ended up getting convinced to do so.

165

00:06:27,289 --> 00:06:28,500

So after that first.

166

00:06:28,920 --> 00:06:32,550

Win, you know, it really was a big relief  
to him going up against James and Brad.

167

00:06:33,180 --> 00:06:35,610

He also said it was his  
goal just to win one.

168

00:06:35,620 --> 00:06:37,430

So then he wins one.

169

00:06:37,450 --> 00:06:41,820

He's like, I got this, but he would  
end up going on to win two more matches

170

00:06:41,849 --> 00:06:43,650

and becoming our greatest of all

171

00:06:43,660 --> 00:06:44,070

time.

172

00:06:44,080 --> 00:06:45,839

Well, you know, the just win one.

173

00:06:46,010 --> 00:06:47,740

Ken Jennings, he's just  
like the rest of us.

174

00:06:47,740 --> 00:06:48,320

He's just like us.

175

00:06:48,410 --> 00:06:48,860

Um.

176

00:06:48,870 --> 00:06:49,540

He's just like every Jeopardy!

177

00:06:49,550 --> 00:06:49,850

player.

178

00:06:49,910 --> 00:06:53,020

Man, I got to be in the audience  
for this, and they were such great

179

00:06:53,020 --> 00:06:54,930

games, it was incredible to see.

180

00:06:54,960 --> 00:06:58,760

You know, the thing for me that stuck  
out about GOAT, beyond the level of play,

181

00:06:58,760 --> 00:07:00,939

beyond everything else, was Jeopardy!

182

00:07:00,950 --> 00:07:04,199

had, of course, become an  
institution at this point.

183

00:07:04,590 --> 00:07:12,835

But I think what GOAT did was show how  
Big and present and current Jeopardy

184

00:07:12,835 --> 00:07:16,435

could be those goat games I believe  
you'll correct me if I'm wrong got

185  
00:07:16,445 --> 00:07:19,445  
better ratings than the NBA Finals.

186  
00:07:19,505 --> 00:07:24,055  
Yes, it was Incredible how many  
people tuned in to see this once

187  
00:07:24,055 --> 00:07:27,075  
in a lifetime event, you know,  
what would it be like to put these?

188  
00:07:27,260 --> 00:07:30,380  
mega champions head to  
head in a competition.

189  
00:07:30,810 --> 00:07:35,740  
It was also, you know, Alex was battling  
his pancreatic cancer at that time

190  
00:07:35,740 --> 00:07:40,140  
and he was on a special medication  
that, you know, discolored his skin.

191  
00:07:40,209 --> 00:07:44,550  
And I remember our makeup artist, Sandy,  
just being like, I'm going to do my best.

192  
00:07:44,560 --> 00:07:47,130  
But Alex showed up for  
that competition as well.

193  
00:07:47,130 --> 00:07:50,530  
His level of hosting, you know,  
in the middle of such a difficult

194  
00:07:50,540 --> 00:07:53,250  
battle was just superior.

195  
00:07:53,645 --> 00:07:57,325  
And it really was just a once  
in a lifetime competition.



196  
00:07:57,335 --> 00:08:01,055  
You know, we've gone on to, to come up  
with different ways to feature Jeopardy!

197  
00:08:01,055 --> 00:08:01,695  
in primetime.

198  
00:08:01,695 --> 00:08:05,775  
Obviously with Celebrity, with JNCC,  
and most recently with Masters.

199  
00:08:05,775 --> 00:08:10,544  
But there will never be another  
GOAT, and I'm just really grateful

200  
00:08:10,544 --> 00:08:11,685  
to have been a part of it.

201  
00:08:11,694 --> 00:08:15,444  
We also didn't know that COVID was  
going to come along shortly after that.

202  
00:08:15,445 --> 00:08:18,665  
So it's just kind of this  
magical time in Jeopardy!

203  
00:08:18,665 --> 00:08:22,415  
history that is now  
four years in our past.

204  
00:08:22,445 --> 00:08:23,185  
That's crazy.

205  
00:08:23,445 --> 00:08:24,195  
Cannot believe it.

206  
00:08:24,805 --> 00:08:28,105  
All right, Buzzy, it's time to  
head into the game highlights.

207  
00:08:28,135 --> 00:08:31,575  
We kicked off the week with Day

2 of our Second Chance Final.

208

00:08:31,575 --> 00:08:35,564

Javeria Zaheer, Jason  
Carpenter, and Iris Masucci.

209

00:08:36,095 --> 00:08:40,935

Javeria came into Day 2 with that, you  
know, very impressive lead, let's say.

210

00:08:41,195 --> 00:08:44,305

And she just started to build on  
it, finding both Daily Doubles

211

00:08:44,305 --> 00:08:47,325

and Double Jeopardy, adding  
another 5, 800 to her score.

212

00:08:47,755 --> 00:08:50,895

This allowed her to maintain  
her lead heading into Final,

213

00:08:51,285 --> 00:08:53,175

which she was able to wager.

214

00:08:54,120 --> 00:08:58,350

0 because of course, she had effectively  
earned a two day runaway with a

215

00:08:58,350 --> 00:09:04,889

massive 51, 200 from day one, and she  
went on to become our first second

216

00:09:04,999 --> 00:09:07,440

chance champion from last season.

217

00:09:07,959 --> 00:09:08,639

What a game.

218

00:09:08,970 --> 00:09:10,010

Yeah, I mean, it.

219

00:09:10,290 --> 00:09:15,370  
Juveria just went through every single  
game like a hot knife through butter.

220  
00:09:16,030 --> 00:09:17,000  
I love that phrase.

221  
00:09:18,000 --> 00:09:21,119  
And I loved that Juveria told  
us in the post game chat, first

222  
00:09:21,119 --> 00:09:22,270  
of all, she said, I'm shocked.

223  
00:09:22,329 --> 00:09:25,430  
I feel like Will Ferrell in  
old school when he blacks out.

224  
00:09:26,369 --> 00:09:27,969  
Ken said, you're not  
going to faint, are you?

225  
00:09:27,969 --> 00:09:29,379  
This is a very hard stage.

226  
00:09:29,909 --> 00:09:34,640  
She also talked about her brother  
being on Survivor and he actually lost.

227  
00:09:34,729 --> 00:09:36,969  
And then she went on  
Jeopardy, of course, and lost.

228  
00:09:36,979 --> 00:09:41,959  
So she said, my daughter's Only no  
family members that go on TV and lose.

229  
00:09:41,969 --> 00:09:45,030  
So now she's hoping that maybe her  
brother can get a second chance on

230  
00:09:45,030 --> 00:09:49,719  
survivor because, you know, she's

certainly got hers on Jeopardy and wow.

231

00:09:49,819 --> 00:09:50,400

She ran with

232

00:09:50,400 --> 00:09:50,560

it.

233

00:09:50,769 --> 00:09:51,430

Well, congrats.

234

00:09:51,439 --> 00:09:53,219

What a great, uh, Christmas present.

235

00:09:53,219 --> 00:09:57,709

I can just imagine Juveria sitting  
with her family on Christmas day.

236

00:09:57,869 --> 00:09:58,509

Let's watch.

237

00:09:58,510 --> 00:10:01,870

What a fun addition to the holiday season.

238

00:10:01,959 --> 00:10:02,180

We had

239

00:10:02,180 --> 00:10:04,880

a chance to talk to Juveria  
right after that victory.

240

00:10:05,000 --> 00:10:05,899

Let's have a listen.

241

00:10:06,905 --> 00:10:09,515

Juveria, you are now a Jeopardy!

242

00:10:09,595 --> 00:10:10,515

champion.

243

00:10:13,150 --> 00:10:15,250

And you're headed to Champions Wildcard.

244

00:10:15,260 --> 00:10:17,110

Just tell me how you're feeling right now.

245

00:10:17,180 --> 00:10:17,490

Uh,

246

00:10:17,540 --> 00:10:19,340

I can't believe this is happening.

247

00:10:19,350 --> 00:10:22,609

It feels like it's a dream or it's happening to someone else, but to be

248

00:10:22,609 --> 00:10:25,579

able to do it in front of my daughters, especially, it's just the most

249

00:10:25,579 --> 00:10:27,139

special thing I could ever imagine.

250

00:10:27,559 --> 00:10:30,490

Well, as a mom of two girls, and seeing your two girls in the

251

00:10:30,499 --> 00:10:32,179

audience, I really can't imagine.

252

00:10:32,460 --> 00:10:36,040

You know, we do our best to, to make them proud and to raise these brilliant

253

00:10:36,040 --> 00:10:40,169

young women, but to see their mom just kick butt on the Alex Trebek stage,

254

00:10:40,170 --> 00:10:41,840

that's, that's gotta feel pretty good.

255

00:10:42,070 --> 00:10:42,400

You know,

256

00:10:42,430 --> 00:10:43,270  
they're so great.

257

00:10:43,280 --> 00:10:45,650  
And they both said to me, Mom,  
if you win, we're so proud.

258

00:10:45,650 --> 00:10:49,250  
But if you lose, we're even prouder  
because we can see how well you handle it.

259

00:10:49,250 --> 00:10:52,530  
And, you know, we say to them,  
like, Mom lost on TV in front of

260

00:10:52,530 --> 00:10:54,280  
millions of people and she was okay.

261

00:10:54,280 --> 00:10:58,419  
So, like, do your soccer, do your piano,  
like, live your best life, take chances.

262

00:10:58,419 --> 00:11:01,019  
And so I'm so glad they  
got to see a happier ending

263

00:11:01,020 --> 00:11:01,240  
today.

264

00:11:01,940 --> 00:11:05,230  
Well, talking about taking chances,  
let's talk about those daily

265

00:11:05,230 --> 00:11:07,270  
doubles in game one of the final.

266

00:11:07,370 --> 00:11:10,730  
You said that you didn't want to  
come and be scared, and so you were

267

00:11:10,730 --> 00:11:14,850

willing to risk, oh, you know, 10,  
000 twice, but it was successful.

268

00:11:14,859 --> 00:11:16,709  
You had two successful daily doubles.

269

00:11:17,029 --> 00:11:20,010  
Tell me about the thought process  
in that moment of just going big.

270

00:11:20,560 --> 00:11:22,860  
I know that, like, you can't  
control the outcome out here.

271

00:11:22,860 --> 00:11:25,280  
You don't know if it's a question  
you know or a question you don't,

272

00:11:25,280 --> 00:11:26,550  
but you can control the process.

273

00:11:26,550 --> 00:11:29,400  
And so I thought a lot about, more  
this time, I think, like, what

274

00:11:29,400 --> 00:11:31,079  
my values are and what I wanted.

275

00:11:31,570 --> 00:11:32,430  
to leave out here.

