

1  
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:07,170  
From the Alex Trebek Stage at Sony  
Pictures Studios, this is Inside

2  
00:00:07,170 --> 00:00:07,830  
Jeopardy!.

3  
00:00:08,610 --> 00:00:11,970  
Hello and welcome back to Inside Jeopardy!,  
your exclusive and official podcast

4  
00:00:11,970 --> 00:00:15,840  
destination for all things happening in  
the world of Jeopardy!, even in the summer.

5  
00:00:16,140 --> 00:00:19,380  
I'm Sarah Foss and I'm  
joined today by Buzzy Cohen.

6  
00:00:19,440 --> 00:00:20,940  
A little tired, Buzzy Cohen.

7  
00:00:20,940 --> 00:00:21,750  
I do think dare little

8  
00:00:21,750 --> 00:00:25,980  
tired coming, dare to say, coming  
off, uh, 4th of July holiday.

9  
00:00:26,264 --> 00:00:28,064  
Well, I had a great time, but  
you know, sometimes you need

10  
00:00:28,064 --> 00:00:29,505  
a vacation from the vacation.

11  
00:00:29,505 --> 00:00:30,375  
It's so true.

12  
00:00:30,584 --> 00:00:31,034  
How about you?

13

00:00:31,215 --> 00:00:32,205  
I feel the same.

14

00:00:32,205 --> 00:00:36,495  
A little lake life in Michigan did me  
well, but then we're just back at it.

15

00:00:36,585 --> 00:00:36,735  
Yeah.

16

00:00:36,735 --> 00:00:39,614  
You know, life is back,  
but I do love summer.

17

00:00:39,614 --> 00:00:39,675  
The.

18

00:00:40,365 --> 00:00:41,985  
My children home from school.

19

00:00:42,495 --> 00:00:42,795  
Yes.

20

00:00:42,795 --> 00:00:43,815  
Joining us in the pod.

21

00:00:43,815 --> 00:00:47,895  
Actually, we each have, we have one  
child in the pod today because the older

22

00:00:47,895 --> 00:00:51,885  
siblings, it was, take your older sibling  
to the inside Jeopardy Podcast day.

23

00:00:53,895 --> 00:00:55,455  
Anyway, it's summer.

24

00:00:55,485 --> 00:00:59,145  
We're very excited because today is the  
day we are kicking off our series of

25

00:00:59,145 --> 00:01:02,505  
interviews with some of our Jeopardy  
masters, some of our Jeopardy greats.

26  
00:01:02,625 --> 00:01:04,785  
And first up, oh my goodness.

27  
00:01:04,785 --> 00:01:05,625  
I'm so excited.

28  
00:01:05,625 --> 00:01:07,935  
I know Sam bring it Buty.

29  
00:01:07,935 --> 00:01:08,805  
I'm busting.

30  
00:01:08,850 --> 00:01:12,990  
Ah, he's gonna be joining us later in  
the pod, so looking forward to that.

31  
00:01:13,500 --> 00:01:14,399  
Wait bust is busting.

32  
00:01:14,405 --> 00:01:14,589  
Can't wait.

33  
00:01:14,589 --> 00:01:15,030  
I'm busting.

34  
00:01:15,149 --> 00:01:18,509  
But before we can see what Sam has  
been up to, we first have to get to

35  
00:01:18,509 --> 00:01:21,600  
the highlights of last week's game,  
so get right into it, everybody.

36  
00:01:22,289 --> 00:01:23,369  
Beep boobs.

37  
00:01:28,250 --> 00:01:31,649  
We kicked off the week with

returning Champion Elena de Toro.

38

00:01:31,885 --> 00:01:35,305

Going for her second win up  
against Elliot Kim and Sarah Daley.

39

00:01:35,635 --> 00:01:38,485

Our new challenger Elliot was  
on fire in the jeopardy round

40

00:01:38,485 --> 00:01:43,345

scoring an incredible 18 correct  
responses and a \$5,000 daily double.

41

00:01:43,525 --> 00:01:46,705

He didn't let up and double jeopardy,  
adding 10 more correct responses

42

00:01:46,705 --> 00:01:52,735

and another \$5,000 daily double on  
his way to a no doubt runaway win.

43

00:01:53,185 --> 00:01:54,625

This was a big game.

44

00:01:54,625 --> 00:01:55,865

His jeopardy round alone.

45

00:01:56,440 --> 00:01:57,580

You know, we ran the stats.

46

00:01:57,610 --> 00:01:57,670

Yeah.

47

00:01:57,670 --> 00:01:59,140

Carlos was right on the stats.

48

00:01:59,500 --> 00:02:02,020

Second best of the entire season.

49

00:02:02,050 --> 00:02:02,440

Wow.

50  
00:02:02,774 --> 00:02:07,875  
Only after Chris Pineo, so Elliot  
had 15,200 at the end of the

51  
00:02:07,875 --> 00:02:11,025  
jeopardy round, Chris Pineo, 16,200.

52  
00:02:11,025 --> 00:02:12,614  
So clearly impressive.

53  
00:02:12,674 --> 00:02:16,035  
Elliot got off to a hot start  
and he was in his rhythm.

54  
00:02:16,334 --> 00:02:19,035  
Yeah, unfortunately everyone  
did miss final jeopardy.

55  
00:02:19,035 --> 00:02:20,084  
Yeah, but it didn't matter.

56  
00:02:20,084 --> 00:02:20,505  
It doesn't matter.

57  
00:02:20,815 --> 00:02:21,025  
You know?

58  
00:02:21,025 --> 00:02:21,265  
No.

59  
00:02:21,269 --> 00:02:22,555  
When it's a runaway final,

60  
00:02:22,555 --> 00:02:23,005  
doesn't matter.

61  
00:02:23,005 --> 00:02:23,875  
I did love that.

62  
00:02:23,875 --> 00:02:27,295

Elena's high school history teacher,  
Marian Campbell, had been a two day

63

00:02:27,295 --> 00:02:29,275  
jeopardy champ back in the nineties.

64

00:02:29,785 --> 00:02:33,954  
I had a high school teacher,  
English teacher of mine who came to.

65

00:02:34,725 --> 00:02:36,345  
Every one of my tapings.

66

00:02:36,345 --> 00:02:36,495  
Oh really?

67

00:02:36,495 --> 00:02:37,365  
He lives in LA now.

68

00:02:37,365 --> 00:02:38,535  
He's retired to la Yep.

69

00:02:38,985 --> 00:02:43,485  
And uh, he taught me some of the  
material that I got right and some

70

00:02:43,485 --> 00:02:45,735  
that I got wrong on the Jeopardy stage.

71

00:02:45,735 --> 00:02:49,005  
And I think he felt, he always felt  
like he was a little slow, but I

72

00:02:49,005 --> 00:02:52,155  
think in his prime, he would've  
been a great Jeopardy champion.

73

00:02:52,160 --> 00:02:55,545  
So, Dean Slider, if you're listening,  
just know I'm thinking of you.

74

00:02:55,785 --> 00:02:59,054

Well, hopefully Elena is now reaching out to her high school teacher

75

00:02:59,114 --> 00:03:00,075  
because Yes, cuz now it's finally air.

76

00:03:00,075 --> 00:03:03,614  
At the time she didn't, she said she didn't let anyone know except for her

77

00:03:03,614 --> 00:03:06,915  
family, because you know, you never know what's gonna happen on the Alex Beck

78

00:03:06,915 --> 00:03:07,095  
stage.

79

00:03:07,095 --> 00:03:08,655  
So some people don't even let their family know.

80

00:03:08,660 --> 00:03:09,825  
So already you're

81

00:03:09,829 --> 00:03:10,575  
a step ahead.

82

00:03:10,695 --> 00:03:12,915  
All right, well moving on to Tuesday where Elliot returned to

83

00:03:12,915 --> 00:03:15,195  
face, Kate Camp Alita and Chuck.

84

00:03:15,235 --> 00:03:19,345  
Beam Elliot had a slower start than he did on Monday, leaving the door open

85

00:03:19,345 --> 00:03:22,735  
for Kate to take a strong lead into double jeopardy, where she continued

86

00:03:22,735 --> 00:03:28,435  
her solid play and cruised into our  
second runaway in a row of the week.

87  
00:03:29,035 --> 00:03:30,445  
And this is the 4th of July show.

88  
00:03:30,505 --> 00:03:30,895  
Oh my God.

89  
00:03:31,455 --> 00:03:31,735  
Fireworks.

90  
00:03:31,755 --> 00:03:35,745  
For Kate, Kate gained some independence  
from having to play final jeopardy.

91  
00:03:35,924 --> 00:03:35,954  
Oh.

92  
00:03:35,954 --> 00:03:36,795  
With that runaway game.

93  
00:03:36,795 --> 00:03:37,635  
I'm just trying here.

94  
00:03:37,875 --> 00:03:40,394  
Really exciting to have two runaway games.

95  
00:03:40,400 --> 00:03:43,155  
Sometimes like The Runaways, when  
it's one champion feel like it

96  
00:03:43,155 --> 00:03:45,525  
can, you can, you're like, come on,  
I want to see someone go for it.

97  
00:03:45,525 --> 00:03:45,615  
Sure.

98  
00:03:45,615 --> 00:03:49,484  
But when it's kind of like back to back



players getting runaways against each

99

00:03:49,484 --> 00:03:50,834  
other, I find that kind of exciting.

100

00:03:51,495 --> 00:03:51,734  
Well,

101

00:03:51,734 --> 00:03:55,215  
and I find it exciting that Kate  
revealed, you know, what she

102

00:03:55,220 --> 00:03:57,225  
did to prepare for Jeopardy.

103

00:03:57,315 --> 00:03:57,405  
Mm-hmm.

104

00:03:57,644 --> 00:04:00,165  
She watched a lot of crash  
course with John Green.

105

00:04:00,655 --> 00:04:04,695  
I love, and we love John Green, friend  
of the show, and I think that is another,

106

00:04:04,875 --> 00:04:07,635  
just add that to your preparation arsenal.

107

00:04:07,655 --> 00:04:08,315  
Crash course.

108

00:04:08,345 --> 00:04:08,405  
Yeah.

109

00:04:08,405 --> 00:04:09,185  
Love John Green.

110

00:04:09,185 --> 00:04:10,295  
Also a big fan of Hank Green.

111

00:04:10,295 --> 00:04:11,225  
I love the whole green crew.

112  
00:04:11,225 --> 00:04:11,285  
Yeah.

113  
00:04:11,285 --> 00:04:11,525  
Love him both.

114  
00:04:11,525 --> 00:04:12,915  
Smart cookies in that family, huh?

115  
00:04:12,915 --> 00:04:13,435  
Smart family.

116  
00:04:13,535 --> 00:04:16,115  
Uh, Ken even thought that final  
was tough and he doesn't think

117  
00:04:16,115 --> 00:04:17,404  
he would've gotten in 30 seconds.

118  
00:04:17,404 --> 00:04:18,185  
So, you know, that

119  
00:04:18,185 --> 00:04:18,995  
has to make you feel good.

120  
00:04:18,995 --> 00:04:20,855  
Gotta make you feel better as a  
contest contestant when Ken Jennings,

121  
00:04:20,855 --> 00:04:21,845  
the goat says, you know what?

122  
00:04:21,845 --> 00:04:22,385  
That was tough.

123  
00:04:22,505 --> 00:04:24,275  
I wouldn't have gotten  
there in 30 seconds.

124  
00:04:24,275 --> 00:04:26,345  
You're like, alright, I can go home proud.

125  
00:04:26,585 --> 00:04:27,035  
All right, let's

126  
00:04:27,035 --> 00:04:28,355  
move on to Wednesday's game, shall we?

