

1  
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:07,800  
From the Alex Trebek Stage at Sony  
Pictures Studios, this is Inside Jeopardy!.

2  
00:00:07,860 --> 00:00:08,039  
Wow.

3  
00:00:08,305 --> 00:00:08,525  
Wow.

4  
00:00:08,850 --> 00:00:09,390  
I love it.

5  
00:00:09,395 --> 00:00:10,080  
Thank you.

6  
00:00:10,410 --> 00:00:13,710  
Johnny Guitar Gilbert , uh, I love that.

7  
00:00:13,770 --> 00:00:15,480  
Uh, needed that again today.

8  
00:00:15,480 --> 00:00:18,645  
I'm having hard days right now,  
producer Phos, and so I need.

9  
00:00:19,180 --> 00:00:21,490  
More Johnny Guitar Gilbert in my life.

10  
00:00:21,490 --> 00:00:24,439  
Welcome back to Inside Jeopardy,  
your exclusive and official

11  
00:00:24,440 --> 00:00:26,490  
podcast destination for all things  
happening in the world of Jeopardy.

12  
00:00:26,490 --> 00:00:27,059  
I'm Michael Davies.

13  
00:00:27,059 --> 00:00:29,830

As I've said, I'm joined  
today by producer, Sarah Foss.

14  
00:00:29,830 --> 00:00:30,839  
Hey, Sarah, how are you doing?

15  
00:00:30,840 --> 00:00:31,979  
Well, I'm doing well.

16  
00:00:31,990 --> 00:00:35,750  
You know, we had a big week last  
week, three days in the studio of

17  
00:00:35,750 --> 00:00:40,510  
regular Jeopardy, lots of good shows  
under our belt and some exciting

18  
00:00:40,800 --> 00:00:42,370  
new champions already emerging.

19  
00:00:42,429 --> 00:00:43,429  
Yeah, yeah.

20  
00:00:43,489 --> 00:00:44,720  
Really amazing.

21  
00:00:44,990 --> 00:00:48,430  
Uh, to be back in there with  
regular contestants, we're

22  
00:00:48,430 --> 00:00:49,420  
just having a great time.

23  
00:00:49,420 --> 00:00:51,900  
It's like, spring is in the  
air in every single way.

24  
00:00:51,900 --> 00:00:56,170  
You're wearing your cherry blossom  
dress, uh, and, uh, spring is in the air.

25  
00:00:56,219 --> 00:00:56,469

As I

26

00:00:56,469 --> 00:00:59,090  
told you, if I wear pink, I'm  
going to make spring happen.

27

00:00:59,150 --> 00:00:59,659  
Very good.

28

00:00:59,820 --> 00:01:00,639  
That's a very good thing.

29

00:01:00,710 --> 00:01:05,019  
Another thing that dropped last  
week was the Jit List, Michael.

30

00:01:05,050 --> 00:01:08,480  
And the response people,  
they can't believe it.

31

00:01:08,510 --> 00:01:10,880  
I would say shock and awe.

32

00:01:10,930 --> 00:01:11,270  
I have.

33

00:01:11,560 --> 00:01:16,810  
felt the love of this list of 27 that  
we have come up with some surprises.

34

00:01:16,840 --> 00:01:21,100  
Yeah, Claire McNear, a journalist of  
record for Jeopardy, great friend of

35

00:01:21,589 --> 00:01:26,110  
the pod, tweeted out yesterday after  
reading the list, Yeah, yeah, Jeopardy

36

00:01:26,110 --> 00:01:29,349  
tournament fatigue, but look who's  
going to show up for the Jeopardy

37

00:01:29,350 --> 00:01:31,920  
Invitational Tournament, all in caps.

38  
00:01:31,935 --> 00:01:36,275  
Yes, I think, in particular, people have  
been talking about Brandon Blackwell

39  
00:01:36,295 --> 00:01:42,074  
and Victoria Gross, not people who were  
necessarily on the radar as Jeopardy

40  
00:01:42,074 --> 00:01:45,064  
greats, but you have to remember,  
Victoria Gross defeated none other

41  
00:01:45,064 --> 00:01:47,545  
than David Madden, a 19 game champion.

42  
00:01:47,824 --> 00:01:50,745  
We hadn't seen her, you know, back  
on Jeopardy for several years, but

43  
00:01:50,745 --> 00:01:53,864  
certainly she has made her mark  
as the queen on the chase, and

44  
00:01:53,864 --> 00:01:55,144  
the same with Brandon Blackwell.

45  
00:01:55,154 --> 00:01:59,114  
You know, he participated in Teen  
Tournament Jeopardy, you know,

46  
00:01:59,115 --> 00:02:02,170  
so Look how he has come along  
in the trivia world since then.

47  
00:02:02,460 --> 00:02:03,610  
Really excited to have those two.

48  
00:02:03,610 --> 00:02:04,140  
Yes, they both

49

00:02:04,140 --> 00:02:07,690  
have provenance, as they would  
say in the, in the wine world.

50

00:02:07,789 --> 00:02:08,250  
Yes.

51

00:02:08,289 --> 00:02:11,909  
And of course, so many others that people  
are talking about, Chuck Forrest, you

52

00:02:11,910 --> 00:02:16,109  
know, the Forrest Bounce, one of the  
OG greats of Jeopardy is coming back.

53

00:02:16,470 --> 00:02:20,040  
We also have Colby Burnett,  
Lily Chin, Arthur Chew, Leonard

54

00:02:20,040 --> 00:02:23,830  
Cooper, Celeste DiNucci, the last  
female to win the Tournament of

55

00:02:23,830 --> 00:02:25,390  
Champions before Amy Schneider.

56

00:02:25,390 --> 00:02:25,754  
Bye for now.

57

00:02:25,805 --> 00:02:29,975  
We have Dhruv Garve, you know, no one  
can forget his, we love you Alex moment.

58

00:02:30,605 --> 00:02:33,445  
Andrew He, of course, is coming  
back along with Sam Buttrey and

59

00:02:33,455 --> 00:02:37,395  
Amy Schneider, our Masters fourth,  
fifth, and sixth place finishers.

60

00:02:37,895 --> 00:02:40,835

Ben Ingram, just so many  
great TOC champions.

61  
00:02:41,055 --> 00:02:44,605  
Matt Jackson, Alex Jacob,  
another TOC winner.

62  
00:02:45,035 --> 00:02:49,305  
Mackenzie Jones, Sam Kavanaugh,  
Larissa Kelly, Allen Lin, David

63  
00:02:49,305 --> 00:02:53,614  
Madden, the one who Victoria Gross  
defeated, Pam Mueller, Terry O'Shea,

64  
00:02:53,614 --> 00:02:58,265  
Dan Pauson, Jennifer Quayle, Austin  
Rogers, Monica Tu, Jason Zafranieri.

65  
00:02:59,304 --> 00:02:59,544  
Whew.

66  
00:03:00,045 --> 00:03:00,695  
I'm so excited.

67  
00:03:00,764 --> 00:03:01,424  
Well, yeah.

68  
00:03:01,454 --> 00:03:05,614  
And everybody listening, you now get  
to have the same pre JIT excitement

69  
00:03:05,625 --> 00:03:10,075  
that we had in Jeopardy production time  
previously, before we made the JIT.

70  
00:03:10,765 --> 00:03:14,045  
We've now produced the JIT and  
we know how sensational it is.

71  
00:03:14,450 --> 00:03:18,810  
Um, and we're just excited for all of you  
to see these legendary players compete

72

00:03:18,859 --> 00:03:25,019  
against each other on the Alex Trebek  
stage and, um, yeah, it, it is strong.

73

00:03:25,519 --> 00:03:29,709  
Well, one thing we knew is that we wanted  
to make this field big, we wanted to

74

00:03:29,709 --> 00:03:34,324  
include as many champions as we could,  
and that's why we did have that field.

75

00:03:34,325 --> 00:03:35,315  
field of 27.

76

00:03:35,315 --> 00:03:37,105  
Of course, we couldn't include everyone.

77

00:03:37,375 --> 00:03:41,765  
We did talk about on the pod earlier  
that we had, we had gone pre 2022

78

00:03:41,765 --> 00:03:43,424  
Tournament of Champions season.

79

00:03:43,424 --> 00:03:46,325  
We were looking for those people  
who hadn't had a chance yet to

80

00:03:46,325 --> 00:03:48,114  
make it into the Masters Pyramid.

81

00:03:48,464 --> 00:03:52,075  
And of course, there were folks who we  
reached out to who weren't available

82

00:03:52,075 --> 00:03:53,405  
for a number of different reasons.

83

00:03:53,719 --> 00:03:56,619  
I want to make sure everyone

knows that Brad Rutter, Julia

84

00:03:56,619 --> 00:04:00,879  
Collins, Roger Craig, and Emma  
Boettcher all did receive invites.

85

00:04:01,249 --> 00:04:05,149  
And like I said, for a variety of reasons,  
they weren't able to compete with us in

86

00:04:05,149 --> 00:04:09,019  
this JIT, but we certainly hope we'll be  
able to welcome them back at a future one.

87

00:04:09,159 --> 00:04:10,049  
Absolutely.

88

00:04:10,159 --> 00:04:10,989  
Absolutely.

89

00:04:11,019 --> 00:04:15,529  
You know, it seems like a, a remarkable  
reception, uh, to the JIT field, but you

90

00:04:15,529 --> 00:04:17,409  
just wait until you see the episodes.

91

00:04:17,589 --> 00:04:20,730  
And it's all coming out in this  
really special time, Michael.

92

00:04:20,730 --> 00:04:22,680  
And that is The Jeopardy!

93

00:04:22,680 --> 00:04:25,320  
60th Diamond Celebration!

94

00:04:25,340 --> 00:04:26,590  
Just like a diamond, Michael.

95

00:04:26,620 --> 00:04:27,240  
Jeopardy!



96

00:04:27,500 --> 00:04:28,090  
is forever.

97

00:04:28,250 --> 00:04:32,690  
Yes, the release has gone out  
in the last 24 hours that we are

98

00:04:32,719 --> 00:04:34,130  
celebrating, beyond just Jeopardy!

99

00:04:34,520 --> 00:04:35,299  
for Jeopardy!

100

00:04:35,299 --> 00:04:38,930  
's 60th birthday, we are having  
an entire year of celebrations.

101

00:04:38,930 --> 00:04:42,880  
We're going to be celebrating our  
diamond anniversary, um, 60 years.

102

00:04:43,020 --> 00:04:45,405  
My quote on the press release,  
Uh, 60 years ago, Merv Griffin and

103

00:04:46,725 --> 00:04:50,025  
his wife, Julanne, created a quiz  
show that remains as unique and

104

00:04:50,025 --> 00:04:52,415  
exciting today as it was in 1964.

105

00:04:52,465 --> 00:04:55,785  
It is only fitting to honor their creation  
and the show's enduring legacy with a

106

00:04:55,785 --> 00:04:59,594  
meaningful celebration that pays tribute  
to the show's past and to its future, and

107

00:04:59,594 --> 00:05:04,545

we want to invite every fan to celebrate  
alongside us as this will be Jeopardy!

108

00:05:04,545 --> 00:05:06,185  
's biggest and best year yet.

109

00:05:06,515 --> 00:05:10,925  
Um, you know, I, as you know, I  
started my career working for Merv.

110

00:05:11,005 --> 00:05:12,625  
I am constantly reflecting.

111

00:05:13,205 --> 00:05:18,365  
On this remarkable program that Mervyn  
Julan created, you know I've said it

112

00:05:18,375 --> 00:05:21,574  
multiple times on this podcast when I  
go back and watch the original pilot

113

00:05:21,585 --> 00:05:27,110  
episode and I see how close what we do  
today, it's advanced, it's come along.

114

00:05:27,120 --> 00:05:27,550  
Sure.

115

00:05:27,630 --> 00:05:31,460  
But it is so close to the  
original program that was created.

