

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:05,040
From the Alex Trebek Stage
at Sony Pictures Studios, this

2
00:00:05,130 --> 00:00:07,860
is Inside Jeopardy!.

3
00:00:08,760 --> 00:00:11,940
Hello and welcome back to Inside
Jeopardy! exclusive and official

4
00:00:11,940 --> 00:00:15,810
podcast destination for all things
happening in the world of Jeopardy!.

5
00:00:16,170 --> 00:00:20,310
I'm Sarah Foss and we have a special
episode in store for you because today

6
00:00:20,340 --> 00:00:26,280
we're kicking off our interviews with
some of our season 39 standout champions.

7
00:00:26,655 --> 00:00:30,645
And right now I'm joined by
nine game winner, Ben Chan.

8
00:00:30,975 --> 00:00:32,385
Ben, welcome to the pod.

9
00:00:32,385 --> 00:00:33,945
Thanks so much for joining us.

10
00:00:34,275 --> 00:00:34,545
Thanks

11
00:00:34,545 --> 00:00:35,475
for having me, Sarah.

12
00:00:35,475 --> 00:00:36,345
It's good to see you again.

13

00:00:36,735 --> 00:00:37,605
Good to see you.

14

00:00:37,610 --> 00:00:40,485
I see that Green Bay Summers
are treating you well.

15

00:00:40,875 --> 00:00:43,125
Yeah, I'm, I've got a little bit of color.

16

00:00:43,255 --> 00:00:45,135
Yeah, lots of time outside.

17

00:00:45,135 --> 00:00:49,125
Actually, one of the only Splurgy
things we've done is to, um,

18

00:00:49,245 --> 00:00:53,055
buy some new bicycles and a
nice bike rack for our car, so,

19

00:00:53,460 --> 00:00:56,940
Alright, so you haven't quite traveled
the world as promised with your

20

00:00:56,940 --> 00:00:59,580
winnings, but you've been cycling around

21

00:00:59,760 --> 00:01:00,480
Wisconsin.

22

00:01:00,480 --> 00:01:00,481
Yeah.

23

00:01:00,481 --> 00:01:00,500
It was a cycling.

24

00:01:00,870 --> 00:01:01,080
Yeah.

25

00:01:01,080 --> 00:01:03,030

It turned out, and that's one of the funny things, right?

26

00:01:03,030 --> 00:01:06,360
It happened so fast, you know, I never made plans about what I would

27

00:01:06,365 --> 00:01:09,510
do if I'd made, uh, some substantial,

28

00:01:09,840 --> 00:01:14,400
oh know, money, nearly \$200,000 at that point when you first

29

00:01:14,400 --> 00:01:15,390
talked about the travel.

30

00:01:15,390 --> 00:01:16,530
Yeah, yeah.

31

00:01:16,530 --> 00:01:20,190
So when I got home, I mentioned to my wife, uh, I was like, oh, they

32

00:01:20,190 --> 00:01:21,390
asked me what I was gonna do, so I.

33

00:01:21,765 --> 00:01:24,345
Said the only thing I could think of, which was do a cross country

34

00:01:24,345 --> 00:01:28,935
road trip this summer, and she was like, uh, my summer's already booked.

35

00:01:29,745 --> 00:01:31,305
Have the dogs benefited?

36

00:01:31,305 --> 00:01:34,455
I know we've heard about Ruthie and Chester, they may have

37

00:01:34,460 --> 00:01:35,775
come on vacation with you.

38
00:01:35,775 --> 00:01:36,885
Is there a bike rack?

39
00:01:36,915 --> 00:01:38,985
Uh, a little special basket
for them or anything?

40
00:01:39,705 --> 00:01:43,335
There's no basket, but actually
the most of the bike rack usage has

41
00:01:43,335 --> 00:01:48,285
been So I can take my bike up to
a nice preserve that we have up by

42
00:01:48,285 --> 00:01:51,225
the, the Bay of Green Bay and I can.

43
00:01:51,630 --> 00:01:54,270
Tire them out without tiring myself out.

44
00:01:54,420 --> 00:01:55,140
Ah.

45
00:01:55,140 --> 00:01:57,470
By biking with them
while they follow along.

46
00:01:57,470 --> 00:01:57,710
Okay.

47
00:01:57,715 --> 00:01:59,490
Yeah, this is very smart.

48
00:01:59,490 --> 00:02:02,789
So maybe the cross country road
trip will happen next summer.

49
00:02:02,850 --> 00:02:03,690

That is the plan.

50

00:02:04,020 --> 00:02:04,410

Alright.

51

00:02:04,414 --> 00:02:10,680

So no big splurges other than the bicycles so far, but how has life changed for you?

52

00:02:10,680 --> 00:02:14,640

I mean, in Green Bay, Wisconsin, to walk around as a nine game champion,

53

00:02:15,120 --> 00:02:16,170

Aaron Rogers isn't there anymore.

54

00:02:16,170 --> 00:02:20,010

You've gotta be about the most famous man in Wisconsin, or at least in Green Bay.

55

00:02:20,685 --> 00:02:20,985

Yeah.

56

00:02:20,985 --> 00:02:25,275

Green Bay as, uh, some people in the trivia circles may know it's the

57

00:02:25,275 --> 00:02:27,165

smallest city in North America with.

58

00:02:27,495 --> 00:02:28,785

A major sports team.

59

00:02:28,815 --> 00:02:29,234

Yes.

60

00:02:29,234 --> 00:02:34,484

So it's a city, but it feels like a town and there are the benefits of that.

61

00:02:34,635 --> 00:02:39,555

So I think people noticed and I was

happy that they rallied around me and I

62

00:02:39,560 --> 00:02:41,325

was very proud to make Green Bay proud.

63

00:02:41,325 --> 00:02:44,954

And so, yeah, I have a little bit
of local celebrity status at the

64

00:02:44,954 --> 00:02:45,405

moment.

65

00:02:45,555 --> 00:02:49,005

What's the craziest place you've
been recognized, would you say?

66

00:02:49,394 --> 00:02:51,045

The craziest place?

67

00:02:51,405 --> 00:02:55,125

I was just getting into New
York City where my um, mother.

68

00:02:55,130 --> 00:03:00,290

And sisters still live, and I was walking
on the jet bridge getting off the plane.

69

00:03:00,290 --> 00:03:02,930

I hear a shout behind me saying, Hey.

70

00:03:03,675 --> 00:03:06,705

Aren't you that Jeopardy
guy and it's the pilot.

71

00:03:06,705 --> 00:03:11,085

The pilot no way, had come out of
the plane and said, I watched you.

72

00:03:11,085 --> 00:03:11,385

You know?

73

00:03:11,390 --> 00:03:12,945

So I thought that was surprising.