127  
00:04:28,385 --> 00:04:28,625  
Well,

128  
00:04:28,625 --> 00:04:31,475  
we shall and Kate return  
to face Aubrey Gil.

129  
00:04:31,695 --> 00:04:31,915  
And.

130  
00:04:32,114 --> 00:04:33,315  
Angie Nyquist.

131  
00:04:33,315 --> 00:04:36,375  
It was a slow star for our players  
in this game, but Aubrey found his

132  
00:04:36,375 --> 00:04:39,674  
stride in double jeopardy heading  
into final with a near runaway.

133  
00:04:40,005 --> 00:04:43,125  
But Angie, the only one to come  
up with the correct response.

134  
00:04:43,130 --> 00:04:47,174  
In final, going from third place to  
earn an exciting come from behind win.

135  
00:04:47,534 --> 00:04:49,125  
Ken closed out the show with you.

136

00:04:49,125 --> 00:04:51,705  
Never know what's going to  
happen on Jeopardy and boy.

137  
00:04:52,815 --> 00:04:53,265  
That is true.

138  
00:04:53,505 --> 00:04:53,835  
Yeah.

139  
00:04:53,835 --> 00:04:53,984  
I

140  
00:04:53,984 --> 00:04:58,695  
just gotta give a shout out to a  
really great play, uh, from Angie.

141  
00:04:58,784 --> 00:05:01,575  
Sometimes in third place, you're like, oh,  
they're gonna bet against each other and

142  
00:05:01,575 --> 00:05:04,065  
I can just sit tight and kind of at zero.

143  
00:05:04,070 --> 00:05:04,174  
Mm-hmm.

144  
00:05:04,755 --> 00:05:05,865  
Angie, you earned that one.

145  
00:05:05,865 --> 00:05:06,855  
Congratulations.

146  
00:05:06,855 --> 00:05:07,275  
And I don't

147  
00:05:07,280 --> 00:05:09,255  
think Angie still believes that she won.

148  
00:05:09,285 --> 00:05:10,755  
She was shocked in the moment.

149

00:05:10,965 --> 00:05:13,245

She was laughing throughout  
the post-game chat.

150

00:05:13,245 --> 00:05:16,875

Ken joked you look like you just  
won Jeopardy as, as a bit, you know?

151

00:05:16,905 --> 00:05:17,025

Yeah.

152

00:05:17,055 --> 00:05:17,595

Hey, you look.

153

00:05:17,600 --> 00:05:20,595

And she said she's been  
watching since she's 13.

154

00:05:20,595 --> 00:05:25,185

She never thought she would be on the  
stage and now I won, so That is crazy.

155

00:05:25,335 --> 00:05:25,605

Yeah.

156

00:05:25,635 --> 00:05:29,445

And even Kate, she said, you know,  
there were a few of us on this tape day.

157

00:05:29,445 --> 00:05:31,065

We were just here for the vibes.

158

00:05:31,155 --> 00:05:31,335

Totally.

159

00:05:31,335 --> 00:05:32,534

So I know how you feel, girl.

160

00:05:32,534 --> 00:05:34,245

She said to Angie, just take it in.

161

00:05:34,545 --> 00:05:37,965  
And Aubrey added that his husband  
had applied for the show five times

162  
00:05:38,385 --> 00:05:40,905  
and he thought, you know what, I'm  
just gonna apply and see how it goes.

163  
00:05:40,905 --> 00:05:40,965  
Yeah.

164  
00:05:41,025 --> 00:05:42,465  
And then here he is.

165  
00:05:42,465 --> 00:05:46,665  
So all of these stories just to tell  
anyone who's listening, Give it a try.

166  
00:05:46,695 --> 00:05:48,615  
Yeah, just take the Anytime test.

167  
00:05:48,615 --> 00:05:50,145  
It takes 15 minutes.

168  
00:05:50,385 --> 00:05:51,165  
You never

169  
00:05:51,285 --> 00:05:51,735  
know.

170  
00:05:51,825 --> 00:05:54,045  
And you could end up like Angie.

171  
00:05:54,375 --> 00:05:59,115  
And Angie gets to say that she is  
a Jeopardy champion for the rest

172  
00:05:59,115 --> 00:05:59,985  
of her, for the rest of her life.

173  
00:05:59,985 --> 00:05:59,986  
Life.

174

00:06:00,015 --> 00:06:02,085

And Ken said, you know, I  
got some bad news for you.

175

00:06:02,085 --> 00:06:04,155

You're gonna have to come  
back and play tomorrow.

176

00:06:04,160 --> 00:06:08,205

And she said, okay, I have a warmer shirt  
As I, as she wore a sweater the next day.

177

00:06:08,475 --> 00:06:10,655

Cause let's be honest,  
it's cold on that stage.

178

00:06:10,685 --> 00:06:11,695

It's cold on that stage.

179

00:06:11,835 --> 00:06:13,215

And as much as we tell you that.

180

00:06:13,475 --> 00:06:17,045

And the contestant team does tell people  
that, you know, you don't believe 'em.

181

00:06:17,045 --> 00:06:19,235

There are so many layers  
behind the scenes.

182

00:06:19,295 --> 00:06:20,225

Um, it's crazy.

183

00:06:20,225 --> 00:06:22,175

There are people in parkass ski hats.

184

00:06:22,265 --> 00:06:22,355

Yeah.

185

00:06:22,355 --> 00:06:22,745

You name it.

186

00:06:22,745 --> 00:06:23,855

I've got hand warmers.

187

00:06:23,855 --> 00:06:24,575

I don't know if you know that.

188

00:06:24,615 --> 00:06:25,175

I I do

189

00:06:25,175 --> 00:06:25,805

know that, yes.

190

00:06:25,810 --> 00:06:29,105

Oh, you know that I've, and I've seen, um, Mindy Jennings sometimes

191

00:06:29,195 --> 00:06:30,995

with a blanket and the hand warmers.

192

00:06:31,000 --> 00:06:31,085

Yes.

193

00:06:31,090 --> 00:06:31,565

Mindy does

194

00:06:31,565 --> 00:06:32,165

bring a blanket.

195

00:06:32,165 --> 00:06:33,755

You know, she's been around for a few years, know.

196

00:06:33,755 --> 00:06:33,815

Yeah.

197

00:06:33,815 --> 00:06:34,495

She's a, she's a pro.

198

00:06:34,679 --> 00:06:36,119

She knows how to do it well.



199

00:06:36,119 --> 00:06:40,349

We head into Thursday with Angie going up against Alex Gordon and Carol Oppenheim.

200

00:06:40,349 --> 00:06:43,530

Alex got out to an early lead but really turned it on in double

201

00:06:43,530 --> 00:06:47,280

jeopardy with 13 correct responses and both daily doubles finishing

202

00:06:47,280 --> 00:06:50,130

the round with nearly \$23,000 and.

203

00:06:50,655 --> 00:06:51,675

Another runaway on

204

00:06:51,675 --> 00:06:53,235

this week, another runaway.

205

00:06:53,235 --> 00:06:54,195

It's runaway week.

206

00:06:54,375 --> 00:06:56,835

First off, this show aired on my dad's birthday, so I'm

207

00:06:56,835 --> 00:06:58,275

gonna say happy birthday, dad.

208

00:06:58,275 --> 00:06:58,515

Happy birthday.

209

00:06:58,515 --> 00:06:59,035

I like to do that

210

00:06:59,035 --> 00:06:59,435

kinda stuff.

211

00:06:59,435 --> 00:07:00,115  
Happy Buzz's dad.

212  
00:07:00,585 --> 00:07:01,305  
We know he listens.

213  
00:07:01,305 --> 00:07:02,295  
We know he listens.

214  
00:07:02,325 --> 00:07:05,835  
Um, and I, what I think is really  
amazing is that even without the

215  
00:07:05,835 --> 00:07:11,235  
\$7,500 of daily doubles, I mean, he  
doesn't have a runaway, but Alex has a.

216  
00:07:11,420 --> 00:07:12,500  
Big lead.

217  
00:07:12,500 --> 00:07:15,020  
So it just goes to show, you know,  
sometimes you have those runaway games

218  
00:07:15,020 --> 00:07:18,710  
where it's like the daily doubles,  
right, are really like the decider.

219  
00:07:18,710 --> 00:07:21,470  
This was, if you just look at  
Choreo, still a well played

220  
00:07:21,530 --> 00:07:23,300  
game by Alex and that had to

221  
00:07:23,300 --> 00:07:26,540  
feel good for Alex because he missed  
his medical school graduation.

222  
00:07:26,630 --> 00:07:26,930  
Oh my God.

223

00:07:27,050 --> 00:07:29,810  
To be here on this day and.

224  
00:07:29,965 --> 00:07:32,545  
Angie even joked to him, happy graduation.

225  
00:07:32,545 --> 00:07:33,955  
That was my present to you.

226  
00:07:34,045 --> 00:07:35,755  
You know, losing the game.

227  
00:07:35,755 --> 00:07:37,075  
She did that for him.

228  
00:07:37,375 --> 00:07:39,985  
And Ken asked, did it  
validate your decision?

229  
00:07:39,990 --> 00:07:43,555  
And Ken joked, unless they were  
gonna give you a \$25,001 grant.

230  
00:07:43,615 --> 00:07:44,095  
Yes.

231  
00:07:44,185 --> 00:07:47,395  
And it was such a sweet moment because  
Alex's mom was in the audience.

232  
00:07:47,405 --> 00:07:49,984  
And he had said, you know, I always  
knew this was the right decision,

233  
00:07:49,984 --> 00:07:51,424  
but I don't know that my parents did.

234  
00:07:51,484 --> 00:07:51,695  
Right.

235  
00:07:51,905 --> 00:07:55,354  
And she stood up and she kissed

him and she was crying and

236

00:07:55,354 --> 00:07:56,375  
it was just such a beautiful

237

00:07:56,375 --> 00:07:56,885  
moment.

238

00:07:56,974 --> 00:08:01,715  
The naus that as a parent you must  
have on the day that your kid gets

239

00:08:01,715 --> 00:08:03,335  
their diploma from med school.

240

00:08:03,364 --> 00:08:03,544  
Right.

241

00:08:03,549 --> 00:08:06,604  
And wins on America's favorite quiz show.

242

00:08:06,604 --> 00:08:09,880  
I mean, I can't imagine as a  
parent, A imagine as a child, like

243

00:08:09,880 --> 00:08:12,150  
imagine as we look across at our two,  
as we look at our children, you know,

244

00:08:12,599 --> 00:08:16,560  
one day, all right, well we closed out  
the week with Alex going for his second

245

00:08:16,565 --> 00:08:22,020  
win up against Tom Zelensky and Raquel  
Stewart, Alex Kaf to a good start in

246

00:08:22,020 --> 00:08:25,140  
the jeopardy round and never looked back  
from their ending the double jeopardy

247

00:08:25,140 --> 00:08:30,390

round with 25 correct responses and  
a runaway score for the second time.

248

00:08:30,555 --> 00:08:35,235

In a row and we were so happy to see this  
because we had a little bit of a, a streak

249

00:08:35,235 --> 00:08:36,945

of one day champions, which is great, yes.

250

00:08:36,945 --> 00:08:39,705

Happens cuz you make, make that many  
more Jeopardy champions in one week.

251

00:08:39,705 --> 00:08:43,395

But we were wanting to see a little  
streak build and here Alex broke our

252

00:08:43,395 --> 00:08:45,585

four day streak of one day winners.

253

00:08:45,885 --> 00:08:45,915

I

254

00:08:45,915 --> 00:08:47,985

am glad that Alex did  
break that one day streak.