276

00:11:32,560 --> 00:11:35,670  
I didn't want to be scared and I didn't  
want to have regrets and if you wager a

277

00:11:35,670 --> 00:11:39,589  
lot and you get it wrong then you did your  
best and you tried your hardest and that's

278

00:11:39,589 --> 00:11:42,810  
okay and so I just didn't want to leave  
anything on the table I think this time.

279

00:11:43,580 --> 00:11:46,470

Well, let's just talk about  
how well you did perform.

280

00:11:46,770 --> 00:11:50,390

First of all, 20, 000 in one game,  
that's the highest daily double

281

00:11:50,390 --> 00:11:51,750

total we've seen all season.

282

00:11:52,079 --> 00:11:56,150

You also had 32 correct responses  
in that game, another high for

283

00:11:56,150 --> 00:11:59,989

the season, and your total of  
over 50, 000 just in one game.

284

00:12:00,230 --> 00:12:03,570

You set three records for the  
season, Javeria, so I say you

285

00:12:03,570 --> 00:12:04,960

didn't leave anything on the table.

286

00:12:05,290 --> 00:12:07,960

Yeah, you know, you get lucky, you  
get the categories you like, you find

287

00:12:07,960 --> 00:12:10,800

the buzzer, um, and it, it was so fun.

288

00:12:10,800 --> 00:12:14,430

I think that's what was shocking to me  
is how much fun I had the first time.

289

00:12:14,600 --> 00:12:19,410

I had fun in the last 10 minutes, um,  
but I was so scared, but to be out

290

00:12:19,410 --> 00:12:24,000



here and to just Be with all of you  
guys and to play a game that I loved

291

00:12:24,000 --> 00:12:28,370  
when I was five My daughter's five  
was the best feeling in the world.

292

00:12:28,689 --> 00:12:33,199  
Well, now you have the champions wild card  
ahead of you So what do you do to prepare

293

00:12:33,199 --> 00:12:35,830  
for yet another opportunity to perform?

294

00:12:35,830 --> 00:12:37,710  
Well here on this stage I'm gonna keep

295

00:12:37,720 --> 00:12:41,449  
following my husband around and asking  
him to teach me about like planes and

296

00:12:41,460 --> 00:12:46,340  
trains and other weird stuff that I  
don't know about and my girls are like

297

00:12:46,340 --> 00:12:50,209  
we have a jeopardy like desktop calendar  
and they read me the questions and My

298

00:12:50,209 --> 00:12:54,010  
little one she makes up boards like  
Roadrunner versus the Coyote and Disney

299

00:12:54,020 --> 00:12:59,030  
Princesses and my big girl Beat me like  
crazy on a board about piano playing.

300

00:12:59,439 --> 00:13:02,629  
So I'm gonna I'm gonna get my  
team ready to train me I think.

301

00:13:02,770 --> 00:13:04,849  
Are you thinking about the

Tournament of Champions?

302

00:13:04,910 --> 00:13:08,540

Yeah, because obviously the winner of Champions wildcard goes on to the

303

00:13:09,189 --> 00:13:12,569

TOC You know, I said to my husband yesterday Like I know I'm prepared

304

00:13:12,569 --> 00:13:16,359

and I know I'm ready, but I can't picture myself winning anything.

305

00:13:16,469 --> 00:13:18,930

And now today it's like I can see it.

306

00:13:18,949 --> 00:13:23,189

I can like flame out in the first round of the champions wild card or I could get

307

00:13:23,189 --> 00:13:25,359

pretty far, but I know I will have fun.

308

00:13:25,609 --> 00:13:26,859

And that's the most important thing.

309

00:13:27,480 --> 00:13:29,700

Well, it's been so fun to watch you play.

310

00:13:29,700 --> 00:13:32,449

It's probably been even more fun for me to watch your daughters.

311

00:13:32,470 --> 00:13:33,240

See you play.

312

00:13:33,530 --> 00:13:36,720

Congratulations on an incredible week of second chance.

313

00:13:37,075 --> 00:13:39,015

We'll see you back here  
for Champions Wildcard.

314

00:13:39,065 --> 00:13:39,995  
Thank you so much.

315

00:13:41,045 --> 00:13:44,465  
Moving on to Tuesday, the day after  
Christmas, for our next group of

316

00:13:44,465 --> 00:13:47,855  
second chance competitors, starting  
off with Christopher Pennant,

317

00:13:48,245 --> 00:13:50,434  
Emily Kowaler, and Miles Karp.

318

00:13:50,735 --> 00:13:53,695  
This was an exciting game that was  
pretty evenly matched throughout.

319

00:13:53,695 --> 00:13:57,305  
Christopher took an early lead and  
doubled Jeopardy, but Miles worked hard

320

00:13:57,305 --> 00:14:01,520  
to chip away at that lead, eventually  
getting within 800 striking distance.

321

00:14:01,880 --> 00:14:06,020  
Emily, despite having dropped to  
zero on a true daily double, she

322

00:14:06,020 --> 00:14:09,010  
really made her way back into  
contention by the end of the round.

323

00:14:09,370 --> 00:14:13,289  
Then Emily and Christopher were  
both correct in final, but it

324

00:14:13,289 --> 00:14:16,870  
was Christopher with that big 10,

000 wager who secured the win.

325

00:14:16,919 --> 00:14:17,599

This game

326

00:14:17,760 --> 00:14:20,450

is living up to the boxing day.

327

00:14:21,105 --> 00:14:24,855

Game name because they are really just  
slugging it out there This is one of

328

00:14:24,855 --> 00:14:28,824

those games where the the final score  
doesn't really tell the whole story

329

00:14:28,944 --> 00:14:30,434

one thing I want to point out though.

330

00:14:30,614 --> 00:14:35,774

They're all so good It's really about  
the incorrect scores versus the correct

331

00:14:35,774 --> 00:14:39,925

scores because you know Even miles  
and Christopher technically with less

332

00:14:39,935 --> 00:14:43,505

correct scores, you know, obviously  
that daily double is a big swing but

333

00:14:43,515 --> 00:14:48,330

even If Emily had gotten that right,  
it's still, you know, a 5, game.

334

00:14:48,330 --> 00:14:51,130

So love, love, love this level of play.

335

00:14:51,200 --> 00:14:51,460

Yeah.

336

00:14:51,460 --> 00:14:53,970

Only six triple stumpers  
in the entire game.

337

00:14:53,970 --> 00:14:58,260  
So again, that speaks to just how much  
all three of these players did know.

338

00:14:58,330 --> 00:15:03,039  
And despite those true daily doubles for  
Emily, only one of them went her way.

339

00:15:03,279 --> 00:15:06,989  
Have to admire that, you know,  
she came to play and she was

340

00:15:06,989 --> 00:15:08,500  
going to go all in no matter what.

341

00:15:08,795 --> 00:15:12,255  
You know, on the second of the three  
daily doubles that she found, she

342

00:15:12,265 --> 00:15:13,315  
had been incorrect to the first.

343

00:15:13,315 --> 00:15:14,605  
She said, I don't learn from my mistakes.

344

00:15:14,615 --> 00:15:15,615  
So she went all in again.

345

00:15:15,625 --> 00:15:18,714  
She did get that one correct, but  
then she would go right back into

346

00:15:18,714 --> 00:15:22,265  
another one, back to back, not have  
that one go her way, but Hey, you

347

00:15:22,265 --> 00:15:22,605  
got it.

348

00:15:22,624 --> 00:15:24,634  
Got to be in it to an, I think  
that's the right way to play.

349  
00:15:24,634 --> 00:15:27,495  
I think as you can see, it's  
really on a knife's edge, whether.

350  
00:15:27,670 --> 00:15:31,910  
It goes your way or not, whether it's  
in your, uh, area of knowledge or not,

351  
00:15:31,930 --> 00:15:35,020  
and I think, uh, if that second Daily  
Double and Double Jeopardy had gone

352  
00:15:35,020 --> 00:15:38,050  
her way, she's at pole position, she  
gets final right, and we're talking

353  
00:15:38,060 --> 00:15:40,280  
about Emily in, uh, the next round.

354  
00:15:40,340 --> 00:15:40,630  
Yeah,

355  
00:15:40,630 --> 00:15:41,710  
and Miles, great spirit.

356  
00:15:41,720 --> 00:15:45,819  
You know, he said, I've now  
had two almost comebacks.

357  
00:15:45,819 --> 00:15:50,130  
Most people don't get to lose twice,  
so it's, uh, it's pretty good.

358  
00:15:50,570 --> 00:15:55,580  
On Wednesday, been a bear, Greg Saja and  
Tammy Groner returned for their second

359  
00:15:55,580 --> 00:16:01,370  
chance tight game until Greg found back

to back daily doubles, adding 13, 400 to

360

00:16:01,370 --> 00:16:04,090

a score, propelling him into a huge lead.

361

00:16:04,450 --> 00:16:08,519

Ben nearly put himself back into contention, but Greg just closed

362

00:16:08,519 --> 00:16:10,930

out the round with a string of correct responses, securing a

363

00:16:10,930 --> 00:16:12,680

runaway and a spot in the finals.

364

00:16:12,750 --> 00:16:14,270

This is what the daily doubles are about.

365

00:16:14,310 --> 00:16:16,640

You know, we talked in the previous game how sometimes it doesn't go

366

00:16:16,640 --> 00:16:18,410

your way playing that aggressively.

367

00:16:18,579 --> 00:16:23,240

is what gives you, uh, a lockout and, um, I think Greg showed what a

368

00:16:23,240 --> 00:16:28,500

tough player he is, adding a total of 15, 200 over the course of those

369

00:16:28,500 --> 00:16:29,960

three daily doubles to his score.

370

00:16:29,979 --> 00:16:34,000

Gonna be interesting to see, uh, how that aggressive play style helps him.

371

00:16:34,270 --> 00:16:35,110

As he advances.

372

00:16:35,500 --> 00:16:39,600

Well, moving on to Thursday with Raquel Mata, Mitch Cutter and Xanni Brown.

373

00:16:39,860 --> 00:16:43,330

This was another close game where the daily doubles proved to be very important.

374

00:16:43,330 --> 00:16:46,780

Xanni found both of them early on in double jeopardy, taking a

375

00:16:46,780 --> 00:16:49,389

strong lead, which she was able to maintain for the rest of the round.

376

00:16:49,390 --> 00:16:53,239

But then Raquel worked her way back into contention, ending the

377

00:16:53,240 --> 00:16:55,510

round with a respectable 11, 600.

378

00:16:55,540 --> 00:16:56,800

So it would come down to final.

379

00:16:57,255 --> 00:17:00,665

All three players were correct, but because Xanni had the lead heading into

380

00:17:00,665 --> 00:17:06,474

it, she locks up her win and spot in the finals, Xanni defeated by Chris Panulo.

381

00:17:06,794 --> 00:17:10,244

So, even Chris had told us that she was a tough opponent.