74

00:03:12,950 --> 00:03:14,895
'cause it's very out of context, right?

75

00:03:14,895 --> 00:03:15,105
Sure.

76

00:03:15,110 --> 00:03:18,825
But for them, um, so, uh, I guess
I look in real life like I did

77

00:03:18,825 --> 00:03:19,395
on tv.

78

00:03:19,545 --> 00:03:23,235
Well, and I think, you know, being
called that guy, not always a compliment,

79

00:03:23,235 --> 00:03:26,685
but if you're that jeopardy guy,
that's a pretty good compliment.

80

00:03:26,954 --> 00:03:27,315
No, that's

81

00:03:27,315 --> 00:03:28,035
a nice thing, right?

82

00:03:28,035 --> 00:03:30,555
When you're recognized it's, you
know, when I think one of my goals

83

00:03:30,555 --> 00:03:32,954
in coming on however I did, was just.

84

00:03:33,450 --> 00:03:34,200
To have fun.

85

00:03:34,560 --> 00:03:37,230
'cause you know, if we have
fun, then hopefully the people

86

00:03:37,230 --> 00:03:38,609
who are watching will have fun.

87

00:03:39,090 --> 00:03:43,500
And it's been nice to hear from people
who watched that they had fun watching.

88

00:03:43,500 --> 00:03:43,770
Right.

89

00:03:43,860 --> 00:03:44,130
Yeah.

90

00:03:44,130 --> 00:03:49,020
The comments about you in particular
and your run people were huge.

91

00:03:49,025 --> 00:03:53,430
Ben Chan fans, just that you seem
like such a nice guy that you

92

00:03:53,430 --> 00:03:55,110
were having a good time up there.

93

00:03:55,170 --> 00:03:56,100
So thanks for that.

94

00:03:56,430 --> 00:03:57,540
Well, thank you.

95

00:03:57,540 --> 00:04:01,515
I mean, I think one thing that I've
said to people who've asked is, Yeah,

96

00:04:01,515 --> 00:04:06,945
I've never felt more at home than when
I was playing, and it's just rare to

97

00:04:06,945 --> 00:04:14,295
have that kind of fit between a stage,
literal stage and your, your capabilities.

98

00:04:14,295 --> 00:04:14,535

Right.

99

00:04:14,540 --> 00:04:16,245

So it just, it was an amazing

100

00:04:16,305 --> 00:04:17,175

experience.

101

00:04:17,565 --> 00:04:21,644

Now, tell me about your journey
to get onto the Alex Trebek stage.

102

00:04:21,644 --> 00:04:23,625

You know, when did you
first start auditioning?

103

00:04:23,625 --> 00:04:25,575

How, how did your process unfold?

104

00:04:25,960 --> 00:04:29,520

I feel a little bit guilty about
it because Don't feel guilty, Ben.

105

00:04:29,550 --> 00:04:31,270

It's so, it's okay.

106

00:04:31,270 --> 00:04:34,840

You know, I know I've had a chance to
meet a lot of, you know, longtime fans

107

00:04:34,840 --> 00:04:40,060

and people who have been trying to get
on, and for me, you know, I'd taken

108

00:04:40,060 --> 00:04:42,970

the, actually, probably 10 years ago
was the first time I took the Anytime

109

00:04:42,975 --> 00:04:45,160

test or the schedule test, right?

110
00:04:45,490 --> 00:04:45,970
Sure.

111
00:04:46,060 --> 00:04:49,690
But it wasn't until last June.

112
00:04:50,130 --> 00:04:53,820
When it really became a sort of
bucket list item for me, right.

113
00:04:53,820 --> 00:04:58,140
I was at a conference, it was actually
a conference in honor of, um, a friend

114
00:04:58,145 --> 00:05:04,140
of mine who passed away and I was at the
last night of the conference, one of my

115
00:05:04,140 --> 00:05:06,539
friends introduced me to Learned League.

116
00:05:06,539 --> 00:05:06,599
I.

117
00:05:06,885 --> 00:05:09,465
And said, Hey, I think
you might be good at this.

118
00:05:09,585 --> 00:05:13,905
And so I joined and I found that I,
I was pretty good at it and I was,

119
00:05:13,935 --> 00:05:17,925
you know, competitive with people
who had been on and won at Jeopardy.

120
00:05:17,925 --> 00:05:22,455
And I thought, all right, this is
something that I really should want,

121
00:05:23,205 --> 00:05:24,735

wanna do, like I would enjoy it.

122

00:05:24,885 --> 00:05:27,345

And so it became a goal
of mine really last June.

123

00:05:27,735 --> 00:05:31,065

I got the audition pretty
shortly after that.

124

00:05:31,395 --> 00:05:34,965

And, Before I knew it, I was on the stage.

125

00:05:35,175 --> 00:05:35,385

So

126

00:05:35,385 --> 00:05:37,965

you took the Anytime test in June then?

127

00:05:38,175 --> 00:05:40,905

I think I had taken it a little
bit before then, but it was.

128

00:05:41,670 --> 00:05:45,480

I think it was one of those, I think I
had had glass, glass of wine, had watched

129

00:05:45,480 --> 00:05:49,410

Jeopardy, had played along, and was kind
of feeling myself because I thought if I

130

00:05:49,410 --> 00:05:50,719

had been on this day, this we recommend.

131

00:05:51,040 --> 00:05:51,560

I mean, yeah.

132

00:05:51,560 --> 00:05:51,680

Yeah.

133

00:05:52,020 --> 00:05:54,719

I was like, if I were on, I

think I would've won today.

134

00:05:54,990 --> 00:05:58,470

And so I took the type test where
my feet weren't even on the ground,

135

00:05:58,475 --> 00:06:01,470

you know, I was just lying on the
couch, taking me anytime test, and

136

00:06:01,470 --> 00:06:03,240

so yeah, it doesn't need to be that.

137

00:06:03,540 --> 00:06:03,960

Serious.

138

00:06:05,130 --> 00:06:06,570

I love that you're saying this, Ben.

139

00:06:06,600 --> 00:06:07,890

'cause this is what we tell people.

140

00:06:07,890 --> 00:06:10,080

You know, you used to have
to have the scheduled test.

141

00:06:10,080 --> 00:06:11,700

It was once a year.

142

00:06:11,700 --> 00:06:13,770

You had to, you know, get yourself ready.

143

00:06:13,800 --> 00:06:16,080

Now you really can take it anytime.

144

00:06:16,080 --> 00:06:16,740

You can have it.

145

00:06:16,740 --> 00:06:18,990

After a glass of wine, you
watch Jeopardy, you're feeling

146

00:06:18,990 --> 00:06:20,790
confident, put your feet up.