255

00:08:47,990 --> 00:08:48,405

But you know what?

256

00:08:48,410 --> 00:08:52,095

Sometimes it's like we get so used  
to, especially in last season, where

257

00:08:52,095 --> 00:08:54,895

we had all of these super champs,  
it's like this season of the super

258

00:08:54,895 --> 00:08:55,995

champ, this is the kind of like.

259

00:08:56,415 --> 00:08:57,945  
One day champ thing, one or two.

260  
00:08:57,945 --> 00:09:01,545  
It's like kind of helps you appreciate  
those moments even more, doesn't it?

261  
00:09:01,665 --> 00:09:02,325  
It does, yeah.

262  
00:09:02,325 --> 00:09:04,785  
And you know, Ken made sure  
Alex had a clear calendar.

263  
00:09:04,785 --> 00:09:05,955  
He could be back next week.

264  
00:09:06,050 --> 00:09:07,605  
He didn't have to miss any big events.

265  
00:09:07,605 --> 00:09:10,215  
And, uh, he will be back next week.

266  
00:09:10,575 --> 00:09:14,145  
That wraps up our game highlights, but  
instead of diving into viewer questions,

267  
00:09:14,235 --> 00:09:16,125  
we've got questions for Sam Buttrey.

268  
00:09:16,130 --> 00:09:18,615  
So let's welcome Sam Buttrey to the pod.

269  
00:09:18,750 --> 00:09:19,680  
Sam, so

270  
00:09:19,680 --> 00:09:20,430  
good to see you.

271  
00:09:20,580 --> 00:09:21,690  
Thank you very much for having me.

272

00:09:21,690 --> 00:09:22,080  
Thank you.

273

00:09:22,080 --> 00:09:22,680  
Good to be here.

274

00:09:22,770 --> 00:09:23,040  
Oh,

275

00:09:23,040 --> 00:09:26,460  
you know, it's only been less  
than two months since we saw you

276

00:09:26,460 --> 00:09:29,100  
last, and yet it's too long, Sam.

277

00:09:29,160 --> 00:09:30,990  
Everyone wants more Sam Buttrey.

278

00:09:32,580 --> 00:09:34,590  
That seems unlikely, but  
I'm delighted to be here.

279

00:09:34,590 --> 00:09:37,350  
I myself have had enough of Sam  
Buttrey, as you can understand.

280

00:09:38,070 --> 00:09:38,460  
I really

281

00:09:38,460 --> 00:09:42,030  
can't, you know, this is a series  
we wanted to kick off of checking

282

00:09:42,030 --> 00:09:44,250  
in with our masters and just seeing.

283

00:09:44,729 --> 00:09:49,349  
What life has been like for you,  
you know, since that epic prime time

284

00:09:49,349 --> 00:09:50,160  
showdown?

285  
00:09:50,400 --> 00:09:53,069  
It has been, uh, somewhat  
different than my life.

286  
00:09:53,069 --> 00:09:56,069  
After the last, uh, jeopardy  
tournaments that I've been in, I think

287  
00:09:56,074 --> 00:09:57,900  
there's been more attention paid.

288  
00:09:57,900 --> 00:10:00,689  
I feel like I'm being  
recognized more and in.

289  
00:10:01,090 --> 00:10:03,400  
Uh, places that I wouldn't  
expect to get recognized.

290  
00:10:03,790 --> 00:10:07,300  
But, uh, you know, the level of, I, I  
don't wanna say harassment, the level

291  
00:10:07,300 --> 00:10:09,190  
of fun is about where it should be.

292  
00:10:09,190 --> 00:10:10,300  
I haven't been bothered.

293  
00:10:10,300 --> 00:10:13,840  
Uh, people seem very complimentary  
and, uh, you know, my life is

294  
00:10:13,840 --> 00:10:15,130  
slowly getting back to normal.

295  
00:10:15,340 --> 00:10:15,700  
What's the

296



00:10:15,700 --> 00:10:18,070  
most surprising place that  
you've been recognized?

297

00:10:18,400 --> 00:10:21,430  
Uh, my wife and I just got back from  
a working vacation, at least working

298

00:10:21,430 --> 00:10:24,010  
on my part in, in Portsmouth, New  
Hampshire, and I thought, well, that's

299

00:10:24,010 --> 00:10:26,950  
about as far away as you can get from  
where I live in the Monterey area.

300

00:10:27,180 --> 00:10:30,510  
And I told her, you know, we're accustomed  
to being stopped on the street out

301

00:10:30,510 --> 00:10:33,960  
here in California, but there's no  
chance that we'll be stopped and, oh,

302

00:10:34,320 --> 00:10:36,810  
hello Jackie from the Sandwich Shop?

303

00:10:36,960 --> 00:10:37,260  
Yes.

304

00:10:37,265 --> 00:10:38,010  
You may have a picture.

305

00:10:38,910 --> 00:10:42,180  
I wanna roll back the clock if  
I may, because you may buzz in.

306

00:10:42,180 --> 00:10:46,680  
When we started the Inside Jeopardy  
podcast, you had already been on the

307

00:10:46,680 --> 00:10:48,180  
Professor's tournament inside Jeopardy.

308

00:10:48,180 --> 00:10:52,320

We kind of started talking about  
you in anticipation of the T O c.

309

00:10:52,470 --> 00:10:56,340

So I would love to kind of go back  
even before the professor's tournament.

310

00:10:56,715 --> 00:10:57,255

And talk

311

00:10:57,255 --> 00:11:00,165

about, like, I wanna go  
back to Sam's audition.

312

00:11:00,165 --> 00:11:00,895

Can we go back that far?

313

00:11:00,895 --> 00:11:00,896

Yes.

314

00:11:00,901 --> 00:11:01,065

That's

315

00:11:01,065 --> 00:11:03,645

kinda, I wanna, actually, I  
wanna go further back than that.

316

00:11:03,645 --> 00:11:03,735

Yes.

317

00:11:03,735 --> 00:11:06,975

It goes without saying, someone  
who performs at your level is a fan

318

00:11:06,980 --> 00:11:11,025

of the show, but like how did it  
go from I'm a fan to, I'm going to

319

00:11:11,025 --> 00:11:12,615

take a test, I'm gonna audition.

320

00:11:12,915 --> 00:11:14,955

There's this thing called  
the professor's tournament.

321

00:11:14,955 --> 00:11:16,215

Take me there, Sam.

322

00:11:17,040 --> 00:11:21,300

Well, our story begins, ironically  
enough in Rome, Italy, many years ago.

323

00:11:21,840 --> 00:11:24,930

Ah, uh, no, I, I, it turns out  
I was born in Rome, but that's

324

00:11:24,930 --> 00:11:26,040

not relevant to your question.

325

00:11:26,040 --> 00:11:28,890

I think, you know, I've always been a  
Jeopardy fan, as I've said, going way

326

00:11:28,890 --> 00:11:30,870

back to the, uh, to the Art Fleming days.

327

00:11:31,200 --> 00:11:34,800

And I had tried on and off to  
take the, the, the test before

328

00:11:34,800 --> 00:11:36,240

it was in the anytime version.

329

00:11:36,240 --> 00:11:37,740

Of course, you had to, to think about it.

330

00:11:37,830 --> 00:11:39,540

I'd taken the test a number of times.

331

00:11:39,885 --> 00:11:42,584

I had been to at least one of  
those big meetings you guys

332

00:11:42,589 --> 00:11:43,755  
used to put on at a hotel.

333

00:11:43,785 --> 00:11:46,964  
I, I don't think I'd really  
expected to get the, the final call.

334

00:11:46,964 --> 00:11:50,474  
You know, a lot of people get put on the  
list and told to wait 18 months, and I,

335

00:11:50,474 --> 00:11:53,415  
I would've been happy, I think, to be in  
that group, but of course, I'm happier.

336

00:11:53,790 --> 00:11:54,060  
To be here

337

00:11:54,060 --> 00:11:54,359  
now.

338

00:11:54,839 --> 00:11:58,530  
Well, and when we did our one-on-one  
audition, it was during the heart

339

00:11:58,530 --> 00:12:01,979  
of Covid, so I had stepped into the  
contestant department, which is why I

340

00:12:01,979 --> 00:12:03,689  
was so fortunate to come across you.

341

00:12:03,930 --> 00:12:09,209  
I looked back at my notes and  
I said, resembles Eugene Levy.

342

00:12:09,215 --> 00:12:14,765  
Not Steve Martin, but I will say, Sam, you  
had a much different look at home during

343

00:12:15,035 --> 00:12:17,885

C O I D when you weren't, you know, the  
face of the professor, you're a little

344

00:12:17,885 --> 00:12:19,445  
more casual, a little more facial hair.

345

00:12:19,445 --> 00:12:19,505  
I

346

00:12:19,510 --> 00:12:21,635  
think that may have been true.

347

00:12:21,635 --> 00:12:22,865  
That was pandemic times.

348

00:12:22,865 --> 00:12:23,195  
Yes.

349

00:12:23,195 --> 00:12:24,515  
Facial hair, head hair.

350

00:12:24,515 --> 00:12:25,805  
Really, really all the hairs.

351

00:12:25,805 --> 00:12:25,925  
All the

352

00:12:25,930 --> 00:12:28,265  
hairs were involved in those  
days, all the hairs were there.

353

00:12:28,535 --> 00:12:31,265  
But when I talked to you, we didn't even  
know about the professor's tournament.

354

00:12:31,265 --> 00:12:32,495  
It was really just to.

355

00:12:32,985 --> 00:12:35,205  
Audition people to get them in the pool.

356

00:12:35,205 --> 00:12:37,695  
And then I think they said,  
Hey, we've got this great

357  
00:12:37,695 --> 00:12:39,375  
contestant and he's a professor.

358  
00:12:39,675 --> 00:12:40,515  
Home run.

359  
00:12:40,725 --> 00:12:42,105  
We get to the professor's tournament.

360  
00:12:42,105 --> 00:12:43,845  
We had never done something like that.

361  
00:12:44,205 --> 00:12:47,145  
And you really did excel throughout.

362  
00:12:47,175 --> 00:12:50,325  
If there was anyone that really hit  
the quarter finals with a stride,

363  
00:12:50,330 --> 00:12:53,865  
the semi-finals and the finals, like  
that was Sam Buttrey, it was your

364  
00:12:53,865 --> 00:12:55,455  
tournament to lose it really felt like,

365  
00:12:56,055 --> 00:12:59,325  
yeah, I, I made a critical wagering  
error at one point, but other than

366  
00:12:59,325 --> 00:13:00,615  
that, I thought I acquitted myself.

367  
00:13:00,615 --> 00:13:02,475  
Well, I, I swept into the semifinals.

368  
00:13:02,850 --> 00:13:05,760  
I won that game against, I think

two pretty strong players, and

369

00:13:05,760 --> 00:13:07,560  
then I nearly ran away with.

370

00:13:07,830 --> 00:13:09,690  
The two, two day total point affair.

371

00:13:09,900 --> 00:13:10,110  
Ah, yes.

372

00:13:10,110 --> 00:13:10,800  
We love fact not right.

373

00:13:10,800 --> 00:13:12,870  
And I faced a strong player in Ed Hashima.

374

00:13:12,930 --> 00:13:14,790  
I don't know if the folks  
remember Ed, but they should.

375

00:13:14,790 --> 00:13:16,830  
He was a very nice man  
and a strong player.

376

00:13:17,160 --> 00:13:18,780  
But I was delighted to  
come out the other end.

