```
1
00:00:00,270 --> 00:00:01,480
From the Alex Trebek
2
00:00:01,490 --> 00:00:04,680
Stage at Sony Pictures Studios, this
3
00:00:05,140 --> 00:00:07,860
is Inside Jeopardy!
4
00:00:08,410 --> 00:00:11,129
Hello and welcome back to Inside
Jeopardy!, your exclusive and official
5
00:00:11,140 --> 00:00:14,189
podcast destination for all things
happening in the world of Jeopardy.
6
00:00:14,189 --> 00:00:16,750
I'm Sarah Foss, and I'm joined
today by Buzzy Cohen.
7
00:00:16,860 --> 00:00:17,950
Hello Sarah!
8
00:00:18,245 --> 00:00:19,655
Well, here we are, Buzzy.
9
00:00:19,655 --> 00:00:22,865
We are in the throes of the
Tournament of Champions.
10
00:00:23,135 --> 00:00:27,885
Of course, the Honors Awards went
up on YouTube last Thursday evening.
11
00:00:28,205 --> 00:00:31,115
It was a pleasure sharing the,
what normally would be the blue
12
00:00:31,115 --> 00:00:35,684
carpet, but ended up being the Alex
Trebek stage due to a lot of rain
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13 00:00:35,685 --> 00:00:37,425 that was coming down that evening. 14 00:00:37,815 --> 00:00:41,855 It was great to relive that night, you know, we had some great conversations 15 00:00:41,855 --> 00:00:43,275 and the award ceremony was just 16 00:00:43,275 --> 00:00:43,935 really special. 17 00:00:43,964 --> 00:00:44,964 Yes, it really was. 18 00:00:44,975 --> 00:00:47,324 So if you haven't checked it out, it is up on YouTube. 19 00:00:47,324 --> 00:00:49,445 You get to see all the interviews before the show. 20 00:00:49,684 --> 00:00:52,234 And then you get to watch Ken Jennings hosting the Jeopardy! 21 00:00:52,255 --> 00:00:53,864 Honors, the second annual Jeopardy! 22 00:00:53,864 --> 00:00:58,154 Honors, and giving away some really exciting awards that we shared last week. 23 00:00:58,365 --> 00:01:03,125 And as we are in the throes of TOC, our social team last week put up a 24 00:01:03,125 --> 00:01:08,020 hilarious A little behind the scenes

video of some of our TOC contestants, 25 00:01:08,020 --> 00:01:09,810 you know, preparing to take the stage. 26 00:01:09,810 --> 00:01:15,180 You had Chris looking through a closet full of blue shirts, Ray kind 27 00:01:15,180 --> 00:01:18,580 of playing off the fact that we know he has an identical twin brother and 28 00:01:18,779 --> 00:01:22,010 hey, they haven't caught on yet as if he switched places with his twin. 29 00:01:22,349 --> 00:01:26,660 We had Juveria making post its to herself, don't be weird around Ray. 30 00:01:27,040 --> 00:01:29,630 Bin Chan, Raise the Roof, they have them with some weights. 31 00:01:29,660 --> 00:01:30,890 Hannah doing Crossword Puzzles. 32 00:01:30,930 --> 00:01:32,280 If you haven't seen it, check that out. 33 00:01:32,290 --> 00:01:33,570 It's on our social channels. 34 00:01:33,570 --> 00:01:38,800 And you know, I think everyone is just in TOC mania right now. 35 00:01:38,800 --> 00:01:40,300 It's really fun to see. 36 00:01:40,625 --> 00:01:41,175

```
It all.
37
00:01:41,175 --> 00:01:46,035
And of course, like last year, our social
and digital team has created those digital
38
00:01:46,045 --> 00:01:49,065
baseball cards for each of our 27 TOC ers.
39
00:01:49,085 --> 00:01:51,525
You can check those out on
our website and check out how
40
00:01:51,525 --> 00:01:54,995
everyone's stats are matching up,
because they're pretty impressive.
41
00:01:55,025 --> 00:01:59,780
And, believe it or not, right
now, we are Taping the Jeopardy!
42
00:02:00,060 --> 00:02:01,620
Invitational Tournament.
43
00:02:02,110 --> 00:02:03,340
You're hearing it here first.
44
00:02:03,450 --> 00:02:06,700
The last tournament of Season 40.
45
00:02:06,700 --> 00:02:09,210
Right after this, we're
getting into regular shows.
46
00:02:09,210 --> 00:02:11,100
We've already been booking contestants.
47
00:02:11,160 --> 00:02:11,400
Nice.
48
00:02:11,410 --> 00:02:13,110
For our tape days in March.
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49 00:02:13,110 --> 00:02:17,879 So, for those of you who have been asking, it's happening, and I'm sure 50 00:02:17,879 --> 00:02:20,985 some of you who are listening, have been getting the call because we are 51 00:02:20,985 --> 00:02:22,605 booking people who are in the pool. 52 00:02:22,915 --> 00:02:26,015 And if you're not in the pool, well, you better take that anytime test. 53 00:02:26,015 --> 00:02:30,525 It takes 10 to 15 minutes, and we are looking for great new contestants 54 00:02:30,695 --> 00:02:34,515 to be our next great TOC competitors or our next great Jeopardy! 55 00:02:34,524 --> 00:02:37,074 Invitational Tournament competitors. 56 00:02:37,144 --> 00:02:39,454 This is a field of 27. 57 00:02:39,484 --> 00:02:41,484 These are some of the best players. 58 00:02:41,605 --> 00:02:44,225 from all time on Jeopardy! 59 00:02:44,234 --> 00:02:47,665 And, you know, today's our first day where we're kicking off taping. 60 00:02:47,665 --> 00:02:51,415 So I'm just really excited to

see some of these folks back on 61 00:02:51,415 --> 00:02:52,895 the Alex Trebek stage competing. 62 00:02:52,895 --> 00:02:55,245 You know, some of them haven't competed in over a decade. 63 00:02:55,645 --> 00:02:56,865 Some in recent years. 64 00:02:57,214 --> 00:02:59,984 We did make a specific cutoff for this. 65 00:03:00,180 --> 00:03:00,390 Okay. 66 00:03:00,390 --> 00:03:01,770 Jeopardy Invitational Tournament. 67 00:03:01,780 --> 00:03:06,480 We, we decided anyone who had competed in the 2022 Tournament of 68 00:03:06,480 --> 00:03:10,490 Champions, like that season, that we were going to take qualifiers from 69 00:03:10,490 --> 00:03:14,819 before then, because all of them were in fact able to qualify for Masters. 70 00:03:14,849 --> 00:03:15,139 Right. 71 00:03:15,189 --> 00:03:18,419 Those who played before 2022, Masters didn't exist. 72 00:03:18,419 --> 00:03:20,680 So we felt that was really

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the pool of contestants who
73
00:03:20,680 --> 00:03:22,410
we would reach out to for JIT.
74
00:03:22,705 --> 00:03:26,655
Of course, we only have 27 spots, so
there are more great champions than
75
00:03:26,655 --> 00:03:30,005
we can invite this year, but we are
intending that this will be an annual
76
00:03:30,005 --> 00:03:33,015
event and we'll get to continue to
welcome back some of the Jeopardy greats.
77
00:03:33,105 --> 00:03:33,245
Ι
78
00:03:33,245 --> 00:03:33,735
can't wait.
79
00:03:33,765 --> 00:03:37,304
I'm, you know, I'm, I'm happy to be in
the audience, but also just, I'm a fan.
80
00:03:37,464 --> 00:03:39,425
So such a fan of so many of these people.
81
00:03:39,825 --> 00:03:40,755
It's gonna be good.
82
00:03:40,805 --> 00:03:43,975
And of course, we would have had
Buzzy Cohen, but he can't compete
83
00:03:43,975 --> 00:03:47,155
anymore, we've decided, at least for
now, because you are certainly on
84
00:03:47,195 --> 00:03:49,204
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many people's JIT lists, I will say. 85 00:03:49,215 --> 00:03:49,834 Oh, really? 86 00:03:49,835 --> 00:03:50,115 Yeah. 87 00:03:50,475 --> 00:03:52,395 Oh, that's sweet of them. 88 00:03:52,395 --> 00:03:54,404 If you check it out, they always say, Buzzy Cohen, if 89 00:03:54,404 --> 00:03:55,944 he's allowed to compete, so. 90 00:03:55,944 --> 00:03:56,234 Yes. 91 00:03:56,470 --> 00:03:57,860 You know you're on our list, Buzzy. 92 00:03:57,890 --> 00:04:00,910 Yeah, I'm happy to, I'm happy to be doing my part as part of the 93 00:04:00,910 --> 00:04:01,930 Jepperverse. 94 00:04:02,140 --> 00:04:06,520 Well, Buzzy, just last week we saw our final Champions wildcard come to an end. 95 00:04:06,840 --> 00:04:12,469 Deb Bilodeau being crowned our Champion and clenching that final 27th spot 96 00:04:12,510 --> 00:04:13,860 in the Tournament of Champions.