382

00:17:10,254 --> 00:17:10,524

Yeah.



383  
00:17:10,575 --> 00:17:13,084  
You know, back when we talked to him  
on Inside Jeopardy, when he was talking

384  
00:17:13,084 --> 00:17:16,195  
about some of the great players that he  
came up against, he was certainly knowing

385  
00:17:16,195 --> 00:17:17,765  
that Xanni was someone to watch out

386  
00:17:17,765 --> 00:17:18,055  
for.

387  
00:17:18,069 --> 00:17:21,609  
Yeah, and this is one of those tricky  
situations in terms of the betting in

388  
00:17:21,609 --> 00:17:27,499  
final, uh, you know, Raquel with the smart  
bet, I, I think of betting zero, which was

389  
00:17:27,499 --> 00:17:30,969  
a great thing for Raquel because  
she really did get criticized in her

390  
00:17:30,970 --> 00:17:34,739  
initial game because it was, you know,  
not the best wager that she could have

391  
00:17:34,740 --> 00:17:36,300  
actually defeated Hannah Wilson, right?

392  
00:17:36,619 --> 00:17:36,949  
Right.

393  
00:17:37,169 --> 00:17:40,530  
So clearly studied some of that,  
uh, final jeopardy wagering.

394  
00:17:40,965 --> 00:17:45,325  
Uh, theory out there, but then because

of where Mitch is, him doubling

395

00:17:45,365 --> 00:17:47,335  
up, we have a tie for second place.

396

00:17:47,575 --> 00:17:51,814  
I mean, imagine, I'm imagining if  
Xanni gets this wrong, we've got a

397

00:17:51,815 --> 00:17:56,435  
tie for first place and we're doing,  
you know, a showcase showdown here.

398

00:17:56,495 --> 00:18:02,545  
One question, buzz in, uh, this could  
have been a very wild round of this,

399

00:18:02,865 --> 00:18:05,205  
but Xanni congratulations on advancing.

400

00:18:05,634 --> 00:18:09,354  
And we did close out the week with  
day one of the finals with Xanni,

401

00:18:09,374 --> 00:18:11,094  
with Greg, and with Christopher.

402

00:18:11,364 --> 00:18:13,435  
Another well played game all around.

403

00:18:13,435 --> 00:18:14,705  
Greg got off to a hot start.

404

00:18:14,754 --> 00:18:19,444  
13 correct responses and a 5, 200 true  
daily double in the Jeopardy round.

405

00:18:19,865 --> 00:18:24,625  
But then Xanni closed the gap thanks to  
a 6, 000 daily double in Double Jeopardy.

406

00:18:24,915 --> 00:18:26,215

Then Chris found the last one.

407

00:18:26,230 --> 00:18:26,880  
daily double.

408

00:18:26,990 --> 00:18:29,450  
He adds just 2, 000 to his score.

409

00:18:29,730 --> 00:18:32,750  
So all three players went  
into final with over 10, 000.

410

00:18:32,760 --> 00:18:33,420  
Five figures.

411

00:18:33,430 --> 00:18:38,039  
You love to see that with Greg in the  
lead though, at 20, 200, all three

412

00:18:38,039 --> 00:18:42,929  
players were correct in final, but  
because Greg had the largest wager, he

413

00:18:43,009 --> 00:18:44,549  
carries the lead heading into day two.

414

00:18:44,929 --> 00:18:45,279  
Yeah.

415

00:18:45,349 --> 00:18:49,405  
You know, I think if I'm Xanni  
or Christopher, I think I

416

00:18:49,405 --> 00:18:50,575  
would have been betting bigger.

417

00:18:50,575 --> 00:18:53,475  
I mean, I know that, that second daily  
double is near the end of the round.

418

00:18:53,475 --> 00:18:55,795  
You want to have some money

to play with in final.

419

00:18:55,805 --> 00:18:59,614

You don't want to lose a ton of money when Greg's got this big score going.

420

00:18:59,884 --> 00:19:04,195

But, I think you also want to put the pressure on Greg a little more.

421

00:19:04,195 --> 00:19:07,734

I know, you know, both of these players are very much in it.

422

00:19:07,735 --> 00:19:11,265

Because of how close Xanni is to Greg, she's going to be chomping

423

00:19:11,275 --> 00:19:14,455

at his heels in that second game, which I cannot wait to see.

424

00:19:14,795 --> 00:19:17,515

You know, if I were to have one note, I want to see Xanni and Chris

425

00:19:17,604 --> 00:19:18,765

bet bigger in the second game.

426

00:19:19,005 --> 00:19:22,855

Ken actually asked Xanni in the interview about her plans if she were to move

427

00:19:22,855 --> 00:19:24,675

on, you know, to Champions Wildcard.

428

00:19:25,045 --> 00:19:27,835

And she said she just wanted to mainly stay calm and collected

429

00:19:27,835 --> 00:19:31,135

and try not to freak out and ask Martha Bath a million questions.

430

00:19:31,235 --> 00:19:34,424

Because, of course, Martha  
Bath coming back to Champions

431

00:19:34,424 --> 00:19:36,155

Wildcard as a one game winner.

432

00:19:36,525 --> 00:19:38,350

And Who doesn't love Martha Bath?

433

00:19:38,370 --> 00:19:41,700

I mean, she played with Art Fleming,  
and now she played with Ken Jennings.

434

00:19:41,730 --> 00:19:42,920

I mean, we want to see Martha.

435

00:19:43,460 --> 00:19:45,820

So, Xanni's, you know, she's  
got it all into perspective.

436

00:19:45,820 --> 00:19:48,030

Like, yes, I want to make it to  
Champions Wildcard, but really,

437

00:19:48,030 --> 00:19:48,929

I just want to talk to Martha.

438

00:19:48,929 --> 00:19:49,190

Yeah, I

439

00:19:49,190 --> 00:19:51,750

mean, to quote Wendy Williams,  
she's an icon, she's a

440

00:19:51,750 --> 00:19:52,940

legend, and she is the moment.

441

00:19:53,925 --> 00:19:57,045

And Greg, you know, with another  
quote, he brought up a quote that we

442

00:19:57,045 --> 00:20:00,405  
had heard earlier on this season and  
that is the true Daily Doubles are

443

00:20:00,405 --> 00:20:02,315  
the friends you met along the way.

444

00:20:02,385 --> 00:20:06,674  
Emily Sands said that famously in one  
of her games, but she did credit T.

445

00:20:06,674 --> 00:20:06,884  
J.

446

00:20:06,905 --> 00:20:09,195  
Talley, who came up  
with the original quote.

447

00:20:09,195 --> 00:20:11,024  
So now it's kind of a, it's a combo.

448

00:20:11,235 --> 00:20:13,324  
Uh, we give credit for Emily sharing it.

449

00:20:13,325 --> 00:20:14,485  
We give credit for T.

450

00:20:14,485 --> 00:20:14,675  
J.

451

00:20:14,675 --> 00:20:15,455  
coming up with it.

452

00:20:15,465 --> 00:20:17,805  
That quote has actually been embroidered.

453

00:20:18,065 --> 00:20:21,815  
For Ken, and I think we need to  
market this because who doesn't need

454

00:20:21,815 --> 00:20:25,565  
a little embroidered cross stitch  
telling you that the true Daily

455  
00:20:25,565 --> 00:20:27,025  
Doubles are the friends you met

456  
00:20:27,025 --> 00:20:27,535  
along the way.

457  
00:20:27,575 --> 00:20:29,645  
Talk to that merch department, ASAP.

458  
00:20:29,714 --> 00:20:30,895  
Get fits on the phone.

459  
00:20:30,905 --> 00:20:32,115  
Let's get these things made.

460  
00:20:33,214 --> 00:20:35,134  
Alright, well that wraps  
up the week of games.

461  
00:20:35,134 --> 00:20:37,525  
It is time to move on to our host chat.

462  
00:20:37,855 --> 00:20:41,945  
An audience member asked Ken,  
What was your favorite episode

463  
00:20:41,955 --> 00:20:43,885  
of Jeopardy from last season?

464  
00:20:45,215 --> 00:20:45,594  
Well, I mean

465  
00:20:45,595 --> 00:20:46,505  
we did 230

466  
00:20:46,525 --> 00:20:47,784  
plus Masters and Celebrity.

467  
00:20:48,305 --> 00:20:50,835  
So, um, you know, I'm not,  
I'm not an obsessive Jeopardy!

468  
00:20:50,835 --> 00:20:52,215  
recapper on the internet.

469  
00:20:52,615 --> 00:20:54,255  
Um, but we had a lot of great games.

470  
00:20:54,285 --> 00:20:56,755  
You know, nothing to me stands  
out more than the final game of

471  
00:20:56,784 --> 00:21:00,664  
Masters because Mateo Roach had  
James Holzhauer on the ropes.

472  
00:21:00,664 --> 00:21:02,714  
Like, that guy seemed unbeatable.

473  
00:21:03,545 --> 00:21:07,635  
Except in the GO tournament and, and  
Matea, like, you know, they kind of

474  
00:21:07,645 --> 00:21:09,005  
had the game at hand going into finals.

475  
00:21:09,025 --> 00:21:10,365  
That was great Jeopardy right there.

476  
00:21:10,375 --> 00:21:11,065  
I'd love to see the game

477  
00:21:11,065 --> 00:21:11,335  
played

478  
00:21:11,335 --> 00:21:11,765  
at that level.

479  
00:21:12,225 --> 00:21:17,045



Whew, the energy during that Masters game when Matea just came on fire.

480

00:21:17,654 --> 00:21:19,034

I've never seen anything like it.

481

00:21:19,175 --> 00:21:21,195

Ken really loves watching James lose, huh?

482

00:21:21,655 --> 00:21:21,795

Ah, that's kind of

483

00:21:22,005 --> 00:21:25,384

what it, that's kind of what it sounds like.

484

00:21:25,665 --> 00:21:29,675

All right, Buzzy, it is now time to welcome into the pod

485

00:21:29,675 --> 00:21:34,395

champions wildcard finalists all the way from Stuttgart germany.

486

00:21:34,755 --> 00:21:36,275

Tyler, thanks for joining us.

487

00:21:36,585 --> 00:21:37,545

Hey, thanks for having me.

488

00:21:37,735 --> 00:21:39,295

How did I do on that Stuttgart?

489

00:21:39,875 --> 00:21:40,565

Was that okay?

490

00:21:40,745 --> 00:21:41,715

Ausgezeichnet.

491

00:21:41,935 --> 00:21:42,675

As they say here.

492

00:21:42,735 --> 00:21:43,364  
Yeah, exactly.

493

00:21:43,374 --> 00:21:44,065  
It means excellent.

494

00:21:44,235 --> 00:21:46,315  
How's your German coming along, Tyler?