377

00:13:18,780 --> 00:13:21,990  
It had never been explicitly said  
that the professor's tournament

378

00:13:21,990 --> 00:13:25,770  
champion would in fact get a bid into  
the tournament of champions until I

379

00:13:25,770 --> 00:13:27,810  
think the last day it was implied.

380

00:13:27,810 --> 00:13:28,170  
I assumed we didn't

381  
00:13:28,170 --> 00:13:29,170  
tell you that, Sam.

382  
00:13:29,310 --> 00:13:30,050  
Oh my goodness.

383  
00:13:30,720 --> 00:13:33,660  
I learned it on air from  
Myambi Wester heart.

384  
00:13:34,140 --> 00:13:37,940  
So, uh, that made my heart go  
and, and here I quote, Pat.

385  
00:13:39,170 --> 00:13:40,760  
So what were those months like?

386  
00:13:40,850 --> 00:13:44,030  
You know, you're a professor's champion  
and now you know you're coming back to

387  
00:13:44,030 --> 00:13:50,330  
the T O C and you're watching the Matmos,  
the Amy Schneiders, the Mateo Roach.

388  
00:13:50,330 --> 00:13:53,780  
Like you are seeing this all unfold  
and knowing that you'll be facing them.

389  
00:13:54,590 --> 00:13:57,500  
So, uh, I had already seen  
the wonder That is Matt.

390  
00:13:57,745 --> 00:14:01,285  
So I knew I was up against at least  
one enormous champion, but when Matt

391  
00:14:01,285 --> 00:14:04,465  
finally lost, and I wasn't delighted,  
but it was fun to see a new face.

392



00:14:04,465 --> 00:14:06,835  
There was Jonathan Fisher winning,  
I don't know, 10 in a row.

393  
00:14:06,865 --> 00:14:06,955  
Yes.

394  
00:14:07,045 --> 00:14:07,205  
Mm-hmm.

395  
00:14:07,305 --> 00:14:09,205  
And I thought, oh, this  
is not gonna go well.

396  
00:14:09,205 --> 00:14:12,085  
And then there was Ryan Long and  
Matea, I forget what ordered Amy.

397  
00:14:12,295 --> 00:14:13,645  
Amy, I think was taping.

398  
00:14:13,795 --> 00:14:15,895  
Got her taping was interrupted  
for our tournament.

399  
00:14:15,895 --> 00:14:15,985  
Yes.

400  
00:14:15,985 --> 00:14:18,115  
So we hadn't seen her, but  
she came on quite quickly.

401  
00:14:18,115 --> 00:14:22,480  
So I thought, you know what, uh, It's just  
nice to be invited and man, if I could

402  
00:14:22,480 --> 00:14:26,500  
win one, you know, at, at that time I  
thought it would be the same format as the

403  
00:14:26,500 --> 00:14:30,970  
professors where there might be wild cards  
available to sneak into the second round.

404

00:14:30,970 --> 00:14:33,790

And honestly, that was  
my, my goal at that time.

405

00:14:33,790 --> 00:14:36,220

Sneak into the second round  
and, and anything can happen.

406

00:14:36,580 --> 00:14:38,950

Well, and for those who don't remember  
and the quarter funnels, you go up

407

00:14:38,955 --> 00:14:41,470

against Zach Newkirk and Jessica Stevens.

408

00:14:41,500 --> 00:14:42,340

Tough competition.

409

00:14:42,340 --> 00:14:42,760

You win.

410

00:14:42,970 --> 00:14:48,310

Then in the semi-finals, you go up  
against a seated madam and John Folk.

411

00:14:48,900 --> 00:14:50,580

And you win Sam,

412

00:14:50,880 --> 00:14:53,970

it was a shock to everyone for,  
for half an hour afterwards.

413

00:14:53,975 --> 00:14:57,870

I could only say a phrase that  
sounds a little bit like holy stuff.

414

00:14:57,930 --> 00:14:59,430

That was the only words I could say.

415

00:14:59,910 --> 00:15:02,790

People maybe underestimate how

strong a player John Folk was.

416

00:15:02,795 --> 00:15:03,390

Yes, yes.

417

00:15:03,450 --> 00:15:05,700

Uh, and Matt, of course  
was spec Spectacular.

418

00:15:05,700 --> 00:15:09,780

And I, I, I think in retrospect it helped  
that I had those two guys cuz they were

419

00:15:10,050 --> 00:15:11,280

fighting against one another mm-hmm.

420

00:15:11,520 --> 00:15:11,910

As well as me.

421

00:15:12,360 --> 00:15:14,730

But I was able to, uh,  
get a little bit ahead.

422

00:15:14,730 --> 00:15:18,390

I found a daily double when I needed to  
and, uh, brought final jeopardy home and.

423

00:15:18,645 --> 00:15:21,645

Of course Matt and I are friends, uh,  
but we weren't really at the time and he

424

00:15:21,645 --> 00:15:23,505

was a hundred percent gracious about it.

425

00:15:23,565 --> 00:15:26,745

I was delighted with, uh, with  
Matt starting from the first,

426

00:15:26,745 --> 00:15:27,885

basically the first time I met him.

427

00:15:27,975 --> 00:15:28,095

And

428

00:15:28,095 --> 00:15:30,195  
we saw that you two just got together.

429

00:15:30,195 --> 00:15:32,445  
You had a little rendezvous,  
you and your buddy Matt.

430

00:15:33,285 --> 00:15:33,705  
That's right.

431

00:15:33,705 --> 00:15:36,405  
He's a resident of, uh,  
Cambridge, Massachusetts.

432

00:15:36,410 --> 00:15:39,405  
And as I say, I was up in Portsmouth,  
New Hampshire where the Navy has

433

00:15:39,405 --> 00:15:40,695  
a facility, which is ironically.

434

00:15:41,190 --> 00:15:42,990  
It's called the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

435

00:15:42,990 --> 00:15:46,080  
So perhaps unsurprisingly, it's  
actually in, in Kittery, Maine.

436

00:15:46,770 --> 00:15:50,370  
But my, my, I was planning to meet  
up with my brother down in Boston.

437

00:15:50,370 --> 00:15:53,550  
So we, we got there a night early and  
met up with Matt and his girlfriend,

438

00:15:53,580 --> 00:15:56,910  
two very charming people, and we had a  
nice time, you know, dinner and so on.

439

00:15:56,910 --> 00:15:58,680  
And, uh, just good to get back together.

440  
00:15:58,680 --> 00:16:01,920  
He and I and all of the other  
masters, uh, are in touch over.

441  
00:16:02,339 --> 00:16:03,240  
Over the magic telephone.

442  
00:16:03,270 --> 00:16:03,449  
Well,

443  
00:16:03,449 --> 00:16:07,079  
I would imagine that after you  
beat him, when you guys would meet

444  
00:16:07,079 --> 00:16:08,550  
up, you would pick up the tab.

445  
00:16:08,579 --> 00:16:12,990  
Now that he went further than you  
and masters, is he picking up the tab

446  
00:16:12,990 --> 00:16:14,790  
or are you guys back to going Dutch?

447  
00:16:14,819 --> 00:16:15,150  
What's the

448  
00:16:16,390 --> 00:16:20,579  
There was, there was a brief period  
where I required that he pick up the tab.

449  
00:16:20,610 --> 00:16:20,819  
Yeah.

450  
00:16:21,719 --> 00:16:25,199  
He, he and Andrew, he and I had  
had a three way bet on this.

451  
00:16:25,589 --> 00:16:28,829

Uh, but my, my wife got tired  
of me shoving the check away.

452

00:16:28,829 --> 00:16:31,145  
So we, uh, We split this most recent one.

453

00:16:31,145 --> 00:16:31,385  
Okay.

454

00:16:31,385 --> 00:16:31,665  
Okay.

455

00:16:31,765 --> 00:16:31,945  
All

456

00:16:31,945 --> 00:16:32,245  
right.

457

00:16:32,245 --> 00:16:33,925  
Well, we finish out that T o c.

458

00:16:33,955 --> 00:16:38,155  
You pull out one win, but you fought  
for a lot of those wins coming

459

00:16:38,155 --> 00:16:42,415  
really close, taking it to six games,  
which was a thrill for all of us.

460

00:16:42,535 --> 00:16:46,465  
The t o c concludes, tell us about  
the journey to when you start

461

00:16:46,470 --> 00:16:50,665  
hearing about masters, that there's  
a chance that you're coming back

462

00:16:50,665 --> 00:16:52,735  
yet again to the Alex Beck stage.

463

00:16:52,795 --> 00:16:53,005  
Right.

464  
00:16:53,005 --> 00:16:55,465  
I should not have  
underestimated anything that Mr.

465  
00:16:55,465 --> 00:16:58,705  
Davies decides to do, but I  
had assumed at the end that my.

466  
00:16:59,040 --> 00:17:00,330  
My Jeopardy days were over.

467  
00:17:00,360 --> 00:17:03,780  
And, and that would've been, I think,  
a fun way to go out to have, uh,

468  
00:17:03,780 --> 00:17:06,450  
ended up in the finals, even though I  
didn't do as well as I would've liked.

469  
00:17:06,750 --> 00:17:09,660  
So, uh, actually the first I heard  
of it, I honestly thought it was

470  
00:17:09,660 --> 00:17:12,690  
Jeopardy bringing back the seniors  
turn, which they'd had some years back.

471  
00:17:13,349 --> 00:17:16,949  
And although I don't, uh, feel it on  
the inside, I look at on the outside

472  
00:17:16,949 --> 00:17:18,419  
old enough to be in such a tournament.

473  
00:17:18,419 --> 00:17:21,209  
So I said to myself, I got a  
shot at this thing, you know?

474  
00:17:21,719 --> 00:17:25,469  
And then I realized, oh, no, no, you're  
gonna go in with, you know, AU and Madam

475  
00:17:25,829 --> 00:17:30,239  
who is hungry and angry and, and, uh, you  
know, Amy and Matta and all those folks.

476  
00:17:30,245 --> 00:17:33,659  
So, uh, I was just delighted  
to be thought of in that, in

477  
00:17:33,659 --> 00:17:34,919  
the same breath as those guys.

478  
00:17:34,949 --> 00:17:38,100  
You know, I, I've had a little  
bit of imposter syndrome, which

479  
00:17:38,100 --> 00:17:39,270  
I'm trying to get rid of, but it.

480  
00:17:39,585 --> 00:17:42,135  
Sometimes feels as if  
I'm in for comic relief.

481  
00:17:42,315 --> 00:17:44,895  
You know that there are the great  
Jeopardy players and then there's the

482  
00:17:44,895 --> 00:17:48,105  
amusing guy who looks a little bit  
like Rick Moranis, the movie actor.

483  
00:17:48,165 --> 00:17:48,495  
Now, we

484  
00:17:48,495 --> 00:17:52,485  
knew you had humor, even, you know, back  
to the professor's tournament, but I feel

485  
00:17:52,485 --> 00:17:55,935  
like you've allowed yourself to bring it.

486  
00:17:56,040 --> 00:17:58,710  
Out more as different



competitions have gone on.

487

00:17:58,710 --> 00:17:59,220

Do you feel

488

00:17:59,220 --> 00:17:59,700

like that?

489

00:17:59,910 --> 00:18:04,200

Yeah, I, in a way, I've almost made  
a conscious decision to try to not

490

00:18:04,200 --> 00:18:06,030

suppress my natural personality.

491

00:18:06,030 --> 00:18:07,620

I, I think people do that on jeopardy.

492

00:18:07,620 --> 00:18:08,790

They want to be focused.

493

00:18:08,940 --> 00:18:10,200

I, I mean, which is important.