97 00:04:14,380 --> 00:04:17,950 Which kicked off on Friday with an exciting quarterfinal matchup. 98 00:04:17,950 --> 00:04:21,849 Our first of nine with previous champions wildcard winner, Emily Sands, 99 00:04:21,899 --> 00:04:26,519 six game winner, Suresh Krishnan, and four game champion, Matthew Marcus. 100 00:04:26,789 --> 00:04:30,279 We're looking forward to highlighting last week's full week of games. 101 00:04:30,280 --> 00:04:33,669 And later in the pod, we'll be joined by Deb talking about their big 102 00:04:33,679 --> 00:04:37,669 champions wildcard win and how they have prepared for the very quick turnaround 103 00:04:37,669 --> 00:04:38,979 into the tournament of champions. 104 00:04:39,450 --> 00:04:42,809 But right now we're going to take a look back at this week in Jeopardy history. 105 00:04:48,075 --> 00:04:51,725 Mackenzie Jones, were you able to come up with the correct response? 106 00:04:52,465 --> 00:04:53,674 What is satellite? 107 00:04:53,675 --> 00:04:54,845 Interesting spelling. 108 00:04:56,635 --> 00:04:56,765

109 00:04:56,765 --> 00:05:00,365 noticed when you were writing you wrote down SAT and then you paused 110 00:05:00,365 --> 00:05:05,335 and wrote LITE trying to figure out which vowel to put in between. 111 00:05:05,845 --> 00:05:07,015 Yeah, you put the wrong one. 112 00:05:07,375 --> 00:05:09,245 But your response is correct. 113 00:05:09,665 --> 00:05:15,275 So, you won't add any money at all, you'll wind up picking up 20, 600 and 114 00:05:15,275 --> 00:05:19,135 now you have an 8 day total of 204, 808. 115 00:05:22,315 --> 00:05:22,885 Alright, 116 00:05:23,595 --> 00:05:24,175 wait a minute. 117 00:05:26,299 --> 00:05:30,880 It was on this very day back in 2020 when Mackenzie Jones secured her 118 00:05:30,909 --> 00:05:33,710 eighth win, earning over 200, 000. 119 00:05:33,960 --> 00:05:37,380 After putting on a pretty dominant performance, she secured a runaway 120