495

00:21:47,345 --> 00:21:50,294  
Well, I wish it were better,  
but we're getting there.

496

00:21:50,494 --> 00:21:55,425  
It's funny because living here in  
Germany, there's a limit to the way that

497

00:21:55,425 --> 00:21:59,525  
conversations work, so , generally, if  
you speak a little German, the Germans

498

00:21:59,525 --> 00:22:01,385  
will give you a little bit of rope.

499

00:22:01,425 --> 00:22:04,185  
They'll see where you're going with  
this, and then eventually they'll

500

00:22:04,185 --> 00:22:07,435  
figure out that you've run out of  
road, and you don't have any more

501

00:22:07,435 --> 00:22:09,164  
German, and they'll switch to English.

502

00:22:09,594 --> 00:22:13,295  
But the problem is, it's very nice of  
them, but they don't ever switch back.

503

00:22:13,585 --> 00:22:16,405  
Because they know that their  
English is better than our German.

504

00:22:16,445 --> 00:22:16,945

Of course.

505

00:22:16,955 --> 00:22:20,985

And so over time You end up in  
a scenario where you just can't

506

00:22:21,035 --> 00:22:22,685

really practice, unfortunately.

507

00:22:22,735 --> 00:22:29,225

Well, I also imagine that you have a  
different experience than most Jeopardy!

508

00:22:29,235 --> 00:22:32,135

champions being in Germany.

509

00:22:32,215 --> 00:22:35,874

What's that like, being in a  
country where the show that you

510

00:22:35,875 --> 00:22:38,265

are so successful on is not airing?

511

00:22:38,644 --> 00:22:40,514

Well, it sure helps with  
the history categories.

512

00:22:40,524 --> 00:22:40,594

I'll say that.

513

00:22:40,594 --> 00:22:43,335

It's interesting because  
it does air on AFN.

514

00:22:43,455 --> 00:22:48,110

And obviously, I work mostly with  
Americans who are All, you know, very

515

00:22:48,110 --> 00:22:51,260

excited to hear about it, and all

the Americans I work with are very

516

00:22:51,260 --> 00:22:55,139  
familiar with Jeopardy, but it is a  
little weird, uh, walking around in

517

00:22:55,140 --> 00:22:58,110  
public and kind of looking at people  
like, Don't you know I'm a big deal?

518

00:22:59,370 --> 00:22:59,440  
But

519

00:23:00,160 --> 00:23:01,269  
Well, you're a big deal here.

520

00:23:01,270 --> 00:23:01,530  
I know.

521

00:23:01,649 --> 00:23:02,639  
Absolutely.

522

00:23:03,050 --> 00:23:06,950  
So, when you first competed on this  
show, where were you based at that point?

523

00:23:07,175 --> 00:23:12,495  
So back then, I was working, uh,  
actually at a unit that's in Los Angeles.

524

00:23:12,545 --> 00:23:14,815  
Uh, I was working at a reserve  
rifle company at that time.

525

00:23:14,955 --> 00:23:16,045  
And they were out in East L.

526

00:23:16,045 --> 00:23:16,245  
A.

527

00:23:16,275 --> 00:23:17,715  
in, in Pico Rivera.

528

00:23:17,795 --> 00:23:22,655  
And that was pretty memorable  
because telling my staff, or the,

529

00:23:22,924 --> 00:23:26,305  
leadership of my unit that I was  
gonna be on Jeopardy was even more

530

00:23:26,305 --> 00:23:27,805  
impactful for people who lived in L.

531

00:23:27,805 --> 00:23:27,885  
A.

532

00:23:27,885 --> 00:23:28,635  
as you might imagine.

533

00:23:28,990 --> 00:23:29,160  
Yeah,

534

00:23:29,160 --> 00:23:32,960  
a little shorter commute  
for you back in 2021.

535

00:23:33,530 --> 00:23:36,570  
I remember you came on your first win.

536

00:23:36,570 --> 00:23:38,820  
So commanding second as well.

537

00:23:38,820 --> 00:23:42,020  
We thought this guy's going  
to be around for a long time.

538

00:23:42,800 --> 00:23:44,949  
Then you came up against, Oh, you know.

539

00:23:45,155 --> 00:23:47,514  
This little guy named Josh Sack, right?

540

00:23:47,665 --> 00:23:48,124  
Right.

541  
00:23:48,764 --> 00:23:50,584  
Who has made his own real comeback.

542  
00:23:50,584 --> 00:23:54,264  
But tell us about that first experience,  
how you were feeling after two wins,

543  
00:23:54,264 --> 00:23:56,144  
and just what your initial Jeopardy!

544  
00:23:56,144 --> 00:23:57,124  
run was like for you.

545  
00:23:57,264 --> 00:23:57,414  
I

546  
00:23:57,415 --> 00:24:00,735  
came in with, with essentially  
no expectations of myself.

547  
00:24:00,834 --> 00:24:03,925  
It was just such a privilege  
to be invited to the show.

548  
00:24:03,954 --> 00:24:06,064  
I mean, so many people apply every year.

549  
00:24:06,064 --> 00:24:07,644  
So many people want to be on Jeopardy!

550  
00:24:07,644 --> 00:24:13,074  
And just to get the chance to, to get onto  
the stage was such a thrill to begin with.

551  
00:24:13,184 --> 00:24:16,055  
After those first two games, I  
sort of didn't know how I felt.

552  
00:24:16,065 --> 00:24:18,955

Having won the first one, I felt  
that I was a little bit off the hook.

553

00:24:19,465 --> 00:24:22,534  
Um, I think I'd kind of met the  
expectations of, okay, check mark,

554

00:24:22,615 --> 00:24:26,314  
you know, Jeopardy champion for  
the rest of your life, right?

555

00:24:26,344 --> 00:24:29,524  
You know, always got that in the  
back pocket, got to go on the stage

556

00:24:29,524 --> 00:24:32,765  
and got to tell everybody I know  
that I didn't lose, that I, I could

557

00:24:32,765 --> 00:24:34,195  
cut the mustard that first time.

558

00:24:34,195 --> 00:24:38,595  
But, but after two games, honestly, it's,  
it's such an adrenaline rush to be on

559

00:24:38,595 --> 00:24:42,685  
the stage and it's so all absorbing, you  
know, your heart's pounding, you're just

560

00:24:42,695 --> 00:24:43,925  
trying to get through the next question.

561

00:24:43,925 --> 00:24:48,264  
I got into that third game going, I still  
have no idea how this is going to go.

562

00:24:48,395 --> 00:24:52,955  
And to come up against Josh, I mean, such  
a, such an excellent player, excellent

563

00:24:52,955 --> 00:24:57,725  
competitor, you know, his own, uh, wild

cards round champion, he was awesome.

564

00:24:57,765 --> 00:25:02,065

And to have that kind of quality of game,  
I think is, is thrilling in its own right.

565

00:25:02,065 --> 00:25:06,045

So, I don't know what I expected going  
into it, but knowing that I was beaten

566

00:25:06,045 --> 00:25:10,165

by somebody who is so high tier and  
so high caliber, it's, it's hard to,

567

00:25:10,215 --> 00:25:11,354

it's hard to feel bad about that.

568

00:25:11,505 --> 00:25:14,904

And knowing that he did win his  
champion's wildcard group, does

569

00:25:14,904 --> 00:25:16,354

that even feel even better?

570

00:25:16,355 --> 00:25:18,635

Like, even still, he is one of the greats.

571

00:25:18,645 --> 00:25:19,265

So you lost.

572

00:25:19,530 --> 00:25:20,280

To a Jeopardy!

573

00:25:20,280 --> 00:25:20,690

Great.

574

00:25:20,820 --> 00:25:21,510

Absolutely.

575

00:25:21,540 --> 00:25:25,320

And Josh, I mean, to have lost now  
to, to two guys who were both going



576  
00:25:25,320 --> 00:25:27,490  
on to, to the tournament of champions.

577  
00:25:27,490 --> 00:25:29,620  
I mean, really just, just amazing.

578  
00:25:29,620 --> 00:25:32,530  
I feel lucky that I've been up  
against such good players as well.

579  
00:25:32,580 --> 00:25:36,229  
I like to feel that I held my own  
and that, uh, that especially with

580  
00:25:36,230 --> 00:25:40,200  
Josh, you know, that first time of, of  
playing against him and then seeing him

581  
00:25:40,210 --> 00:25:44,360  
hold on all the way until, you know,  
the Amodio rodeo showed up, that was,

582  
00:25:44,610 --> 00:25:46,070  
that was pretty impressive as well.

583  
00:25:46,490 --> 00:25:49,630  
Yeah, you lost to Josh, who  
then lost to Matt Amodio.

584  
00:25:49,780 --> 00:25:54,620  
So you really just, you came up against  
some really strong champions and

585  
00:25:54,620 --> 00:25:56,379  
that continued in Champions Wildcard.

586  
00:25:56,379 --> 00:26:00,119  
But I have to know, early on,  
you're one of our younger champions.

587  
00:26:00,499 --> 00:26:02,390

When did you start watching Jeopardy?

588

00:26:02,390 --> 00:26:03,909

What was your Jeopardy journey like?

589

00:26:03,909 --> 00:26:05,639

When did you decide to  
try out for the show?

590

00:26:05,790 --> 00:26:11,655

So it's strange because I remember  
where I first heard about Jeopardy.

591

00:26:12,115 --> 00:26:13,905

My memory tells me it was fourth grade.

592

00:26:14,005 --> 00:26:15,115

I might have been fifth.

593

00:26:15,175 --> 00:26:17,415

That's when Ken Jennings was fourth grade.

594

00:26:17,425 --> 00:26:18,835

So you're in good company there.

595

00:26:18,865 --> 00:26:19,535

That's right.

596

00:26:19,884 --> 00:26:20,735

Yeah, exactly right.

597

00:26:20,765 --> 00:26:24,285

And, and someone came in and  
said, is anyone watching Ken

598

00:26:24,285 --> 00:26:25,554

Jennings run on Jeopardy?

599

00:26:25,554 --> 00:26:27,485

It seems like he's going  
to be around for a while.

600  
00:26:27,505 --> 00:26:30,865  
And I think he was like 30  
games in at that point, which

601  
00:26:30,865 --> 00:26:33,325  
is already just mind boggling.

602  
00:26:33,355 --> 00:26:37,005  
But to hear about it then and  
to start watching the show

603  
00:26:37,005 --> 00:26:39,125  
then was my introduction to it.

604  
00:26:39,890 --> 00:26:43,660  
And I became such a trivia nerd  
over, over the years that Jeopardy

605  
00:26:43,660 --> 00:26:45,000  
was kind of always part of my life.

606  
00:26:45,050 --> 00:26:49,740  
I did, uh, a lot of Quiz Bowl when I  
was in college, and that was part of it.