147

00:06:21,040 --> 00:06:24,190
Turn on the computer, the
iPad, 10 to 15 minutes, and

148

00:06:24,190 --> 00:06:25,540
you could end up like Ben Chan.

149

00:06:25,540 --> 00:06:25,810
That could

150

00:06:25,815 --> 00:06:26,050
happen.

151

00:06:27,040 --> 00:06:27,640
Uh, yeah.

152

00:06:27,640 --> 00:06:29,590
So actually I, I mean,
your voice reminds me.

153

00:06:29,590 --> 00:06:34,540
I think one of my things in my preparation
after my audition, um, I thought, okay,

154

00:06:34,540 --> 00:06:37,180
you know, I could be going on, so I
might, as I might as well prepare.

155

00:06:37,185 --> 00:06:42,880
And so I listened to Jeopardy radio
on, you know, tune in and oftentimes,

156

00:06:42,940 --> 00:06:47,380
um, your voice will, will come
on and say you could be the next.

157

00:06:47,770 --> 00:06:48,460
Jeopardy chief.

158

00:06:48,460 --> 00:06:51,490

And I thought, actually,
I think she's right.

159

00:06:51,490 --> 00:06:52,900

Like you could, I, I could be.

160

00:06:52,900 --> 00:06:52,960

Why

161

00:06:53,250 --> 00:06:53,570

not me?

162

00:06:53,580 --> 00:06:53,930

Right?

163

00:06:54,070 --> 00:06:54,530

Why not me?

164

00:06:54,530 --> 00:06:55,270

Yeah, exactly.

165

00:06:55,390 --> 00:06:58,930

Well, you don't have to feel guilty
that your journey, you know, was a

166

00:06:58,930 --> 00:07:03,729

quick one, because there is a different
story for every champion, right?

167

00:07:03,729 --> 00:07:07,810

I mean, we have champions who tried
out so many times over the years and

168

00:07:07,810 --> 00:07:08,919

then finally made it on the show.

169

00:07:08,919 --> 00:07:11,770

And, and for some like you,
you just got really motivated.

170

00:07:12,035 --> 00:07:13,445
And you got on the show quickly.

171
00:07:13,445 --> 00:07:18,035
So there's no one way to become a Jeopardy
champion, but I'm glad that you just

172
00:07:18,395 --> 00:07:20,555
kind of reiterated the Anytime test.

173
00:07:21,245 --> 00:07:22,175
You just have to take it.

174
00:07:22,180 --> 00:07:26,735
And what's interesting to me is I
talk to so many champions who say, you

175
00:07:26,735 --> 00:07:30,305
know, I didn't know if I was gonna be
good, or I didn't know if I had what?

176
00:07:30,305 --> 00:07:34,205
Like even those of you who are so
great, don't know how great you

177
00:07:34,205 --> 00:07:35,555
could be on the Alex Trebek stage.

178
00:07:35,555 --> 00:07:39,854
So if anyone's listening and you're
feeling that way, Just take the test.

179
00:07:39,854 --> 00:07:41,294
You just never know, right?

180
00:07:41,445 --> 00:07:41,895
Yes,

181
00:07:42,344 --> 00:07:43,005
a hundred percent.

182
00:07:43,245 --> 00:07:43,885

100%.

183

00:07:43,885 --> 00:07:43,885

Yes,

184

00:07:44,565 --> 00:07:45,885

100%.

185

00:07:46,245 --> 00:07:49,335

So you get the call,
you know you're coming.

186

00:07:49,364 --> 00:07:54,645

What do you do in those weeks leading
up to coming to Los Angeles to compete

187

00:07:54,650 --> 00:07:56,174

on Jeopardy for the first time?

188

00:07:56,265 --> 00:07:59,294

You know, one of the things when I was
watching at home throughout the years

189

00:07:59,294 --> 00:08:06,284

as a regular but casual viewer, is
whenever you would ask a question about.

190

00:08:07,290 --> 00:08:08,310

English monarchs.

191

00:08:08,310 --> 00:08:12,270

I would roll my eyes and say,
come on, why should anybody

192

00:08:12,270 --> 00:08:14,400

know about the English monarchs?

193

00:08:14,820 --> 00:08:19,260

So the first thing I studied was I
memorized a list of English monarchs.

194

00:08:19,500 --> 00:08:22,350

So, you know, I think if you're a regular viewer, you have an

195

00:08:22,350 --> 00:08:26,400
idea about some of those, uh, recurring categories that may be.

196

00:08:26,760 --> 00:08:28,590
Achilles heels of yours.

197

00:08:28,590 --> 00:08:28,590
Mm-hmm.

198

00:08:29,310 --> 00:08:32,880
You know, I think as you often say, the best preparation for

199

00:08:33,000 --> 00:08:35,699
Jeopardy is watching Jeopardy.

200

00:08:36,299 --> 00:08:36,630
Watching Jeopardy.

201

00:08:36,630 --> 00:08:37,020
Yes.

202

00:08:37,289 --> 00:08:39,870
And so, you know, I, I watch attentively, you know, went through

203

00:08:39,875 --> 00:08:43,890
J Archive obviously, you know, there are things that, uh, I've

204

00:08:43,890 --> 00:08:48,900
heard of all the presidents, but, but if you gave me a year, I might

205

00:08:48,900 --> 00:08:50,189
not be able to name the president.

206

00:08:50,189 --> 00:08:53,790

So, you know, I brushed up on those sorts of things, world capitals and the.

207

00:08:55,035 --> 00:08:56,925

And now a quick word from our sponsor.

208

00:08:58,905 --> 00:09:01,335

That's the sound of another sale on Shopify.

209

00:09:01,485 --> 00:09:06,285

And the moment another business dream becomes a reality, Shopify is the

210

00:09:06,285 --> 00:09:10,785

commerce platform revolutionizing millions of businesses worldwide.

211

00:09:10,965 --> 00:09:15,015

Whether you're a garage entrepreneur or i p o Ready, Shopify's the.

212

00:09:15,055 --> 00:09:20,064

Only tool you need to start, run and grow your business without the struggle.

213

00:09:20,094 --> 00:09:24,594

Shopify puts you in control of every sales channel, whether you're selling satin

214

00:09:24,599 --> 00:09:29,905

sheets from Shopify's in-person p o s system, or offering organic olive oil on

215

00:09:29,910 --> 00:09:32,755

Shopify's all in one e-commerce platform.

216

00:09:32,785 --> 00:09:37,045

You're covered and once you've reached your audience, Shopify has the Internet's

217

00:09:37,045 --> 00:09:41,155

best converting checkout to help you

turn them from browsers to buyers.

218

00:09:41,245 --> 00:09:44,395

One of the things I really love about
Shopify is that no matter how much

219

00:09:44,395 --> 00:09:47,755

you want to grow or how fast you
want to grow, Shopify is ready with

220

00:09:47,760 --> 00:09:49,855

the tools you need for every level.