00:05:37,380 --> 00:05:41,259 win, and she was also the only

Ι

player correct in Final Jeopardy. 121 00:05:41,260 --> 00:05:44,260 I like to consider that the exclamation point on the win. 122 00:05:44,549 --> 00:05:47,380 Her run did end the following day, however, after being 123 00:05:47,380 --> 00:05:48,810 defeated by Aaron Goetsch. 124 00:05:49,039 --> 00:05:52,399 So Mackenzie left us as an eight game champion and then returned the following 125 00:05:52,400 --> 00:05:55,269 year for the 2021 Tournament of Champions. 126 00:05:55,729 --> 00:05:59,780 Little fun fact, Mackenzie's brother, John Lance, was a contestant 127 00:05:59,789 --> 00:06:01,630 on the show during season 36. 128 00:06:02,090 --> 00:06:06,459 He went up against Jason Zafraneri and unfortunately was not able to pull 129 00:06:06,459 --> 00:06:08,439 out a win against a 19 game champion. 130 00:06:08,730 --> 00:06:14,515 But he did, however, appear on the chase where his team defeated None 131 00:06:14,655 --> 00:06:17,715 other than Chaser Buzzy Cohen. 132 00:06:17,755 --> 00:06:18,164

```
Oh,
133
00:06:18,205 --> 00:06:18,875
goodness me.
134
00:06:19,215 --> 00:06:20,325
Don't you love this little walk
135
00:06:20,325 --> 00:06:20,914
down memory lane?
136
00:06:20,955 --> 00:06:25,005
I did, and I, you know, I knew
that John had been on Jeopardy.
137
00:06:25,005 --> 00:06:29,045
I knew that he said his sister was
in the Tournament of Champions that
138
00:06:29,045 --> 00:06:32,584
I hosted, although I did not know
who it was when we taped, because
139
00:06:32,584 --> 00:06:33,814
I didn't know who this person was.
140
00:06:34,044 --> 00:06:39,014
But I didn't realize that he lost
to Jason, who was also in that
141
00:06:39,014 --> 00:06:41,054
Tournament of Champions with Mackenzie.
142
00:06:41,210 --> 00:06:41,390
Yeah.
143
00:06:41,390 --> 00:06:43,430
I didn't put that whole web together.
144
00:06:43,480 --> 00:06:44,140
Well, it's
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145 00:06:44,140 --> 00:06:45,450 a tangled web here at Jeopardy. 146 00:06:45,460 --> 00:06:47,740 I'm trying to deflect from the fact that his team beat me on the 147 00:06:47,740 --> 00:06:48,170 chase, if anything. 148 00:06:48,170 --> 00:06:49,179 All right, all right. 149 00:06:49,180 --> 00:06:50,090 Well, we're moving on. 150 00:06:50,110 --> 00:06:50,960 Let's just move on. 151 00:06:51,669 --> 00:06:55,310 We kicked off the week with our second Champions Wildcard semi final 152 00:06:55,310 --> 00:06:59,229 matchup between Deandra D'Alessio, Deb Bilodeau, and Taylor Claggett. 153 00:06:59,550 --> 00:07:00,680 What a great game this was. 154 00:07:00,680 --> 00:07:04,340 Deb and Deandra neck and neck with multiple lead changes throughout the game. 155 00:07:04,599 --> 00:07:08,900 They each found and responded correctly to daily doubles in Double Jeopardy. 156 00:07:09,200 --> 00:07:13,395 But it was Deb who took a narrow lead heading into final, then All three

157 00:07:13,395 --> 00:07:16,995 players were correct, so Deb's big wager helped them secure the win. 158 00:07:17,445 --> 00:07:19,515 I want to shout out, you know, we don't do this that much anymore, but 159 00:07:19,515 --> 00:07:21,045 I do want to shout out the fashion. 160 00:07:21,205 --> 00:07:24,895 D'Andra in that bright pink top, and Deb with the black on 161 00:07:24,895 --> 00:07:26,625 black, like, leather blazer. 162 00:07:26,705 --> 00:07:27,835 Kind of loving that. 163 00:07:28,045 --> 00:07:30,704 Taylor in his classic clean cut. 164 00:07:30,705 --> 00:07:32,705 It was a real, like, I feel like I'm on three different 165 00:07:32,705 --> 00:07:34,215 shows right now and I'm loving 166 00:07:34,215 --> 00:07:34,465 it. 167 00:07:34,615 --> 00:07:37,335 Taylor also sporting a pocket square. 168 00:07:37,335 --> 00:07:37,645 Yeah. 169 00:07:37,715 --> 00:07:39,945

And a pin in honor of his niece. 170 00:07:40,264 --> 00:07:45,174 Moving on to Tuesday's game with Kat Jeppsen, Alex Gordon, and Jesse Matheny. 171 00:07:45,554 --> 00:07:49,674 Alex got off to a strong start running the 13 Colonies category, 172 00:07:49,674 --> 00:07:52,144 but Kat was able to take the lead heading into Double Jeopardy. 173 00:07:52,434 --> 00:07:55,374 Jesse then found both Daily Doubles in Double Jeopardy. 174 00:07:55,374 --> 00:07:59,810 He goes All in on both to add 8, 800 to his score, jumping 175 00:07:59,810 --> 00:08:01,380 him to a commanding lead. 176 00:08:01,670 --> 00:08:05,220 Alex did manage to work his way back into contention before final, 177 00:08:05,540 --> 00:08:08,130 but it was Jesse who was the only player to come up with the correct 178 00:08:08,130 --> 00:08:11,079 response, and he secures the last spot. 179 00:08:11,244 --> 00:08:14,544 And in the finals, I have to bring up, we haven't talked about it in 180 00:08:14,544 --> 00:08:17,365 a bit, the running of the category.

181 00:08:17,365 --> 00:08:20,234 We'll have to bring that back up to Michael, because at one point we were 182 00:08:20,234 --> 00:08:24,634 talking about giving some sort of bonus that wouldn't impact your score in the 183 00:08:24,635 --> 00:08:28,545 game, but that you would get a bonus amount, you know, as a result of your 184 00:08:28,614 --> 00:08:30,685 keen knowledge in a specific category. 185 00:08:30,815 --> 00:08:31,375 I think this 186 00:08:31,375 --> 00:08:34,255 is an opportunity for a sponsor situation. 187 00:08:34,284 --> 00:08:34,995 You think? 188 00:08:35,115 --> 00:08:38,594 I know it's been a while, but maybe run the category, you get a trip to Club 189 00:08:38,594 --> 00:08:38,924 Med. 190 00:08:39,285 --> 00:08:41,284 Oh, I see. 191 00:08:41,285 --> 00:08:43,665 You know, there's nothing a Jeopardy champion wants more 192 00:08:43,665 --> 00:08:44,675 than a trip to club bed.

193

00:08:44,715 --> 00:08:47,874 I'm just saying, you know, like in the old, you know, in the old days 194 00:08:47,874 --> 00:08:49,594 there were the furnished gifts. 195 00:08:50,294 --> 00:08:50,704 Yes. 196 00:08:51,055 --> 00:08:51,404 I hear you. 197 00:08:51,405 --> 00:08:51,714 Sarah 198 00:08:51,714 --> 00:08:54,535 does not like this idea, but this is what makes the pod so good. 199 00:08:54,544 --> 00:08:56,065 She doesn't know what I'm going to come out with. 200 00:08:56,184 --> 00:08:56,804 I never know. 201 00:08:56,835 --> 00:08:57,654 You never know. 202 00:08:57,825 --> 00:09:01,175 But I think it could be You know, Cash is King, obviously, super fun, but it 203 00:09:01,175 --> 00:09:04,545 could be, it could be really silly to get, you know, a set of encyclopedias. 204 00:09:05,315 --> 00:09:05,815 Hey, Martha 205 00:09:05,815 --> 00:09:07,885

Bath got those back in the 60s. 206 00:09:07,925 --> 00:09:09,805 If it worked for Martha, it could work for us. 207 00:09:10,295 --> 00:09:14,904 Well, I want to also point out Jesse got a clue about the Hansel culture. 208 00:09:14,984 --> 00:09:18,925 In a model walk off in Zoolander, this actor as Hansel defeats 209 00:09:18,925 --> 00:09:22,935 Ben Stiller by doing something indescribable with his underwear. 210 00:09:23,365 --> 00:09:25,545 Jesse does a great Owen Wilson. 211 00:09:25,695 --> 00:09:26,745 Can you do an Owen Wilson? 212 00:09:26,825 --> 00:09:27,275 Wow, 213 00:09:27,285 --> 00:09:29,325 who is, who is Owen, Owen Wilson? 214 00:09:29,525 --> 00:09:30,865 Ah, yes, very good. 215 00:09:30,865 --> 00:09:32,645 And Ken thought it was pretty solid as well. 216 00:09:32,875 --> 00:09:33,934 I think you're right up there. 217 00:09:34,344 --> 00:09:36,175 Online someone said, you know what?

218 00:09:36,245 --> 00:09:39,215 Jesse saw the opportunity and by God he took it. 219 00:09:39,224 --> 00:09:40,035 You gotta take the opportunity. 220 00:09:40,044 --> 00:09:42,904 You love those moments when they just kind of, they land right in your lap. 221 00:09:42,974 --> 00:09:43,574 And you gotta do it. 222 00:09:43,584 --> 00:09:46,435 And during the break, Ken was actually telling the crowd how much 223 00:09:46,435 --> 00:09:49,200 he liked the Hansel culture category. 224 00:09:49,430 --> 00:09:53,050 And so he actually shouted out writer Marcus Brown, whose parents 225 00:09:53,060 --> 00:09:55,500 were in the audience on that day. 226 00:09:55,730 --> 00:09:58,850 I can't even imagine as a parent to one of the Jeopardy writers when 227 00:09:58,850 --> 00:10:02,390 you're in the audience and one of your children's categories plays so 228 00:10:02,390 --> 00:10:05,110 well and it gets a shout out from Ken like that's got to be a great. 229 00:10:05,380 --> 00:10:05,910

proud parent. 230 00:10:05,990 --> 00:10:06,240 Yeah. 231 00:10:06,240 --> 00:10:06,410 And 232 00:10:06,420 --> 00:10:07,880 Marcus is one of the newer 233 00:10:07,960 --> 00:10:08,520 writers. 234 00:10:08,530 --> 00:10:10,070 He is one of our newer writers. 235 00:10:10,070 --> 00:10:14,670 He was just promoted last year from researcher to writer, and he's been adding 236 00:10:14,670 --> 00:10:16,769 some really great material to the game. 237 00:10:16,769 --> 00:10:20,580 I often will look down and it's indeed a Marcus Brown category for him. 238 00:10:20,800 --> 00:10:25,330 Another great category, uh, describing the song that Marcus Brown did recently, 239 00:10:25,330 --> 00:10:30,880 and you never realize how tricky it is to get someone to a response of what 240 00:10:30,890 --> 00:10:35,630 a song was, and he had everything from Thriller to Hotline Bling to Piano 241 00:10:35,630 --> 00:10:37,719 Man to Just a Friend to Regulate.

242 00:10:38,469 --> 00:10:41,210 I think that was a couple weeks ago, but really love seeing some 243 00:10:41,210 --> 00:10:44,250 of the great material that Marcus Brown is adding to the game board. 244 00:10:44,905 --> 00:10:47,855 Deb, Jessie, and Mira returned on Wednesday for our two 245 00:10:47,855 --> 00:10:49,105 day Total Point Affair. 246 00:10:49,105 --> 00:10:52,105 This was a tight game between all three players throughout, but Deb took a 247 00:10:52,105 --> 00:10:53,895 slight lead heading into Double Jeopardy. 248 00:10:54,255 --> 00:10:58,055 Jessie dropped down to zero after missing a big true daily double. 249 00:10:58,275 --> 00:10:59,635 They don't always go your way. 250 00:10:59,924 --> 00:11:03,585 While Deb and Mira steadily built on their scores, and it was Deb who 251 00:11:03,585 --> 00:11:05,415 took the lead heading into Final. 252 00:11:05,865 --> 00:11:09,925 There, they were the only player correct, and with a big 8, 000 wager. 253 00:11:10,215 --> 00:11:15,265

They took a commanding lead heading into day two with Jesse and Mira tied at 2800. 2.54 00:11:15,505 --> 00:11:20,835 Yeah, we, we sometimes like to underplay the difference between first and, 255 00:11:20,845 --> 00:11:25,205 you know, second or third, uh, after, you know, one day of a two day final. 256 00:11:25,415 --> 00:11:26,934 This is not one to underplay. 257 00:11:26,945 --> 00:11:28,239 This is, you know, you need to. 258 00:11:28,310 --> 00:11:29,180 a big lead. 259 00:11:29,250 --> 00:11:31,470 If you're Jesse or Mira to stay 260 00:11:31,490 --> 00:11:32,010 in this. 2.61 00:11:32,060 --> 00:11:34,780 Well, Ken caught up to the three finalists after this game. 262 00:11:34,800 --> 00:11:38,210 Let's take a listen to hear how they're feeling heading into day two. 263 00:11:40,160 --> 00:11:41,089 Congratulations, Deb. 264 00:11:41,169 --> 00:11:42,869 Came up with the correct final response. 265 00:11:42,879 --> 00:11:43,629 Thanks.

266 00:11:43,699 --> 00:11:45,429 Shout out to Tombstone, Kurt Russell. 267 00:11:46,269 --> 00:11:46,780 Is that true? 268 00:11:46,789 --> 00:11:47,239 Hollywood 269 00:11:47,260 --> 00:11:48,539 taught you about the OK Corral? 270 00:11:49,020 --> 00:11:49,190 Uh, 271 00:11:49,190 --> 00:11:49,570 yeah. 272 00:11:51,390 --> 00:11:54,970 Jesse, you played a great game, but, uh, you know, that was a tough Daily Double. 273 00:11:54,970 --> 00:11:57,070 Were you, in fact, going back and forth between two responses? 274 00:11:57,080 --> 00:11:57,460 Yeah, 275 00:11:57,460 --> 00:11:59,870 and in hindsight, of course, like, it's an animal. 276 00:11:59,940 --> 00:12:01,070 Go with the Galapagos. 277 00:12:01,230 --> 00:12:02,990 I did the same thing when I saw that clue. 278 00:12:03,009 --> 00:12:04,850

Sometimes that's just how it is. 279 00:12:05,560 --> 00:12:08,287 That made a big difference in the score, but again, you know, tomorrow 280 00:12:08,287 --> 00:12:12,070 there's gonna be four chances for big wagers, three Daily Doubles and a Final. 2.81 00:12:12,400 --> 00:12:14,510 Deb, how are you feeling with that lead heading into Game 2? 282 00:12:15,000 --> 00:12:15,750 Anything can happen. 283 00:12:15,810 --> 00:12:19,645 They're both great players, so I I would expect nothing less than 284 00:12:19,895 --> 00:12:22,185 never be a cakewalk on the show and especially not with these 285 00:12:22,194 --> 00:12:22,255 two. 286 00:12:22,255 --> 00:12:26,594 You may still have to play aggressively even with a 19, 000 lead nearly. 2.87 00:12:26,665 --> 00:12:26,895 Ι 288 00:12:26,915 --> 00:12:27,675 definitely will. 289 00:12:28,045 --> 00:12:28,415 Okay, 290 00:12:29,165 --> 00:12:30,125