116

00:05:31,480 --> 00:05:36,300  
It is a remarkable feat, not just in  
the world of quiz shows and game shows.

117

00:05:36,429 --> 00:05:39,580  
It's a remarkable feat  
in American television.

118

00:05:39,589 --> 00:05:41,850  
It's a remarkable feat  
in global television.

119

00:05:41,970 --> 00:05:47,320  
And that we and you get to enjoy  
this to, you know, to this day,

120

00:05:47,320 --> 00:05:51,320  
it's just a, I am constantly  
reflecting on how much we owe them.

121

00:05:51,320 --> 00:05:51,370  
It's

122

00:05:52,005 --> 00:05:55,745  
And we're going to celebrate this  
diamond celebration all year long.

123

00:05:56,035 --> 00:05:58,945  
We're going to be visiting  
various cities across the country.

124

00:05:59,215 --> 00:06:03,395  
We're going to be launching a bar  
trivia game that is so exciting.

125

00:06:03,724 --> 00:06:08,104  
And we're going to kick off our  
multi city tour just after Jeopardy!

126

00:06:08,114 --> 00:06:10,635  
Day, a couple weeks later  
on Friday, April 12th.

127

00:06:10,935 --> 00:06:13,825  
We are going to have our  
first ever Inside Jeopardy!

128

00:06:13,825 --> 00:06:14,975  
live on tour.

129

00:06:14,995 --> 00:06:16,215  
Michael and I will be there.

130

00:06:16,445 --> 00:06:17,775  
We have special guests like Michael.

131  
00:06:17,920 --> 00:06:22,120  
Host Ken Jennings, upcoming masters  
Mateo Roach and Matt Amodio,

132  
00:06:22,330 --> 00:06:24,250  
Katie Nolan of Celebrity Jeopardy!

133  
00:06:24,250 --> 00:06:26,140  
fame will all be there.

134  
00:06:26,260 --> 00:06:28,719  
Austin Rogers is going to  
be serving up some Jeopardy!

135  
00:06:28,719 --> 00:06:32,740  
themed cocktails for our VIP guests,  
and we are so excited about this.

136  
00:06:32,770 --> 00:06:34,359  
Ken's going to host an interactive game.

137  
00:06:34,530 --> 00:06:38,455  
It's happening at The Edge at Hudson  
Yards, this beautiful Beautiful

138  
00:06:38,455 --> 00:06:41,555  
facility where you can see the  
island of Manhattan as far as the eye

139  
00:06:41,555 --> 00:06:45,594  
can see and we're just going to be  
celebrating Jeopardy all year long.

140  
00:06:45,624 --> 00:06:48,734  
Yeah first ever inside jeopardy live  
on tour That's going to be happening on

141  
00:06:48,744 --> 00:06:52,184  
Friday April 12th tickets on sale at 12 p.

142  
00:06:52,184 --> 00:06:52,304  
m.

143  
00:06:52,324 --> 00:06:53,354  
Eastern Time 9 a.

144  
00:06:53,354 --> 00:06:53,554  
m.

145  
00:06:53,554 --> 00:06:58,234  
Pacific Time on March 27th  
we have a limited capacity.

146  
00:06:58,244 --> 00:06:58,634  
This is true.

147  
00:06:58,694 --> 00:06:58,924  
These

148  
00:06:58,924 --> 00:07:03,264  
are gonna go very very fast So we  
encourage you if you're interested

149  
00:07:03,264 --> 00:07:05,685  
remember those times that is 12 p.

150  
00:07:05,685 --> 00:07:05,825  
m.

151  
00:07:05,825 --> 00:07:06,765  
Eastern Time, 9 a.

152  
00:07:06,765 --> 00:07:06,905  
m.

153  
00:07:06,905 --> 00:07:09,094  
Pacific Time on March 27th.

154  
00:07:09,175 --> 00:07:13,594  
Tickets will be available at [www](http://www).

155

00:07:13,594 --> 00:07:13,895  
edgenyc.

156

00:07:13,914 --> 00:07:18,094  
com forward slash en  
forward slash jeopardy.

157

00:07:18,275 --> 00:07:21,525  
You know, when I stood up there on  
the edge when I first went to scout

158

00:07:21,905 --> 00:07:24,914  
the location, I had this moment  
because you're right, you can see

159

00:07:24,914 --> 00:07:26,334  
the whole of Manhattan stretched out.

160

00:07:26,354 --> 00:07:30,914  
You see across the Hudson River  
to the East River, all of the

161

00:07:30,924 --> 00:07:32,744  
bridges up to Central Park.

162

00:07:33,330 --> 00:07:38,770  
You know, the Bronx beyond New Jersey,  
Brooklyn, Staten Island, like you see

163

00:07:38,830 --> 00:07:44,349  
everything and I just imagined how many  
clues I came back and I was a nightmare

164

00:07:44,349 --> 00:07:49,570  
for like 48 hours because I wanted to  
develop technology so that we could, we

165

00:07:49,570 --> 00:07:53,060  
could, you could check your phone and you  
could see every clue that was ever written

166

00:07:53,060 --> 00:07:54,580

that you could see with your own eyes.

167

00:07:54,760 --> 00:07:58,950

You know, from Central Park to the, to the, to the, to the Statue of Liberty,

168

00:07:58,950 --> 00:08:03,250

to all of the bridges, to all of the boroughs and all of the landmarks, like

169

00:08:03,250 --> 00:08:07,390

there must be so much geotagged Jeopardy material that is sitting out there.

170

00:08:07,399 --> 00:08:09,170

I was just very inspired by the location.

171

00:08:09,220 --> 00:08:10,300

And we're going to get there, Michael.

172

00:08:10,300 --> 00:08:12,709

Maybe not by April 12th, but I love that idea.

173

00:08:12,709 --> 00:08:13,389

We're going to get there.

174

00:08:13,440 --> 00:08:16,610

And Jeopardy was birthed 60 years ago in Manhattan, on

175

00:08:16,610 --> 00:08:18,620

Manhattan, at the old NBC studios.

176

00:08:18,670 --> 00:08:21,130

Um, and that's, that's where it started its life.

177

00:08:21,270 --> 00:08:26,120

Seems very fitting to celebrate our 60th birthday in that very important city.

178

00:08:26,620 --> 00:08:30,129  
If you were watching television  
yesterday, you caught a profile piece

179  
00:08:30,170 --> 00:08:34,720  
on our very own host, Ken Jennings,  
featured on CBS Sunday morning.

180  
00:08:35,060 --> 00:08:36,189  
And this was really fun.

181  
00:08:36,199 --> 00:08:36,390  
It's my

182  
00:08:36,390 --> 00:08:38,110  
favorite television program  
that is not Jeopardy.

183  
00:08:38,660 --> 00:08:39,280  
It's true.

184  
00:08:39,480 --> 00:08:41,429  
And they sent a crew here last week.

185  
00:08:41,429 --> 00:08:44,109  
It was a really quick turnaround  
for them, but so fun to see them

186  
00:08:44,389 --> 00:08:46,000  
getting to see Ken in action.

187  
00:08:46,000 --> 00:08:48,040  
They also visited him in Seattle.

188  
00:08:48,040 --> 00:08:49,120  
So if you haven't had a chance.

189  
00:08:49,525 --> 00:08:50,575  
to watch that piece.

190  
00:08:50,635 --> 00:08:53,995  
Find it if you can, because



it's a really great look behind

191

00:08:54,005 --> 00:08:55,345  
the man that is Ken Jennings.

192

00:08:55,345 --> 00:08:58,245  
And, you know, he's coming  
up on his 20th anniversary.

193

00:08:58,305 --> 00:08:58,755  
Amazing.

194

00:08:58,805 --> 00:09:00,325  
Of appearing here on Jeopardy.

195

00:09:00,325 --> 00:09:01,925  
So lots to celebrate for him as well.

196

00:09:02,125 --> 00:09:02,435  
Yeah.

197

00:09:02,524 --> 00:09:05,405  
So many other things are going to be  
announced in the course of the year

198

00:09:05,405 --> 00:09:07,294  
for this, uh, Diamond Celebration.

199

00:09:07,354 --> 00:09:10,824  
Um, other tour stops, some other things.

200

00:09:11,100 --> 00:09:14,780  
That even you don't know, Sarah Foss, that  
are going to be announced over the course.

201

00:09:14,780 --> 00:09:18,130  
I know I have secrets from you  
even, um, of some other things

202

00:09:18,130 --> 00:09:20,329  
that are going to happen this year.

203

00:09:20,619 --> 00:09:26,729

Um, and so just very excited to,  
um, to celebrate this remarkable

204

00:09:26,730 --> 00:09:27,679

program with all of you.

205

00:09:27,900 --> 00:09:30,240

Well, there is lots to look  
forward to to celebrate.

206

00:09:30,240 --> 00:09:31,930

But right now in Jeopardy!

207

00:09:31,960 --> 00:09:36,170

airtime, we are in the midst of a very  
exciting tournament of champions final.

208

00:09:36,729 --> 00:09:39,639

We've got Yogesh Raut, three game  
champion from last season, six game

209

00:09:39,640 --> 00:09:43,530

champion from last season, Troy Meyer,  
and nine game champion Ben Chan.

210

00:09:43,779 --> 00:09:49,359

And as we kick off game five today,  
Ben Chan has already secured two wins.

211

00:09:49,410 --> 00:09:51,870

So it could all come to an end today.

212

00:09:52,260 --> 00:09:55,449

Or we could see this play out until  
all the way up till Wednesday.

213

00:09:55,730 --> 00:10:00,640

So as soon as we do crown our champion,  
our newest Jeopardy master, you can

214

00:10:00,640 --> 00:10:04,659

head to our YouTube channel and watch  
an exclusive interview with that winner.

215

00:10:04,910 --> 00:10:07,689  
And of course, after all of that,  
we're going to head straight into

216

00:10:07,689 --> 00:10:09,319  
the Jeopardy Invitational Tournament.

217

00:10:09,670 --> 00:10:10,810  
And today on the pod.

218

00:10:11,100 --> 00:10:14,240  
We mentioned them on the JIT list  
earlier, Amy, Andrew, and Sam.

219

00:10:14,520 --> 00:10:17,630  
They're going to join us to talk  
about how they are preparing to

220

00:10:17,630 --> 00:10:19,470  
return to the Alex Trebek stage.

221

00:10:19,500 --> 00:10:22,840  
But before we get to all that,  
let's head back to season 25 for

222

00:10:22,840 --> 00:10:24,309  
this week in Jeopardy history.

223

00:10:29,210 --> 00:10:30,470  
Let's go to Dan Pawson now.

224

00:10:30,915 --> 00:10:32,155  
Do we have George?

225

00:10:33,015 --> 00:10:33,545  
We do.

226

00:10:34,404 --> 00:10:35,844  
Do we have a large wager?

227

00:10:36,235 --> 00:10:37,274  
7, 000.

228

00:10:37,275 --> 00:10:39,875  
That gives you 26, 200 today.

229

00:10:40,125 --> 00:10:42,915  
Yesterday you had 22, 301.

230

00:10:43,155 --> 00:10:47,125  
You are now in the lead with 48, 501.

231

00:10:48,214 --> 00:10:48,795  
Larissa.

232

00:10:49,160 --> 00:10:51,720  
Not looking happy, you said, Philip.

233

00:10:52,570 --> 00:10:53,710  
What is it going to cost you?

234

00:10:55,550 --> 00:10:56,899  
15, 000.

235

00:10:57,080 --> 00:10:58,850  
That'll drop you to 6, 800.

236

00:10:58,860 --> 00:11:00,560  
We add that to yesterday's total.

237

00:11:00,560 --> 00:11:03,050  
That gives you a two day total of 31, 200.

238

00:11:03,050 --> 00:11:04,970  
And Dan Pawson, congratulations.