494

00:18:10,530 --> 00:18:13,290

A and they also wanna respect  
the game, and I wanna make sure

495

00:18:13,295 --> 00:18:14,850

that, that I do that as well.

496

00:18:14,855 --> 00:18:19,620

So I think there's room for a little  
more banter, uh, at least in this group

497

00:18:19,620 --> 00:18:20,790

where everybody knows one another.

498

00:18:20,850 --> 00:18:21,060

Mm-hmm.

499

00:18:21,300 --> 00:18:22,950  
I, I don't know that I would do the same.

500  
00:18:23,310 --> 00:18:26,580  
When I was playing against strangers with whom I didn't have this sort of rapport.

501  
00:18:27,000 --> 00:18:32,040  
So, uh, I, I'm delighted to have had a chance to simultaneously be focused enough

502  
00:18:32,040 --> 00:18:36,030  
on the game to do well, and also to have a moment or two of lightheartedness.

503  
00:18:36,150 --> 00:18:38,520  
The, the one thing I don't wanna do is make it sound like I'm not taking

504  
00:18:38,550 --> 00:18:40,260  
jeopardy seriously, or I'm not taking.

505  
00:18:40,680 --> 00:18:42,690  
Ken and Myam and the memory of Alex Rabbe.

506  
00:18:42,690 --> 00:18:47,130  
Seriously, because I am, but I'm also happy that I've been able to say a couple

507  
00:18:47,130 --> 00:18:48,990  
things that struck people as amusing.

508  
00:18:48,990 --> 00:18:49,140  
Yeah.

509  
00:18:49,290 --> 00:18:49,740  
Oh yeah.

510  
00:18:49,800 --> 00:18:51,510  
Kj K dog.

511  
00:18:51,810 --> 00:18:54,510

How did bring it first  
come about in your mind?

512

00:18:54,510 --> 00:18:56,190  
Did that just, you know, bring it?

513

00:18:56,195 --> 00:18:57,210  
How did that come about?

514

00:18:57,360 --> 00:18:57,570  
I

515

00:18:57,570 --> 00:18:57,690  
have

516

00:18:57,695 --> 00:18:59,700  
always been struck by this weird thing.

517

00:18:59,700 --> 00:19:02,840  
I know Buzzy has had the same thing  
where, well, there's one clue left.

518

00:19:03,250 --> 00:19:04,450  
Nobody knows what to do.

519

00:19:04,510 --> 00:19:04,660  
Yeah.

520

00:19:04,690 --> 00:19:08,230  
Do you wait and have Ken or May  
saying no the final clue, or do you

521

00:19:08,230 --> 00:19:11,440  
try to get out ahead of them and say,  
and I'll also take the 200 there?

522

00:19:11,680 --> 00:19:14,320  
There's never been a, uh, a  
policy for that, so I thought I

523

00:19:14,325 --> 00:19:15,550  
was gonna get out ahead of that.

524

00:19:15,610 --> 00:19:15,790

Yeah.

525

00:19:16,060 --> 00:19:18,940

And I don't know that bring, it was  
the particular phrase that I had

526

00:19:18,940 --> 00:19:20,770

planned, but, but there, there it was.

527

00:19:20,770 --> 00:19:21,760

I had to call for it.

528

00:19:22,110 --> 00:19:25,679

And it became clear that, uh, that  
people liked that and I liked it.

529

00:19:25,679 --> 00:19:30,149

So, um, I, it was fun to see my  
fellow competitors using that.

530

00:19:30,419 --> 00:19:34,169

At one point in a, I guess a Shakespeare  
category, Amy said, bringeth it.

531

00:19:34,350 --> 00:19:34,620

Oh, yes.

532

00:19:34,679 --> 00:19:34,830

Yeah.

533

00:19:34,830 --> 00:19:38,760

Which while not grammatically impeccable,  
certainly gets the spirit across.

534

00:19:38,939 --> 00:19:42,780

And in the syndicated show, contestants  
have continued to honor you.

535

00:19:42,780 --> 00:19:45,360

Bring, it shows up every few weeks or so.

536  
00:19:45,360 --> 00:19:46,889  
So you're a part of it all, Sam.

537  
00:19:47,215 --> 00:19:48,804  
I'm part of Jeopardy lore.

538  
00:19:49,075 --> 00:19:49,524  
Absolutely.

539  
00:19:49,885 --> 00:19:50,185  
Well,

540  
00:19:50,365 --> 00:19:53,995  
if I can do a little squashing  
of your imposter syndrome.

541  
00:19:54,085 --> 00:19:54,534  
Ah, yes.

542  
00:19:54,595 --> 00:19:55,764  
I wanna pull out some stats here.

543  
00:19:55,764 --> 00:20:00,564  
When you faced James in the quarterfinals,  
you were very evenly matched.

544  
00:20:00,865 --> 00:20:02,245  
James with 22, correct.

545  
00:20:02,250 --> 00:20:03,054  
Two incorrect.

546  
00:20:03,145 --> 00:20:03,685  
Sam.

547  
00:20:03,685 --> 00:20:04,554  
19, correct.

548  
00:20:04,560 --> 00:20:05,544  
One incorrect.

549

00:20:05,605 --> 00:20:08,725  
James with 48 buzzer attempts,  
Sam with 40 buzzer attempts.

550

00:20:09,085 --> 00:20:09,985  
Buzzer percentage.

551

00:20:09,985 --> 00:20:11,304  
James at 44%.

552

00:20:11,304 --> 00:20:11,845  
Sam.

553

00:20:12,450 --> 00:20:15,810  
At 50%, 50, you know,  
you were 90% correct.

554

00:20:15,810 --> 00:20:20,370  
Response rate, 50% buzzer percentage,  
which is really high in this field.

555

00:20:20,430 --> 00:20:24,480  
Uh, second only to James overall,  
obviously number one in our hearts.

556

00:20:24,690 --> 00:20:26,760  
I have a question I would like to ask you.

557

00:20:26,970 --> 00:20:30,300  
What is the statistic over the  
course of your entire time?

558

00:20:30,480 --> 00:20:32,310  
On the Jeopardy stage that you are

559

00:20:32,310 --> 00:20:33,210  
most proud of?

560

00:20:33,210 --> 00:20:36,270  
First, I just wanna go back to the  
imposter syndrome and say the statistic

561  
00:20:36,270 --> 00:20:39,990  
I think I'm least proud of is, and, and  
I haven't double checked this, I believe

562  
00:20:39,990 --> 00:20:44,850  
I'm the person who has lost more Jeopardy  
games lifetime than anyone ever, including

563  
00:20:44,850 --> 00:20:49,050  
people who, who have played in a lot of  
tournaments like Brad and James, uh, Brad.

564  
00:20:49,110 --> 00:20:50,040  
Well, James and Ken.

565  
00:20:50,490 --> 00:20:53,490  
Uh, I believe I've,  
I'm the world champion.

566  
00:20:53,850 --> 00:20:55,020  
Loser at jeopardy.

567  
00:20:55,139 --> 00:20:55,350  
Wow.

568  
00:20:55,350 --> 00:20:56,490  
We're gonna check those stats.

569  
00:20:56,490 --> 00:20:59,280  
So you're saying people who've been  
in Battle of the Decades, ultimate

570  
00:20:59,280 --> 00:21:01,590  
tournament champion million, you're the  
biggest loser, million dollar masters.

571  
00:21:01,590 --> 00:21:02,430  
It doesn't matter.

572  
00:21:02,850 --> 00:21:03,420  
You win

573  
00:21:03,750 --> 00:21:04,200  
losing.

574  
00:21:04,205 --> 00:21:05,129  
I think it's me.

575  
00:21:05,250 --> 00:21:05,400  
Okay.

576  
00:21:05,400 --> 00:21:07,950  
You know you have to have  
something on your tombstone.

577  
00:21:07,955 --> 00:21:10,170  
If there's room after they  
put, bring it underneath.

578  
00:21:12,030 --> 00:21:13,350  
Biggest jeopardy, loser.

579  
00:21:13,950 --> 00:21:15,570  
Um, yeah, I was very excited.

580  
00:21:15,570 --> 00:21:18,840  
I don't know about the one statistic  
I'm proudest of, but I really felt I

581  
00:21:18,840 --> 00:21:20,610  
was in that game with James all the way.

582  
00:21:20,610 --> 00:21:20,820  
Yeah.

583  
00:21:20,820 --> 00:21:22,830  
We were, I was ahead in double jeopardy.

584  
00:21:23,040 --> 00:21:23,130  
Mm-hmm.

585  
00:21:23,370 --> 00:21:25,500



Uh, until the two daily doubles came up.

586

00:21:25,500 --> 00:21:29,940

And it was some, it was, uh, no one other than Buzzy Cohen who pointed

587

00:21:29,945 --> 00:21:31,440

out a tactical error I'd made.

588

00:21:31,445 --> 00:21:31,830

Ah, yes.

589

00:21:32,160 --> 00:21:32,760

We did point that out.

590

00:21:32,760 --> 00:21:34,830

Had accused how many daily doubles there had been.

591

00:21:34,830 --> 00:21:35,070

Right.

592

00:21:35,070 --> 00:21:35,400

Uhhuh and I.

593

00:21:35,710 --> 00:21:38,680

I picked a second time in a, in a category, which happens in a

594

00:21:38,680 --> 00:21:39,820

grand scheme of things, it happens.

595

00:21:39,850 --> 00:21:40,140

Yeah.

596

00:21:40,140 --> 00:21:42,430

And it might not kill you as long as you get that clue, right?

597

00:21:42,460 --> 00:21:42,640

Mm-hmm.

598

00:21:43,030 --> 00:21:45,490

Uh, but of course I'm up against wholesalers, so that's tough.

599

00:21:46,120 --> 00:21:49,330

Uh, the thing I'm most proud of, I think, uh, honestly, I.

600

00:21:49,665 --> 00:21:49,845

It.

601

00:21:50,835 --> 00:21:51,615

I have two things.

602

00:21:51,795 --> 00:21:54,825

One is all the way back in my Sarah Foss tryout days.

603

00:21:55,125 --> 00:21:55,305

Yes.

604

00:21:55,605 --> 00:21:57,045

And I don't know if I'm allowed to reveal this.

605

00:21:57,045 --> 00:21:58,155

You may have to edit this out.

606

00:21:58,605 --> 00:22:00,855

I had missed a question I'd passed on.

607

00:22:00,855 --> 00:22:00,945

Yes.

608

00:22:00,945 --> 00:22:00,975

A

609

00:22:00,975 --> 00:22:01,635

question as we ago.

610

00:22:01,745 --> 00:22:01,905

This.

611

00:22:02,325 --> 00:22:02,545

This is so true.

612

00:22:02,550 --> 00:22:03,945

I totally remember this.

613

00:22:04,275 --> 00:22:07,125

Words that start done with the same letter and I passed, and about

614

00:22:07,125 --> 00:22:09,645

four questions later in between the ones she was asking me yes.

615

00:22:09,645 --> 00:22:10,485

Every 15 seconds.

616

00:22:10,485 --> 00:22:12,795

I said, Mo, and she said afterwards.

617

00:22:12,825 --> 00:22:13,725

Well, I counted it.

618

00:22:13,980 --> 00:22:18,030

And my weird daydream is without that, I would never have made it to Jeopardy.

619

00:22:18,030 --> 00:22:18,810

No, maybe I would've.

620

00:22:19,140 --> 00:22:23,730

But that one question and then the thing I think that really made me

621

00:22:23,730 --> 00:22:27,300

into the sort of player that would show up on the podcast is beating

622

00:22:27,305 --> 00:22:29,760

Madam, and I don't wanna say beating.