best of luck to all three of you. 291 00:12:30,135 --> 00:12:31,135 We'll see what happens tomorrow. 292 00:12:32,935 --> 00:12:35,955 And moving on to Thursday, for day two of the finals, all three 293 00:12:35,955 --> 00:12:38,525 players pretty evenly matched at the end of the Jeopardy round. 294 00:12:38,535 --> 00:12:41,745 In double Jeopardy, Jesse put himself back in contention with the 295 00:12:41,745 --> 00:12:45,034 help of a big 7, 400 daily double. 296 00:12:45,034 --> 00:12:46,184 You win some, you lose some. 297 00:12:46,184 --> 00:12:47,605 This one goes Jesse's way. 298 00:12:47,905 --> 00:12:50,035 Mira then found the final daily double. 299 00:12:50,085 --> 00:12:53,075 She also goes all in, but unfortunately could not come 300 00:12:53,075 --> 00:12:54,375 up with the correct response. 301 00:12:54,745 --> 00:12:58,835 Mira and Deb worked to build up their scores, but it was Jesse who took a 302 00:12:58,835 --> 00:13:00,725 commanding lead heading into final.

303 00:13:01,295 --> 00:13:05,314 In that round, he wagered almost everything, but it was a triple stumper 304 00:13:05,325 --> 00:13:10,025 in final, giving Deb the win and the final spot in the Tournament of Champions. 305 00:13:10,534 --> 00:13:13,965 Something came up in this game that people sometimes wonder about. 306 00:13:13,994 --> 00:13:16,145 The category was advertising slogans. 307 00:13:16,175 --> 00:13:19,445 The clue Capital One asks this four word question. 308 00:13:19,805 --> 00:13:20,855 Jesse responds. 309 00:13:21,235 --> 00:13:22,815 What's in your wallet? 310 00:13:23,145 --> 00:13:26,885 And sometimes people wonder, is that okay? 311 00:13:26,895 --> 00:13:27,495 Do you have to 312 00:13:27,495 --> 00:13:29,474 add, what is what's in your 313 00:13:29,474 --> 00:13:29,814 wallet? 314 00:13:29,885 --> 00:13:32,965 Just a reminder to everyone at home, it is in the form of a

315 00:13:32,965 --> 00:13:35,264 question, so that counts, that 316 00:13:35,265 --> 00:13:35,735 works. 317 00:13:35,805 --> 00:13:39,185 I think it would be fun for the writers to do an entire category 318 00:13:39,185 --> 00:13:41,315 where the responses are questions. 319 00:13:42,000 --> 00:13:42,110 Do 320 00:13:42,110 --> 00:13:43,260 you think they haven't done it? 321 00:13:43,470 --> 00:13:45,690 I don't know, I feel like in 40 years they probably have. 322 00:13:45,820 --> 00:13:46,140 I love it. 323 00:13:46,150 --> 00:13:46,560 Already 324 00:13:46,560 --> 00:13:47,670 in the form of a question. 325 00:13:47,700 --> 00:13:47,840 Ι 326 00:13:47,840 --> 00:13:48,270 like it. 327 00:13:48,460 --> 00:13:52,950 And then to see if the contestants add the what is or not.

328 00:13:53,510 --> 00:13:54,040 That would be 329 00:13:54,070 --> 00:13:54,240 good. 330 00:13:54,270 --> 00:13:55,960 Give us something to talk about here on the pod. 331 00:13:56,120 --> 00:13:57,589 We can always use something else to talk about. 332 00:13:57,680 --> 00:13:58,620 So, I like it. 333 00:13:59,375 --> 00:14:01,185 Well, congratulations to Deb. 334 00:14:01,285 --> 00:14:04,655 They will return to the Alex Trebek stage next week to face off against 335 00:14:04,665 --> 00:14:06,555 Troy Meyer and Sean McShane. 336 00:14:06,865 --> 00:14:09,055 And later in the pod, Deb will be joining us. 337 00:14:09,055 --> 00:14:13,685 But right now, it's time to discuss the first of the Tournament of Champions 338 00:14:13,745 --> 00:14:19,324 quarterfinal matchups, Emily Sands, Suresh Krishnan, and Matthew Marcus. 339 00:14:19,565 --> 00:14:22,705 It was a slow start for our players,

but Emily finished the Jeopardy 340 00:14:22,705 --> 00:14:25,675 round with the lead and really took off in double Jeopardy, finding the 341 00:14:25,675 --> 00:14:29,255 first Daily Double, betting big, skyrocketing her lead even further. 342 00:14:29,255 --> 00:14:33,575 Suresh then found the last Daily Double and also went all in, but he wasn't able 343 00:14:33,575 --> 00:14:37,455 to come up with the correct response and unfortunately did not make it to final. 344 00:14:37,854 --> 00:14:41,424 Emily, though, cruised into that round with a no doubt runaway. 345 00:14:41,835 --> 00:14:44,045 becoming our first TOC semi finalist. 346 00:14:44,315 --> 00:14:44,725 This is our 347 00:14:44,735 --> 00:14:51,904 first TOC champions wildcard contestant showing that, you know, the crop from 348 00:14:51,905 --> 00:14:56,265 these champion wildcard competitions is just as good as these great multi game 349 00:14:56,265 --> 00:14:56,885 champions. 350 00:14:56,995 --> 00:14:59,324 Yes, and you have to love Emily's final Jeopardy!

351 00:14:59,324 --> 00:15:02,244 response, knowing that she has a runaway who are the greatest 352 00:15:02,254 --> 00:15:04,394 people in the universe, Jeopardy! 353 00:15:04,594 --> 00:15:05,224 fans. 354 00:15:05,264 --> 00:15:08,424 Emily has talked about, you know, just all the love and support she's received 355 00:15:08,434 --> 00:15:13,155 not only from her fellow competitors, but also just from the Jeopardy community. 356 00:15:13,155 --> 00:15:14,295 We love to hear that. 357 00:15:14,885 --> 00:15:17,105 Another thing you might've noticed in this game. 358 00:15:17,610 --> 00:15:18,740 Matthew Marcus. 359 00:15:18,790 --> 00:15:19,220 Yes. 360 00:15:19,230 --> 00:15:21,350 He looks a little bit different. 361 00:15:21,360 --> 00:15:21,750 Yes. 362 00:15:21,820 --> 00:15:22,930 A lot different. 363 00:15:22,940 --> 00:15:23,550

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A lot different.
364
00:15:23,590 --> 00:15:25,970
Ken joked, you know, when he went to
take the picture, he's like, didn't
365
00:15:25,970 --> 00:15:27,929
you have facial hair last time?
366
00:15:27,929 --> 00:15:30,840
And Jimmy told everyone in the
audience, Matthew got a haircut,
367
00:15:31,000 --> 00:15:31,560
everybody.
368
00:15:31,690 --> 00:15:32,849
I mean, it's a complete 180.
369
00:15:32,849 --> 00:15:35,579
He went from long hair to short
hair, facial hair to no facial
370
00:15:35,580 --> 00:15:36,980
hair, no glasses to glasses.
371
00:15:36,990 --> 00:15:41,540
It's kind of a reverse Ray Lalonde, where
there's multiple people who look like Ray.
372
00:15:41,640 --> 00:15:42,750
Matthew looks like
373
00:15:42,750 --> 00:15:43,550
multiple people.
374
00:15:43,705 --> 00:15:47,415
Yes, I'm not convinced that Matthew
Marcus doesn't have an identical
375
00:15:47,415 --> 00:15:51,235
twin and that this is actually
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his identical twin competing. 376 00:15:51,405 --> 00:15:52,245 I do want to point 377 00:15:52,245 --> 00:15:55,345 out, Suresh had a very cool signature. 378 00:15:55,485 --> 00:16:00,365 I think maybe the night before being honors and seeing that, uh, a 379 00:16:00,375 --> 00:16:06,094 multilingual name signature won, Suresh was inspired, and I believe this is Tomo? 380 00:16:06,510 --> 00:16:06,979 Yes. 381 00:16:07,020 --> 00:16:09,680 And in fact, we always do our research. 382 00:16:09,709 --> 00:16:14,749 So, uh, one of the members of the contestant team reached out and said, you 383 00:16:14,750 --> 00:16:16,689 know, he wants to do his name in Tamil. 384 00:16:16,699 --> 00:16:17,340 He's written it. 385 00:16:17,350 --> 00:16:19,519 Can someone please verify? 386 00:16:19,519 --> 00:16:22,449 And so our researchers then went and checked to see if the 387 00:16:22,449 --> 00:16:23,909 characters he had used were correct.

388 00:16:24,050 --> 00:16:26,290 indeed spelled Suresh in Tamil. 389 00:16:26,520 --> 00:16:27,420 It was close. 390 00:16:27,780 --> 00:16:30,589 Uh, there's, you know, different interpretations, but we 391 00:16:30,589 --> 00:16:31,870 felt like it was good to go. 392 00:16:31,910 --> 00:16:35,969 And Suresh, I'm certain you will be in the running for Best Signature next year. 393 00:16:36,219 --> 00:16:39,339 Suresh joined his fellow competitors after the game. 394 00:16:39,370 --> 00:16:41,130 Let's take a listen to what they all had to say. 395 00:16:44,339 --> 00:16:45,369 Emily, congratulations. 396 00:16:45,380 --> 00:16:45,969 Thank you, Ken. 397 00:16:46,079 --> 00:16:46,949 Was it all a blur, 398 00:16:46,949 --> 00:16:47,939 or are you getting good at this by now? 399 00:16:48,619 --> 00:16:50,359 No, I don't think there's any getting used to this.

400

00:16:52,009 --> 00:16:55,199 I feel good when I'm playing, but now like that, we're not in breaks. 401 00:16:55,219 --> 00:16:59,040 I'm shaking the whole time, but I can, I can settle down when, when we're playing. 402 00:16:59,040 --> 00:16:59,839 So that's when it counts. 403 00:17:00,490 --> 00:17:03,150 Suresh, it was tough to say goodbye to you like that, but you made big 404 00:17:03,150 --> 00:17:06,560 wagers on two Daily Doubles like you had to do against tough players. 405 00:17:06,720 --> 00:17:06,960 Yeah, 406 00:17:06,960 --> 00:17:07,180 I was 407 00:17:07,190 --> 00:17:09,929 like, you know, really, the buzzer thing was like off a little bit, 408 00:17:09,930 --> 00:17:11,289 so I had to really take my chances. 409 00:17:11,289 --> 00:17:13,859 So whenever I had a chance, I had to go all in, I had to try. 410 00:17:13,880 --> 00:17:16,470 And it looks like you didn't watch a worn VHS copy of The 411 00:17:16,470 --> 00:17:18,890 NeverEnding Story a hundred times in your childhood like I did.

412 00:17:18,900 --> 00:17:20,180 I had it here, 413 00:17:20,190 --> 00:17:21,570 like it just didn't come out. 414 00:17:21,570 --> 00:17:22,400 You know, it's my recall 415 00:17:22,400 --> 00:17:23,240 thing, you know, so. 416 00:17:23,530 --> 00:17:24,880 Matthew, you played well. 417 00:17:25,040 --> 00:17:27,450 You got some British content, you got some American content. 418 00:17:27,459 --> 00:17:29,050 We threw the American Revolution your way. 419 00:17:29,050 --> 00:17:29,689 Rawr! 420 00:17:30,290 --> 00:17:32,560 We don't talk about the American Revolution again. 421 00:17:32,820 --> 00:17:33,820 Still a sore subject. 422 00:17:34,490 --> 00:17:38,180 Well, when you make it on the Stephen Fry show, you two can roast America and 423 00:17:38,180 --> 00:17:40,600 the Revolution to your heart's content. 424 00:17:41,050 --> 00:17:42,079

Emily, how are you feeling about 425 00:17:42,079 --> 00:17:42,690 the semifinals? 426 00:17:42,900 --> 00:17:44,659 Uh, still in a little bit of shock. 427 00:17:44,690 --> 00:17:48,210 I was fully prepared for this to be my last appearance on the Alex Trebek 428 00:17:48,249 --> 00:17:50,910 stage, and to keep going is just a dream. 429 00:17:51,455 --> 00:17:53,855 Well that wraps up our game highlights. 430 00:17:53,905 --> 00:17:56,625 Now it's time for this week's host chat. 431 00:17:57,024 --> 00:18:00,615 An audience member asked Ken, what's your snack food of choice? 432 00:18:01,465 --> 00:18:02,405 Snack food 433 00:18:02,444 --> 00:18:03,354 of choice. 434 00:18:03,685 --> 00:18:06,045 I feel like white cheddar Cheez Its are kind of the perfect 435 00:18:06,045 --> 00:18:08,254 food and it breaks my heart. 436 00:18:08,295 --> 00:18:10,925 You know, when I think about how many hundreds of thousands of people,

437 00:18:11,035 --> 00:18:13,965 millions of people live without ever eating a white cheddar Cheez It. 438 00:18:14,435 --> 00:18:16,055 Lived and died without having a single one. 439 00:18:16,065 --> 00:18:16,305 Doesn't 440 00:18:16,305 --> 00:18:16,745 seem fair. 441 00:18:17,735 --> 00:18:18,555 Would you have guessed it? 442 00:18:18,725 --> 00:18:18,865 Ι 443 00:18:18,865 --> 00:18:19,243 would not. 444 00:18:19,243 --> 00:18:20,116 White cheddar cheez its? 445 00:18:20,116 --> 00:18:21,155 I would not have guessed it. 446 00:18:21,155 --> 00:18:24,754 And yet there's something so white cheddar cheez it about Ken. 447 00:18:26,655 --> 00:18:27,854 Do you have a favorite snack, 448 00:18:27,854 --> 00:18:28,214 Buzzy? 449 00:18:28,415 --> 00:18:28,855 I do.

450 00:18:28,894 --> 00:18:30,475 I eat a lot of cashews. 451 00:18:30,675 --> 00:18:32,725 Alexa, our podcast producer, just said, boring. 4.52 00:18:32,894 --> 00:18:34,965 Well, you know, I'm like a fitness guy a little bit. 453 00:18:34,965 --> 00:18:37,544 So cashews are like a safe, a safe bet. 454 00:18:37,564 --> 00:18:41,824 And you know, there are other nuts in rotation, but cashews are like always 455 00:18:41,824 --> 00:18:43,925 there and I always kind of emphasize them. 456 00:18:44,235 --> 00:18:44,534 Got it. 457 00:18:44,895 --> 00:18:48,205 So disappointed in me, everybody in this podcast. 458 00:18:48,235 --> 00:18:49,575 So that's enough about me. 459 00:18:49,585 --> 00:18:50,945 Sarah, do you have a favorite snack? 460 00:18:52,534 --> 00:18:53,335 Well, I do. 461 00:18:53,645 --> 00:18:54,975 I like Will you share it with us?

00:18:54,985 --> 00:18:55,485 I will. 463 00:18:55,524 --> 00:18:58,845 And Carlos, our other podcast producer, does not approve because my favorite 464 00:18:58,845 --> 00:19:02,955 snack is mini peppers, not cut up or anything, just dipped in hummus. 465 00:19:02,984 --> 00:19:03,645 Yeah, I like that. 466 00:19:03,725 --> 00:19:04,434 What's wrong with that? 467 00:19:04,484 --> 00:19:07,274 Carlos, he can't, he just does not understand how one would 468 00:19:07,274 --> 00:19:10,364 take a whole pepper, it's a mini pepper, and dip it in hummus. 469 00:19:10,365 --> 00:19:14,425 Does he want you to take like a bell pepper and slice it up and dip it? 470 00:19:14,445 --> 00:19:15,555 Is that what he would prefer? 471 00:19:15,955 --> 00:19:16,615 It's not a snack, he says. 472 00:19:16,615 --> 00:19:18,495 It's not, it is very much a snack. 473 00:19:18,495 --> 00:19:20,115 It's a very much a snack, and it is delicious.