239

00:11:04,970 --> 00:11:06,941  
You are a quarter

240

00:11:06,941 --> 00:11:08,419  
million dollars richer.

241  
00:11:08,420 --> 00:11:09,029  
You are the Jeopardy!

242  
00:11:09,289 --> 00:11:09,489  
champion.

243  
00:11:09,689 --> 00:11:11,125  
Come on out here, Dan.

244  
00:11:11,125 --> 00:11:16,930  
Larissa Kelly is richer by 100, 000.

245  
00:11:16,930 --> 00:11:18,590  
And Aaron Schroeder, 50, 000.

246  
00:11:19,249 --> 00:11:19,769  
Way to go.

247  
00:11:19,770 --> 00:11:20,430  
What a game.

248  
00:11:20,810 --> 00:11:21,400  
What a plan.

249  
00:11:21,810 --> 00:11:24,790  
This is probably the best final  
we've ever had, ladies and gentlemen.

250  
00:11:24,790 --> 00:11:26,203  
Let's hear it for these three.

251  
00:11:26,203 --> 00:11:26,826  
That's

252  
00:11:26,826 --> 00:11:31,850  
right, it was March 24th, 2009,  
when nine game champion Dan Possum

253

00:11:31,850 --> 00:11:34,859  
became our Tournament of Champions  
winner after a two day total point

254  
00:11:34,859 --> 00:11:36,660  
affair against Larissa Kelly.

255  
00:11:36,880 --> 00:11:40,949  
Dan and Larissa will be back for  
the jit, but it didn't come easy.

256  
00:11:40,949 --> 00:11:43,939  
Larissa put on a dominant performance  
and actually held the lead after

257  
00:11:43,939 --> 00:11:47,579  
day one, carrying it into Final  
Jeopardy on day two, where she was

258  
00:11:47,579 --> 00:11:51,569  
unfortunately incorrect, allowing  
Dan to become our champion.

259  
00:11:52,030 --> 00:11:55,959  
And like I said, They will be back  
on the stage in a matter of days.

260  
00:11:56,110 --> 00:12:00,219  
We kicked off the week with our last  
semi final match between Luigi de

261  
00:12:00,219 --> 00:12:02,430  
Guzman, Troy Meyer, and Brian Henniger.

262  
00:12:02,459 --> 00:12:04,560  
This was a great battle  
between Luigi and Troy.

263  
00:12:04,809 --> 00:12:08,359  
Luigi seemed unstoppable, taking a big  
lead into Double Jeopardy, but then

264  
00:12:08,370 --> 00:12:12,099

Troy found the first Daily Double,  
and Double Jeopardy goes all in with

265

00:12:12,109 --> 00:12:14,349  
6, 800 to take the lead over Luigi.

266

00:12:14,410 --> 00:12:18,089  
He continued to build on the lead,  
eventually finding the last Daily Double

267

00:12:18,349 --> 00:12:20,079  
to head into final in first place.

268

00:12:20,305 --> 00:12:23,785  
But it was a triple stumper, so  
Troy, with a savvy wager, was able

269

00:12:23,785 --> 00:12:27,435  
to secure the win and the last  
spot in the TOC finals, joining, of

270

00:12:27,435 --> 00:12:29,724  
course, Ben Chen and Yogesh Raut.

271

00:12:30,305 --> 00:12:34,975  
Yeah, I mean, Luigi had beaten  
Javeria to get in here, and was almost

272

00:12:34,995 --> 00:12:38,720  
becoming, as we were watching this,  
Like, something of an outside bet to

273

00:12:38,810 --> 00:12:42,670  
go all the way had, like, really blown  
us away with his gameplay into this.

274

00:12:42,980 --> 00:12:46,310  
Uh, and this was a very,  
very strong game all around.

275

00:12:46,320 --> 00:12:47,559  
Like, we were watching the stats.

276  
00:12:47,559 --> 00:12:50,650  
I remember being there, watching the  
buzzer stats and the speed of the game.

277  
00:12:51,210 --> 00:12:54,579  
Well, and our social and digital team  
has actually reached out to our TOC

278  
00:12:54,610 --> 00:12:58,830  
contestants and said, Feel free to go  
on Reddit and go on to the, you know,

279  
00:12:58,830 --> 00:13:00,580  
recaps and talk about your experience.

280  
00:13:00,580 --> 00:13:04,190  
So it's really interesting to hear  
Luigi and others, you know, really

281  
00:13:04,190 --> 00:13:05,620  
give that contestant point of view.

282  
00:13:05,650 --> 00:13:06,180  
So if you haven't.

283  
00:13:06,605 --> 00:13:09,505  
Checked that out, make sure to do  
so, but let's take a listen to how

284  
00:13:09,505 --> 00:13:13,115  
our players were feeling after this  
very important semi final game.

285  
00:13:14,564 --> 00:13:16,515  
Boy, I love a game like that  
where everybody's cooking.

286  
00:13:16,515 --> 00:13:17,814  
Congratulations to all three of you.

287  
00:13:17,814 --> 00:13:18,905  
Fantastic play.



288  
00:13:19,074 --> 00:13:21,874  
Troy had a pretty big lead heading  
into final because of those daily

289  
00:13:21,874 --> 00:13:25,464  
doubles, but Luigi actually had  
22 correct responses to Troy's 19.

290  
00:13:25,965 --> 00:13:27,475  
So you needed those daily  
doubles to win, Troy.

291  
00:13:27,475 --> 00:13:27,815  
Yeah.

292  
00:13:28,075 --> 00:13:31,305  
Luck is the name of the game in  
Jeopardy a lot of the times, and I

293  
00:13:31,405 --> 00:13:32,885  
was just like, I'm just lucky today.

294  
00:13:32,954 --> 00:13:33,415  
Lucky today.

295  
00:13:33,454 --> 00:13:37,944  
I mean, Luigi was incredible, and Brian  
gave a really strong game, and I'm just

296  
00:13:37,954 --> 00:13:38,875  
Thank you for saying that.

297  
00:13:38,965 --> 00:13:39,295  
Very,

298  
00:13:39,605 --> 00:13:42,375  
very fortunate, very fortunate  
to get out of this game.

299  
00:13:42,584 --> 00:13:43,995  
Luigi, you played such a strong game.

300

00:13:44,005 --> 00:13:44,324

Thanks, Ken.

301

00:13:44,334 --> 00:13:46,795

Uh, like, there were parts of that game where I think Troy and Brian

302

00:13:46,865 --> 00:13:48,324

just could not get in at all.

303

00:13:48,324 --> 00:13:50,615

Like, you seemed dialed in on the buzzer.

304

00:13:50,615 --> 00:13:51,314

Is that how it felt to you?

305

00:13:51,649 --> 00:13:55,969

Yeah, it's you know, it's it's weird it comes and it goes and when people ask

306

00:13:55,969 --> 00:14:00,420

me what it's like up here I always tell them there's a five clue stretch in every

307

00:14:00,420 --> 00:14:03,959

game where you feel invincible It's true There's a five clue switch stretch in

308

00:14:03,959 --> 00:14:07,339

every game where you feel like garbage and most of the rest of the game is somewhere

309

00:14:07,409 --> 00:14:11,709

It's played somewhere in between and you know, this is you know, this is no field

310

00:14:11,709 --> 00:14:15,239

of slouches, especially Troy You know, I think a lot of people slept on Troy

311

00:14:15,439 --> 00:14:19,975

coming into this tournament I knew coming  
in that there wasn't anybody who was

312

00:14:19,975 --> 00:14:25,555  
going to be more prepped and more ready  
and more focused on the task than Troy.

313

00:14:25,964 --> 00:14:28,214  
So, you know, I was right.

314

00:14:28,594 --> 00:14:32,735  
And y'all, don't sleep on this guy.

315

00:14:33,015 --> 00:14:33,305  
No.

316

00:14:33,805 --> 00:14:34,924  
Congratulations to both of you.

317

00:14:34,924 --> 00:14:36,394  
Troy, we'll see you in the finals.

318

00:14:38,025 --> 00:14:39,445  
Yep, don't sleep on Troy.

319

00:14:40,345 --> 00:14:40,585  
I don't

320

00:14:40,675 --> 00:14:41,415  
think anyone will.

321

00:14:41,415 --> 00:14:42,535  
Yeah, ever.

322

00:14:42,845 --> 00:14:43,565  
Exactly.

323

00:14:43,935 --> 00:14:46,855  
Well, we started off the finals  
on Tuesday with Yogesh Raut,

324

00:14:46,865 --> 00:14:48,274  
Troy Meyer, and Ben Chan.

325  
00:14:48,285 --> 00:14:51,384  
It was a close Jeopardy round between  
all three players, but once again, Troy

326  
00:14:51,395 --> 00:14:55,254  
found that first Daily Double in Double  
Jeopardy, went all in with 9, 000.

327  
00:14:55,675 --> 00:15:00,075  
To take a commanding lead, he then lost  
6, 000 on the last Daily Double, but

328  
00:15:00,075 --> 00:15:03,495  
was able to finish the round strong to  
maintain the lead heading into Final.

329  
00:15:03,805 --> 00:15:07,134  
All three players in  
five digits over 10, 000.

330  
00:15:07,135 --> 00:15:11,694  
Both Ben and Yogesh were correct,  
and Ben comes from behind to

331  
00:15:11,694 --> 00:15:13,584  
notch the first win in the Finals.

332  
00:15:14,604 --> 00:15:18,954  
Yeah, this was a sort of, uh, uh,  
a pretty shocking moment on stage.

333  
00:15:18,954 --> 00:15:22,314  
I think we were all so excited to  
have the three of them, so excited

334  
00:15:22,545 --> 00:15:25,564  
to see what would happen with these  
giants of the game playing against

335  
00:15:25,564 --> 00:15:28,704

each other and an unexpected ending.

336

00:15:28,734 --> 00:15:32,394

You know, whenever you see that, that, that third place to first place jump in

337

00:15:32,395 --> 00:15:34,255

final, it's so possible within the game.

338

00:15:34,255 --> 00:15:37,785

It's what's written into, as you say all the time, Sarah, it's called Jeopardy.

339

00:15:38,084 --> 00:15:41,224

Uh, and, uh, you know, it can happen, but I think we're all

340

00:15:41,224 --> 00:15:42,515

shocked when it happened on stage.

341

00:15:43,065 --> 00:15:47,755

Well, and Ben and Yogesh we mentioned were both correct, but Yogesh wagered zero.

342

00:15:47,765 --> 00:15:51,045

So had he actually wagered enough to cover Ben, he would have won.

343

00:15:51,335 --> 00:15:54,555

We caught up with everyone to talk about that wager after the game.

344

00:15:54,925 --> 00:15:57,955

Let's see how Ben was feeling after securing a first win.

345

00:15:57,965 --> 00:15:57,975

I

346

00:15:59,105 --> 00:16:00,705

have to ask about the wager, Yogesh.

347

00:16:00,895 --> 00:16:01,934  
Zero dollars.

348  
00:16:02,604 --> 00:16:02,634  
That

349  
00:16:02,645 --> 00:16:02,985  
was pretty

350  
00:16:02,995 --> 00:16:03,365  
stupid.

351  
00:16:05,465 --> 00:16:05,725  
Do you

352  
00:16:05,725 --> 00:16:07,045  
remember what your thought process was?

353  
00:16:07,565 --> 00:16:12,095  
Yeah, I wrote down 6, 401, and then  
I, for some reason, crossed it out.

354  
00:16:12,265 --> 00:16:13,515  
It is pretty stressful up here.

355  
00:16:13,765 --> 00:16:15,284  
And of course, you never  
know what's going to happen.

356  
00:16:15,284 --> 00:16:16,785  
I mean, that's a very unusual outcome.

357  
00:16:17,165 --> 00:16:19,535  
Ben, you had no problem coming  
up with the correct response.

