

## EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE: 4/17/20 7:30 P.M. ET/4:30 P.M. PT

## UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA SOPHOMORE WINS 2020 'JEOPARDY!' COLLEGE CHAMPIONSHIP

## Indiana University Senior Tyler Combs Places Second; U.S.C. Sophomore Xiaoke Ying Finishes Third

CULVER CITY, CALIF. (April 17, 2020) – Nibir Sarma, a sophomore at the University of Minnesota (Minneapolis, Minn.) from Eden Prairie, Minn., won the **JEOPARDY!** College Championship presented by LendingTree® today, claiming the \$100,000 grand prize and a berth in the next edition of the Tournament of Champions. Tyler Combs, a senior at Indiana University (Bloomington, Ind.) from Greenfield, Ind., placed second and took home \$50,000, while Xiaoke Ying, a sophomore at the University of Southern California (Los Angeles, Calif.) from Arcadia, Calif., came in third and walked away with \$25,000.

Sarma, who is pursuing a major in Chemical Engineering and minors in Math and Computer Science, is the first student from the University of Minnesota to win the **JEOPARDY!** College Championship.

"I'm so proud and happy to represent the state of Minnesota, and also represent students at large public universities who sort of get viewed in a different way than, say, some private colleges," said Sarma. "I really love representing my hometown college and my community. I'm hoping, since Minnesota isn't featured that often in national conversation, that I can bring some attention to our area and to the whole state that made me into the person I am today."

Sarma will represent his home state once again when he returns for the Tournament of Champions.

"I know the competition there will be very tough and the questions will be a lot harder, so I'm planning on studying a lot more for that tournament as it gets closer," Sarma said. "For now, I'm just relaxing. It's still on the horizon, but I don't want to stress myself out more than I have to. I just won \$100 grand; I feel like I can afford to relax a bit!"

The **JEOPARDY!** College Championship was presented by LendingTree®. To learn more about the tournament, please visit <u>Jeopardy.com</u>.

**JEOPARDY!**, America's Favorite Quiz Show™, and its host Alex Trebek are in their 36<sup>th</sup> season in syndication. With a weekly audience of 23 million viewers, **JEOPARDY!** is the top-rated quiz show on television, and has received numerous awards and honors, including the 2019 Emmy for Outstanding Game Show Host. The show holds the Guinness World Records® title for the most Emmy® Awards won by a TV game show (35 Emmys); it is also the recipient of a 2011 Peabody Award. **JEOPARDY!** is produced by Sony Pictures Television, a Sony Pictures Entertainment Company; it is distributed domestically by CBS Television Distribution and internationally by CBS Television International, both units of CBS Corp. For more information, please visit Jeopardy.com. Follow **JEOPARDY!**: Facebook | Twitter | YouTube | Instagram

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