00:19:20,135 --> 00:19:24,294 And Carlos and maybe Alexa are missing out on cashews and hummus. 475 00:19:24,415 --> 00:19:24,795 Yeah. 476 00:19:24,844 --> 00:19:27,074 And, no, Alexa does love hummus and peppers. 477 00:19:27,074 --> 00:19:28,295 But I think she's missing out on cashews. 478 00:19:28,295 --> 00:19:28,924 But she doesn't like cashews. 479 00:19:28,924 --> 00:19:30,125 And Carlos is missing out on 480 00:19:30,125 --> 00:19:30,465 other snacks. 481 00:19:30,505 --> 00:19:33,194 You know what, you and I will be eating healthy and healthy. 482 00:19:33,485 --> 00:19:37,735 Alexa and Carlos and Ken will be eating their white cheddar Cheez Its 483 00:19:37,735 --> 00:19:41,615 and we will be here fit, ready to compete on the amazing race together. 484 00:19:41,865 --> 00:19:42,205 All right. 485 00:19:42,205 --> 00:19:43,775 Switching gears just a bit. 486 00:19:43,805 --> 00:19:45,855

It is now time to welcome to the pod. 487 00:19:45,874 --> 00:19:49,215 Our final champions wildcard winner, Deb Bilodeau. 488 00:19:49,215 --> 00:19:51,064 Deb, thank you so much for joining us. 489 00:19:51,130 --> 00:19:53,140 Hi, thank you for having me. 490 00:19:53,310 --> 00:19:59,270 Well, we're catching up with you just days after your thrilling final has 491 00:19:59,290 --> 00:20:02,709 aired, and obviously you're now in the throes of the Tournament of Champions. 492 00:20:02,710 --> 00:20:05,290 Tell us how it's been for you in recent weeks. 493 00:20:05,630 --> 00:20:05,809 Oh 494 00:20:05,809 --> 00:20:10,560 boy, um, I've kind of felt like, uh, secret agent or something 495 00:20:10,560 --> 00:20:14,110 like, you know, trying to preserve my cover, uh, a little bit, you 496 00:20:14,110 --> 00:20:15,510 know, trying to be on the down low. 497 00:20:15,520 --> 00:20:20,550 So it's been a, it's been quite a crazy experience just to go right from Champions

00:20:20,559 --> 00:20:22,310 Wildcard to the Tournament of Champions. 499 00:20:22,420 --> 00:20:25,740 It's never really expected to be here, but it's been a lot of fun. 500 00:20:26,360 --> 00:20:30,090 Well, and one thing that our listeners wouldn't know is that on the promo 501 00:20:30,090 --> 00:20:31,720 day for the Tournament of Champions. 502 00:20:32,335 --> 00:20:35,254 Your finals hadn't aired yet, so we couldn't include you in 503 00:20:35,415 --> 00:20:38,385 some of the promotional material because we would have a spoiler. 504 00:20:38,565 --> 00:20:42,175 So we had that photo shoot with all 27, and we'd be like, Come on in, Deb! 505 00:20:42,654 --> 00:20:44,014 Okay, you can be in this one. 506 00:20:44,014 --> 00:20:45,575 Okay, Deb, now go on out. 507 00:20:45,595 --> 00:20:48,014 That was, you know, that's never happened before. 508 00:20:48,875 --> 00:20:49,355 Yeah. 509 00:20:49,784 --> 00:20:52,895 Yes, people were joking about, uh, that I should be like, you know,

510 00:20:52,935 --> 00:20:56,415 photoshopped in as like a silhouette with a big question mark, you know. 511 00:20:56,845 --> 00:20:59,215 Like a mystery, mystery date. 512 00:20:59,625 --> 00:20:59,835 Yes. 513 00:21:00,514 --> 00:21:04,125 Tell me what it has been like to just be a part. 514 00:21:04,215 --> 00:21:08,165 You know, first you came off of a group of 27 for Champions Wildcard. 515 00:21:08,194 --> 00:21:11,395 And then coming into another group of 27 for Tournament of Champions. 516 00:21:11,395 --> 00:21:13,675 That's 53 new best buddies, right? 517 00:21:13,845 --> 00:21:13,945 Α 518 00:21:13,945 --> 00:21:17,024 lot of new best buddies and a lot of people who were previously just talking 519 00:21:17,024 --> 00:21:19,625 heads on my TV, who now are real people. 520 00:21:19,635 --> 00:21:23,554 A lot of people have made a comparison to um, like a summer camp. 521 00:21:23,925 --> 00:21:27,870 And it's definitely kind of, kind of felt Like that.

522 00:21:27,909 --> 00:21:31,429 A little bit of like a jury sequestration situation maybe for Tournament of 523 00:21:31,429 --> 00:21:35,249 Champions, just because it's like, oh my god, a little, slightly more pressurized. 524 00:21:35,439 --> 00:21:38,469 I've never been in a room where I'm not necessarily like 525 00:21:38,489 --> 00:21:39,909 the biggest nerd, I think. 526 00:21:39,969 --> 00:21:43,070 Generally, like, you know, out of my friends, I'm the like, person 527 00:21:43,070 --> 00:21:45,769 who's gonna come up with the random facts, and a lot of these people 528 00:21:45,769 --> 00:21:49,110 really, really wound me, but it's been really great, yeah, hanging out. 529 00:21:49,820 --> 00:21:53,590 At the hotel with everyone and I don't know, just kind of getting to 530 00:21:53,590 --> 00:21:57,610 know all these people with all these kind of diverse life experiences. 531 00:21:57,679 --> 00:22:01,209 People who are really into quizzing or like people who like a lot of, you know, 532 00:22:01,209 --> 00:22:03,590 accomplished lawyers and all this stuff.

533 00:22:03,689 --> 00:22:04,479 It's really cool. 534 00:22:04,669 --> 00:22:08,970 So Deb, you came in a one day champion to the Champions Wildcard. 535 00:22:09,459 --> 00:22:12,510 Did you feel like, had you prepared differently? 536 00:22:12,510 --> 00:22:16,699 How did you feel like you stacked up or you sizing up the competition? 537 00:22:16,850 --> 00:22:17,320 In terms 538 00:22:17,320 --> 00:22:21,930 of, like, prep for Wildcard, thankfully I hadn't gotten rid of my, like, study 539 00:22:21,930 --> 00:22:26,160 notebooks, so I was just kind of, like, able to build off that a bit. 540 00:22:26,180 --> 00:22:29,379 I had thrown away my maps, so I had to redraw some maps. 541 00:22:29,399 --> 00:22:34,059 But in terms of, like, sizing other people up, For me, the game, the, the 542 00:22:34,059 --> 00:22:38,600 head game is kind of with myself, and I feel like I'm kind of my, like, not 543 00:22:38,600 --> 00:22:42,409 really opponent, but kind of, I'm playing against myself, if that makes sense, or

00:22:42,409 --> 00:22:47,019 it's like, I'm the person buzzing in, and I, you know, I need not get psyched out. 545 00:22:47,089 --> 00:22:52,110 Yeah, and you had a pretty exciting come from behind win in the quarterfinals. 546 00:22:52,159 --> 00:22:56,179 Going from that come from behind win into the semis, were you feeling like, 547 00:22:56,249 --> 00:22:59,860 oh, I kind of like skated by, or were you just like in it, ready to go? 548 00:23:00,645 --> 00:23:06,705 I definitely felt like I at the same time got lucky and then also kind of 549 00:23:07,485 --> 00:23:11,834 in a redemptive turn made a very like savvy wager so I didn't really feel 550 00:23:11,845 --> 00:23:17,235 like I got like it was pure happenstance because no absolutely not how I lost 551 00:23:17,235 --> 00:23:20,975 my my second game was just like over wagering so I definitely felt like a lot 552 00:23:20,975 --> 00:23:24,645 of redemption and I was just like well I didn't really expect to make it past the 553 00:23:24,645 --> 00:23:28,975 quarterfinals so I was just kind of like There to see what happens and, and have 554 00:23:28,985 --> 00:23:29,425 fun. 555

00:23:29,725 --> 00:23:33,435 Well, and heading into the semis then, you are all correct in final, you have 556 00:23:33,435 --> 00:23:36,894 a big wager, and you just kind of get to put an exclamation point on that win. 557 00:23:37,365 --> 00:23:40,754 It was after that game, I think, where I learned something interesting, and 558 00:23:40,754 --> 00:23:46,390 that is the fact that you had Lost your glasses, and that people on the 559 00:23:46,390 --> 00:23:49,740 internet were gonna think that, you know, you weren't really enjoying 560 00:23:49,740 --> 00:23:53,479 yourself, but it was really that you were squinting trying to see a game board. 561 00:23:53,490 --> 00:23:56,999 That is, the fact that you pulled off the win with that going on in Champions 562 00:23:56,999 --> 00:23:58,419 Wildcard is even more impressive. 563 00:23:59,320 --> 00:24:03,500 Yeah, thankfully my prescription isn't too strong, so I mean, definitely 564 00:24:03,500 --> 00:24:07,340 can see myself, you know, now that I've had a viewing party or two, I 565 00:24:07,340 --> 00:24:10,940 can see myself really like squinting at the board and people like must

00:24:10,940 --> 00:24:14,620 think I have some kind of like hockey game face going on where I'm like. 567 00:24:14,800 --> 00:24:17,590 Trying to be really intimidating, but I'm really just trying to make 568 00:24:17,590 --> 00:24:18,950 sure that the text is kind of in 569 00:24:19,000 --> 00:24:19,540 focus. 570 00:24:19,630 --> 00:24:23,520 And you also commented in that post game chat that you felt like the internet 571 00:24:23,520 --> 00:24:27,609 people, that they are saying, you know, it doesn't seem like Deb likes the 572 00:24:27,609 --> 00:24:29,920 game, but you said, I love this game. 573 00:24:29,920 --> 00:24:30,969 I grew up watching it. 574 00:24:30,970 --> 00:24:31,130 I love 575 00:24:31,269 --> 00:24:31,570 this game. 576 00:24:31,640 --> 00:24:33,349 Yeah, it's so funny. 577 00:24:33,380 --> 00:24:35,819 I mean, I think maybe part of, part of it is that. 578 00:24:36,375 --> 00:24:39,485

I mean, everyone's a little bit nervous and that manifests in different ways. 579 00:24:39,485 --> 00:24:42,905 And maybe I'm just like kind of trying to keep myself very calm and 580 00:24:42,905 --> 00:24:47,564 level because I'm kind of a wacky, wacky person, if that makes sense. 581 00:24:48,004 --> 00:24:51,725 Um, so I'm just trying to be very like chill and keep myself together. 582 00:24:51,725 --> 00:24:53,125 And maybe that's how it comes off. 583 00:24:53,185 --> 00:24:54,649 My mom loves to joke that. 584 00:24:55,030 --> 00:24:57,259 Wheel of Fortune is what taught me how to read. 585 00:24:57,310 --> 00:25:00,360 Um, but I've been watching Jeopardy like as long as I can remember. 586 00:25:00,399 --> 00:25:04,999 So it was like always a dream even when I was like a little kid to go on the show. 587 00:25:05,069 --> 00:25:07,149 Especially like, you know, when Alex was hosting. 588 00:25:07,159 --> 00:25:09,629 So it's so funny that like it doesn't seem like I'm having fun 589 00:25:09,639 --> 00:25:11,239 because I'm really having a blast.

590 00:25:11,389 --> 00:25:14,560 I guess I'm also just concentrating and yeah, you know, literally trying 591 00:25:14,560 --> 00:25:15,044 to focus. 592 00:25:16,810 --> 00:25:18,625 And now a quick word from our sponsor. 593 00:25:19,195 --> 00:25:24,834 Selling a little or a lot Shopify helps you do your thing. 594 00:25:24,864 --> 00:25:26,124 However you cha-Ching. 595 00:25:26,155 --> 00:25:29,574 Shopify is the global commerce platform that helps you sell at 596 00:25:29,574 --> 00:25:31,014 every stage of your business. 597 00:25:31,044 --> 00:25:35,395 From the launcher online shop stage to the first real life store stage. 598 00:25:35,835 --> 00:25:38,965 All the way to the, did we just hit a million orders, stage? 599 00:25:39,395 --> 00:25:40,975 Shopify's there to help you grow. 600 00:25:41,415 --> 00:25:44,904 From their all in one e commerce platform to their in person point of 601 00:25:44,904 --> 00:25:49,545 sale system, wherever and whatever you're selling, Shopify's got you covered. 602 00:25:50,005 --> 00:25:53,235 Shopify powers 10 percent of all e commerce in the U. 603 00:25:53,235 --> 00:25:53,555 s. 604 00:25:53,655 --> 00:25:57,455 Plus, they have the internet's best converting checkout, 36 percent 605 00:25:57,465 --> 00:26:00,635 better on average compared to other leading commerce platforms. 606 00:26:00,785 --> 00:26:04,485 What I love about Shopify is how simple they've made it to grow your business. 607 00:26:04,725 --> 00:26:08,025 You can manage inventory, track payments, and view real time 608 00:26:08,035 --> 00:26:09,845 insights all in one place. 609 00:26:09,985 --> 00:26:13,555 Shopify is there to support your success every step of the way, because 610 00:26:13,555 --> 00:26:15,905 businesses that grow, grow with Shopify. 611 00:26:15,905 --> 00:26:19,624 Sign up for a 1 per month trial period at shopify. 612 00:26:19,664 --> 00:26:21,845 com slash jeopardy, all lowercase.

00:26:22,395 --> 00:26:23,295 Go to shopify. 614 00:26:23,335 --> 00:26:27,485 com slash jeopardy now to grow your business no matter what stage you're in. 615 00:26:27,940 --> 00:26:28,750 Shopify. 616 00:26:28,750 --> 00:26:30,649 com slash Jeopardy. 617 00:26:31,380 --> 00:26:33,350 Now, back to Inside Jeopardy. 618 00:26:34,840 --> 00:26:36,690 Well, tell us about your Jeopardy journey. 619 00:26:36,690 --> 00:26:39,140 When did you decide to start trying out? 620 00:26:39,149 --> 00:26:40,499 How long did it take? 621 00:26:40,680 --> 00:26:42,219 What was your experience like? 622 00:26:42,500 --> 00:26:48,360 I think I took the online test maybe for the first time in like 2018, and 623 00:26:48,360 --> 00:26:53,190 then I think I had a An in person audition, um, sometime in 2018. 624 00:26:53,190 --> 00:26:56,420 I mean, I think I was in the pool for a while, um, I moved. 625 00:26:56,960 --> 00:26:59,660 To the East Coast and