358  
00:16:19,635 --> 00:16:20,885  
How are you feeling about the outcome?

359  
00:16:21,075 --> 00:16:21,325  
Are you surprised?

360  
00:16:21,335 --> 00:16:21,795  
Um,

361  
00:16:21,945 --> 00:16:22,805  
yeah, I'm surprised.

362  
00:16:22,825 --> 00:16:24,305  
You know, I had a fun game.

363  
00:16:24,575 --> 00:16:26,305  
I delivered my lines with gusto.

364  
00:16:27,505 --> 00:16:29,195  
I don't think it was my strongest game.

365  
00:16:29,195 --> 00:16:33,914  
I would like a Patagonia poncho, but  
then I realized I think that's like, that

366  
00:16:33,914 --> 00:16:35,375  
would be an expensive poncho, you know?

367  
00:16:35,505 --> 00:16:35,795  
Even if

368  
00:16:36,005 --> 00:16:39,135  
Patagonia makes a Nanopuff poncho  
now, we're not going to retroactively

369  
00:16:39,135 --> 00:16:40,965  
get Nanopuff was in that clue, too?

370  
00:16:41,545 --> 00:16:41,715  
Yikes.

371  
00:16:41,995 --> 00:16:42,375  
Okay.

372  
00:16:42,765 --> 00:16:43,165  
Well.

373

00:16:43,590 --> 00:16:44,700  
I should read these clues.

374

00:16:44,750 --> 00:16:47,980  
But you came from third place to win  
the first game and you're, you're pretty

375

00:16:47,980 --> 00:16:49,270  
well positioned right now in the finals.

376

00:16:49,510 --> 00:16:53,309  
Right, it's been a different experience  
for me, um, in the past couple of days.

377

00:16:53,310 --> 00:16:57,229  
I was, uh, used to winning a certain  
way when I was on originally, and I've

378

00:16:57,229 --> 00:17:00,390  
gotten fortunate in my last two, two wins.

379

00:17:00,399 --> 00:17:01,720  
So I'll take it, right?

380

00:17:01,729 --> 00:17:04,690  
I don't want you to make any promises, but  
are we going to see more Ben Chen gusto?

381

00:17:05,159 --> 00:17:06,619  
Yeah, seems like,

382

00:17:06,619 --> 00:17:09,609  
seems like the thing to  
do in these circumstances.

383

00:17:09,669 --> 00:17:12,429  
Augusto won it for you before, but  
you've got two very tough competitors.

384

00:17:12,629 --> 00:17:13,970  
Troy and you guys are going  
to be back in game two.



385

00:17:15,240 --> 00:17:18,309

Yeah, we're making Ben work  
for it here in the finals.

386

00:17:18,309 --> 00:17:19,699

No runaways so far.

387

00:17:19,710 --> 00:17:19,730

Yeah.

388

00:17:20,514 --> 00:17:23,675

Heading into Wednesday for Game 2 of  
the finals, another tight Jeopardy!

389

00:17:23,675 --> 00:17:27,064

round, but Yogesh was able to double  
up and take the lead on the first

390

00:17:27,064 --> 00:17:28,464

Daily Double in Double Jeopardy!

391

00:17:28,695 --> 00:17:32,744

Troy then went on a tear, dominating the  
board and finding the last Daily Double,

392

00:17:33,125 --> 00:17:40,295

where he made a massive wager of 21,  
800 and was correct, skyrocketing his

393

00:17:40,295 --> 00:17:42,595

lead and cruising into a runaway win.

394

00:17:43,005 --> 00:17:48,985

Ken did point out that that wager, the  
third highest in history, biggest ever

395

00:17:48,985 --> 00:17:51,930

made by anyone, Not named James Holzhauer.

396

00:17:52,960 --> 00:17:56,690

Yeah, this was amazing, just looking

at these scores at the end of the game.

397

00:17:56,760 --> 00:17:59,499

Like, two scores over, over 40, 000.

398

00:17:59,500 --> 00:18:02,440

Uh, quite, uh, remarkable gameplay.

399

00:18:03,140 --> 00:18:06,230

Yeah, even Ben Chan went on Reddit to say, Looking through JArchive

400

00:18:06,630 --> 00:18:10,910

really quick, I think 48, 200 total Koreat in this game is higher than

401

00:18:10,960 --> 00:18:13,500

any of the games in the previous TOC.

402

00:18:14,115 --> 00:18:16,635

We did look, and we agree.

403

00:18:17,155 --> 00:18:17,785

This is impressive.

404

00:18:17,785 --> 00:18:18,865

Yes, the facts agree.

405

00:18:19,045 --> 00:18:20,075

The facts agree.

406

00:18:20,135 --> 00:18:23,894

Well, moving on to Thursday for Game 3, Troy responded incorrectly to the

407

00:18:23,895 --> 00:18:28,125

first Daily Double, but manages to work his way back by the end of the round.

408

00:18:28,235 --> 00:18:29,464

Ben, though, in the lead.

409

00:18:29,805 --> 00:18:32,284  
Ben continued to build on that  
lead and double Jeopardy!,

410

00:18:32,284 --> 00:18:36,325  
but Troy was able to close the gap  
with the help of a 5, 600 Daily Double.

411

00:18:36,725 --> 00:18:40,915  
Then Yogesh once again caught fire  
and found the last Daily Double.

412

00:18:41,015 --> 00:18:45,795  
He goes all in with 12, 000, takes the  
lead, and maintains it heading into Final.

413

00:18:45,975 --> 00:18:49,895  
All three players correct in Final,  
and so it's Yogesh who secures the win.

414

00:18:50,264 --> 00:18:51,615  
And now, we're tied!

415

00:18:51,644 --> 00:18:53,215  
One win each.

416

00:18:53,414 --> 00:18:59,345  
Yogesh played so well in the first two  
games, didn't get a checkmark, comes

417

00:18:59,345 --> 00:19:03,004  
back in this game, and as you said, like,  
he showed that true champion mentality.

418

00:19:03,264 --> 00:19:05,975  
Late game, Double Jeopardy play.

419

00:19:06,190 --> 00:19:08,420  
That's a winning combination in Jeopardy.

420

00:19:08,649 --> 00:19:10,440  
Well, and talk about a combination.

421

00:19:10,480 --> 00:19:12,370

Let's just talk about the  
three of them together.

422

00:19:12,389 --> 00:19:17,420

In this game, Combined Chreat of 50, 200.

423

00:19:17,470 --> 00:19:19,879

I mean, these are just unbelievable.

424

00:19:19,879 --> 00:19:25,350

I think the highest all time Chreat that  
Ben actually pointed out was 50, 800.

425

00:19:25,780 --> 00:19:29,979

That's from a game between none  
other than Ken, Brad, and James.

426

00:19:29,990 --> 00:19:30,010

Wow.

427

00:19:30,020 --> 00:19:35,535

So, this is just We are seeing top  
level play here in the TOC finals.

428

00:19:35,605 --> 00:19:36,395

Yeah, elite.

429

00:19:36,595 --> 00:19:41,074

Top level play, but they all  
miss a Taylor Swift clue.

430

00:19:41,085 --> 00:19:41,995

So, you know.

431

00:19:42,004 --> 00:19:42,105

Oh, I

432

00:19:42,105 --> 00:19:44,354

see producer Alexa has  
prepared this rundown.

433

00:19:44,355 --> 00:19:45,375

Yes, yes,

434

00:19:45,415 --> 00:19:45,775

yes.

435

00:19:45,785 --> 00:19:50,985

Songs of youth inspired by her bestie

Tay Tay sang, when somebody tells

436

00:19:50,985 --> 00:19:54,490

you they love you at this title

age, You're gonna believe them.

437

00:19:54,720 --> 00:19:59,340

Of course, the correct response, what

is 15, but that clue a triple stumper.

438

00:19:59,380 --> 00:20:02,500

Let's see how they felt about

the game and maybe that clue.

439

00:20:04,690 --> 00:20:09,269

I was kind of fanboying out yesterday when

I realized that Troy had 54 attempts in

440

00:20:09,269 --> 00:20:11,670

that game out of just 57 eligible clues.

441

00:20:11,830 --> 00:20:12,760

Here's the news today.

442

00:20:12,900 --> 00:20:17,530

Yogesh and Troy both had 54

attempts out of 57 clues.

443

00:20:18,420 --> 00:20:19,690

And Ben was not far behind.

444

00:20:20,570 --> 00:20:22,410

You three are just

shooting out the lights.

445

00:20:22,440 --> 00:20:23,210

What a finals.

446

00:20:23,810 --> 00:20:24,590

Yogesh, how was that game?

447

00:20:24,789 --> 00:20:25,270

Did you have fun?

448

00:20:25,725 --> 00:20:26,095

I mean,

449

00:20:26,095 --> 00:20:28,754

you know, um, Taylor

Swift has too many songs.

450

00:20:31,485 --> 00:20:34,825

That was, I believe, your only miss in  
the first round, apart from the Daily

451

00:20:34,825 --> 00:20:36,555

Double, was the Taylor Swift clue.

452

00:20:36,684 --> 00:20:36,884

Yeah.

453

00:20:37,125 --> 00:20:38,165

And Troy seems a little worried.

454

00:20:38,215 --> 00:20:40,485

Yeah, I think the Swifties  
are gonna murder us for that.

455

00:20:42,024 --> 00:20:44,534

How do these, you know, know  
it alls miss that, right?

456

00:20:44,534 --> 00:20:44,634

We

457  
00:20:44,634 --> 00:20:46,575  
found three people who know 1980s U.

458  
00:20:46,575 --> 00:20:46,665  
S.

459  
00:20:46,835 --> 00:20:47,865  
Secretary Generals.

460  
00:20:47,865 --> 00:20:49,524  
They know seemingly everything.

461  
00:20:49,909 --> 00:20:50,970  
I liked Taylor Swift

462  
00:20:51,000 --> 00:20:54,000  
too, and like, I just, I  
don't know, I blanked, yeah.

463  
00:20:54,280 --> 00:20:56,475  
Oh, you've got a friendship bracelet  
on right now, you're just, that didn't

464  
00:20:56,475 --> 00:20:58,770  
help you with the, uh, It didn't  
help you with the Taylor Swift clue.

465  
00:20:58,770 --> 00:20:59,909  
If

466  
00:20:59,910 --> 00:21:02,080  
it was a Taylor Swift  
present, it would have.

467  
00:21:02,930 --> 00:21:05,370  
Well, all three of you are playing  
so well, I feel like any game,

468  
00:21:05,380 --> 00:21:07,909  
anything could happen at any moment,  
and it's a lot of fun to watch.

469

00:21:08,070 --> 00:21:09,454

It's all tied up, we're  
gonna do at least two more.

470

00:21:09,725 --> 00:21:10,535

Two more games.

471

00:21:10,535 --> 00:21:11,125

Congratulations.

472

00:21:11,125 --> 00:21:13,504

And

473

00:21:15,285 --> 00:21:17,015

now a quick word from our sponsor

474

00:21:17,555 --> 00:21:20,355

selling a little or a lot.

475

00:21:21,515 --> 00:21:23,165

Shopify helps you do your thing.

476

00:21:23,194 --> 00:21:27,455

However, you chit chatting Shopify is the  
global commerce platform that helps you

477

00:21:27,465 --> 00:21:31,885

sell at every stage of your business from  
the launcher online shop stage to the

478

00:21:31,895 --> 00:21:36,695

first real life store stage all the way  
to the, did we just hit a million orders

479

00:21:36,715 --> 00:21:39,300

stage, Shopify's there to help you grow.

480

00:21:39,760 --> 00:21:43,240

From their all in one e commerce  
platform to their in person point of

481



00:21:43,240 --> 00:21:47,859  
sale system, wherever and whatever you're  
selling, Shopify's got you covered.

482  
00:21:48,340 --> 00:21:51,569  
Shopify powers 10 percent  
of all e commerce in the U.