221

00:09:49,885 --> 00:09:53,694

Shopify powers 10% of
all e-commerce in the us.

222

00:09:53,800 --> 00:09:59,050

And Shopify is truly a global force
powering Allbirds, Roth's and Brooklyn,

223

00:09:59,050 --> 00:10:04,060

and, and millions of entrepreneurs of
every size across over 170 countries.

224

00:10:04,090 --> 00:10:07,990

Plus, Shopify's award-winning help
is there to support your success

225

00:10:07,990 --> 00:10:09,490

every single step of the way.

226

00:10:09,680 --> 00:10:12,620

This is a possibility powered by Shopify.

227

00:10:12,680 --> 00:10:18,140

Sign up for a \$1 per month trial
period at shopify.com/jeopardy.

228

00:10:18,199 --> 00:10:19,130

All lowercase.

229

00:10:19,160 --> 00:10:24,319
Go to shopify.com/jeopardy to take
your business to the next level today.

230
00:10:24,350 --> 00:10:26,689
shopify.com/jeopardy.

231
00:10:28,740 --> 00:10:29,969
Travel plans for summer.

232
00:10:30,030 --> 00:10:35,069
Learn to speak like a local with Babel,
because with Babel you can start speaking

233
00:10:35,069 --> 00:10:37,290
a new language in just three weeks.

234
00:10:37,380 --> 00:10:41,160
Babel is designed by real
people for real conversations.

235
00:10:41,189 --> 00:10:44,819
All of Babel's tips and tools for
learning a new language are approachable.

236
00:10:45,015 --> 00:10:48,585
Accessible, rooted in real life
situations and delivered with

237
00:10:48,585 --> 00:10:50,595
conversation-based teaching.

238
00:10:50,655 --> 00:10:54,675
With Babel, you can learn everything you
need to have real world conversations

239
00:10:54,675 --> 00:10:58,365
from vocab words to culture, and
all it takes is 10 minutes a day.

240
00:10:58,425 --> 00:11:02,564
Babel is helping millions of people
quickly and confidently have real

241
00:11:02,564 --> 00:11:04,635
world conversations in a new language.

242
00:11:04,694 --> 00:11:08,145
I'm so thankful that I had babble to
help me get confident before my family

243
00:11:08,145 --> 00:11:09,704
trip to France, and now I can be.

244
00:11:09,704 --> 00:11:10,335
The tour guide.

245
00:11:10,425 --> 00:11:13,965
Here is a special limited time deal
for our listeners to get you started.

246
00:11:14,005 --> 00:11:19,135
Right now, get 55% off your Babel
subscription, but only for our

247
00:11:19,135 --> 00:11:22,435
listeners at babel.com/inside J.

248
00:11:22,495 --> 00:11:30,205
Get 55% off babel.com/inside j
spelled B A B B E l.com/inside j.

249
00:11:30,265 --> 00:11:31,825
Rules and restrictions may

250
00:11:31,825 --> 00:11:34,615
apply now back to inside Jeopardy.

251
00:11:35,115 --> 00:11:39,285
So once you get to Los Angeles and
you have your first day of taping,

252
00:11:39,285 --> 00:11:40,725
everything's going pretty well.

253

00:11:41,085 --> 00:11:45,795
What are you thinking as you are
actually realizing a dream, a goal?

254

00:11:45,800 --> 00:11:46,725
It, it's happening.

255

00:11:47,235 --> 00:11:47,564
Yeah.

256

00:11:47,570 --> 00:11:50,775
I think people have asked me what was the
most surprising thing about the experience

257

00:11:50,775 --> 00:11:55,905
and for, I think the most surprising thing
about the experience was winning, right?

258

00:11:56,055 --> 00:12:01,935
Not so much because I didn't
think I could win, but because.

259

00:12:02,745 --> 00:12:07,545
I wanted to be very process oriented,
right in my preparation right.

260

00:12:07,935 --> 00:12:11,715
It's truly a once in a lifetime
opportunity, and I didn't wanna have

261

00:12:11,720 --> 00:12:14,715
any regrets about how I prepared or not.

262

00:12:15,315 --> 00:12:16,935
Being myself on stage.

263

00:12:17,025 --> 00:12:17,385
Right.

264

00:12:17,775 --> 00:12:21,255
Um, so I've wanted to prepare
well and ha having prepared well.

265

00:12:21,260 --> 00:12:26,115

I wanted to play with as much joy as possible, um, but I never really did

266

00:12:26,115 --> 00:12:27,945

winning enter my mind and all of that.

267

00:12:28,485 --> 00:12:28,755

Right?

268

00:12:28,755 --> 00:12:29,415

So that's kind of cool.

269

00:12:29,420 --> 00:12:30,435

I prepared, well.

270

00:12:30,465 --> 00:12:33,975

I tried to play with joy, but I was completely unprepared

271

00:12:33,980 --> 00:12:34,755

for the winning part.

272

00:12:34,785 --> 00:12:37,385

In some ways it's, that part still hasn't really sunk.

273

00:12:37,640 --> 00:12:37,699

In.

274

00:12:38,720 --> 00:12:40,960

Hopefully there's more winning to happen, but

275

00:12:41,480 --> 00:12:41,800

absolutely.

276

00:12:42,310 --> 00:12:46,250

Well, you are winning and then you leave us as a three day champion.

277

00:12:46,250 --> 00:12:47,930
You go home to take a little break.

278

00:12:48,470 --> 00:12:52,970
It's time to come back and you know,
you yourself have said publicly

279

00:12:52,970 --> 00:12:56,600
that you ended up getting C O V
I D and we're unable to travel.

280

00:12:57,050 --> 00:12:59,720
What was that moment like for
you when you take the test?

281

00:12:59,750 --> 00:13:02,090
I mean, we've all been through
that moment, but your stakes

282

00:13:02,090 --> 00:13:02,870
were a little different.

283

00:13:02,870 --> 00:13:03,590
What was that like?

284

00:13:03,590 --> 00:13:06,020
When you look down, you see the
test and it says, I'm positive.

285

00:13:06,420 --> 00:13:12,420
I was very mad at myself for not having
locked myself in a closet for, you know,

286

00:13:12,890 --> 00:13:14,760
well, you know, there are limitations.

287

00:13:14,760 --> 00:13:18,209
We can't go around in closets for two
years, then you can't be too hard on

288

00:13:18,209 --> 00:13:18,750
yourself.

289

00:13:19,079 --> 00:13:20,880

Well, so I was mad at myself.