```
started like farming.
626
00:26:59,660 --> 00:27:04,110
And I think I got a call in 2020
that they wanted me for the show.
627
00:27:04,110 --> 00:27:06,970
But I think that was like when
they were just starting to reopen,
628
00:27:07,040 --> 00:27:08,410
they thought I was in the Bay area.
629
00:27:08,410 --> 00:27:12,180
Cause that's how I had auditioned,
but was not at the time I.
630
00:27:12,245 --> 00:27:15,215
I guess I took the online test
again and then I had a one on
631
00:27:15,215 --> 00:27:17,155
one Zoom audition with Jimmy.
632
00:27:18,785 --> 00:27:19,115
People are always like,
633
00:27:19,135 --> 00:27:19,415
what?
634
00:27:20,025 --> 00:27:23,275
I know, this is, I always tell this,
Jimmy and I, you know, during COVID,
635
00:27:23,314 --> 00:27:25,485
everyone all hands in, how can you help?
636
00:27:25,805 --> 00:27:27,585
So we were doing
contestant auditions, yeah.
637
00:27:27,655 --> 00:27:28,015
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Well, and I 638 00:27:28,024 --> 00:27:32,230 remember actually, I had no idea that it was going to be like, With 639 00:27:32,260 --> 00:27:35,540 Jimmy, um, and he like popped up on my zoom screen, but I kind of just 640 00:27:35,540 --> 00:27:38,690 start laughing because he's like a celebrity because he's the clue crew. 641 00:27:38,730 --> 00:27:39,050 Yeah. 642 00:27:39,260 --> 00:27:41,060 Um, he's like going to the Galapagos. 643 00:27:43,120 --> 00:27:47,440 So, yeah, I was, I think I was kind of like maybe giggling a lot during like 644 00:27:47,440 --> 00:27:50,410 he, he, I remember him specifically asking like, hey, why are you laughing? 645 00:27:50,430 --> 00:27:52,450 And I was just like, ah, because you're Jimmy. 646 00:27:53,685 --> 00:27:56,895 So you mentioned that you had moved east to work in farming. 647 00:27:56,895 --> 00:27:59,925 We noticed even in your appearances on the show originally you were 648 00:27:59,925 --> 00:28:01,635 a winemaker from California.