623

00:22:29,760 --> 00:22:32,670

I was in a game against Matt and John and I won the game.

624

00:22:33,389 --> 00:22:36,480

Uh, cuz you know how it is, you don't really beat the other two,

625

00:22:36,480 --> 00:22:37,500

you're playing against the board.

626

00:22:37,560 --> 00:22:37,800

Yeah.

627

00:22:37,800 --> 00:22:39,120

And there's a three-way interaction.

628

00:22:39,125 --> 00:22:39,179

Yeah.

629

00:22:39,750 --> 00:22:43,050

Uh, but to get ahead, to get, I had a big daily double and to get the

630

00:22:43,050 --> 00:22:47,129

final jeopardy and walk away, uh, with the, the pass into the finals.

631

00:22:47,220 --> 00:22:49,679

E even though I've been through a lot more with the masters, that was

632

00:22:49,685 --> 00:22:53,879

something that, uh, I think really made me into this internationally famous

633

00:22:53,879 --> 00:22:55,409

man of mystery you see in front of you.

634

00:22:55,409 --> 00:22:55,560

Mm-hmm.

635

00:22:55,845 --> 00:22:58,845

And also, uh, just something  
I really remember very

636

00:22:58,845 --> 00:22:59,205

fondly.

637

00:22:59,265 --> 00:23:03,525

Well, we know Masters was a huge  
success, but you were there early

638

00:23:03,525 --> 00:23:05,535

on when the criticism came in.

639

00:23:05,775 --> 00:23:07,545

You're having only six players.

640

00:23:07,545 --> 00:23:10,785

This is the t o c repeat  
throw in James Auer.

641

00:23:10,935 --> 00:23:15,075

And then obviously I think the six of  
you proved exactly why you were chosen.

642

00:23:15,075 --> 00:23:18,015

But what was it like kind of  
heading into Masters and, and

643

00:23:18,015 --> 00:23:19,785

hearing the doubters, if you

644

00:23:19,785 --> 00:23:20,085

will.

645

00:23:20,655 --> 00:23:23,565

Well, there's a, a funny thing  
about haters, Tara, that you

646

00:23:23,565 --> 00:23:24,535

may not know, I don't know.

647

00:23:24,705 --> 00:23:27,225

And that is they're going to  
continue to, I, I don't know,

648

00:23:27,225 --> 00:23:28,185

they're gonna continue to hate.

649

00:23:28,185 --> 00:23:31,485

I will say that I understood the  
criticisms, the fact that, uh, the

650

00:23:31,485 --> 00:23:33,525

five of us had been in the t o C.

651

00:23:34,274 --> 00:23:35,655

Seemingly weeks before.

652

00:23:36,074 --> 00:23:38,445

Um, and then they, they picked  
up James, who was obviously

653

00:23:38,445 --> 00:23:39,645

one of the great players ever.

654

00:23:39,735 --> 00:23:42,405

Uh, but you know, if I  
may say, where's Buzzy?

655

00:23:42,409 --> 00:23:43,334

Where's Brad?

656

00:23:43,334 --> 00:23:46,965

Sam Kavanaugh had a nice piece on  
Twitter where he didn't say anything bad.

657

00:23:46,965 --> 00:23:50,715

He just felt that he was sad, not  
because he was overlooked, but because

658

00:23:50,715 --> 00:23:52,425

he was excited about playing Jeopardy.

659

00:23:52,429 --> 00:23:54,074

So I, I felt that.

660

00:23:54,335 --> 00:23:58,835

I understood where that was coming from,  
but I do think that after the fact, I hope

661

00:23:58,835 --> 00:24:01,745

everybody will look back on the Masters  
and say it was immensely entertaining.

662

00:24:01,805 --> 00:24:01,895

Mm-hmm.

663

00:24:02,135 --> 00:24:02,585

That's what I

664

00:24:02,645 --> 00:24:02,795

thought.

665

00:24:02,885 --> 00:24:03,185

Yeah.

666

00:24:03,515 --> 00:24:07,445

And now of course we've gotten  
more of the, uh, jeopardy

667

00:24:07,445 --> 00:24:09,365

pyramid out of Michael Davies.

668

00:24:09,545 --> 00:24:13,715

So some of those people that would've been  
in people's lists of masters, like the

669

00:24:13,715 --> 00:24:17,825

Sam Kavanaugh's, maybe in Austin Rogers,  
Brad, a Brad Rudder, you mentioned Rudder

670

00:24:17,825 --> 00:24:18,125

Brad, rudder, Brad,

671  
00:24:18,575 --> 00:24:19,685  
um, Matt Jackson.

672  
00:24:19,685 --> 00:24:20,465  
Matt Jackson, yes.

673  
00:24:20,855 --> 00:24:22,985  
Sam Kavanaugh will likely, possibly.

674  
00:24:23,535 --> 00:24:28,845  
Maybe be in the jit, but who we do know  
will be in the JIT will be you, Amy.

675  
00:24:29,475 --> 00:24:30,105  
And Andrew,

676  
00:24:30,285 --> 00:24:32,325  
the Jeopardy Invitational Tournament.

677  
00:24:32,325 --> 00:24:32,415  
Yes.

678  
00:24:32,415 --> 00:24:32,416  
Sorry.

679  
00:24:32,421 --> 00:24:32,535  
Sorry.

680  
00:24:32,535 --> 00:24:35,625  
If people aren't familiar, we call  
it the JIT here on Inside Jay.

681  
00:24:35,735 --> 00:24:36,675  
I figure if you're listening

682  
00:24:36,675 --> 00:24:37,695  
to Inside Jay, you're inside.

683  
00:24:37,695 --> 00:24:38,025  
You should



684

00:24:38,025 --> 00:24:38,475  
know.

685

00:24:38,535 --> 00:24:40,665  
But we do have the Jeopardy  
Invitational tournament.

686

00:24:40,695 --> 00:24:45,345  
And remember that the three of you who did  
not come in, the top three of Masters will

687

00:24:45,345 --> 00:24:48,195  
be there along with other invited guests.

688

00:24:48,225 --> 00:24:51,285  
And the plan has always been that this  
is the chance for people who maybe

689

00:24:51,285 --> 00:24:55,425  
haven't been recently able to prove  
that they are one of the best to get

690

00:24:55,430 --> 00:24:57,705  
another chance to get that direct.

691

00:24:57,710 --> 00:24:59,330  
Entrance into masters.

692

00:24:59,750 --> 00:25:03,260  
Who you looking forward to coming  
up against how you're preparing,

693

00:25:03,260 --> 00:25:04,730  
what's it like to know you're coming

694

00:25:04,730 --> 00:25:05,150  
back?

695

00:25:05,210 --> 00:25:05,450  
Okay.

696

00:25:05,450 --> 00:25:06,620  
Those are a couple of good questions.

697  
00:25:06,620 --> 00:25:06,710  
Mm-hmm.

698  
00:25:06,950 --> 00:25:09,740  
I would like to just note though,  
that once the j i t, that's the

699  
00:25:09,740 --> 00:25:10,880  
Jeopardy Invitational tournament.

700  
00:25:10,880 --> 00:25:11,390  
Ah, yes ma'am.

701  
00:25:11,395 --> 00:25:14,300  
Once that was announced, uh,  
I think the whole masters

702  
00:25:14,300 --> 00:25:15,560  
lineup made a lot more sense.

703  
00:25:15,770 --> 00:25:19,700  
So rather than somebody like Austin,  
Rogers was a very strong player, but

704  
00:25:19,700 --> 00:25:24,440  
if you're looking to take the, the  
top 5, 6, 7 4 from right this minute,

705  
00:25:24,824 --> 00:25:26,024  
I'm happy to have been part of that.

706  
00:25:26,024 --> 00:25:27,284  
So I think it all makes sense.

707  
00:25:27,435 --> 00:25:32,115  
And now we have to worry about the, uh,  
the j I t i, I guess the format, the

708  
00:25:32,115 --> 00:25:34,334

number of invitees has not been announced.

709

00:25:34,695 --> 00:25:37,784

I, I'm really looking forward just to meeting some of these people that I

710

00:25:37,784 --> 00:25:41,745

was, uh, very excited about as Jeopardy players before I myself became one.

711

00:25:42,105 --> 00:25:44,235

For instance, I haven't met Brad, and that would be neat.

712

00:25:44,535 --> 00:25:47,355

Honestly, I'd like to meet Colby from the teacher's turn.

713

00:25:47,355 --> 00:25:47,445

Yes.

714

00:25:48,045 --> 00:25:49,545

Because he turned into a superstar.

715

00:25:49,545 --> 00:25:50,055

That's right.

716

00:25:50,055 --> 00:25:50,235

Yeah.

717

00:25:50,415 --> 00:25:53,985

And of course, uh, just to be selfish, I'm also looking forward to taking on

718

00:25:53,985 --> 00:25:55,875

Amy and Andrick again, cause this time.

719

00:25:56,340 --> 00:26:00,300

I'm gonna get it, but I'll say something, which I'm not sure anybody listening in

720

00:26:00,300 --> 00:26:05,340

the podcast cares about, but I will tell you guys, uh, and, and, uh, buzzy knows

721

00:26:05,580 --> 00:26:07,170  
what it means to prepare for Jeopardy.

722

00:26:07,170 --> 00:26:09,630  
I don't think I was very efficient at preparing.

723

00:26:09,630 --> 00:26:11,310  
So I'm faced with a choice in my life.

724

00:26:11,310 --> 00:26:13,920  
You know, you may not be able to tell just by looking at me.

725

00:26:14,130 --> 00:26:17,220  
No, but I'm actually one of the older players in the, in the pan.

726

00:26:17,400 --> 00:26:18,360  
It's weird, right?

727

00:26:18,360 --> 00:26:18,510  
Yeah.

728

00:26:18,840 --> 00:26:21,450  
It's color balance on my, uh, on my camera.

729

00:26:22,050 --> 00:26:25,380  
But I, I have to decide right now, am I gonna try to devote, let's

730

00:26:25,380 --> 00:26:28,620  
say, a year of my life to getting really, really good at jeopardy and

731

00:26:28,620 --> 00:26:32,160  
hoping to come out the other side in a tournament that I know in advance

732

00:26:32,165 --> 00:26:33,450  
is gonna have a lot of variability.

733

00:26:33,720 --> 00:26:37,620  
And there'll probably be, you're not  
committing yourself but 15 players, 21

734

00:26:37,625 --> 00:26:40,920  
players, whatever the number is, uh,  
in order to get back into the Masters.

735

00:26:40,920 --> 00:26:43,950  
Cuz I love the masters, but  
uh, you know, there's always

736

00:26:43,950 --> 00:26:45,600  
the risk that you spend a year.

737

00:26:46,230 --> 00:26:50,220  
Preparing for Jeopardy and get flame out  
in the first round for whatever reason.

738

00:26:50,220 --> 00:26:50,700  
I have no

739

00:26:50,700 --> 00:26:52,200  
idea what you're talking about, Sam.

740

00:26:52,610 --> 00:26:52,830  
Oh,

741

00:26:53,340 --> 00:26:56,010  
perhaps you haven't heard about  
Buzz's preparation for all stars.

742

00:26:56,190 --> 00:26:58,200  
It was intense and there were flames.

743

00:27:00,330 --> 00:27:00,870  
What are you gonna do?

744

00:27:00,900 --> 00:27:01,020  
Yeah.

745  
00:27:01,020 --> 00:27:01,260  
Right.

746  
00:27:01,620 --> 00:27:05,790  
So, and alternative is I could just  
enjoy my fame, take the year off.

747  
00:27:06,254 --> 00:27:07,965  
Show up, you know, see what happens.