607  
00:26:49,750 --> 00:26:53,329  
But everybody loves watching  
Jeopardy and, and competing at home.

608  
00:26:53,360 --> 00:26:57,539  
And so for, for trivia buffs and,  
and quiz nerds like me, it was always

609  
00:26:57,549 --> 00:27:01,670  
such a big background interest of  
mine and and getting on the show was

610  
00:27:01,670 --> 00:27:04,130  
just a thrill from that perspective.

611  
00:27:04,230 --> 00:27:06,500  
Did you make it the first

time you auditioned?

612

00:27:06,590 --> 00:27:07,030  
I did.

613

00:27:07,070 --> 00:27:08,309  
Yeah, I was very fortunate.

614

00:27:08,410 --> 00:27:13,520  
I auditioned during COVID, so my  
process was a little unusual.

615

00:27:13,650 --> 00:27:18,030  
We did the actual audition phase over  
Zoom, which was interesting because

616

00:27:18,030 --> 00:27:21,980  
we all held our little pens up and  
simulated the signaling device.

617

00:27:22,150 --> 00:27:25,660  
I have to say, uh, like with a  
lot of my games on the Jeopardy!

618

00:27:25,660 --> 00:27:30,299  
stage, on the Alex Trebek stage, I was  
very fortunate in category selection.

619

00:27:30,495 --> 00:27:36,285  
We were given, I think, a Cold War history  
category at my Jeopardy audition and I

620

00:27:36,325 --> 00:27:40,114  
absolutely ran the table with it, which  
I'm sure helped my odds, but it's, it's

621

00:27:40,114 --> 00:27:42,285  
a big, uh, area of interest of mine.

622

00:27:42,285 --> 00:27:43,775  
So, again, very fortunate.

623

00:27:43,785 --> 00:27:46,625  
I always just kind of pull the right  
categories when I need them, it seems.

624  
00:27:47,595 --> 00:27:48,905  
So, I, I have a question.

625  
00:27:48,905 --> 00:27:52,414  
You know, you, you have your two  
games, which is, you know, double

626  
00:27:52,414 --> 00:27:56,835  
what I think most of us dream about  
having when we show up at Sony.

627  
00:27:57,305 --> 00:27:59,925  
Then, you know, you, you kind  
of move on with your life.

628  
00:28:00,410 --> 00:28:04,100  
And what is going on  
when you get the call?

629  
00:28:04,320 --> 00:28:06,400  
"Hey, Tyler, how about coming back?"

630  
00:28:06,650 --> 00:28:11,040  
Oh man, I mean, it's funny because  
I think, I think I'm like a lot of

631  
00:28:11,040 --> 00:28:14,670  
contestants in that once you've been  
on the stage, it kind of recedes

632  
00:28:14,670 --> 00:28:17,100  
a little bit you may not watch  
the show as much as you used to.

633  
00:28:17,219 --> 00:28:20,160  
It's not kind of the centerpiece  
of your life, or especially when

634  
00:28:20,160 --> 00:28:24,220

you're prepping, focusing on the game, watching the show, trying to

635

00:28:24,230 --> 00:28:25,760  
get as much immersion as you can.

636

00:28:25,820 --> 00:28:29,120  
So it kind of receded into the background of my life, but always

637

00:28:29,140 --> 00:28:32,640  
kind of in the back of my mind, I was like, Oh man, I didn't qualify.

638

00:28:32,650 --> 00:28:33,940  
I didn't get those five wins.

639

00:28:33,950 --> 00:28:37,325  
I'm probably not going to be a tournament of champions selectee

640

00:28:37,355 --> 00:28:40,895  
and so I wasn't aware that wild card was going on and then when I got

641

00:28:40,895 --> 00:28:43,555  
the text, I mean instant decision.

642

00:28:43,575 --> 00:28:44,185  
Absolutely.

643

00:28:44,185 --> 00:28:45,905  
How do I find a way to get back?

644

00:28:45,905 --> 00:28:47,275  
How do I get on the show?

645

00:28:47,275 --> 00:28:50,394  
But it was, it was thrilling because there's always just that little

646

00:28:50,395 --> 00:28:54,145

bit in the back of your mind of  
how would I do if I went back?

647

00:28:54,155 --> 00:28:56,175

How would I do now that I've  
been on the stage and that

648

00:28:56,175 --> 00:28:57,355

I've played the game before?

649

00:28:57,355 --> 00:28:58,445

What would it look like now?

650

00:28:59,305 --> 00:29:03,945

Well, Michael Davies often talks about  
people like Mattea Roach and how,

651

00:29:03,985 --> 00:29:05,765

you know, they're only in their 20s.

652

00:29:06,065 --> 00:29:09,605

How much more are they going to  
learn and grow as a Jeopardy!

653

00:29:09,605 --> 00:29:10,095

champion?

654

00:29:10,435 --> 00:29:13,065

You are also one of our under 30 players.

655

00:29:13,315 --> 00:29:14,785

Do you think the same about yourself?

656

00:29:14,804 --> 00:29:18,024

Like, what could Tyler be  
like in another 10 years?

657

00:29:18,395 --> 00:29:18,945

Oh, wow.

658

00:29:18,945 --> 00:29:21,175

I mean, I sure hope I

would improve as a player.

659

00:29:21,225 --> 00:29:24,035

It's just a sign that you're still learning and still growing in life.

660

00:29:24,135 --> 00:29:27,965

I definitely felt a difference between my first two times playing in 2021

661

00:29:27,975 --> 00:29:29,795

versus coming back for Wildcard.

662

00:29:29,795 --> 00:29:33,345

I could certainly feel a difference in, in knowledge and in play style,

663

00:29:33,594 --> 00:29:36,785

maybe from experience, but maybe also just from, from living life

664

00:29:36,795 --> 00:29:40,240

and from broadening my interests and getting into different things.

665

00:29:40,270 --> 00:29:43,100

I certainly felt more comfortable with, uh, with opera this time,

666

00:29:43,100 --> 00:29:46,280

having kind of found my way into it as a regular interest.

667

00:29:46,470 --> 00:29:49,280

I think that I would hope that I would be a better player in the future.

668

00:29:49,319 --> 00:29:52,710

Um, I guess there's only one way to find out, but you know, that's

669

00:29:52,710 --> 00:29:55,879

up to luck and fate and whatever



else might, might come my way.

670

00:29:55,989 --> 00:29:56,779  
And Michael Davies.

671

00:29:56,849 --> 00:29:57,649  
And Michael Davies.

672

00:29:58,309 --> 00:29:58,619  
All right.

673

00:29:58,619 --> 00:30:00,549  
Well, let's get into  
the champions wildcard.

674

00:30:00,549 --> 00:30:02,949  
So you head into the  
quarterfinal, your first game.

675

00:30:03,299 --> 00:30:06,709  
You know, it's kind of neck and  
neck between you and Kira, really.

676

00:30:07,089 --> 00:30:11,949  
And then you get that last  
daily double, you make a big

677

00:30:11,949 --> 00:30:13,849  
wager, and you get the lead.

678

00:30:14,149 --> 00:30:18,669  
And you hold on to it into final where  
you are the only one who is correct.

679

00:30:18,709 --> 00:30:21,709  
How did it feel to come back  
and then have a performance like

680

00:30:21,709 --> 00:30:23,119  
that on the Alex Trebek stage?

681

00:30:23,409 --> 00:30:28,469

Uh, it's funny because when I  
played my very first game I remember

682

00:30:28,469 --> 00:30:34,339  
distinctly Knowing the moment when  
I felt, I think I'm going to win.

683

00:30:34,979 --> 00:30:38,089  
And it came relatively early in that game.

684

00:30:38,199 --> 00:30:41,189  
Um, I was doing pretty well, I  
got lucky with the categories.

685

00:30:41,829 --> 00:30:46,329  
Uh, but in this first wild card  
game, pulling into that final, I think

686

00:30:46,329 --> 00:30:48,789  
the difference was only about \$600.

687

00:30:49,360 --> 00:30:51,249  
And so that was just, it was so close.

688

00:30:51,279 --> 00:30:52,229  
I had no idea.

689

00:30:52,239 --> 00:30:56,739  
And then to see the category  
come up for American history.

690

00:30:56,919 --> 00:31:00,999  
I was so worried that the question  
was going to be something, a

691

00:31:00,999 --> 00:31:02,319  
very Jeopardy question, right?

692

00:31:02,319 --> 00:31:06,649  
Something that I just Could not  
imagine being asked about in normal

693

00:31:06,649 --> 00:31:10,199  
life, you know, tell us something  
about John Jay, Tell us something

694  
00:31:10,209 --> 00:31:11,629  
about the era of good feelings.

695  
00:31:11,659 --> 00:31:15,129  
I was like, oh no, like this could be  
colonial history It could be anything

696  
00:31:15,129 --> 00:31:19,049  
I have no idea and then for it to  
be something that I knew and to feel

697  
00:31:19,069 --> 00:31:22,729  
comfortable with the question at that  
moment I mean, it's a rush to know

698  
00:31:22,729 --> 00:31:26,089  
that you're gonna win before it even  
happens, But at the same time, I mean

699  
00:31:26,429 --> 00:31:29,259  
it was such a tough fought game that  
in the back of my mind I was like, I

700  
00:31:29,259 --> 00:31:31,169  
don't know maybe Somehow I'm wrong.

701  
00:31:31,169 --> 00:31:32,219  
Maybe Kira's got it.

702  
00:31:32,399 --> 00:31:33,999  
I mean, she was such a good competitor.

703  
00:31:34,049 --> 00:31:37,909  
It's hard to know, but to pull it off in  
the end, it's a very rewarding feeling.

704  
00:31:38,059 --> 00:31:40,939  
And our contestant team does  
tell all of you as contestants,

705

00:31:40,939 --> 00:31:42,469  
you know, keep a poker face.

706

00:31:42,809 --> 00:31:45,759  
Don't let anyone know if  
you, if you have it correct.

707

00:31:45,949 --> 00:31:48,099  
You really took this  
to the extreme, Tyler.

708

00:31:48,109 --> 00:31:49,919  
People have talked about this online.

709

00:31:50,289 --> 00:31:53,669  
You know, we didn't  
see a hint of anything.

710

00:31:53,959 --> 00:31:57,489  
Until the very last moment when  
we got a little smile once Ken

711

00:31:57,489 --> 00:31:59,369  
did declare you were a Jeopardy!

712

00:31:59,369 --> 00:31:59,849  
champion.

713

00:32:00,269 --> 00:32:03,449  
Yeah, that's, uh, that's the hours  
of thanking my drill instructors or

714

00:32:03,809 --> 00:32:05,079  
sergeant instructors for that one.

715

00:32:05,089 --> 00:32:07,549  
They really got that discipline  
in and I took full advantage of

716

00:32:07,549 --> 00:32:08,739  
it and I think it, I think it paid

717  
00:32:08,739 --> 00:32:09,109  
off.