649 00:28:01,695 --> 00:28:04,995 Now you are a restaurant server, the stomping grapes. 650 00:28:04,995 --> 00:28:06,735 You just, you didn't wanna have to do that anymore. 651 00:28:06,735 --> 00:28:07,305 Is that what happened, 652 00:28:08,445 --> 00:28:09,695 ? Um, yeah. 653 00:28:09,700 --> 00:28:10,895 I mean it's, it's hard work. 654 00:28:10,895 --> 00:28:12,425 It's, no, it's no joke. 655 00:28:12,610 --> 00:28:16,925 I did a few seasons, few harvests in New York, both farming the grapes 656 00:28:16,925 --> 00:28:20,435 and making the wine and it's really rewarding work in a lot of ways. 657 00:28:20,435 --> 00:28:20,525 It's. 658 00:28:21,060 --> 00:28:25,390 Um, I love being close to the land and really tasting the fruit of my own labor. 659 00:28:25,480 --> 00:28:28,890 And I kind of just decided I wanted to be home and closer to my family. 660 00:28:29,169 --> 00:28:30,820 Landed myself back in the Bay Area.

661 00:28:31,200 --> 00:28:32,250 Yeah, working in a restaurant. 662 00:28:32,270 --> 00:28:34,310 It's, I really love my co workers. 663 00:28:34,310 --> 00:28:34,980 They're really wonderful 664 00:28:35,010 --> 00:28:35,340 people. 665 00:28:35,905 --> 00:28:37,285 Well, that's what it's all about. 666 00:28:37,425 --> 00:28:39,325 I feel the same way with my Jeopardy co workers. 667 00:28:39,925 --> 00:28:44,355 So, getting back to Champions Wildcard, you know, you come out of the finals 668 00:28:44,355 --> 00:28:48,425 day one, you have a big lead after, you know, a huge wager in final. 669 00:28:48,855 --> 00:28:50,905 How are you feeling heading into day two? 670 00:28:51,540 --> 00:28:52,070 I'm not, 671 00:28:52,300 --> 00:28:55,960 I'm definitely not resting on any kind of laurels going into day two, because 672 00:28:56,030 --> 00:28:59,990 both my competitors, Jesse and Mira, are really incredible Jeopardy players,

673 00:28:59,990 --> 00:29:01,520 and anything really could happen. 674 00:29:01,520 --> 00:29:05,650 I'm, it's not, it's not like a secure, doesn't feel like a secure win. 675 00:29:05,700 --> 00:29:07,080 Still coming in fresh game. 676 00:29:07,220 --> 00:29:08,140 Just trying to. 677 00:29:08,355 --> 00:29:11,085 Stay in there and keep, keep buzzing. 678 00:29:11,505 --> 00:29:15,755 Well, game two was a pretty evenly matched in the Jeopardy round. 679 00:29:15,785 --> 00:29:20,205 And then, you know, Jesse with that huge 7, 400 daily double 680 00:29:20,645 --> 00:29:25,535 really got himself into a lead position, but then triple stumper. 681 00:29:25,845 --> 00:29:31,475 In Final Jeopardy, the category, in case you don't remember, On Vacation in Italy. 682 00:29:31,895 --> 00:29:36,385 About 30 miles from Florence, a little hill gives this Tuscan town its name. 683 00:29:36,445 --> 00:29:38,605 Familiar to American visitors. 684 00:29:38,625 --> 00:29:39,895 It's a triple stumper.

685 00:29:40,265 --> 00:29:41,735 What was going through your mind? 686 00:29:42,185 --> 00:29:45,935 I, it's funny because I've been to Italy, I think I was personally 687 00:29:45,935 --> 00:29:50,485 thrown by the outside of Florence, like the, the like, the, the place 688 00:29:50,495 --> 00:29:51,995 setting aspects of that clue. 689 00:29:52,635 --> 00:29:54,665 I don't really know why I didn't get there. 690 00:29:54,745 --> 00:29:55,822 Well it didn't matter. 691 00:29:55,822 --> 00:29:56,127 Ιt 692 00:29:56,127 --> 00:29:56,433 didn't 693 00:29:56,433 --> 00:29:56,739 matter. 694 00:29:56,739 --> 00:30:02,055 Yeah, the good news is it didn't matter, and I think in addition to your joyful 695 00:30:02,105 --> 00:30:06,240 reaction to winning, in the post game chat you said, Well, now I have to get 696 00:30:06,240 --> 00:30:10,800 off more time from work without telling anyone why, like that was what was going

697 00:30:10,800 --> 00:30:12,200 through your mind in your winning moment. 698 00:30:12,520 --> 00:30:15,110 I got to come back for a whole week and do the Tournament of Champions. 699 00:30:15,460 --> 00:30:16,460 Oh God, 700 00:30:16,470 --> 00:30:19,210 another, uh, all expenses paid vacation. 701 00:30:19,510 --> 00:30:22,690 I think it's also just, I know, I, I was talking actually 702 00:30:22,690 --> 00:30:24,530 to, to Juveria about this. 703 00:30:24,530 --> 00:30:27,010 She's a really, she's a really wonderful person. 704 00:30:27,010 --> 00:30:30,146 And I was saying, I was like, it's weird that I was just Um, 705 00:30:30,146 --> 00:30:33,685 I was thinking immediately about the stressful things when I won. 706 00:30:33,785 --> 00:30:37,655 I mean, you could do a lot of, um, like armchair psychology about that. 707 00:30:37,685 --> 00:30:39,985 But I think it was more just something that I couldn't believe 708 00:30:39,985 --> 00:30:43,135 was happening to me and I really

like seized upon what felt real. 709 00:30:43,135 --> 00:30:44,945 And what felt real is, oh god, I have to get 710 00:30:44,945 --> 00:30:45,875 time off now. 711 00:30:45,915 --> 00:30:47,345 So what did you tell your job? 712 00:30:47,355 --> 00:30:47,685 I have to know. 713 00:30:48,135 --> 00:30:49,105 Where have you been? 714 00:30:50,415 --> 00:30:51,810 Um, I know. 715 00:30:51,810 --> 00:30:56,040 I think some, some people kind of figured it out, but, um, thankfully I have a 716 00:30:56,040 --> 00:31:00,670 really sweet and kind manager and I told her, Hey, I need these days off 717 00:31:00,720 --> 00:31:02,790 and I, I won, but I can't tell anyone. 718 00:31:02,880 --> 00:31:03,870 Um, can you help me out? 719 00:31:03,870 --> 00:31:07,160 And she, she just kind of made me disappear. 720 00:31:08,640 --> 00:31:13,390 Well, uh, speaking of eateries and Jeopardy, uh, I'm going to ask, you know,