483  
00:21:51,569 --> 00:21:51,879  
S.

484  
00:21:51,989 --> 00:21:55,779  
Plus, they have the internet's best  
converting checkout, 36 percent

485  
00:21:55,789 --> 00:21:58,999  
better on average compared to  
other leading commerce platforms.

486  
00:21:59,120 --> 00:22:02,799  
What I love about Shopify is how simple  
they've made it to grow your business.

487  
00:22:03,035 --> 00:22:06,355  
You can manage inventory, track  
payments, and view real time

488  
00:22:06,365 --> 00:22:08,175  
insights all in one place.

489  
00:22:08,315 --> 00:22:11,865  
Shopify is there to support your  
success every step of the way, because

490  
00:22:11,895 --> 00:22:14,244  
businesses that grow, grow with Shopify.

491  
00:22:14,245 --> 00:22:17,955  
Sign up for a 1 per month  
trial period at shopify.

492  
00:22:17,995 --> 00:22:20,174  
com slash jeopardy, all lowercase.

493

00:22:20,725 --> 00:22:21,675

Go to shopify.

494

00:22:21,675 --> 00:22:25,885

com slash jeopardy now to grow your  
business no matter what stage you're in.

495

00:22:26,275 --> 00:22:27,085

Shopify.

496

00:22:27,085 --> 00:22:28,985

com slash jeopardy.

497

00:22:29,429 --> 00:22:31,389

Now, back to Inside Jeopardy.

498

00:22:32,340 --> 00:22:35,540

And we closed out the week  
with Game 4 of the finals.

499

00:22:35,540 --> 00:22:39,569

Yogesh and Troy battled throughout  
the entire game, while Ben steadily

500

00:22:39,569 --> 00:22:41,450

followed behind in third place.

501

00:22:41,769 --> 00:22:46,330

Troy was able to find the last Daily  
Double in Double Jeopardy and added 14,

502

00:22:46,330 --> 00:22:48,109

000, taking a commanding lead into final.

503

00:22:48,110 --> 00:22:52,929

But once again, All three players  
in five digits, well over 10, 000.

504

00:22:52,939 --> 00:22:53,909

We love to see that.

505  
00:22:54,310 --> 00:22:58,540  
Ben was then the only player to come  
up with the correct response in finals.

506  
00:22:58,550 --> 00:23:04,039  
So with his all in wager, he shoots right  
from third place to first place, securing

507  
00:23:04,039 --> 00:23:07,760  
his second win by just 1 over Troy.

508  
00:23:08,279 --> 00:23:09,600  
What a way to end the week.

509  
00:23:09,629 --> 00:23:10,419  
We need a weekend.

510  
00:23:10,440 --> 00:23:12,179  
Yeah, two check marks for him.

511  
00:23:12,210 --> 00:23:13,320  
Two game wins.

512  
00:23:13,499 --> 00:23:19,209  
from third place with, you know,  
correct finals with fantastic wages,

513  
00:23:19,249 --> 00:23:20,719  
I guess almost no choice wages.

514  
00:23:21,009 --> 00:23:23,929  
But, uh, yeah, very, very dramatic  
way to end of the week, really

515  
00:23:23,939 --> 00:23:28,639  
setting up Monday and maybe Tuesday  
and maybe Wednesday perfectly.

516  
00:23:28,770 --> 00:23:31,719  
We talk about this great Jeopardy  
community, but we don't always talk about

517  
00:23:31,719 --> 00:23:32,889  
the people who are watching the show.

518  
00:23:33,344 --> 00:23:36,925  
We learned from Ben Chan that, you know,  
he received a postcard during his original

519  
00:23:36,925 --> 00:23:40,965  
run from an 89 year old woman from right  
in his town of Green Bay who said, you

520  
00:23:40,965 --> 00:23:42,195  
know, they have these watch parties.

521  
00:23:42,214 --> 00:23:45,524  
And so Ben now attends the  
watch parties every month.

522  
00:23:45,604 --> 00:23:46,904  
He says it's wonderful.

523  
00:23:46,935 --> 00:23:50,374  
I just, I love these kind of stories  
about our beautiful Jeopardy community.

524  
00:23:50,864 --> 00:23:54,304  
Ken did catch up with our players right  
before they headed into the weekend.

525  
00:23:54,314 --> 00:23:55,114  
Let's take a listen.

526  
00:23:55,655 --> 00:23:56,735  
Fantastic game, Ben.

527  
00:23:56,745 --> 00:23:57,395  
When it mattered.

528  
00:23:57,915 --> 00:23:58,524  
Yeah.

529

00:23:58,524 --> 00:24:02,385  
You know, toward the end of Double, I  
was, it's Looking at the scores, trying

530  
00:24:02,385 --> 00:24:03,285  
to calculate where I needed to be.

531  
00:24:03,285 --> 00:24:04,185  
That's the same number I was aiming

532  
00:24:04,185 --> 00:24:04,385  
for.

533  
00:24:04,395 --> 00:24:04,815  
Right, yeah.

534  
00:24:05,215 --> 00:24:08,695  
But we were in that funny,  
exactly that wagering situation.

535  
00:24:08,725 --> 00:24:09,094  
Yeah, if you're

536  
00:24:09,095 --> 00:24:12,535  
wish is correct, we would have  
had a 1 lead over Troy and you

537  
00:24:12,535 --> 00:24:14,024  
two playing for a tiebreaker.

538  
00:24:14,024 --> 00:24:14,274  
Yeah.

539  
00:24:14,655 --> 00:24:17,845  
Which I don't know if my  
heart could have put up with.

540  
00:24:18,575 --> 00:24:21,784  
Well Ben, in two of our four games you've  
come from third place to snatch a win.

541  
00:24:22,195 --> 00:24:23,725

And you now have the lead  
going into game night.

542  
00:24:24,154 --> 00:24:25,985  
You're one win away from  
winning this whole thing.

543  
00:24:26,344 --> 00:24:28,144  
Do you like your odds on Monday,  
or what are you thinking about?

544  
00:24:28,274 --> 00:24:28,594  
Uh,

545  
00:24:28,644 --> 00:24:29,185  
no.

546  
00:24:29,185 --> 00:24:34,124  
I mean, it's Uh, I think we  
need a There's something beyond

547  
00:24:34,124 --> 00:24:35,814  
a buzzsaw for these two guys.

548  
00:24:35,985 --> 00:24:38,344  
I'm good enough at this game  
that I know I'll be in the mix.

549  
00:24:38,384 --> 00:24:42,644  
But then, you know, my two wins  
have happened in pretty improbable

550  
00:24:42,644 --> 00:24:44,225  
finals, um, for this to happen.

551  
00:24:44,274 --> 00:24:45,284  
But I've been in the mix, right?

552  
00:24:45,284 --> 00:24:46,665  
So That's where you gotta be.

553  
00:24:46,925 --> 00:24:47,274

We'll see

554

00:24:47,274 --> 00:24:51,215  
if the improbabilities continue, but it's  
been an extraordinary series, and, uh Best

555

00:24:51,215 --> 00:24:52,294  
of luck to all three of you on Monday.

556

00:24:53,105 --> 00:24:55,715  
Well, that wraps up our game highlights.

557

00:24:56,155 --> 00:24:58,105  
Now onto this week's host chat.

558

00:24:58,105 --> 00:25:02,395  
An audience member asked Ken, if you were  
on the show for the first time today,

559

00:25:02,425 --> 00:25:03,895  
would you play the game differently?

560

00:25:04,725 --> 00:25:05,355  
Absolutely.

561

00:25:05,355 --> 00:25:05,415  
Yeah.

562

00:25:05,534 --> 00:25:10,034  
Like when I was on in 2004, jeopardy  
had not yet been professionalized

563

00:25:10,040 --> 00:25:11,895  
by geniuses like this.

564

00:25:12,195 --> 00:25:14,235  
We typically took the clues in order.

565

00:25:14,385 --> 00:25:18,315  
If we happened to found a daily double  
find, a daily double, we were like, oh.

566

00:25:19,335 --> 00:25:21,285

What a, what a nice little mitzvah.

567

00:25:21,285 --> 00:25:23,835

Or even, ooh, these are the scary parts of the show.

568

00:25:24,055 --> 00:25:25,605

And we would bet a sensible amount.

569

00:25:26,135 --> 00:25:26,485

You know.

570

00:25:27,724 --> 00:25:31,294

Because who, who in America would bet more than, say, 1, 800

571

00:25:31,295 --> 00:25:32,795

on an unseen trivia question?

572

00:25:32,844 --> 00:25:35,715

You know, like we, uh, and now of course that's not the game, how the

573

00:25:35,715 --> 00:25:40,035

game is played because that's not the optimal way to play at or win Jeopardy.

574

00:25:40,055 --> 00:25:41,865

You need to look for those daily doubles.

575

00:25:42,015 --> 00:25:44,745

Maybe you want to suck up some money first and then try to find one.

576

00:25:44,755 --> 00:25:46,695

You You know, you gotta strike while the iron's hot.

577

00:25:46,745 --> 00:25:47,865

Cause that's how the game is played.



578  
00:25:47,865 --> 00:25:51,075  
And I think every time I've played against  
somebody doing that, I've had to adjust.

579  
00:25:51,405 --> 00:25:53,375  
But boy, I am not comfortable doing it.

580  
00:25:53,405 --> 00:25:54,305  
You saw that in Goat.

581  
00:25:54,325 --> 00:25:55,905  
Like, I had to play James Holzhauser's way.

582  
00:25:56,130 --> 00:25:58,079  
Well,

583  
00:25:58,080 --> 00:26:02,949  
we know three people who have learned to  
play their game at an excellent level.

584  
00:26:03,340 --> 00:26:05,180  
It's time to welcome to the pod, Michael.

585  
00:26:05,190 --> 00:26:08,840  
Let's welcome them, Amy Schneider,  
Andrew He, and Sam Buttry.

586  
00:26:09,040 --> 00:26:09,600  
Hello.

587  
00:26:09,719 --> 00:26:10,010  
Thank you.

588  
00:26:10,620 --> 00:26:12,949  
So good to see the three of you.

589  
00:26:13,245 --> 00:26:15,255  
I have to say, in the world of Jeopardy!

590  
00:26:15,265 --> 00:26:19,445  
Invitational Tournament, I think, not

that we wanted you guys to not finish

591

00:26:19,445 --> 00:26:23,115  
in the top three of Masters, but knowing  
that we had a guaranteed opportunity

592

00:26:23,115 --> 00:26:27,314  
to see the three of you again on the  
Jit List and in Jit, was a welcome

593

00:26:27,314 --> 00:26:29,185  
thing to both Michael and myself.

594

00:26:29,424 --> 00:26:32,764  
What was it like for the three of you  
to know that even though Masters maybe

595

00:26:32,764 --> 00:26:36,604  
didn't end the way you wanted it to, You  
were coming back to the Alex Trebek stage.

596

00:26:36,604 --> 00:26:37,445  
Amy, I'll start with you.

597

00:26:37,514 --> 00:26:37,914  
Yeah.

598

00:26:37,914 --> 00:26:42,215  
And I think I might've commented on this  
elsewhere, but like in the aftermath of

599

00:26:42,215 --> 00:26:49,054  
not qualifying for the semifinals of the  
masters, I had this like, you know, day of

600

00:26:49,064 --> 00:26:51,394  
being like, is this just the end for me?

601

00:26:51,404 --> 00:26:52,614  
Have I like, have I reached my peak?

602

00:26:52,614 --> 00:26:54,014

Do I even want to do this anymore?

603

00:26:54,525 --> 00:27:00,485

Um, and then I was in the audience  
for the semifinals and 60 seconds into

604

00:27:00,485 --> 00:27:03,155

watching the first game, I was like,  
Oh yeah, I want to be back up there.