718  
00:32:09,159 --> 00:32:09,559  
Yeah.

719  
00:32:09,929 --> 00:32:15,259  
Am I correct that you maybe earned another  
stripe between your first appearance and

720  
00:32:15,259 --> 00:32:17,329  
returning, or is that, am I mistaken?

721  
00:32:17,459 --> 00:32:19,209  
There were a couple more ribbons.

722  
00:32:19,299 --> 00:32:23,489  
Um, and there is an extra bar on my rank  
as you point out, so I was promoted.

723  
00:32:23,569 --> 00:32:26,299  
The first time I was on Jeopardy, I  
was a lowly first lieutenant, so it's

724  
00:32:26,299 --> 00:32:28,479  
a silver single bar on each shoulder.

725  
00:32:28,999 --> 00:32:31,509  
But I picked up a promotion to  
captain while I've been serving here

726  
00:32:31,509 --> 00:32:32,849  
in Germany, which is a great honor.

727  
00:32:32,849 --> 00:32:35,859  
It comes with more responsibility, but,  
yeah, absolutely, it comes with those

728  
00:32:35,869 --> 00:32:38,104  
two Parallel bars on each shoulder.

729

00:32:38,134 --> 00:32:38,354

Yeah.

730

00:32:38,354 --> 00:32:42,104

You use that a little intimidation factor possibly in the green room.

731

00:32:43,544 --> 00:32:44,774

I don't know about that.

732

00:32:44,804 --> 00:32:47,954

I mean, it's worth talking a big game about wearing the uniform, but

733

00:32:47,954 --> 00:32:51,464

honestly, the reason I chose to do it is it makes you feel bulletproof.

734

00:32:51,514 --> 00:32:57,014

I mean, for me, just getting into the mindset of competing and going up there,

735

00:32:57,604 --> 00:33:00,184

combined with kind of the mindset of wearing the uniform and knowing what

736

00:33:00,184 --> 00:33:04,584

it represents and what people have done in it before, I mean, it looks good.

737

00:33:04,604 --> 00:33:07,824

There's a phrase that we use a lot, "look good, feel good, fight good".

738

00:33:07,994 --> 00:33:11,174

I definitely feel all three when I show up on the stage in my dress blues.

739

00:33:11,174 --> 00:33:12,664

So that's the advantage there.

740

00:33:12,664 --> 00:33:15,154

It's psychological for me more than it is for anybody else.

741

00:33:15,424 --> 00:33:18,554  
And I really liked the dress blues even more than the dress tan that

742

00:33:18,554 --> 00:33:19,674  
you wore in your initial run.

743

00:33:19,879 --> 00:33:20,959  
Uh, yeah, my service alphas.

744

00:33:21,019 --> 00:33:23,139  
Much more of a kind of a business suit kind of uniform.

745

00:33:23,149 --> 00:33:25,929  
I think it makes people think a lot of the courtroom scene in A Few Good Men..

746

00:33:26,119 --> 00:33:29,489  
You know, Jack Nicholson famously wearing it on the stand, but, uh,

747

00:33:29,569 --> 00:33:31,589  
we got a nice diversity of uniforms.

748

00:33:31,629 --> 00:33:34,189  
I got to really show off in the true dress uniform

749

00:33:34,189 --> 00:33:34,539  
this time.

750

00:33:34,599 --> 00:33:37,970  
Well, it certainly helped you advance to the semifinal game, which

751

00:33:37,970 --> 00:33:39,720  
was another great game for you.

752

00:33:39,850 --> 00:33:40,340  
Yeah.

753  
00:33:40,360 --> 00:33:44,540  
Going up against Emma Salzberg, Ed  
Colson, who had both had really strong

754  
00:33:44,540 --> 00:33:46,440  
performances in their quarterfinal.

755  
00:33:47,000 --> 00:33:48,690  
But it really came down  
to double jeopardy.

756  
00:33:48,700 --> 00:33:53,070  
You almost ran away with it, but  
everyone was in it for final.

757  
00:33:53,070 --> 00:33:54,620  
You needed to get final correct.

758  
00:33:55,090 --> 00:33:58,270  
What was interesting to me,  
cause I obviously see as you're

759  
00:33:58,270 --> 00:34:02,179  
putting in your wagers, you go  
all in as does Emma, as does Ed.

760  
00:34:02,190 --> 00:34:06,210  
And I'm thinking, Oh my goodness, we could  
have a three way tiebreaker right now.

761  
00:34:06,440 --> 00:34:07,990  
This could end up coming down.

762  
00:34:08,330 --> 00:34:11,370  
to just, you know, a  
buzzer race on one clue.

763  
00:34:12,000 --> 00:34:15,930  
I have to know, thankfully you  
were correct and you win, but why



764

00:34:15,970 --> 00:34:17,500  
go all in in that moment, Tyler?

765

00:34:17,500 --> 00:34:19,090  
What was the thought process there?

766

00:34:20,055 --> 00:34:22,815  
Well, wouldn't it be exciting if  
we got that three way buzzer final?

767

00:34:22,925 --> 00:34:24,085  
Sure, yes.

768

00:34:24,095 --> 00:34:25,229  
You know, you get the audience happy.

769

00:34:25,229 --> 00:34:30,616  
But, uh, no, so, I hate to say it  
this way, not really, but I came

770

00:34:30,616 --> 00:34:33,566  
into the tournament with kind of  
Ricky Bobby mindset, you know,

771

00:34:33,566 --> 00:34:34,816  
if you ain't first, you're last.

772

00:34:34,906 --> 00:34:38,166  
And because of the way the scoring  
worked on the tournament, I felt

773

00:34:38,166 --> 00:34:41,386  
that there was no incentive not  
to bet everything every time.

774

00:34:41,866 --> 00:34:46,066  
I know there are contingencies in which,  
you know, you could get first with a

775

00:34:46,066 --> 00:34:50,176  
sound betting strategy in which everybody

bets too much and you bet a little and

776

00:34:50,176 --> 00:34:51,746  
you're in first and you retain first.

777

00:34:52,076 --> 00:34:55,286  
We saw it happen, uh, once or  
twice, uh, throughout the wild card

778

00:34:55,286 --> 00:34:57,656  
tournament, but I also just felt that.

779

00:34:58,216 --> 00:34:59,216  
Well, if I know it, I know it.

780

00:34:59,216 --> 00:35:00,586  
And if I don't know it, I don't know it.

781

00:35:00,656 --> 00:35:03,646  
And, uh, putting it all on  
the confidence of my answer.

782

00:35:03,646 --> 00:35:06,096  
I mean, if it doesn't work  
out, I made it this far.

783

00:35:06,156 --> 00:35:08,746  
If it does, then onto the next  
round with a commanding lead.

784

00:35:09,336 --> 00:35:10,786  
But it's movie musicals.

785

00:35:10,846 --> 00:35:14,636  
And then we find out in the postgame  
chat, you were a high school musical kid.

786

00:35:14,646 --> 00:35:18,296  
So there was something about the category  
that gave you a little extra confidence.

787

00:35:18,346 --> 00:35:19,156

Yeah, that's right.

788

00:35:19,196 --> 00:35:21,756

I was not super confident  
about my answer of Oliver.

789

00:35:21,756 --> 00:35:25,836

I got lucky on that one because I  
had studied, uh, best picture winners

790

00:35:26,241 --> 00:35:31,991

coming in to the tournament and so that  
absolutely I'm very glad it was an either

791

00:35:31,991 --> 00:35:35,671

or category I would have been totally  
hopeless if it had been a name both at

792

00:35:35,671 --> 00:35:38,791

the same time, but Yeah, it paid off okay.

793

00:35:39,091 --> 00:35:41,701

What was your favorite role  
in a musical in high school?

794

00:35:41,741 --> 00:35:42,511

Can you remember?

795

00:35:42,621 --> 00:35:49,311

Yes, so We had a very small musical  
theater company at my high school

796

00:35:49,431 --> 00:35:55,421

the director decided one year to do  
the 1997 Broadway rendition of Titanic

797

00:35:55,806 --> 00:35:58,556

Not related to the movie at all,  
though they came out the same year.

798

00:35:59,246 --> 00:36:03,016

And I think I did four or five  
roles in that, and I was just always

799  
00:36:03,016 --> 00:36:05,186  
onstage, offstage, onstage, offstage.

800  
00:36:05,196 --> 00:36:07,436  
Different song, different  
character, different costume.

801  
00:36:07,946 --> 00:36:09,676  
It was definitely my favorite  
experience on the stage.

802  
00:36:09,836 --> 00:36:11,676  
Could we get a few bars, perhaps?

803  
00:36:11,866 --> 00:36:13,136  
I don't know that

804  
00:36:13,136 --> 00:36:15,038  
that's Alright, I tried,  
I tried, I tried, I tried.

805  
00:36:15,038 --> 00:36:19,386  
This is kind of like the Six Degrees of  
Kevin Bacon here, because you were in

806  
00:36:19,386 --> 00:36:24,406  
a Titanic musical in high school, Nick  
Cascone was in the actual movie, Titanic.

807  
00:36:24,406 --> 00:36:24,486  
Right, yes.

808  
00:36:24,486 --> 00:36:26,706  
So, look at how we're  
connecting all the Jeopardy!

809  
00:36:26,706 --> 00:36:27,246  
dots here.

810  
00:36:27,246 --> 00:36:27,666  
I love it.

811

00:36:27,666 --> 00:36:29,666

It all comes back to Titanic.

812

00:36:29,666 --> 00:36:31,046

It's Titanic all the way down.

813

00:36:31,056 --> 00:36:31,996

It always is.

814

00:36:31,996 --> 00:36:33,026

It always is.

815

00:36:33,026 --> 00:36:37,741

Alright, well we head into our two  
game total point affair, and You know,

816

00:36:37,741 --> 00:36:42,871

this wasn't necessarily your game, but  
again, you go, Hey, all or nothing.

817

00:36:42,941 --> 00:36:45,011

I'm going to bet it all in final.

818

00:36:45,061 --> 00:36:47,001

You end up being the  
only one who is correct.

819

00:36:47,211 --> 00:36:49,791

And you head into day two with a big lead.

820

00:36:49,991 --> 00:36:54,036

But what was your mindset knowing that  
that lead was really based on that Final

821

00:36:54,036 --> 00:36:55,806

Jeopardy, not necessarily the whole game.

822

00:36:55,856 --> 00:36:57,236

Great question, first of all.

823

00:36:57,356 --> 00:37:03,526  
I think that knowing that it had  
come down for me in pretty much every

824  
00:37:03,526 --> 00:37:05,816  
case to, do you know Final Jeopardy?