290

00:13:20,939 --> 00:13:26,189

And then, you know, I think this is
the thing that a lot of contestants,

291

00:13:26,699 --> 00:13:31,845

um, will sympathize with is that,
There's so much waiting involved

292

00:13:32,595 --> 00:13:34,574

with, with being a contestant, right?

293

00:13:34,580 --> 00:13:34,725

Right.

294

00:13:34,725 --> 00:13:38,444

There's the waiting for the call and then
there's the waiting between your tape

295

00:13:38,449 --> 00:13:42,944

date and your air date, and you can't
talk to many people about it, right?

296

00:13:42,944 --> 00:13:43,035

Mm-hmm.

297

00:13:43,155 --> 00:13:47,476

So it's a lot of time if
you're, uh, predisposed to

298

00:13:48,314 --> 00:13:49,975

ruminating about things, right?

299

00:13:50,085 --> 00:13:51,405

It's a lot of time mm-hmm.

300

00:13:51,645 --> 00:13:54,944

To do, be doing too much processing of
things without talking to other people.

301

00:13:55,485 --> 00:14:00,795
And so I just had more time for
that kind of, um, Perseveration

302

00:14:01,155 --> 00:14:04,335
about possibilities and stuff.

303

00:14:04,335 --> 00:14:06,075
So I think that was the big thing.

304

00:14:06,075 --> 00:14:07,785
It was just more waiting time.

305

00:14:07,785 --> 00:14:12,075
And then, you know, I think the
hardest game you're gonna play on

306

00:14:12,075 --> 00:14:14,175
Jeopardy is your first game, right?

307

00:14:14,265 --> 00:14:15,825
Because two reasons.

308

00:14:15,825 --> 00:14:18,555
One, you're fresh and
don't have an experience.

309

00:14:18,885 --> 00:14:22,485
And second, Maybe more important you're
playing somebody who's a champion.

310

00:14:22,845 --> 00:14:23,385
Exactly.

311

00:14:23,444 --> 00:14:27,375
So I had some experience and I felt
good about that, but I was kicking

312

00:14:27,375 --> 00:14:30,345
myself because I knew I would was
gonna have to play another champion.

313

00:14:30,345 --> 00:14:33,925
And as it happened, it was, it
was a very good champion that I,

314

00:14:34,115 --> 00:14:35,745
that I came back to have to play.

315

00:14:36,225 --> 00:14:36,645
Right.

316

00:14:36,675 --> 00:14:37,204
So you come back.

317

00:14:37,800 --> 00:14:39,300
As a three day champion.

318

00:14:39,479 --> 00:14:42,510
You know, there was a lot of discussion
about this when it was happening.

319

00:14:42,630 --> 00:14:47,520
You're up against Hannah Wilson, who at
that point was an eight game winner and

320

00:14:47,525 --> 00:14:49,680
people were saying, no, it's not fair.

321

00:14:49,680 --> 00:14:52,439
You shouldn't put Ben in against Hannah.

322

00:14:52,800 --> 00:14:55,079
And you know, there was a
lot of talk about it and we

323

00:14:55,079 --> 00:14:56,339
addressed it here on the podcast.

324

00:14:56,370 --> 00:14:59,310
We said, we do this in the
most fair way possible.

325

00:14:59,490 --> 00:15:02,729

We rebook Ben as soon as he
can come back and we know he is

326

00:15:02,729 --> 00:15:03,959

gonna play in the first game.

327

00:15:04,260 --> 00:15:06,885

What we don't know, Who
will be the champion.

328

00:15:06,915 --> 00:15:08,745

There's gonna be a champion regardless.

329

00:15:08,745 --> 00:15:10,245

We don't know who the champion is.

330

00:15:10,275 --> 00:15:16,995

So you come back and you face a
powerhouse in Hannah Wilson and you

331

00:15:16,995 --> 00:15:22,455

come to play \$60,000 you earn in this
game the second highest of the season.

332

00:15:22,575 --> 00:15:25,694

And I think you yourself said
you knew that you were gonna

333

00:15:25,694 --> 00:15:29,205

have to really raise your game
to be able to defeat someone like

334

00:15:29,205 --> 00:15:29,625

Hannah.

335

00:15:30,314 --> 00:15:30,795

Yeah, I think.

336

00:15:31,045 --> 00:15:35,064

Part of what Jeopardy has made
me realize is, uh, I, I am a

337

00:15:35,069 --> 00:15:37,375
very competitive person, right?

338

00:15:37,375 --> 00:15:38,405
So, you know,

339

00:15:38,505 --> 00:15:40,245
it took Jeopardy to teach you this then.

340

00:15:40,265 --> 00:15:40,964
You didn't know this

341

00:15:40,964 --> 00:15:41,285
ahead.

342

00:15:42,415 --> 00:15:45,385
I've had the good fortune of
getting to hang out with Hannah

343

00:15:45,385 --> 00:15:47,185
once, uh, over the summer.

344

00:15:47,189 --> 00:15:51,084
I made a trip down to Chicago and
Hannah is, as I think millions

345

00:15:51,145 --> 00:15:52,405
of people saw on television.

346

00:15:52,735 --> 00:15:57,474
Wicked smart, super nice, so calm, she.

347

00:15:57,944 --> 00:15:59,745
Had the kind of stage
presence that I wish I had.

348

00:16:00,495 --> 00:16:00,694
Right?

349

00:16:00,975 --> 00:16:05,355

I was like, when I watched myself on
tv, I was very much, my friends said,

350

00:16:05,355 --> 00:16:07,935
oh, that's what you're like, I was like,
oh, I guess, yeah, that is what I'm

351

00:16:07,935 --> 00:16:09,225
like, I wish I were more like Hannah.

352

00:16:09,735 --> 00:16:13,995
Um, so, you know, I think when I
walked into the garage that day right

353

00:16:13,995 --> 00:16:17,025
before taping, and I, it was the
first time I was able to talk about my

354

00:16:17,025 --> 00:16:19,005
experience in weeks to anybody, right?

355

00:16:19,005 --> 00:16:24,405
So I was very excited to say, oh, hey
guys, you know, I won three games and,

356

00:16:24,410 --> 00:16:27,465
you know, I was telling all the, all the,
all the other contestants that, and then.

357

00:16:28,030 --> 00:16:29,439
And it was pretty reserved.

358

00:16:29,650 --> 00:16:35,620
And then at some point she's forced her
to, to reveal that she's won eight games.

359

00:16:35,890 --> 00:16:39,250
And that at, and at that point,
I felt went a little bashed about

360

00:16:39,310 --> 00:16:41,380
how much I've been talking about
my three game winning streak.

361
00:16:41,650 --> 00:16:44,290
And two, right, it set
me into night rider.

362
00:16:44,295 --> 00:16:48,069
You, if you've seen
Night Rider, the car kit.