605

00:27:03,575 --> 00:27:07,344

And so like, from then on, it's been  
a relief to know that I'm going to

606

00:27:07,345 --> 00:27:11,064

get a chance to be back up on the  
Alex Trebek stage and get a chance

607

00:27:11,065 --> 00:27:15,415

to sort of defend my honor and like,  
do a better job and not, not end

608

00:27:15,415 --> 00:27:16,785

on the note that I had ended on.

609

00:27:17,045 --> 00:27:18,065

How about for you, Andrew?

610

00:27:18,209 --> 00:27:20,469

I think I had a similar experience to Amy.

611

00:27:20,510 --> 00:27:26,249

Uh, you know, you kind of get the post  
master's blues, I would say, um, where,

612

00:27:26,419 --> 00:27:30,200

you know, you're a little, you're, you're,  
you're kind of questioning everything

613

00:27:30,200 --> 00:27:33,729

that you could have done, uh, a little  
bit, just a little bit, tiny bit better

614  
00:27:33,729 --> 00:27:36,670  
on that stage, then you just kind of  
reflect, you know, we would have been

615  
00:27:36,670 --> 00:27:40,790  
told that I think you actually told  
me on this podcast that I would be

616  
00:27:40,840 --> 00:27:43,340  
returning for, for another tournament.

617  
00:27:43,419 --> 00:27:44,800  
That was definitely welcome news.

618  
00:27:44,820 --> 00:27:48,379  
And, uh, it just reminded  
me how lucky I am to be.

619  
00:27:48,860 --> 00:27:53,060  
Uh, in the conversation, you know, uh,  
to, to come back and play this game

620  
00:27:53,330 --> 00:27:57,350  
because it, it became just this, uh,  
exercise of gratitude for me, actually.

621  
00:27:57,440 --> 00:28:01,649  
Or I thought about, you know, maybe  
I didn't perform to, you know, the

622  
00:28:01,649 --> 00:28:05,230  
absolute best to, to stick it in  
masters, but I get to come back.

623  
00:28:05,665 --> 00:28:09,764  
And be with another very celebrated  
group of, uh, contestants.

624  
00:28:10,004 --> 00:28:11,034  
How about for you, Sam?

625  
00:28:11,175 --> 00:28:12,754

Yeah, I think those guys  
have said it pretty well.

626

00:28:12,754 --> 00:28:14,714  
I was very disappointed with  
the way I'd done in Masters.

627

00:28:14,715 --> 00:28:17,814  
But I recognized that, uh, you know, I  
was up against some of the best Jeopardy!

628

00:28:17,814 --> 00:28:19,195  
players who have ever been.

629

00:28:19,195 --> 00:28:22,145  
And, um, so then I was confronted  
with a bit of a choice.

630

00:28:22,145 --> 00:28:25,135  
Do I want to double down, learn  
all the facts that there are,

631

00:28:25,425 --> 00:28:27,115  
and, uh, you know, hold out hope?

632

00:28:27,115 --> 00:28:30,275  
Because I don't know that I knew I  
was going to be invited back for JIT.

633

00:28:30,750 --> 00:28:33,790  
Um, but I was certainly hoping it, but  
on the other hand, you know, there's part

634

00:28:33,790 --> 00:28:36,960  
of you that says, look, I've accomplished  
what I need to accomplish in jeopardy.

635

00:28:36,960 --> 00:28:42,260  
Maybe instead of memorizing the capitals  
of Africa, I should be out enjoying life.

636

00:28:42,600 --> 00:28:45,829  
So, uh, when, when it became

clear that I was invited, you

637

00:28:45,829 --> 00:28:49,749  
know, the competitive juices kick  
in and it was a time to prepare.

638

00:28:50,209 --> 00:28:54,800  
But, uh, you know, I, I'm just glad  
to be back here with an opportunity to

639

00:28:54,810 --> 00:28:56,520  
redeem myself for what I thought was a.

640

00:28:57,014 --> 00:28:59,745  
Uh, a performance in the Masters  
that didn't go the way I wanted.

641

00:28:59,955 --> 00:29:02,895  
I just want to jump in and say that this  
is literally true, that I have spent

642

00:29:02,905 --> 00:29:05,945  
time, two days, working on the Capital of

643

00:29:05,945 --> 00:29:07,034  
America.

644

00:29:07,034 --> 00:29:07,685  
That's so good.

645

00:29:07,814 --> 00:29:12,095  
What's so amazing, Amy, when you  
came down and attended, uh, Jeopardy!

646

00:29:12,095 --> 00:29:16,605  
Honors, And you came to, uh,  
some of those tape days for TOC.

647

00:29:16,655 --> 00:29:20,034  
I remember you said to me at some point,  
I go, I said to you, what's it like,

648

00:29:20,425 --> 00:29:23,235  
you know, being back on the Alex Trebek  
stage and watching this whole thing.

649  
00:29:23,235 --> 00:29:25,115  
And you said, put me back in coach.

650  
00:29:25,514 --> 00:29:29,065  
Was that moment that you had that moment  
that you really sort of felt it hard.

651  
00:29:29,179 --> 00:29:29,370  
And

652  
00:29:29,370 --> 00:29:31,770  
Amy, we know, you know, when  
you were going through masters,

653  
00:29:31,770 --> 00:29:33,340  
you had a lot going on.

654  
00:29:33,350 --> 00:29:36,919  
Your book was coming out,  
you know, life was very busy.

655  
00:29:37,129 --> 00:29:40,039  
Do you feel like you've had  
time to kind of settle back?

656  
00:29:40,040 --> 00:29:42,089  
I remember at one point you  
said, maybe I'll take a vacation.

657  
00:29:42,089 --> 00:29:43,529  
I haven't done that in two years.

658  
00:29:43,899 --> 00:29:47,560  
Have you found that there was time  
to live life and also You know,

659  
00:29:47,580 --> 00:29:50,950  
get back to the flashcards or  
whatever your mode of learning is.

660  
00:29:51,580 --> 00:29:54,440  
Yeah, no, there definitely has  
been, you know, like my book came

661  
00:29:54,440 --> 00:29:57,080  
out, I went on the tour and it  
was a great time and everything.

662  
00:29:57,090 --> 00:30:00,579  
And then I had kind of a winter of  
like downtime, which was the first

663  
00:30:00,579 --> 00:30:02,450  
downtime I'd had in about two years.

664  
00:30:02,975 --> 00:30:07,455  
Um, and so then, like, you know, I'd  
known I was going to be in JIT, but

665  
00:30:07,455 --> 00:30:10,885  
once I got the, uh, the notification  
and that there was, there was an actual

666  
00:30:10,894 --> 00:30:15,814  
date for it, then I was like, okay,  
time to, to get back into, get back

667  
00:30:15,815 --> 00:30:17,665  
into training and have my Rocky montage.

668  
00:30:17,665 --> 00:30:20,455  
And so it's, it's been kind of  
fun getting back in that mood.

669  
00:30:20,665 --> 00:30:20,785  
And

670  
00:30:20,825 --> 00:30:24,640  
meanwhile, Andrew, at home,  
Taking care of the Jeppa baby.

671



00:30:24,840 --> 00:30:25,950  
The original Jeppa baby.

672  
00:30:25,970 --> 00:30:27,260  
The original Jeppa baby.

673  
00:30:28,050 --> 00:30:30,500  
I know there are some  
that are coming after him.

674  
00:30:30,670 --> 00:30:31,670  
Yeah, exactly.

675  
00:30:31,680 --> 00:30:34,969  
The original, the OG, the OB, the OJB.

676  
00:30:34,970 --> 00:30:36,459  
I think I guess is what it is.

677  
00:30:36,460 --> 00:30:40,000  
So, uh, and you said to me when I saw  
you, this is pretty much the first

678  
00:30:40,009 --> 00:30:42,940  
time you'd left, not the house, I'm  
sure you'd left the house at some

679  
00:30:42,940 --> 00:30:46,230  
point, but the first time you left  
and, and left the Jeppa baby at home

680  
00:30:46,230 --> 00:30:47,790  
overnight to go and be anywhere else.

681  
00:30:48,805 --> 00:30:51,645  
I think it's the longest,  
uh, the longest I'd gone.

682  
00:30:51,775 --> 00:30:54,715  
Well, and we know when you come  
back for JIT, uh, you will be

683

00:30:54,715 --> 00:30:56,685  
identified a little differently.

684  
00:30:56,695 --> 00:30:58,755  
You're now a stay at home dad.

685  
00:30:58,815 --> 00:31:00,505  
Tell us about that career change.

686  
00:31:00,585 --> 00:31:04,294  
Well, you know, uh, some people  
may know that, uh, Jeopardy

687  
00:31:04,294 --> 00:31:05,405  
has been very good to me.

688  
00:31:05,425 --> 00:31:09,995  
You know, I've made, made a good  
amount of, uh, of money playing a game.

689  
00:31:10,685 --> 00:31:15,535  
Um, and, uh, One of the benefits of that  
is I, I get to basically be a full time

690  
00:31:15,535 --> 00:31:19,485  
dad, watch my kid go through all of his  
milestones, like basically 24 seven.

691  
00:31:19,825 --> 00:31:22,785  
Um, and that's something  
that's very special to me.

692  
00:31:22,794 --> 00:31:27,734  
And it, it is also very challenging  
though, I would have to say, but I'm glad

693  
00:31:27,735 --> 00:31:32,014  
I have a pile of Jeopardy money to, you  
know, to sleep on after the exhausting,

694  
00:31:32,105 --> 00:31:34,015  
uh, you know, after the exhausting day,

695  
00:31:34,735 --> 00:31:35,895  
well, in the last week.

696  
00:31:36,115 --> 00:31:37,055  
The Jeopardy!

697  
00:31:37,055 --> 00:31:40,315  
community has learned the  
Field of 27 for the Jeopardy!

698  
00:31:40,345 --> 00:31:41,565  
Invitational Tournament.

699  
00:31:41,875 --> 00:31:45,975  
They knew about the three of you,  
but what's it like for the three

700  
00:31:45,975 --> 00:31:49,924  
of you to hear about those other  
24 people, you know, Jeopardy!

701  
00:31:49,924 --> 00:31:52,535  
Legends, different phases of  
the show, that you will now have

702  
00:31:52,535 --> 00:31:53,764  
the chance to compete against?

703  
00:31:54,045 --> 00:31:55,904  
Uh, terrifying, I think.

704  
00:31:56,114 --> 00:31:59,315  
Um, you know, because I also,  
like, I understood that there

705  
00:31:59,315 --> 00:32:00,165  
were going to be Jeopardy!

706  
00:32:00,165 --> 00:32:03,475  
Legends, but didn't really, um,  
Understand how much there would be,

707

00:32:03,475 --> 00:32:05,545  
like, just trivia world legends.

708

00:32:05,975 --> 00:32:10,094  
Um, like, you know, Brandon  
and Victoria and, uh, you know,

709

00:32:10,094 --> 00:32:11,815  
some other people in that class.

710

00:32:11,875 --> 00:32:15,684  
It went beyond even just the people  
I was afraid of facing and some

711

00:32:15,685 --> 00:32:18,754  
people I hadn't even thought to be  
afraid of that are going to be there.

712

00:32:19,065 --> 00:32:21,405  
Claire McNear, the great  
journalist of record.

713

00:32:21,960 --> 00:32:26,840  
Uh, of Jeopardy, texted me yesterday  
freaking out about the, the, the

714

00:32:27,380 --> 00:32:30,239  
Jitfield when it was announced, uh,  
for very much the same reasons, Amy.

715

00:32:30,839 --> 00:32:33,850  
And Sam, I know you had told us  
months ago you were really hoping

716

00:32:33,910 --> 00:32:35,780  
to meet and play with Colby.

717

00:32:35,780 --> 00:32:37,840  
I know that was one of the folks  
you were hoping was on the list.

718

00:32:37,879 --> 00:32:38,539

Yeah, very much.