825  
00:37:06,046 --> 00:37:08,946  
I still felt, and turned out to  
be correct, that everything was

826  
00:37:08,956 --> 00:37:11,446  
up in the air, even though I'd  
done well on that first game.

827  
00:37:11,526 --> 00:37:17,261  
Going into Into the second round with a  
comfortable lead was nice, but obviously

828  
00:37:17,261 --> 00:37:20,831  
playing against such a strong slate  
of competitors and as we saw I mean

829  
00:37:20,831 --> 00:37:25,351  
Youngsheng ran away with the game,  
So it's it was nice to have turned

830  
00:37:25,351 --> 00:37:29,571  
out not to be worth that much, But  
it was it was a good confidence boost

831  
00:37:29,581 --> 00:37:33,341  
going into the game had you thought  
much, you know Obviously you come back

832  
00:37:33,341 --> 00:37:36,791  
you want to win your first game, but  
had you already like said if I get

833  
00:37:36,801 --> 00:37:41,361  
into the finals Here's how I'm gonna  
handle this two game total point affair

834

00:37:41,621 --> 00:37:45,781  
It's not as obvious given that I'd bet  
everything both times before, but this is

835  
00:37:45,781 --> 00:37:49,661  
the game where I really felt that betting  
it all was gonna matter, or was gonna make

836  
00:37:49,661 --> 00:37:51,841  
or break it, or, or would certainly help.

837  
00:37:51,951 --> 00:37:56,041  
Betting everything and, and pulling out  
the final Jeopardy answer in that first

838  
00:37:56,041 --> 00:38:01,421  
out of two games, I felt would be, it  
would, it would help stack the, the deck

839  
00:38:01,521 --> 00:38:03,421  
in my favor going into that second game.

840  
00:38:03,421 --> 00:38:05,931  
But of course, there's no way  
to know what's going to happen.

841  
00:38:06,261 --> 00:38:10,261  
Well, and final, you can control,  
what you can't control are the

842  
00:38:10,261 --> 00:38:12,241  
daily doubles in that game two.

843  
00:38:12,591 --> 00:38:15,421  
Double jeopardy Youngsheng  
finds both of them.

844  
00:38:15,751 --> 00:38:19,781  
You know, he added \$17, 000 to  
his score in daily doubles alone.

845  
00:38:19,781 --> 00:38:24,326  
So there's not really much you can

do in that moment, would you agree?

846

00:38:24,476 --> 00:38:24,906

For sure.

847

00:38:25,726 --> 00:38:26,576

Yeah, absolutely.

848

00:38:26,656 --> 00:38:29,286

Uh, and I think as he kind of memorably said on the stage, uh,

849

00:38:29,296 --> 00:38:30,466

"scared money don't make money"

850

00:38:30,596 --> 00:38:31,086

ah, yes.

851

00:38:31,786 --> 00:38:36,236

His, uh, his aggressive betting was, uh, I mean that was tactically exactly what he

852

00:38:36,236 --> 00:38:39,806

needed to do and the fact that he pulled them both off and went into Final Jeopardy

853

00:38:39,816 --> 00:38:41,536

having the correct answer in his head.

854

00:38:41,536 --> 00:38:46,306

I mean, super stylish way to win for sure, but also really encouraging to

855

00:38:46,306 --> 00:38:49,526

see somebody just completely nail it right there, really when it counts.

856

00:38:49,526 --> 00:38:51,086

I mean, talk about Calm Under Fire.

857

00:38:51,086 --> 00:38:52,536

He was, he was really good.



858

00:38:53,336 --> 00:38:56,916

Um, and in spite of, you know, the outcome not being what you wanted,

859

00:38:56,916 --> 00:39:01,316

I want to call out that in that last final game, you had an impressive 100

860

00:39:01,316 --> 00:39:05,536

percent correct rate, 14 correct, zero incorrect, and your total champion

861

00:39:05,536 --> 00:39:08,656

wildcard stats, 92 percent correct.

862

00:39:08,666 --> 00:39:10,646

That is very, very high.

863

00:39:10,656 --> 00:39:14,446

So, aside from that last game, very impressive scores, you know,

864

00:39:14,486 --> 00:39:20,891

30, over 30, game and \$17,000 in the first game of the finals.

865

00:39:20,891 --> 00:39:23,481

That's a winning score many days, you know.

866

00:39:23,581 --> 00:39:24,021

For sure.

867

00:39:24,471 --> 00:39:27,711

Yeah, I actually had no idea what the correct scores are so,

868

00:39:27,711 --> 00:39:30,131

uh, hearing it for the first time, I mean, I'm very flattered.

869

00:39:30,131 --> 00:39:30,321  
Thank you.

870  
00:39:31,391 --> 00:39:32,391  
Stats don't lie.

871  
00:39:32,461 --> 00:39:33,211  
Stats don't lie.

872  
00:39:33,241 --> 00:39:33,731  
That's true.

873  
00:39:33,741 --> 00:39:33,941  
Yeah.

874  
00:39:33,951 --> 00:39:35,531  
Yeah, I mean, 100 percent correct.

875  
00:39:35,551 --> 00:39:39,311  
I think it was mentioned when we were  
on the stage in that second final game

876  
00:39:39,351 --> 00:39:44,711  
that there were No incorrect answers, or  
maybe one incorrect answer in the entire

877  
00:39:44,831 --> 00:39:46,961  
first round in all of the Jeopardy round.

878  
00:39:47,021 --> 00:39:47,861  
That is correct.

879  
00:39:47,881 --> 00:39:49,611  
Yeah, and that doesn't happen very often.

880  
00:39:49,631 --> 00:39:52,421  
No, and, and that just goes to  
the fact that I think it really

881  
00:39:52,421 --> 00:39:53,561  
could have been anybody's game.

882

00:39:53,661 --> 00:39:57,271

And I think everyone prepared hard  
and, and played a super hard game.

883

00:39:57,271 --> 00:40:00,271

So, you know, good to show up and  
play against some nine to five players

884

00:40:00,271 --> 00:40:01,151

who really know what they're doing.

885

00:40:01,646 --> 00:40:07,116

Now, have you been able to see the  
other champions wildcard groups on AFN?

886

00:40:07,186 --> 00:40:09,816

I actually, honestly, I  
have not watched any of it.

887

00:40:09,866 --> 00:40:12,956

I have had a watch party  
for my quarterfinals.

888

00:40:13,026 --> 00:40:15,076

It's gaining traction at the headquarters.

889

00:40:15,096 --> 00:40:17,836

People are starting to ask me  
about it and, and kind of, you

890

00:40:17,836 --> 00:40:19,126

know, fist bump in the hallways.

891

00:40:19,126 --> 00:40:23,476

And, uh, it's interesting to be kind  
of a minor, very minor local celebrity.

892

00:40:23,476 --> 00:40:27,386

But, uh, no, I really have not watched  
too much of the rest of the tournament.

893

00:40:27,576 --> 00:40:30,916

Although, it has been popping  
up on social media for me, other

894

00:40:31,106 --> 00:40:34,076  
players games, other games that  
I remember witnessing in person.

895

00:40:34,116 --> 00:40:34,476  
Yeah.

896

00:40:34,536 --> 00:40:37,996  
Well, I ask only because each of  
our Champions wildcard groups,

897

00:40:37,996 --> 00:40:40,383  
each of the suits, has really, you  
know, taken pride in their suit.

898

00:40:40,383 --> 00:40:42,646  
And so, I just have to find out from you.

899

00:40:42,886 --> 00:40:46,206  
You have not much to compare it to,  
but I have to think that you would be

900

00:40:46,206 --> 00:40:49,426  
willing to say that the hearts are the  
best of the four suits that have played.

901

00:40:49,566 --> 00:40:50,126  
Absolutely.

902

00:40:50,246 --> 00:40:50,966  
A hundred percent.

903

00:40:51,016 --> 00:40:52,176  
I mean, I think it's clear.

904

00:40:52,176 --> 00:40:54,076  
Best for last, obviously.

905

00:40:54,266 --> 00:40:54,706

Uh huh.

906

00:40:55,556 --> 00:40:58,986

I know you can't agree with me officially,  
but we see what's happening here.

907

00:40:59,716 --> 00:41:03,196

As you and Nick might say, the  
hearts will go on with Youngsheng.

908

00:41:03,216 --> 00:41:04,186

I want to ask,

909

00:41:04,526 --> 00:41:05,956

sorry, that's Buzzy's favorite.

910

00:41:05,956 --> 00:41:06,556

That's my favorite joke.

911

00:41:06,556 --> 00:41:09,946

He loves saying it, so you gave him  
another chance to do so thank you tyler.

912

00:41:09,986 --> 00:41:12,706

You know, I do feel a sense of a  
kindred spirit with you, Tyler, because

913

00:41:12,706 --> 00:41:15,886

I also like, you know, dressing up  
for your own confidence, playing

914

00:41:15,936 --> 00:41:18,196

aggressively to build in that confidence.

915

00:41:18,336 --> 00:41:22,711

What happens when you get to the  
final and You, looking very good in

916

00:41:22,711 --> 00:41:27,241

your dress uniform, is up against  
Youngsheng, who, former winner

917

00:41:27,261 --> 00:41:28,891  
of Best Dressed at the Jeopardy!

918  
00:41:28,891 --> 00:41:30,681  
Honors, and looking very good.

919  
00:41:30,681 --> 00:41:32,331  
Did that get into your head at all?

920  
00:41:32,601 --> 00:41:32,801  
Mm hmm.

921  
00:41:33,271 --> 00:41:33,831  
That's right.

922  
00:41:33,841 --> 00:41:34,291  
That's right.

923  
00:41:34,291 --> 00:41:35,081  
Style champion.

924  
00:41:35,201 --> 00:41:35,791  
I forgot about that.

925  
00:41:36,376 --> 00:41:39,526  
Uh, honestly, no, I had a lot of  
confidence in what I was wearing,

926  
00:41:39,796 --> 00:41:42,826  
that Sam Brown belt, those,  
ribbons and those shooting badges.

927  
00:41:42,826 --> 00:41:43,606  
They help a lot.

928  
00:41:43,696 --> 00:41:48,256  
Uh, nobody else gets to have exactly that  
amount of swag on what they're wearing,

929  
00:41:48,256 --> 00:41:52,846  
but I have to admit he is a very stylish  
gentleman and his outfits, all of his

930  
00:41:52,846 --> 00:41:54,936  
games, absolutely impeccably dressed.

931  
00:41:55,051 --> 00:41:58,971  
Well, you're someone who clearly has a  
lot of discipline, a must, to you know,

932  
00:41:59,021 --> 00:42:02,051  
have your career and be successful at it.

933  
00:42:02,131 --> 00:42:04,441  
I'm going to ask you one of my questions  
and it's going to tie into this.

934  
00:42:04,451 --> 00:42:09,701  
What is your lunch order when you are  
here eating at the Sony commissary?