748  
00:27:07,965 --> 00:27:10,574  
And I, I think there's gotta be  
a, a middle ground between that.

749  
00:27:10,574 --> 00:27:12,885  
But, you know, we could talk  
about all these past champions.

750  
00:27:12,885 --> 00:27:15,945  
I think a lot of the fun would just be  
meeting them and hanging out with them.

751  
00:27:16,335 --> 00:27:20,085  
Uh, a as maybe, you know, all of these  
people, I mean, at least the ones

752  
00:27:20,085 --> 00:27:23,534  
I've met, the, the masters and so  
on, they are very smart about stuff.

753  
00:27:23,540 --> 00:27:25,455  
They know stuff and they're  
very quick on their feet.

754  
00:27:25,665 --> 00:27:30,375  
So that makes for great conversations,  
particularly, uh, Andrew and Matt

755  
00:27:30,585 --> 00:27:33,915  
and I had a lot of fun conversations

and I was really delighted.

756

00:27:34,395 --> 00:27:38,325

To be treated like a regular guy, uh,  
among a group of people who are on

757

00:27:38,325 --> 00:27:42,165

average quite a bit younger than I am and  
uh, you know, they would hold doors for

758

00:27:42,165 --> 00:27:46,965

me and pull up my chair cuz as I faked  
injuries a lot, other of my strategies.

759

00:27:47,205 --> 00:27:51,165

Well you mentioned that comradery  
and I think that is something that

760

00:27:51,495 --> 00:27:56,085

people saw somewhat on stage during  
masters and people knew somewhat about.

761

00:27:56,639 --> 00:27:59,520

Different things that had happened  
and what the six of you went

762

00:27:59,520 --> 00:28:04,199

through, but really I've never  
seen a group that was so bonded and

763

00:28:04,199 --> 00:28:06,209

connected and there for each other.

764

00:28:06,480 --> 00:28:10,919

And even the fact that you flew back  
down for the finals and the semi-finals

765

00:28:10,919 --> 00:28:14,760

to cheer on your fellow masters even  
though you hadn't made it to that round.

766

00:28:14,760 --> 00:28:16,590

Can you talk about that connection?

767

00:28:16,590 --> 00:28:17,100

The six of you have?

768

00:28:17,475 --> 00:28:17,925

You know, I

769

00:28:17,925 --> 00:28:20,504

think it has to do with the fact  
that we got to play lots of games

770

00:28:20,504 --> 00:28:22,395

together in every possible combination.

771

00:28:22,425 --> 00:28:22,514

Mm-hmm.

772

00:28:22,754 --> 00:28:25,965

In the Tournament of Champions, I made  
pretty good friends with a number of

773

00:28:25,965 --> 00:28:29,175

those players that I never got to play  
against even once because we were in

774

00:28:29,175 --> 00:28:30,705

different first round games, for example.

775

00:28:30,824 --> 00:28:33,855

I, I think it is this idea of  
an experience that shared by

776

00:28:33,860 --> 00:28:35,504

us and hardly anybody else.

777

00:28:35,625 --> 00:28:38,745

I mean, we were the only Jeopardy  
Masters, I suppose, just by name.

778

00:28:39,044 --> 00:28:42,375

But, uh, hardly anybody, buzzy  
aside has been in a Tournament



779

00:28:42,375 --> 00:28:43,395  
of Champions, I guess.

780

00:28:43,395 --> 00:28:45,284  
Uh, Tyler posted.

781

00:28:45,764 --> 00:28:49,665  
His, uh, research that there have been  
more people in outer space than have

782

00:28:49,665 --> 00:28:51,315  
been a Jeopardy tournament of champions.

783

00:28:51,495 --> 00:28:51,675  
I saw that.

784

00:28:51,675 --> 00:28:51,855  
Wow.

785

00:28:51,855 --> 00:28:54,885  
So, and you're, you know, you're,  
you're not locked in a room, but you're

786

00:28:54,885 --> 00:28:59,175  
enclosed in a room with a certain amount  
of downtime and, uh, all you can do is

787

00:28:59,175 --> 00:29:02,085  
chat with one another and understand  
what one another is going through.

788

00:29:02,264 --> 00:29:05,655  
We get to bond over this crazy,  
fun thing that we're all doing

789

00:29:05,655 --> 00:29:06,794  
that nobody really knows about.

790

00:29:06,915 --> 00:29:07,845  
So that's a lot of fun.

791  
00:29:08,129 --> 00:29:08,490  
Speaking

792  
00:29:08,490 --> 00:29:09,270  
of downtime.

793  
00:29:09,270 --> 00:29:11,129  
Another important question for me.

794  
00:29:11,129 --> 00:29:11,320  
Uh, this is,

795  
00:29:11,324 --> 00:29:12,330  
this is important buzzy.

796  
00:29:12,330 --> 00:29:13,290  
He's got a new thing.

797  
00:29:13,290 --> 00:29:15,540  
He's gonna ask all of our masters.

798  
00:29:15,750 --> 00:29:16,290  
Take it away.

799  
00:29:16,290 --> 00:29:16,649  
Buzzy.

800  
00:29:16,949 --> 00:29:20,879  
What is your lunch order  
when you are on the Sony lot?

801  
00:29:21,030 --> 00:29:21,270  
Well,

802  
00:29:21,270 --> 00:29:24,870  
as you may know, uh, there are a  
number of different lunch provisos.

803  
00:29:24,875 --> 00:29:27,210  
We've been taken to  
the, uh, the commissary.

804  
00:29:27,764 --> 00:29:30,855  
We have been, uh, in a, a parking lot.

805  
00:29:30,855 --> 00:29:33,495  
The second floor of the parking  
lot is apparently a nicer Oh,

806  
00:29:33,495 --> 00:29:34,725  
lunch setup than the ground floor.

807  
00:29:34,725 --> 00:29:34,814  
Yes.

808  
00:29:34,814 --> 00:29:34,905  
You're

809  
00:29:34,905 --> 00:29:36,915  
talking about our covid  
lunch arrangements?

810  
00:29:36,915 --> 00:29:37,365  
Exactly.

811  
00:29:37,365 --> 00:29:38,264  
Not, not the nicest.

812  
00:29:38,264 --> 00:29:38,715  
Yes.

813  
00:29:39,044 --> 00:29:41,085  
There the choices are the sandwiches.

814  
00:29:41,415 --> 00:29:45,105  
Um, it's a good, good question though,  
because I, I try to take that seriously.

815  
00:29:45,105 --> 00:29:46,245  
I wanna get some protein.

816  
00:29:46,514 --> 00:29:47,774

I don't wanna stuff myself.

817

00:29:48,220 --> 00:29:51,040

Um, I went with the, uh, the poke bowl.

818

00:29:51,070 --> 00:29:51,160

Mm-hmm.

819

00:29:51,160 --> 00:29:52,480

I think last time I was there.

820

00:29:52,750 --> 00:29:52,840

Mm-hmm.

821

00:29:52,840 --> 00:29:56,770

There was an occasion where lunch came to us over on the wheel of Fortune side,

822

00:29:56,770 --> 00:30:01,690

a nice lady with a, a, uh, stack of food at a menu of two or three items.

823

00:30:01,930 --> 00:30:04,630

In that case, I got a surprisingly good tofu bowl.

824

00:30:05,140 --> 00:30:07,870

I'm not a vegetarian, but you know, from time to time you go tofu.

825

00:30:07,870 --> 00:30:08,440

It was grilled.

826

00:30:08,440 --> 00:30:12,130

It had a nice smoky flavor and like a number of the other players,

827

00:30:12,190 --> 00:30:15,490

uh, I enjoy a caffeinated beverage from time to time, so I would go

828

00:30:15,490 --> 00:30:17,080

with a Diet Coke, diet Pepsi, that

829

00:30:17,080 --> 00:30:17,560  
sort of thing.

830

00:30:17,850 --> 00:30:22,080  
Well, we alluded how life has changed  
and being recognized, but I really just

831

00:30:22,080 --> 00:30:28,350  
wanna hone in on the fact that you are  
so loved that people watch the show and.

832

00:30:28,740 --> 00:30:30,210  
Everyone comes away.

833

00:30:30,210 --> 00:30:36,090  
Being a Sam fan, I know Alex was able  
to experience some of that after his

834

00:30:36,090 --> 00:30:39,570  
diagnosis and so many people reaching out  
and saying how much they loved and adored

835

00:30:39,575 --> 00:30:41,400  
him, and he said, this is so strange.

836

00:30:41,400 --> 00:30:44,460  
This is normally something you  
don't hear until after you're gone,

837

00:30:44,460 --> 00:30:45,660  
and yet he was able to hear it.

838

00:30:45,930 --> 00:30:48,210  
But I feel like that is  
happening for you too.

839

00:30:48,210 --> 00:30:50,880  
I just, the love that people feel for you.

840

00:30:50,970 --> 00:30:52,710

What's that like to take in?

841

00:30:53,460 --> 00:30:54,990

Yeah, it is a little bewildering.

842

00:30:55,290 --> 00:30:57,150

I'm not a hundred percent  
sure what's happening there.

843

00:30:57,150 --> 00:30:59,879

I have my own theories, so  
I will share them with you.

844

00:31:00,270 --> 00:31:04,530

One is that, you know, as I say,  
I'm an older player and I, I think

845

00:31:04,535 --> 00:31:07,590

a lot of the love I'm getting is  
from older viewers who are happy

846

00:31:07,590 --> 00:31:10,350

to see somebody like them do well.

847

00:31:10,355 --> 00:31:14,010

And again, that seems to be dominated by  
people in their twenties and thirties.

848

00:31:14,550 --> 00:31:16,980

Um, and I also think it's part of  
another thing I said, which is that.

849

00:31:17,504 --> 00:31:20,354

Maybe I'm a little more effusive,  
a little more enthusiastic playing

850

00:31:20,685 --> 00:31:23,715

because I've had people send me,  
you know, emails and what have you.

851

00:31:23,715 --> 00:31:27,764

I also get a surprisingly large  
number of letters in the US Mail.

852

00:31:27,794 --> 00:31:31,245  
People would say, uh, yeah, I  
just, I really love your, your

853

00:31:31,245 --> 00:31:33,645  
personality and your sense of  
humor, and I think these people

854

00:31:33,645 --> 00:31:35,235  
have no idea what my personality is.

855

00:31:35,235 --> 00:31:35,504  
Like.

856

00:31:35,504 --> 00:31:39,645  
They've seen me in a 15 second  
anecdote, you know, half a dozen times.

857

00:31:40,125 --> 00:31:44,774  
So I, I guess I just give off a vibe  
of openness and without too much

858

00:31:44,864 --> 00:31:46,905  
tension that some of the players have.

859

00:31:47,190 --> 00:31:50,130  
It, it is a little bit bewildering  
and occasionally I allow myself to

860

00:31:50,130 --> 00:31:54,600  
look on social media at Reddit, for  
example, and uh, I have to sometimes

861

00:31:54,600 --> 00:31:58,110  
give up because there are just  
too many people being too excited.

862

00:31:58,260 --> 00:32:01,140  
I will also say, and I bet Buzz  
he's had this, there is that one

863

00:32:01,145 --> 00:32:03,570  
out of a hundred person who will  
say stuff like, you're not funny.

864  
00:32:04,159 --> 00:32:06,980  
And I go, well, maybe not, but  
did you have to point that out?

865  
00:32:07,030 --> 00:32:07,379  
Right.