719

00:32:38,539 --> 00:32:43,160

I have a number of Jeopardy heroes besides Andrew and Amy, uh, that include,

720

00:32:43,240 --> 00:32:47,915

uh, Colby and also I was very delighted to see Dhruv Gaur, the, Former, uh,

721

00:32:48,145 --> 00:32:52,875

college champion who just seems like a, a hilarious guy, but, uh, I'm, I'm with Amy.

722

00:32:52,875 --> 00:32:57,395

There was some, uh, talk earlier from some non Jeopardy person about how

723

00:32:57,405 --> 00:32:59,995

the tournament was going to be laid out, which I foolishly believed, which

724

00:32:59,995 --> 00:33:03,424

was that the three of us, Andrew and Amy, and I were going to get seeded

725

00:33:03,425 --> 00:33:05,444

into the semifinals somehow magically.

726

00:33:05,444 --> 00:33:08,595

And I thought, well, shoot, uh, you know, you're too online.

727

00:33:08,595 --> 00:33:09,295

So yeah, I know.

728

00:33:09,835 --> 00:33:12,785

So then it became revealed that it was single elimination.

729

00:33:12,785 --> 00:33:15,824

And I could not think of two people out of those 27 that

730

00:33:15,825 --> 00:33:17,015

I wanted to face in Jeopardy.

731

00:33:17,705 --> 00:33:21,225

Uh, because I've seen them all play, I think literally all of them, including

732

00:33:21,225 --> 00:33:27,225

Chuck, including Celeste, folks from back in the day, and uh, I guess I was just uh,

733

00:33:27,455 --> 00:33:29,675

hoping, hoping to have fun and hang out.

734

00:33:29,675 --> 00:33:32,515

There are a few of them that I've met before, Jason, Sam Kavanaugh,

735

00:33:32,955 --> 00:33:34,264

who are just really great people.

736

00:33:34,274 --> 00:33:36,965

So the opportunity to hang out with them is great, but the opportunity to

737

00:33:36,985 --> 00:33:40,835

be crushed under their boot heel is not something I had been looking forward to.

738

00:33:41,545 --> 00:33:47,785

I mean, it does occur to me, um, to extend the sports analogy, that Jeopardy

739

00:33:47,785 --> 00:33:51,655

as a sport is quite unique because we can play our champions and our greats

740

00:33:51,655 --> 00:33:55,505

against each other across eras It's those arguments that take place all the time

741

00:33:55,505 --> 00:33:59,785  
right in basketball is is, you know,  
Larry Bird Celtics How would they do

742  
00:33:59,785 --> 00:34:02,195  
against like, you know, Alan Iverson's?

743  
00:34:02,365 --> 00:34:07,665  
76ers, how would that do against like the  
you know, your beloved Warriors today Amy?

744  
00:34:07,685 --> 00:34:09,965  
It's like but we get to  
actually see that in jeopardy.

745  
00:34:10,065 --> 00:34:14,065  
Yeah, and I think that's Uh, again,  
and I feel like this is a point I made

746  
00:34:14,065 --> 00:34:18,125  
before, but that is again, a tribute  
to the writers because it is the case

747  
00:34:18,125 --> 00:34:22,385  
that the writing has been a consistent  
level of difficulty for decades.

748  
00:34:22,385 --> 00:34:25,875  
And so, you know, unlike in basketball,  
people were playing literally a

749  
00:34:25,875 --> 00:34:29,835  
different game of basketball, you  
know, 30 years ago, but Jeopardy has

750  
00:34:29,835 --> 00:34:34,355  
been the same game this whole time  
because it has just been pitched at the

751  
00:34:34,355 --> 00:34:36,275  
same level consistently for so long.

752  
00:34:36,565 --> 00:34:36,715

Yeah.

753

00:34:37,225 --> 00:34:38,435

Andrew, how about for you?

754

00:34:38,445 --> 00:34:40,875

What was the, the reveal of the field?

755

00:34:40,875 --> 00:34:42,165

How did that feel to you?

756

00:34:42,935 --> 00:34:43,925

The reveal of the field?

757

00:34:43,945 --> 00:34:49,985

Um, I can tell you exactly how I felt because, um, I think Sam and Amy will know

758

00:34:49,985 --> 00:34:55,910

that, um, I'm usually the last one to come out of the elevators and get to the bus.

759

00:34:56,320 --> 00:35:01,599

Um, so everyone's always waiting for me and I get on the bus day one, you

760

00:35:01,599 --> 00:35:05,630

know, and I think the first person I see is Brandon Blackwell and.

761

00:35:06,090 --> 00:35:09,120

And in that moment, I'm like, Oh no, what's going on here.

762

00:35:09,420 --> 00:35:13,949

And then I see Jason Zafraneri and just all these, all these people, you

763

00:35:13,949 --> 00:35:17,200

kind of imagine what the, what the field is going to look like coming in.

764



00:35:17,210 --> 00:35:19,959  
And there was a considerable amount of  
overlap with who I thought was going to

765  
00:35:19,960 --> 00:35:23,299  
be there, but there was still enough,  
like great surprises that, you know,

766  
00:35:23,330 --> 00:35:25,910  
it made it a very, very, very fun.

767  
00:35:26,240 --> 00:35:28,150  
Bus ride that very first day.

768  
00:35:28,400 --> 00:35:33,250  
Did you feel any pressure having, you  
know, earned your spots, but almost by

769  
00:35:33,250 --> 00:35:38,139  
default coming into the JIT, did you  
feel any sense of, yes, we absolutely

770  
00:35:38,150 --> 00:35:41,700  
belong here or, wow, I kind of feel  
like we have to prove ourselves because

771  
00:35:41,700 --> 00:35:43,189  
there are so many legends in this group.

772  
00:35:43,510 --> 00:35:45,299  
Yeah, no, that's exactly how I felt.

773  
00:35:45,299 --> 00:35:49,340  
I thought, you know, I've had a better  
luck than anybody in the history of

774  
00:35:49,340 --> 00:35:51,090  
Jeopardy, I think just out of nowhere.

775  
00:35:51,090 --> 00:35:54,249  
I got into the professor's tournament,  
squeaked through it, managed to get

776  
00:35:56,470 --> 00:35:58,130  
Which I didn't win, went to the Masters.

777  
00:35:58,290 --> 00:35:59,000  
I didn't win.

778  
00:35:59,240 --> 00:36:03,389  
I feel like I was, um, in the JIT  
partly because of recency rather

779  
00:36:03,389 --> 00:36:05,210  
than of my career achievement.

780  
00:36:05,210 --> 00:36:08,839  
So I really felt that I needed  
to, uh, prove something here.

781  
00:36:08,839 --> 00:36:11,769  
Win a game, or do something,  
or beat somebody really good.

782  
00:36:12,195 --> 00:36:15,404  
So, we'll have to see what happens,  
but I really felt there was, uh,

783  
00:36:15,585 --> 00:36:19,605  
pressure on me to show that I belonged  
in this group of great champions.

784  
00:36:19,805 --> 00:36:23,085  
Can I just say, though, I just want  
to correct the record right there.

785  
00:36:23,905 --> 00:36:31,030  
Even if you lacked your magnetic charm  
and sparkling personality, Sam, just

786  
00:36:31,030 --> 00:36:37,690  
statistically, you would still be there,  
for me, so I'm not, I don't want you to

787  
00:36:37,690 --> 00:36:42,240

get a personality lobotomy, I like your  
sparkling personality, I like all of

788

00:36:42,240 --> 00:36:46,775  
that, but statistically you very much are  
part of that world, and Is there, like,

789

00:36:46,775 --> 00:36:51,025  
an implantation procedure also where  
I can get, you know, You can get it.

790

00:36:51,055 --> 00:36:52,655  
You You can take it.

791

00:36:52,905 --> 00:36:54,095  
It would be Sam and Andrew.

792

00:36:54,105 --> 00:36:55,685  
My word, that's a high concept movie.

793

00:36:55,725 --> 00:36:56,914  
I'll pitch that to Tom Rothman.

794

00:36:56,914 --> 00:36:57,395  
I love that.

795

00:36:58,115 --> 00:36:58,445  
Thank you.

796

00:36:58,445 --> 00:37:00,855  
That's nice of you to say,  
and I'm just here for Andrew's

797

00:37:00,855 --> 00:37:02,485  
anecdotes anytime he needs me.

798

00:37:04,265 --> 00:37:08,035  
Yeah, I mean, I, you know, it's not  
that I didn't feel that I had earned

799

00:37:08,055 --> 00:37:11,415  
my way into it because, you know,

I, I've been very successful and,

800

00:37:11,425 --> 00:37:12,935  
and, and all of that sort of thing.

801

00:37:13,264 --> 00:37:20,314  
Um, but I, I do feel a lot of pressure  
to come in and, and at least win a game.

802

00:37:20,335 --> 00:37:21,205  
Cause I, you know, I was like.

803

00:37:21,320 --> 00:37:21,990  
Oh, for six.

804

00:37:21,990 --> 00:37:24,240  
The last time I was on that  
stage with many a second

805

00:37:24,240 --> 00:37:26,470  
place finished, though,  
Amy, somebody won points.

806

00:37:27,990 --> 00:37:28,950  
Oh yeah, for sure.

807

00:37:28,970 --> 00:37:32,950  
And is, you know, going back and looking  
at it, looking at it, I'm seeing how

808

00:37:32,969 --> 00:37:36,249  
the margins were close the whole way  
through and I had some bad breaks and

809

00:37:36,250 --> 00:37:40,700  
all of that, but nonetheless, there  
is this feeling of, I don't want to

810

00:37:40,700 --> 00:37:42,840  
be over seven, you know, basically.

811

00:37:43,100 --> 00:37:44,240

I think someone with.

812

00:37:44,740 --> 00:37:47,570  
You know, a little less self doubt,  
probably wouldn't say something

813

00:37:47,570 --> 00:37:50,510  
like this, but normally on the  
stage, I don't have it in the back

814

00:37:50,510 --> 00:37:52,450  
of my head that if I say something.

815

00:37:53,035 --> 00:37:56,865  
wrong or if I answer something  
incorrectly that I'm going to

816

00:37:56,865 --> 00:37:58,775  
feel too much shame about it.

817

00:37:59,025 --> 00:38:04,154  
But I think if you if you know that these  
people are watching and you know that any

818

00:38:04,154 --> 00:38:09,665  
question that you miss Um, it's going to  
be a no brainer for for three quarters or

819

00:38:10,050 --> 00:38:11,930  
80 percent of the people, people there.

820

00:38:11,940 --> 00:38:15,460  
I think that, that, that does kind  
of, for me, at least it, it definitely

821

00:38:15,460 --> 00:38:17,920  
popped into my head where I'm like,  
you know, sometimes you have to take a

822

00:38:17,920 --> 00:38:21,519  
swing and you're going to fall flat on  
your face, it's going to be really fun

823  
00:38:21,519 --> 00:38:23,659  
for them to be commencing about how.

824  
00:38:24,400 --> 00:38:25,960  
How terrible of an answer you just gave.

825  
00:38:26,240 --> 00:38:28,800  
Uh, because the level of  
knowledge there is just so high.

826  
00:38:28,870 --> 00:38:32,850  
But the flip side of that is you  
have all graduated from playing

827  
00:38:32,850 --> 00:38:34,299  
regular Virginia Jeopardy.

828  
00:38:34,810 --> 00:38:39,389  
You know, you'll never play against  
two newcomers unless I create something

829  
00:38:39,390 --> 00:38:44,040  
new or unless you allow me to create  
something new, um, you will, you'll never

830  
00:38:44,040 --> 00:38:45,970  
play regular Virginia Jeopardy again.

831  
00:38:45,970 --> 00:38:50,950  
You're only ever going to play elite level  
Jeopardy against elite level competition.