363
00:16:48,075 --> 00:16:50,640
Has something called super
pursuit mode where Uhhuh, Michael

364
00:16:50,640 --> 00:16:51,705
Knight would hit a button.

365
00:16:51,975 --> 00:16:52,035
Yeah.

366
00:16:52,035 --> 00:16:53,775
And all these things would come out.

367
00:16:53,775 --> 00:16:56,475
And yeah, when I heard Hannah
had won eight games, it kind of

368
00:16:56,475 --> 00:16:58,605
kicked me into super pursuit mode.

369
00:16:58,605 --> 00:17:00,465
And so Hannah definitely
brought out the best in me.

370
00:17:00,525 --> 00:17:03,345
Well, that's definitely a moment
all of our contestants talk about.

371
00:17:03,345 --> 00:17:04,905
You know, you're kind of all just talking.

372
00:17:05,835 --> 00:17:10,335
No one really knows who the champ is and

you don't really know who's won how much.

373

00:17:10,340 --> 00:17:14,115
And the Ken Jennings competitors
really talk about that day when

374

00:17:14,115 --> 00:17:17,025
all of a sudden you hear about this
guy who's won like 40 shows and.

375

00:17:17,075 --> 00:17:20,375
So you got to hear about
Hannah and her eight wins.

376

00:17:20,675 --> 00:17:23,915
One thing that's interesting about
your run, because of the fact that you

377

00:17:23,915 --> 00:17:28,775
came back, you've had an experience
of playing in all three podiums.

378

00:17:28,775 --> 00:17:32,975
You know, you started out in podium
three for your first game, and then

379

00:17:32,975 --> 00:17:35,555
of course you move to the champions
podium, and then you come against

380

00:17:35,555 --> 00:17:37,205
Hannah and you're back at podium two.

381

00:17:37,535 --> 00:17:38,615
Do you have a favorite?

382

00:17:38,615 --> 00:17:41,195
I'm gonna guess I know which
one, but do you have a favorite?

383

00:17:41,375 --> 00:17:41,675
I

384
00:17:41,795 --> 00:17:44,220
do like, Podium number one.

385
00:17:44,520 --> 00:17:44,610
Mm-hmm.

386
00:17:46,110 --> 00:17:47,250
I felt comfy there.

387
00:17:47,250 --> 00:17:47,730
I think.

388
00:17:48,240 --> 00:17:49,830
I guess I spent the
most time there, right?

389
00:17:49,890 --> 00:17:50,400
Sure.

390
00:17:50,460 --> 00:17:50,790
Yeah.

391
00:17:50,790 --> 00:17:53,280
Felt like home for you now in your time.

392
00:17:53,760 --> 00:17:55,560
Nine runaway games.

393
00:17:55,590 --> 00:17:59,310
And you know, along the run you were
asking is this some sort of record?

394
00:17:59,310 --> 00:18:03,000
And we ended up checking the stats
and in fact, you are the first

395
00:18:03,000 --> 00:18:05,400
player to win their first nine games.

396
00:18:05,939 --> 00:18:06,959
In a runaway.

397

00:18:07,260 --> 00:18:10,860

You know, there are players who did that in various times within their

398

00:18:10,860 --> 00:18:14,790

long streaks like James and Ken, but no one did their first nine games.

399

00:18:14,794 --> 00:18:18,060

Ben, you gotta feel pretty good about those bragging rights,

400

00:18:18,060 --> 00:18:18,330

huh?

401

00:18:18,510 --> 00:18:19,949

Yeah, it's, that's pretty cool, right?

402

00:18:19,949 --> 00:18:23,370

As that was, that was not on my radar at all.

403

00:18:23,370 --> 00:18:27,990

And then somewhere in the middle of it I thought, oh, right, I remember Ken.

404

00:18:28,335 --> 00:18:29,175

Pretty early on.

405

00:18:29,180 --> 00:18:30,645

Didn't have a runaway in his first game.

406

00:18:30,645 --> 00:18:31,455

He didn't have a runaway.

407

00:18:31,460 --> 00:18:31,725

Right, right.

408

00:18:31,725 --> 00:18:33,615

Because he needed that final jeopardy.

409

00:18:33,615 --> 00:18:33,885
It could've all

410

00:18:33,885 --> 00:18:35,355
gone very differently.

411

00:18:35,715 --> 00:18:36,855
Marian Jones.

412

00:18:37,035 --> 00:18:37,095
Yeah.

413

00:18:37,275 --> 00:18:39,945
And so when I realized
that, I was like, oh.

414

00:18:40,425 --> 00:18:43,815
And I realized there hadn't been, I
think like a five, you know, runaway

415

00:18:43,815 --> 00:18:46,005
to start their streak in a long time.

416

00:18:46,065 --> 00:18:47,715
And so that got me thinking.

417

00:18:47,805 --> 00:18:51,315
Now obviously tons of
luck goes into that and.

418

00:18:52,139 --> 00:18:57,570
When I looked back at the statistics from
my run, you know, the thing that I was

419

00:18:57,570 --> 00:19:01,229
fortunate about was that I managed to.

420

00:19:01,649 --> 00:19:06,930
Collect the vast majority of daily
doubles during my run, and doing that is

421

00:19:06,930 --> 00:19:10,290
a pretty good way of getting to a runaway.

422
00:19:10,620 --> 00:19:14,280
Um, so that was probably the,
the secret was getting all

423
00:19:14,280 --> 00:19:16,320
those daily doubles for myself.

424
00:19:16,350 --> 00:19:19,020
A couple of times I felt bad
about it, so I apologized.

425
00:19:19,440 --> 00:19:20,940
For hogging the daily doubles,

426
00:19:21,360 --> 00:19:25,800
but you can't find the daily doubles
unless you are ringing in correctly.

427
00:19:26,160 --> 00:19:27,090
Most often.

428
00:19:27,090 --> 00:19:28,230
That is a big part of it.

429
00:19:28,230 --> 00:19:31,830
And you know your average
correct response is per game 28.

430
00:19:31,860 --> 00:19:33,180
That's really impressive.

431
00:19:33,630 --> 00:19:34,110
Correct.

432
00:19:34,110 --> 00:19:36,330
On eight out of 10, final jeopardy.

433
00:19:37,410 --> 00:19:38,610
Final jeopardy.

434
00:19:38,910 --> 00:19:41,640
I have to talk about the final, final.

435
00:19:42,149 --> 00:19:46,110
For Ben, you know, it was a
category that I'm sure you have

436
00:19:46,110 --> 00:19:48,270
replayed in your head so many times.

437
00:19:48,300 --> 00:19:52,679
Shakespeare's characters,
you write Benedict.

438
00:19:53,415 --> 00:19:57,555
Instead of Benedict as we were
going for Beatrice and Benedict,

439
00:19:57,945 --> 00:20:00,885
the internet is in an uproar.