866  
00:32:07,409 --> 00:32:10,830  
Well, speaking of people commenting  
online, the game show villain himself,

867  
00:32:10,830 --> 00:32:15,629  
James Auer, shortly after Masters  
tweeting, I only had briefly met Sam Brus

868  
00:32:15,629 --> 00:32:19,469  
prior to these tapings, but his charm  
and wit were immediately evident when

869  
00:32:19,469 --> 00:32:21,480  
he wasn't busy winning America's hearts.

870  
00:32:21,480 --> 00:32:25,590  
He was the only master's contestant  
to outperform me on the signaling

871  
00:32:25,590 --> 00:32:28,020  
device head-to-head, check the box

872  
00:32:28,020 --> 00:32:28,350  
scores.

873  
00:32:28,794 --> 00:32:33,475  
Uh, I, the people at home may not  
know that James is a delightful

874  
00:32:33,475 --> 00:32:36,445  
man who is, uh, putting on an act  
for the benefit of the cameras.



875  
00:32:36,445 --> 00:32:39,024  
And I've had to explain this to quite  
a lot of people, including family

876  
00:32:39,030 --> 00:32:40,615  
members who tell me, I hate James.

877  
00:32:40,794 --> 00:32:40,855  
Yeah.

878  
00:32:41,185 --> 00:32:42,325  
Like, I don't hate James.

879  
00:32:42,325 --> 00:32:42,445  
James.

880  
00:32:42,445 --> 00:32:43,135  
There's nothing to hate James.

881  
00:32:43,139 --> 00:32:44,455  
He's a, a very nice man.

882  
00:32:44,455 --> 00:32:45,055  
It was nice of him.

883  
00:32:45,055 --> 00:32:46,615  
He said nice things about all of us.

884  
00:32:46,945 --> 00:32:50,034  
Uh, and I will say that when people  
want to talk to me about Jeopardy,

885  
00:32:50,455 --> 00:32:51,774  
they ask about the experience.

886  
00:32:52,105 --> 00:32:55,794  
Uh, and I've had very few people  
ask me, what's Matea really like,

887  
00:32:55,915 --> 00:32:57,595

even though they're spectacular.

888

00:32:57,930 --> 00:33:00,540

And lots and lots of people ask me what James is real like, mm.

889

00:33:00,720 --> 00:33:02,550

But I think he intrigues a lot of people.

890

00:33:02,880 --> 00:33:03,030

Mm-hmm.

891

00:33:03,270 --> 00:33:03,273

With his act.

892

00:33:03,278 --> 00:33:03,530

Mm-hmm.

893

00:33:03,780 --> 00:33:06,480

And I'm here to inform people that it is an act.

894

00:33:06,485 --> 00:33:08,340

He's a, you know, a family man.

895

00:33:08,340 --> 00:33:09,850

He tells stories about his wife and daughter.

896

00:33:10,290 --> 00:33:13,260

He's very active in charity and in fact, I'll be joining him in

897

00:33:13,260 --> 00:33:16,650

a charitable endeavor in August in his hometown of Las Vegas.

898

00:33:16,890 --> 00:33:20,520

The, uh, the folks at home may not know that James puts together a charity event

899

00:33:20,580 --> 00:33:24,180

that's supposed to help people get on,  
and here I quote their favorite Gabe show.

900  
00:33:24,180 --> 00:33:25,450  
I don't think they  
mentioned which one it is.

901  
00:33:25,470 --> 00:33:25,890  
Ah, we know.

902  
00:33:26,190 --> 00:33:28,980  
I know that Jeopardy will have a little  
bit of an official representation.

903  
00:33:28,980 --> 00:33:29,310  
That's right.

904  
00:33:29,370 --> 00:33:29,670  
Yes.

905  
00:33:29,670 --> 00:33:30,240  
We'll be there.

906  
00:33:30,240 --> 00:33:31,050  
Will you yourself be there?

907  
00:33:31,210 --> 00:33:31,860  
I will not be there.

908  
00:33:31,860 --> 00:33:36,570  
I have to keep my lines more  
declared now that I'm a producer.

909  
00:33:36,570 --> 00:33:39,630  
I can't just be interviewing  
contestants like Sam Buty

910  
00:33:39,840 --> 00:33:40,980  
more the way I use.

911  
00:33:41,220 --> 00:33:41,550  
That's right.

912

00:33:41,550 --> 00:33:43,800

They, I actually, having interviewed  
me, you said, well, that's it.

913

00:33:43,890 --> 00:33:45,690

I can, I can never do better than that.

914

00:33:46,305 --> 00:33:49,425

But I'll be on a panel with  
uh, Fritz Snaggle who wrote

915

00:33:49,575 --> 00:33:50,535

the book about the buzzer.

916

00:33:50,535 --> 00:33:53,355

I'll be on a panel about the  
buzzer maybe cuz I hold it funny.

917

00:33:53,385 --> 00:33:54,735

I'm not sure, but Well,

918

00:33:54,735 --> 00:33:57,225

maybe James wanted you to do  
that cuz you out buzzed him.

919

00:33:57,645 --> 00:33:57,675

Ah,

920

00:33:57,705 --> 00:33:59,295

maybe he wants to hear some secrets.

921

00:33:59,820 --> 00:34:02,909

Well, you mentioned that not as  
many people ask you about Matea,

922

00:34:02,970 --> 00:34:08,940

but we can assure you all six of  
you are fantastic humans, wonderful

923

00:34:08,940 --> 00:34:11,489

players, the best ambassadors.

924

00:34:11,580 --> 00:34:16,350

You know, we really struck the, uh,  
contestant lottery with our masters.

925

00:34:16,350 --> 00:34:21,270

We're so thankful to have you as a part of  
our Jeopardy family, and I'm just excited

926

00:34:21,270 --> 00:34:26,040

cuz I know I get to see Sam Buttrey on  
the Alex Beck stage again for the j i

927

00:34:26,040 --> 00:34:29,069

t, the jit, the Jeopardy Invitational  
Tournament, whatever you wanna call it.

928

00:34:29,284 --> 00:34:32,134

But I can't wait to see  
you again on that stage.

929

00:34:32,134 --> 00:34:36,245

Sam, you bring so much joy and you're  
just a pleasure to see play that game.

930

00:34:36,484 --> 00:34:36,754

Thank you.

931

00:34:36,754 --> 00:34:38,194

I'm looking forward to getting back there.

932

00:34:38,194 --> 00:34:41,375

Re uh, remaking some old acquaintances,  
catching up with the two of you,

933

00:34:41,495 --> 00:34:43,835

although I don't like hanging out  
with you two guys, cuz my hair

934

00:34:43,839 --> 00:34:45,574

definitely comes through ah, in any

935

00:34:45,580 --> 00:34:46,324  
matchup with you.

936  
00:34:46,444 --> 00:34:46,835  
Oh good.

937  
00:34:46,835 --> 00:34:49,714  
There's something that I  
can win against Sam Butcher.

938  
00:34:49,714 --> 00:34:49,955  
Yeah, likewise.

939  
00:34:49,955 --> 00:34:51,995  
Cause it's not in America's  
hearts, I don't think.

940  
00:34:53,495 --> 00:34:53,524  
Aw.

941  
00:34:53,975 --> 00:34:55,415  
But thank you very much  
for thinking of me.

942  
00:34:55,504 --> 00:34:58,174  
I I, uh, I have been catching  
most of the podcasts and I'm.

943  
00:34:58,425 --> 00:34:59,805  
Kinda looking forward to seeing this one.

944  
00:34:59,805 --> 00:35:02,835  
Although my voice always sounds  
better to me than it does on

945  
00:35:02,835 --> 00:35:03,285  
the air.

946  
00:35:03,435 --> 00:35:07,035  
Before you leave now, are there any  
new tunes that we should look out for?

947

00:35:07,035 --> 00:35:08,805  
You know, don't put your  
cat butt in my face.

948  
00:35:08,805 --> 00:35:10,035  
Are there any new jingles?

949  
00:35:10,095 --> 00:35:10,575  
I've been working

950  
00:35:10,575 --> 00:35:11,115  
on A couple.

951  
00:35:11,115 --> 00:35:12,555  
One is about a guy.

952  
00:35:12,900 --> 00:35:15,840  
Who is unhappy with his  
wife, girlfriend, loved one.

953  
00:35:15,840 --> 00:35:16,680  
I'm not sure.

954  
00:35:16,920 --> 00:35:18,600  
He's having difficulty communicating.

955  
00:35:18,600 --> 00:35:21,330  
And the title of the song is Don't  
Answer in the form of a question.

956  
00:35:21,990 --> 00:35:23,280  
Ah, is good advice for all of us.

957  
00:35:23,790 --> 00:35:24,270  
Ah, this is great.

958  
00:35:24,270 --> 00:35:27,120  
And I have another one about,  
uh, don't read the comments.

959  
00:35:27,150 --> 00:35:27,180  
Mm.

960  
00:35:27,390 --> 00:35:28,680  
And it comes from social media.

961  
00:35:28,680 --> 00:35:29,610  
You know, you post a thing.

962  
00:35:29,984 --> 00:35:32,805  
That's fine, but the temptation  
is to see what people think of it.

963  
00:35:32,810 --> 00:35:32,884  
Mm-hmm.

964  
00:35:32,964 --> 00:35:33,285  
Don't do it.

965  
00:35:33,424 --> 00:35:34,935  
And, uh, it turns out to be a mistake.

966  
00:35:34,935 --> 00:35:34,995  
Yeah.

967  
00:35:34,995 --> 00:35:37,875  
So I, I think we, someone  
needs to put that into song.

968  
00:35:37,935 --> 00:35:38,384  
Sam,

969  
00:35:38,390 --> 00:35:40,395  
we wish you a wonderful summer.

970  
00:35:40,755 --> 00:35:43,395  
We'll see you back here  
hopefully before we know it.

971  
00:35:43,395 --> 00:35:45,045  
And thanks so much for joining the pod.

972  
00:35:45,134 --> 00:35:45,464



Thanks for

973

00:35:45,470 --> 00:35:46,005  
thinking of me.

974

00:35:46,005 --> 00:35:47,295  
It's been great to chat with you guys.

975

00:35:48,165 --> 00:35:51,045  
I can't even picture Sam  
in my head and not smile.

976

00:35:51,085 --> 00:35:51,285  
I know.

977

00:35:51,444 --> 00:35:51,765  
I love it.

978

00:35:51,765 --> 00:35:52,245  
He's an incredible

979

00:35:52,245 --> 00:35:52,404  
guy.

980

00:35:52,424 --> 00:35:53,895  
I picture him either singing.

981

00:35:54,180 --> 00:35:56,580  
You know, one of his great  
tunes or just talking with us.

982

00:35:56,580 --> 00:35:59,609  
So thanks so much for Sam  
joining us and that wraps

983

00:35:59,609 --> 00:35:59,940  
it up.

984

00:35:59,970 --> 00:36:01,680  
Yeah, that brings us to  
the end of today's show.

985  
00:36:01,680 --> 00:36:04,589  
We'll be back next week for  
more gameplay discussion and

986  
00:36:04,595 --> 00:36:05,759  
we'll be joined by Jeopardy.

987  
00:36:05,765 --> 00:36:09,270  
Master the one, the only, Amy Schneider.

988  
00:36:09,330 --> 00:36:09,450  
I

989  
00:36:09,450 --> 00:36:10,350  
can't wait for that.

990  
00:36:10,350 --> 00:36:12,359  
As always, please  
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991  
00:36:12,365 --> 00:36:15,210  
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00:36:15,210 --> 00:36:18,299  
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993  
00:36:18,330 --> 00:36:23,580  
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to inside Jeopardy podcast gmail.com.

994  
00:36:24,015 --> 00:36:24,945  
We'll see y'all next week.