832  
00:38:50,950 --> 00:38:53,069  
And Amy, you and I've had  
some conversations about this.

833  
00:38:53,210 --> 00:38:56,760  
It is a different game when you're  
playing Elite Level Jeopardy.

834  
00:38:57,060 --> 00:38:58,280  
I mean, yeah, for sure.

835

00:38:58,290 --> 00:39:01,710  
And it is, oh, believe me, I have  
had that thought that never again

836

00:39:01,710 --> 00:39:06,950  
will I get to go up against two,  
like, starry eyed, you know, rookies

837

00:39:07,050 --> 00:39:08,650  
and all of that sort of thing.

838

00:39:08,959 --> 00:39:12,670  
Um, but I also just want to, on  
what Andrew said, because, you know,

839

00:39:12,690 --> 00:39:17,020  
I know that, you know, I, I, I do  
think the same way, but what I keep

840

00:39:17,020 --> 00:39:19,970  
reminding myself is that's a myth.

841

00:39:20,340 --> 00:39:25,919  
We think that every time we don't  
know an answer, everybody else does.

842

00:39:26,210 --> 00:39:30,139  
Like that's just how we are and  
how we think, but it is not true.

843

00:39:30,579 --> 00:39:34,395  
Andrew, there are definitely times  
playing against you when you have

844

00:39:34,395 --> 00:39:37,600  
been the only one of the three people  
on stage that knew the answer that

845

00:39:37,600 --> 00:39:39,770  
has not been like an uncommon thing.

846

00:39:39,850 --> 00:39:43,039  
I mean, it's just the, it is  
hard to bust the myth, right?

847  
00:39:43,230 --> 00:39:46,590  
I would say that, you know, uh, Matt  
Jackson definitely knows all the answers.

848  
00:39:46,600 --> 00:39:46,900  
So,

849  
00:39:49,220 --> 00:39:51,799  
well, now that you've  
been to masters before.

850  
00:39:52,360 --> 00:39:55,600  
And knowing, although we had a lot  
of, you know, different things that

851  
00:39:55,600 --> 00:39:59,030  
happened in our first ever recording  
of Masters, it maybe didn't go exactly

852  
00:39:59,070 --> 00:40:02,779  
as we had planned, but it certainly  
was a great time had by all, you know,

853  
00:40:02,780 --> 00:40:05,940  
the three of you came back for the  
finals to cheer on your competitors.

854  
00:40:06,309 --> 00:40:10,020  
Knowing what Masters is and what  
an opportunity it is to just be

855  
00:40:10,020 --> 00:40:11,829  
with, you know, five other Jeopardy!

856  
00:40:11,839 --> 00:40:16,699  
greats, is the motivation even greater to  
get back there, or is it just really about

857  
00:40:16,699 --> 00:40:18,613



another chance to play this game for JIT?

858

00:40:18,613 --> 00:40:23,930

I mean, I think I'm, I'm really motivated to get back, uh, in part just to like,

859

00:40:23,950 --> 00:40:27,450

you know, see Matei again, uh, cause I know they're not, they're not coming

860

00:40:27,450 --> 00:40:29,420

down for the, the taping of the, the JIT.

861

00:40:29,860 --> 00:40:36,509

But, that said, I look at this field, and I'm like, only one of the 27 of

862

00:40:36,510 --> 00:40:41,570

us is going to Masters in, uh, And it just seems crazy that 26 of this

863

00:40:41,570 --> 00:40:46,060

group of people are not going to win and not going to qualify for it.

864

00:40:46,090 --> 00:40:50,690

So, you know, I sort of hope to, but like, that is too much to think about right now.

865

00:40:50,700 --> 00:40:52,299

I've got to just think about game one.

866

00:40:52,470 --> 00:40:55,419

JIT may just be a harder competition than Masters.

867

00:40:55,550 --> 00:40:57,370

You know, I think you could definitely have that argument.

868

00:40:57,710 --> 00:40:59,200

I've definitely pitched that.

869

00:41:00,770 --> 00:41:01,170  
I don't know.

870

00:41:01,170 --> 00:41:07,040  
I think the other 24 people in the  
room, they hadn't gone through that.

871

00:41:07,070 --> 00:41:10,620  
Some people agreed and some people were  
like, well, how, how could that be?

872

00:41:10,620 --> 00:41:14,239  
But I think what makes it difficult  
is that you can't have any slip ups.

873

00:41:14,240 --> 00:41:18,470  
You know, you can't have the  
one bad buzzer game, really.

874

00:41:18,675 --> 00:41:21,195  
You can't have a lot of  
mistakes because there's just

875

00:41:21,215 --> 00:41:23,315  
no margin to have one bad game.

876

00:41:23,425 --> 00:41:27,845  
I agree with that, but also I've  
been telling myself that's how

877

00:41:27,885 --> 00:41:29,414  
all of our original run was.

878

00:41:29,454 --> 00:41:31,885  
Most of Jeopardy is single elimination.

879

00:41:32,515 --> 00:41:38,965  
And so what I've been telling myself  
is maybe the sort of safety blanket

880

00:41:39,115 --> 00:41:43,895  
of Masters, where if you lose one

game, you still get to play more.

881

00:41:44,475 --> 00:41:48,140

Maybe that was like, You know,  
taking some of my edge off, maybe

882

00:41:48,140 --> 00:41:51,080

like being back in this mode is  
actually going to be better for me.

883

00:41:51,100 --> 00:41:52,100

And so we'll see.

884

00:41:52,470 --> 00:41:53,380

What do you think, Sam?

885

00:41:53,470 --> 00:41:57,170

I think my motivation, um, to get  
back to masters is partly because

886

00:41:57,170 --> 00:41:59,420

I, I just want to win this thing.

887

00:41:59,780 --> 00:42:02,229

The fact of going back to  
masters would be a great bonus.

888

00:42:02,240 --> 00:42:04,079

And that was masters was a delight.

889

00:42:04,360 --> 00:42:06,620

I would do that forever if I could.

890

00:42:06,860 --> 00:42:10,680

So yeah, to hang out with James  
Matea, as well as these guys and

891

00:42:10,680 --> 00:42:13,320

whoever else they throw in there  
in that environment of getting to

892

00:42:13,320 --> 00:42:15,350

play a bunch of games over and over.

893

00:42:15,590 --> 00:42:17,730

With, uh, you know,  
well written questions.

894

00:42:17,870 --> 00:42:20,810

That's a lot of fun, but, uh, but  
I don't think that's my motivation

895

00:42:20,810 --> 00:42:21,750

for wanting to win this one.

896

00:42:21,770 --> 00:42:25,919

I just want to win this one so I can win  
this one, you know, uh, but I'll settle

897

00:42:25,919 --> 00:42:27,840

for getting past the first round, man.

898

00:42:27,919 --> 00:42:31,209

A lot of really good players  
are just going to fall and I

899

00:42:31,209 --> 00:42:32,310

just don't want that to be me.

900

00:42:32,520 --> 00:42:35,770

Well we've certainly seen that in the  
Tournament of Champions, you know,

901

00:42:35,770 --> 00:42:39,510

with many of our favorites going in,  
but I, I keep saying, you know, we

902

00:42:39,510 --> 00:42:41,020

don't call it Jeopardy for nothing.

903

00:42:41,400 --> 00:42:45,320

You gotta play to move on, and  
yes, you might run it back a

904

00:42:45,320 --> 00:42:48,700  
different time and have it go a  
different way, but this is Jeopardy.

905  
00:42:48,970 --> 00:42:49,590  
Absolutely.

906  
00:42:49,940 --> 00:42:52,429  
Well, uh, thank you so much, guys.

907  
00:42:52,460 --> 00:42:57,715  
I think I hear Uh, the OG Jeppa baby  
in the background, you know, demanding,

908  
00:42:58,065 --> 00:43:02,325  
demanding your, demanding your, your, your  
attention and, or maybe have something

909  
00:43:02,325 --> 00:43:08,134  
to chime in and, and, and, and talk about  
it and say, um, can't wait for everybody

910  
00:43:08,134 --> 00:43:10,884  
to see your performances in the JIT.

911  
00:43:11,315 --> 00:43:15,915  
Uh, just as a, you know, there's no  
spoiler here, the gameplay and the level

912  
00:43:15,915 --> 00:43:19,555  
of competition in JIT is just remarkable.

913  
00:43:19,595 --> 00:43:22,554  
It's so gratifying for me and thank  
you to you on behalf of all the

914  
00:43:22,554 --> 00:43:25,884  
contestants, is just to have these  
ideas that I walk in one day and I

915  
00:43:25,884 --> 00:43:29,664  
say to Sarah, How about we do the JIT,  
the Jeopardy Invitational Tournament?

916  
00:43:29,675 --> 00:43:30,615  
She says, the JIT!

917  
00:43:30,655 --> 00:43:31,005  
I go,

918  
00:43:31,044 --> 00:43:31,374  
yes!

919  
00:43:31,795 --> 00:43:35,585  
And we, we have these ideas  
and then we, and I, Can I bring

920  
00:43:35,595 --> 00:43:36,315  
27?

921  
00:43:36,335 --> 00:43:36,365  
Sure!

922  
00:43:36,385 --> 00:43:37,245  
Yes, and we think

923  
00:43:37,255 --> 00:43:40,125  
about the pyramid and we think about  
the ideas and just to be able to have

924  
00:43:40,125 --> 00:43:43,125  
an idea and now we're talking about  
it having actually been realized and

925  
00:43:43,125 --> 00:43:47,584  
thank you for helping us realize this  
and being so much a part of our world.

926  
00:43:47,585 --> 00:43:54,284  
I am in awe of your ability and one of  
the things that's so gratifying to me

927  
00:43:54,385 --> 00:43:59,405  
is to have got to know all of you better  
and to watch all of you develop, not

928  
00:43:59,405 --> 00:44:05,885  
only as Jeopardy players, but also as  
primetime personalities and also just your

929  
00:44:05,885 --> 00:44:10,205  
friendships and your relationships with  
each other the fraternity the sorority

930  
00:44:10,205 --> 00:44:13,774  
amongst our jeopardy players has been  
something so special that the three of

931  
00:44:13,775 --> 00:44:17,575  
you really epitomize in every single  
way so a huge thank you from me to you

932  
00:44:17,885 --> 00:44:19,675  
we couldn't pick better ambassadors

933  
00:44:19,835 --> 00:44:23,985  
yeah i mean i i'm sure i speak for  
all of us that like apart from playing

934  
00:44:23,985 --> 00:44:27,980  
the game getting to hang out With  
these two specifically, but with the

935  
00:44:27,980 --> 00:44:32,060  
Jeopardy community in general, it  
is just, it is always a fun time.

936  
00:44:32,140 --> 00:44:36,030  
It is surprising that a group of people  
that are not selected for being good

937  
00:44:36,030 --> 00:44:40,569  
people, but just for being good at  
trivia, but they're consistently great

938  
00:44:40,570 --> 00:44:43,560  
people, and it is always, I'm always  
happy to be around Jeopardy people.

939

00:44:44,659 --> 00:44:45,980

And that is it for today's show.

940

00:44:46,170 --> 00:44:50,275

We will be back on Monday to discuss  
the remaining final games and We're

941

00:44:50,275 --> 00:44:53,635

going to see if Ben Chan can lock  
it up today, or if we're going to be

942

00:44:53,635 --> 00:44:55,835

heading into a game six or a game seven.

943

00:44:56,115 --> 00:44:59,515

And don't forget to head over to our  
YouTube channel as soon as we crown

944

00:44:59,565 --> 00:45:03,575

our new TOC champion for a special  
Inside Jeopardy video interview.

945

00:45:03,575 --> 00:45:04,375

You won't want to miss it.

946

00:45:04,675 --> 00:45:06,635

We will see you all next week.

947

00:45:06,645 --> 00:45:06,665

See

948

00:45:06,934 --> 00:45:07,475

you then.