440
00:20:01,335 --> 00:20:04,905
Talk about what you felt in the moment,
'cause I know you and I talked about

441
00:20:04,910 --> 00:20:07,965
it right in the moment, and then what
you felt, you know, as time passed.

442
00:20:08,055 --> 00:20:08,415
One of the

443
00:20:08,415 --> 00:20:11,745
things I'm happy about talking
to you today is that I have

444
00:20:11,745 --> 00:20:13,555
my witts about me because I.

445
00:20:14,345 --> 00:20:21,965
When I talked to you before, it was after

these long wild days of ups and downs

446

00:20:21,970 --> 00:20:24,905

and like I could not match your energy.

447

00:20:25,205 --> 00:20:29,735

And I barely felt in control of the,
of the words coming outta my mouth.

448

00:20:30,005 --> 00:20:35,525

And so in the moment, because I was in
something like that state of mind when

449

00:20:35,525 --> 00:20:42,335

it happened, I was actually kind of
on autopilot at that point in my run.

450

00:20:42,755 --> 00:20:43,295

And I.

451

00:20:43,875 --> 00:20:48,135

I was very surprised that I had that
many correct responses in that game

452

00:20:48,465 --> 00:20:54,975

because I remember on stage that I was
having trouble parsing the clues as

453

00:20:54,975 --> 00:20:59,790

they were coming up, and so fortunately
some sort of, you know, Lizard part

454

00:20:59,790 --> 00:21:03,720

of my brain kicked in and I was able
to get a lot of correct responses.

455

00:21:03,810 --> 00:21:06,449

And so I figured, right, I made a mistake.

456

00:21:06,510 --> 00:21:06,750

Right.

457

00:21:06,929 --> 00:21:10,740
You know, as I said on, on social
media, you know, if I had to do it

458
00:21:10,740 --> 00:21:13,530
again, I would definitely say Benedict.

459
00:21:13,800 --> 00:21:18,449
Um, the one wrinkle in this is that,
you know, I talked about the waiting

460
00:21:18,449 --> 00:21:25,260
earlier and I had no idea, like when it
happened, I thought, oh, I could see how

461
00:21:25,264 --> 00:21:31,155
some people maybe might, Get upset about
this when it airs, but I have no idea.

462
00:21:31,155 --> 00:21:32,475
Maybe people won't care.

463
00:21:32,535 --> 00:21:37,365
And that's the one thing that's
been a little bit of the, what's

464
00:21:37,365 --> 00:21:40,605
the opposite of a silver lining
about being recognized, right?

465
00:21:40,605 --> 00:21:40,845
Where, right.

466
00:21:41,295 --> 00:21:44,745
The first thing that a lot of
people who recognize me, uh,

467
00:21:44,745 --> 00:21:46,965
wanna talk about is that response.

468
00:21:47,175 --> 00:21:50,865
And so I, I had kind of put it
behind me, but every time I run into

469
00:21:50,865 --> 00:21:52,755
somebody they wanna talk about it.

470
00:21:52,965 --> 00:21:56,445
So I think maybe.

471
00:21:56,985 --> 00:22:00,175
Don't bring it up when you run into me

472
00:22:00,175 --> 00:22:00,915
on, okay.

473
00:22:00,915 --> 00:22:01,875
Is anyone listening?

474
00:22:02,445 --> 00:22:08,115
Ben Chan doesn't wanna talk about
Benedict or Benedict ever again.

475
00:22:08,175 --> 00:22:10,995
All right, let's talk about Green Bay.

476
00:22:10,995 --> 00:22:15,645
Let's talk about runaways, let's talk
about that, but maybe not that final

477
00:22:15,650 --> 00:22:21,555
jeopardy, not a moment you wanna hash
out over and over again, right, Ben?

478
00:22:21,685 --> 00:22:21,745
Yeah,

479
00:22:23,215 --> 00:22:25,465
that's maybe the the best policy for that.

480
00:22:25,764 --> 00:22:30,415
The good news is that wasn't your
last chance on the Alex Trebek stage.

481

00:22:30,804 --> 00:22:34,794
You leave us as a champion knowing
that, you know, you had secured your

482
00:22:34,794 --> 00:22:37,075
spot in the tournament of champions.

483
00:22:37,495 --> 00:22:40,915
So what's it like to leave
knowing that you're coming back?

484
00:22:40,915 --> 00:22:42,264
First off, what's that feeling like?

485
00:22:43,770 --> 00:22:45,120
It's more waiting.

486
00:22:48,720 --> 00:22:49,470
It's more waiting.

487
00:22:49,470 --> 00:22:49,650
Right.

488
00:22:49,650 --> 00:22:50,370
I think it's a lot.

489
00:22:50,400 --> 00:22:51,120
It's interesting, right?

490
00:22:51,120 --> 00:22:55,650
Well, I think one of the things that
I actually study philosophically is

491
00:22:55,710 --> 00:22:57,720
attention and what we pay attention to.

492
00:22:58,080 --> 00:22:58,380
Right.

493
00:22:58,800 --> 00:23:04,860
And you know, I think anytime you get
seriously into a new practice, it really

494
00:23:04,860 --> 00:23:06,900
alters how you pay attention to the world.

495
00:23:07,350 --> 00:23:12,330
Um, So for a time I was very into
woodworking and you know, I realized

496
00:23:12,330 --> 00:23:16,140
anytime I walked into a room,
actually almost every room you walk

497
00:23:16,140 --> 00:23:17,730
into has some sort of wood in it.

498
00:23:18,510 --> 00:23:23,370
And if you are into woodworking,
you'll be paying attention and thinking

499
00:23:23,370 --> 00:23:26,010
about how they joined the wood, right?

500
00:23:26,310 --> 00:23:29,280
What kind of wood they used,
the kind of challenges that were

501
00:23:29,280 --> 00:23:31,050
involved in making various pieces.

502
00:23:31,470 --> 00:23:36,300
Um, and for a while, for about a
year, anytime I went anywhere, I'd be

503
00:23:36,300 --> 00:23:42,360
looking at all the pieces of furniture
and carpentry, uh, around me and.

504
00:23:42,590 --> 00:23:44,690
Trying to imagine how
those things were made.

505
00:23:45,050 --> 00:23:45,290

Right.

506

00:23:45,500 --> 00:23:50,330

And so I think the thing that, you know, still being active in Jeopardy

507

00:23:50,840 --> 00:23:55,700

means for me is that I'm continuing to pay attention to the world in a

508

00:23:55,705 --> 00:23:58,850

way that Jeopardy encourages, right?

509

00:23:58,850 --> 00:24:00,670

So one of the nice things I.

510

00:24:01,230 --> 00:24:05,490

I had become a bit of a news avoider, um, in recent years.