935  
00:42:09,701 --> 00:42:12,531  
We're on to the James Lipton, what  
do you want to be asked by Alex

936  
00:42:12,541 --> 00:42:13,771  
Trebek at the Pearly Gates questions.

937  
00:42:13,801 --> 00:42:14,391  
Exactly.

938  
00:42:14,391 --> 00:42:15,641  
Pretty much, we've gotten there, yep.

939  
00:42:15,691 --> 00:42:15,951  
Yep.

940  
00:42:16,731 --> 00:42:20,451  
Okay, uh, so my lunch order  
both days, I have to admit.

941  
00:42:20,771 --> 00:42:23,731  
Even though I was very excited to see  
how everybody else did in the hearts

942  
00:42:23,741 --> 00:42:27,521  
category, during my intermission day I  
locked myself in the hotel room to study

943  
00:42:27,531 --> 00:42:31,131  
because I knew I had to perform that next  
day So I only have two lunch orders and

944  
00:42:31,131 --> 00:42:32,641  
they were exactly the same both times.

945  
00:42:32,831 --> 00:42:33,591  
I could have guessed.

946  
00:42:33,591 --> 00:42:34,511  
This is not surprising.

947  
00:42:34,521 --> 00:42:37,291  
Yeah I'm a salad bar guy.

948  
00:42:37,381 --> 00:42:40,621  
For the protein I got some hard boiled  
eggs and I went with I think it was the

949  
00:42:40,621 --> 00:42:43,861  
salmon is what I got, oil and vinegar.

950  
00:42:44,526 --> 00:42:48,076  
And then on that second day, just  
to keep hydrated, honestly, cause

951  
00:42:48,396 --> 00:42:51,096  
you sweat more than you think  
when you're playing the game live.

952  
00:42:51,106 --> 00:42:52,656  
Especially in that wool dress uniform.

953  
00:42:53,846 --> 00:42:54,836  
Right, right.



954

00:42:55,076 --> 00:42:57,736

Uh, the air conditioning helps, but only so much.

955

00:42:57,756 --> 00:43:01,776

And uh, I was a salad and Gatorade kind of guy, which I know sounds pretty

956

00:43:01,776 --> 00:43:03,986

gross, but it worked out, I think.

957

00:43:05,036 --> 00:43:06,206

All right, future Jeopardy!

958

00:43:06,206 --> 00:43:06,921

contestants, you've heard it here from Tyler.

959

00:43:06,921 --> 00:43:09,596

Just want to say we're not so different after all, Tyler.

960

00:43:09,596 --> 00:43:11,666

We may Anyway

961

00:43:13,246 --> 00:43:16,266

Is this the Michael Mann we sit across the table from each other and

962

00:43:16,276 --> 00:43:20,296

go, Ah, I see, you're in the music industry, I'm over here in Germany.

963

00:43:20,306 --> 00:43:21,776

Yeah, exactly.

964

00:43:21,816 --> 00:43:22,416

This is it.

965

00:43:22,846 --> 00:43:27,776

I know you don't have all of your stats, but is there something, a stat or an

966  
00:43:27,776 --> 00:43:30,626  
accomplishment that you're most proud of?

967  
00:43:30,886 --> 00:43:34,806  
Yes, I had to think about this a little  
bit, but I think it's the fact that I

968  
00:43:34,806 --> 00:43:39,506  
got 3 out of 4 of the final jeopardies  
correct in the wildcard tournament.

969  
00:43:39,576 --> 00:43:43,326  
I mean, that, to me, it pulled  
off every game for me, especially

970  
00:43:43,326 --> 00:43:45,666  
given my aggressive betting style.

971  
00:43:45,706 --> 00:43:48,836  
But at the same time, Kind of being  
able to pull it out and to think my

972  
00:43:48,836 --> 00:43:53,466  
way out of the box while the pressure  
was on and to have it count against

973  
00:43:53,466 --> 00:43:55,206  
such, such strong competitors.

974  
00:43:55,206 --> 00:43:56,956  
I mean, I think that's the  
thing I'm most proud of.

975  
00:43:57,356 --> 00:43:57,566  
Yeah.

976  
00:43:57,566 --> 00:44:02,636  
I think it takes a lot of mental fortitude  
to do that well consistently in final.

977  
00:44:02,816 --> 00:44:07,086

And also as we've talked about, the  
finals in champions wildcard have

978

00:44:07,086 --> 00:44:09,216  
been very tricky for contestants.

979

00:44:09,226 --> 00:44:14,446  
So that is a, I want to add heap on the  
praise for that three out of four final.

980

00:44:14,626 --> 00:44:15,106  
Well, thank you.

981

00:44:15,371 --> 00:44:17,941  
Well, and I think it's just been  
so great that you've been able to

982

00:44:17,941 --> 00:44:22,481  
represent the military so positively  
with your performance on the stage.

983

00:44:22,911 --> 00:44:26,941  
Can we hope that maybe others will  
see your performance and maybe

984

00:44:26,941 --> 00:44:28,091  
try to follow in your footsteps?

985

00:44:28,091 --> 00:44:29,371  
Can we get more auditions?

986

00:44:29,391 --> 00:44:31,971  
You know, wherever it be,  
it's just the anytime test.

987

00:44:31,971 --> 00:44:33,251  
You can take it from anywhere.

988

00:44:33,601 --> 00:44:34,951  
Are you touting that to others?

989

00:44:34,961 --> 00:44:38,411

Because I think we need more like  
you on the Alex Trebeck stage.

990

00:44:38,591 --> 00:44:42,041  
Well, I, I can only hope, and uh,  
speaking in a personal capacity, just

991

00:44:42,041 --> 00:44:45,161  
for myself, I would say, you know,  
to anybody, it's worth trying out,

992

00:44:45,161 --> 00:44:47,731  
but I will be sure to keep my eye  
out for good competitors at work.

993

00:44:47,781 --> 00:44:51,311  
So, what's been the best part,  
Tyler, now that you've had, you

994

00:44:51,311 --> 00:44:55,791  
know, two opportunities to come and  
compete on two different occasions?

995

00:44:55,801 --> 00:45:00,111  
Obviously, commute was a lot longer  
this time, but when you look back at

996

00:45:00,111 --> 00:45:01,181  
it all, what's been the highlight?

997

00:45:01,201 --> 00:45:02,731  
The highlight's gotta be the people I met.

998

00:45:02,946 --> 00:45:05,376  
I mentioned it a little in my  
first thanks, the crew and the

999

00:45:05,376 --> 00:45:07,946  
producers have all been really  
good every time I've been on.

1000

00:45:08,506 --> 00:45:11,086  
Um, always so encouraging,

so excited about the game.

1001

00:45:11,506 --> 00:45:12,766

That's been a strong memory.

1002

00:45:12,786 --> 00:45:15,946

The other players that I've played against, I mean, everybody I met

1003

00:45:15,946 --> 00:45:19,136

for the wildcard tournament, I mean, all such interesting people

1004

00:45:19,136 --> 00:45:20,916

with such diverse backgrounds.

1005

00:45:21,176 --> 00:45:22,536

They come from so many places.

1006

00:45:22,586 --> 00:45:25,616

My favorite part is always just kind of shaking hands and talking with

1007

00:45:25,616 --> 00:45:28,416

them in the green room before we all go up on stage and have to try

1008

00:45:28,416 --> 00:45:30,096

it out, try our metal all together.

1009

00:45:30,176 --> 00:45:32,526

Well, it has been a pleasure welcoming you back.

1010

00:45:32,546 --> 00:45:36,156

I thank you so much for representing on so many different levels.

1011

00:45:36,256 --> 00:45:38,026

And, you're not even 30, Tyler.

1012

00:45:38,026 --> 00:45:38,936

So, who knows?

1013

00:45:38,976 --> 00:45:39,546  
We'll see.

1014

00:45:39,576 --> 00:45:40,186  
We'll see what happens.

1015

00:45:40,186 --> 00:45:40,636  
Life is long.

1016

00:45:40,686 --> 00:45:42,026  
We'll see you next time you're in L.

1017

00:45:42,026 --> 00:45:42,096  
A.

1018

00:45:42,096 --> 00:45:44,486  
We'll see you at Trivia  
Night, at the very least.

1019

00:45:44,526 --> 00:45:45,396  
Or at the salad bar.

1020

00:45:45,516 --> 00:45:45,911  
For sure.

1021

00:45:45,911 --> 00:45:47,331  
You'll have to tell me which bar to go to.

1022

00:45:47,391 --> 00:45:47,791  
I will.

1023

00:45:48,391 --> 00:45:50,131  
Alright, thanks so much  
for joining us, Tyler.

1024

00:45:50,131 --> 00:45:50,191  
Take care.

1025

00:45:50,191 --> 00:45:50,591

Thank you both.

1026

00:45:51,991 --> 00:45:53,511

So great to catch up with Tyler.

1027

00:45:53,511 --> 00:45:54,111

What a guy.

1028

00:45:54,421 --> 00:45:58,901

That he is actually staying on to  
complete his orders in Germany, postponed

1029

00:45:58,901 --> 00:46:02,941

his grad school, but he's going to be  
headed back to grad school in the fall.

1030

00:46:02,951 --> 00:46:05,311

The future's so bright,  
he's got to wear sunglasses.

1031

00:46:05,591 --> 00:46:06,071

Yes.

1032

00:46:06,131 --> 00:46:06,781

Aviators.

1033

00:46:06,961 --> 00:46:07,481

Yes.

1034

00:46:08,831 --> 00:46:10,701

All right, that is it for today's show.

1035

00:46:10,711 --> 00:46:13,991

Join us next week for more Second  
Chance Highlights, and we will be

1036

00:46:13,991 --> 00:46:16,091

discussing the first Celebrity Jeopardy!

1037

00:46:16,101 --> 00:46:21,701

semi final featuring Utkarsh and  
Mira Sorvino and Lisa Ann Walter.

1038

00:46:22,101 --> 00:46:25,081

This is probably one of my  
favorite games of the season.

1039

00:46:25,511 --> 00:46:26,851

That's going to return to primetime.

1040

00:46:26,851 --> 00:46:29,181

It's new night tomorrow at 8 PM.

1041

00:46:29,641 --> 00:46:29,941

Plus

1042

00:46:29,941 --> 00:46:32,491

you'll get to hear from the  
winner of that semifinal game.

1043

00:46:32,561 --> 00:46:36,641

So you better subscribe to this  
podcast and follow us at Jeopardy

1044

00:46:36,651 --> 00:46:40,091

on Instagram, on Facebook, on  
YouTube, on Tik TOK, on twitter.

1045

00:46:40,301 --> 00:46:41,501

com, which is called X.

1046

00:46:41,551 --> 00:46:43,141

And we will see you all next week.