721 00:31:13,390 --> 00:31:17,900 my hard hitting question, which is what is your Sony commissary lunch order? 722 00:31:18,790 --> 00:31:19,710 Ooh, that's tough. 723 00:31:19,800 --> 00:31:25,910 Well, I feel like on, if I'm, if I'm playing after lunch, which has been 724 00:31:25,920 --> 00:31:29,070 the case a couple times, it's a slice of pepperoni pizza, just because, 725 00:31:30,080 --> 00:31:33,740 um, no matter my nerves or my nausea levels, I can, I can kind of get that 726 00:31:33,750 --> 00:31:37,620 down and definitely, like, have some, have some fuel, have some protein. 727 00:31:37,780 --> 00:31:42,860 When I'm not playing, I finally got to have the bulgogi beef rice bowl. 728 00:31:42,870 --> 00:31:43,430 Oh, yeah. 729 00:31:43,890 --> 00:31:44,360 That hit. 730 00:31:44,390 --> 00:31:45,850 That was, like, a really great. 731 00:31:46,590 --> 00:31:49,120 Like very balanced, you know, I got some vegetables, I got some 732 00:31:49,120 --> 00:31:51,805

savory, savory protein, some rice. 733 00:31:51,805 --> 00:31:52,429 Nice. 734 00:31:52,430 --> 00:31:53,380 That one hit the spot for me. 735 00:31:54,310 --> 00:31:57,850 No spoilers about what comes next, obviously you're back for the TOC 736 00:31:57,850 --> 00:32:01,630 and we'll be talking about those games on future pods, but coming 737 00:32:01,630 --> 00:32:05,580 out of the Champions Wildcard, like what's a, what's a aspect of 738 00:32:05,580 --> 00:32:10,020 your play or a stat or something that you feel like really proud of? 739 00:32:11,440 --> 00:32:15,200 Oh, you know, it's funny because I, I really wasn't aware of. 740 00:32:16,090 --> 00:32:18,270 The box scores in my original run. 741 00:32:18,300 --> 00:32:23,780 So like I didn't actually see my stats When I first was on I think maybe I 742 00:32:23,780 --> 00:32:28,370 kind of found out about them Jesse chin made baseball a baseball card of 743 00:32:28,370 --> 00:32:30,920 himself and he had all his stats I was like, how'd you get all your stats?

744 00:32:32,810 --> 00:32:35,230 And so yeah, they wouldn't like look on the internet. 745 00:32:35,240 --> 00:32:39,020 So in terms of like, you know, not you're not a stat head. 746 00:32:39,190 --> 00:32:41,860 That's okay Yeah, I'm not not so much a stat head. 747 00:32:41,870 --> 00:32:46,560 I wish I wish I were a little more but I mean I I think When I finally, like, got 748 00:32:46,560 --> 00:32:51,030 to see my choreo score on, on Jarchive, and I was like, Oh my god, this is real! 749 00:32:51,110 --> 00:32:52,290 Uh, that felt pretty good. 750 00:32:53,650 --> 00:32:58,660 One, one thing is, for me, the buzzer has always been kind of, like, elusive. 751 00:32:58,740 --> 00:33:01,910 I mean, obviously I did a little bit of training in terms of just, like, 752 00:33:02,150 --> 00:33:06,700 standing in front of my TV with the, with the little Jeopardy home game button. 753 00:33:06,710 --> 00:33:10,360 So I was happy of how much I managed to, like, make, make 754 00:33:10,380 --> 00:33:11,840 that training regimen work.

00:33:11,870 --> 00:33:15,260 But, I don't know, an aspect of my game I feel proud of. 756 00:33:15,955 --> 00:33:16,805 That's a nice question. 757 00:33:16,915 --> 00:33:22,165 I mean, I'm, I'm proud of how I, like, nose to the grindstone was able to improve 758 00:33:22,175 --> 00:33:27,595 on subjects like, like, geography or like, kind of the more, like, hard academic 759 00:33:27,595 --> 00:33:31,285 subjects that I would be able to be like, oh, I really, like, internalized 760 00:33:31,295 --> 00:33:35,135 Tancanica, which I had not something I had really thought about that much 761 00:33:35,135 --> 00:33:38,055 as a more casual Jeopardy, um, viewer. 762 00:33:38,630 --> 00:33:40,810 But that I was able to like retain those kinds of things. 763 00:33:40,820 --> 00:33:46,420 I really love to learn and sometimes it's hard for me to study like kind 764 00:33:46,420 --> 00:33:51,510 of pure road or pure memorization and the things that I'm really happy that 765 00:33:51,985 --> 00:33:57,945 I got from my Jeopardy experience, um, are, are those kinds of, like, little 766 00:33:58,035 --> 00:34:02,275

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nuggets of knowledge that, like, I,
will still stay with me after the fact.
767
00:34:02,455 --> 00:34:02,585
Ι
768
00:34:02,585 --> 00:34:03,025
love it.
769
00:34:03,435 --> 00:34:06,465
Well, and you talked about the
baseball cards, you know, we have
770
00:34:06,465 --> 00:34:11,115
made digital baseball cards with
your stats for the TOC, so, Jessie,
771
00:34:11,145 --> 00:34:12,805
watch out, Deb's gonna have one
772
00:34:13,025 --> 00:34:13,685
now, too.
773
00:34:14,505 --> 00:34:16,605
Curious to see what my
signature is on that one.
774
00:34:17,215 --> 00:34:17,375
You
775
00:34:17,375 --> 00:34:20,025
talk about the signature, and I
have to ask about this, because
776
00:34:20,025 --> 00:34:24,165
your penmanship has gone Everyone
on Reddit is talking about it.
777
00:34:24,535 --> 00:34:25,675
How do you write?
778
00:34:25,705 --> 00:34:27,975
```

I have used the stylus, as have you, Lizzie. 779 00:34:27,985 --> 00:34:28,595 Yeah, impossible. 780 00:34:28,625 --> 00:34:34,795 I don't know how you write your letters so perfectly, equally in size, totally 781 00:34:35,020 --> 00:34:36,920 Balanced, across, how do you do it? 782 00:34:37,160 --> 00:34:38,350 Well, I have to 783 00:34:38,350 --> 00:34:41,970 find some way to put my art degree to work doing Jeopardy, so I 784 00:34:41,970 --> 00:34:43,270 guess that's, I guess that's it. 785 00:34:43,320 --> 00:34:47,100 I have a background in drawing, so I guess I'm just able to control the thing well. 786 00:34:47,100 --> 00:34:50,910 I think also, like a Wacom pen now, and maybe different 787 00:34:50,930 --> 00:34:52,410 from like old, the tethered. 788 00:34:52,920 --> 00:34:55,080 One, because I feel like on my first time, it was like a tethered 789 00:34:55,210 --> 00:34:55,860 pen, like in the bag. 790 00:34:55,910 --> 00:34:59,110

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It only became untethered
at the start of the season.
791
00:34:59,110 --> 00:34:59,370
Yeah.
792
00:34:59,440 --> 00:35:00,000
It's definitely
793
00:35:00,010 --> 00:35:02,750
changed, uh, the signature thing.
794
00:35:02,760 --> 00:35:05,660
But since I found out about
Best Signature at Jeopardy!
795
00:35:05,660 --> 00:35:06,120
Honors
796
00:35:06,410 --> 00:35:06,900
Watch out!
797
00:35:07,090 --> 00:35:10,270
Hopefully Watch out, young Shen!
798
00:35:11,040 --> 00:35:12,510
Dab is coming for ya!
799
00:35:12,820 --> 00:35:16,650
Well, what's next for Dabilido hot
off the Tournament of Champions?
800
00:35:16,750 --> 00:35:17,480
Ooh, I don't
801
00:35:17,480 --> 00:35:17,790
know.
802
00:35:17,870 --> 00:35:18,920
Um, some rest.
803
```

00:35:19,340 --> 00:35:20,240 Really, honestly. 804 00:35:20,330 --> 00:35:22,980 I'm just Surfing on Good Vibes for right 805 00:35:22,980 --> 00:35:23,370 now. 806 00:35:23,500 --> 00:35:24,770 We love your Good Vibes. 807 00:35:24,780 --> 00:35:27,020 Thank you so much for joining us in the pod. 808 00:35:27,020 --> 00:35:30,880 Congratulations on just a really great run here in recent weeks. 809 00:35:30,880 --> 00:35:32,760 It's been so much fun to watch you compete. 810 00:35:33,620 --> 00:35:36,570 All right, that brings us to the end of today's show. 811 00:35:36,580 --> 00:35:39,570 We will be back next week for more TOC game highlights. 812 00:35:39,920 --> 00:35:42,240 You're not going to want to miss those because a lot 813 00:35:42,250 --> 00:35:43,940 happens this week in the TOC. 814 00:35:44,240 --> 00:35:46,440 Plus, we're going to be talking with co head writers

815 00:35:46,440 --> 00:35:47,760 Billy Weiss and Michelle Loud. 816 00:35:48,035 --> 00:35:51,875 About exactly what goes into the writing process for the Tournament of Champions. 817 00:35:52,505 --> 00:35:52,735 Can't 818 00:35:52,735 --> 00:35:53,925 wait, and we will see you all 819 00:35:53,925 --> 00:35:54,315 next week. 820 00:35:54,325 --> 00:35:55,065 See you then.