511

00:24:05,490 --> 00:24:06,150

Understandable, Ben.

512

00:24:06,240 --> 00:24:07,050

Understandable.

513

00:24:07,440 --> 00:24:12,480

And I realized that if I wanted to make my dreams come true on jeopardy,

514

00:24:12,480 --> 00:24:14,220

I could no longer be a news avoider.

515

00:24:14,460 --> 00:24:14,700

Right?

516

00:24:14,700 --> 00:24:17,430

So that's one of the little things, right, where, you know,

517

00:24:17,430 --> 00:24:20,040

I've gotten back into a, a diet.

518

00:24:20,610 --> 00:24:25,080
Of, uh, news consumption, of paying
attention to things that I paid

519

00:24:25,260 --> 00:24:28,320
attention to before but hadn't
paid attention to in some years.

520

00:24:28,649 --> 00:24:32,580
And so I think that's the biggest
impact on a day-to-day basis, is

521

00:24:32,580 --> 00:24:35,639
just continuing to pay attention
to the world in a certain kind of

522

00:24:35,639 --> 00:24:35,879
way.

523

00:24:36,149 --> 00:24:36,780
Interesting.

524

00:24:37,350 --> 00:24:40,290
You know, obviously you came into
the season later in the season,

525

00:24:40,290 --> 00:24:44,190
so you had already seen some of
the super champs before you, and

526

00:24:44,190 --> 00:24:47,730
certainly the people who came after
not as many super champs after you.

527

00:24:47,730 --> 00:24:48,990
But what.

528

00:24:49,275 --> 00:24:53,355
Is your thought, who are
you most nervous about?

529

00:24:53,355 --> 00:24:54,375
Who are you thinking?

530
00:24:54,675 --> 00:24:56,745
I've really gotta do that?

531
00:24:56,745 --> 00:24:59,445
Night Rider mode for the T M C?

532
00:25:00,495 --> 00:25:04,845
I think everybody, I was listening to Matt
MOD's interview from a couple of weeks ago

533
00:25:04,850 --> 00:25:09,885
and you know, he mentioned being a, you
know, a serious stats guy when it came to.

534
00:25:10,680 --> 00:25:14,010
All things, but also when it comes
to jeopardy and you know, if you read

535
00:25:14,010 --> 00:25:17,700
some of the threads, people have noted
that after a couple of years where

536
00:25:17,700 --> 00:25:20,340
we had some mega super champs mm-hmm.

537
00:25:20,580 --> 00:25:25,740
Where you're like Amy and Matt and
Matea, season 39 did not see as many

538
00:25:25,830 --> 00:25:28,170
super long champions, but Right.

539
00:25:28,170 --> 00:25:32,010
If you dig a little
deeper, you'll see that.

540
00:25:32,125 --> 00:25:33,445
Arguably.

541

00:25:33,565 --> 00:25:33,655
Mm-hmm.

542
00:25:33,895 --> 00:25:40,435
This t o C field is, no offense
intended deeper than, well

543
00:25:40,945 --> 00:25:43,405
see the, the last t o C field.

544
00:25:43,825 --> 00:25:44,155
Right.

545
00:25:44,155 --> 00:25:45,955
So I, I'll just use one metric.

546
00:25:46,165 --> 00:25:50,965
I think the number of t o C
qualified people who had a

547
00:25:50,970 --> 00:25:54,585
average COR over 20,000 is many.

548
00:25:55,379 --> 00:25:59,220
Many, there are many of
them in this T O C field.

549
00:25:59,520 --> 00:26:03,750
There are a lot of people who
would not be surprising to see

550
00:26:03,750 --> 00:26:05,520
win the Tournament of Champions.

551
00:26:05,520 --> 00:26:10,980
So I think my game plan is to try to do
what I did the first time around, which

552
00:26:10,980 --> 00:26:13,710
is to prepare as well as you know how.

553
00:26:13,710 --> 00:26:15,090

And then once I get there to.

554

00:26:15,575 --> 00:26:16,105
Have fun.

555

00:26:16,425 --> 00:26:16,905
I like

556

00:26:16,905 --> 00:26:17,085
it.

557

00:26:17,085 --> 00:26:20,895
I like that you can still try to have
fun with that level of competition.

558

00:26:20,895 --> 00:26:23,835
We love stats here at Jeopardy, so
I love that you're looking at the

559

00:26:23,835 --> 00:26:27,045
various COR and seeing how it compares.

560

00:26:27,345 --> 00:26:30,645
You know, we've talked about
waiting and obviously once again,

561

00:26:30,645 --> 00:26:32,415
you'll be waiting a little longer.

562

00:26:32,745 --> 00:26:36,675
As with everything that's going
on, uh, we have decided to push the

563

00:26:36,675 --> 00:26:42,365
season 39 post-season, and so with
that in mind, Is it better to have

564

00:26:42,365 --> 00:26:46,145
more time to prepare, or is it more
of a disadvantage, would you say?

565

00:26:46,385 --> 00:26:47,045

I think

566

00:26:47,135 --> 00:26:48,875
we all have more time to prepare.

567

00:26:48,875 --> 00:26:48,965
Sure.

568

00:26:48,965 --> 00:26:51,275
So I think the contestants
will be well prepared.

569

00:26:51,275 --> 00:26:55,955
I think the winners in all of this
hopefully will be the viewers, right?

570

00:26:55,960 --> 00:26:58,625
Where we'll see a very high level.

571

00:26:58,625 --> 00:26:58,685
I.

572

00:26:59,070 --> 00:27:03,660
Of play you mentioned, um, the ability
to have fun, and I'd say, you know,

573

00:27:04,470 --> 00:27:09,330
everybody involved, the writers,
the producers, and the hosts make

574

00:27:09,330 --> 00:27:11,130
it very easy to have fun, right?

575

00:27:11,130 --> 00:27:14,100
Because the, the clues are
such of, such high quality.

576

00:27:14,100 --> 00:27:17,970
The hosts are so good at what
they do, that they make it easy

577

00:27:17,970 --> 00:27:18,930

to have fun once you're up there.

578

00:27:19,320 --> 00:27:22,875

And of course, You know, the contestant coordinators do an awesome job of

579

00:27:22,875 --> 00:27:23,985

getting us in the right frame of

580

00:27:23,985 --> 00:27:24,465

mind too.

581

00:27:24,645 --> 00:27:28,305

Well, and with that in mind, I bring up Masters because I think that's what so

582

00:27:28,305 --> 00:27:33,254

many people enjoyed so much about Masters was being able to see six contestants on

583

00:27:33,254 --> 00:27:37,365

Jeopardy who had reached that level of comfort on the stage, if you will, that

584

00:27:37,365 --> 00:27:43,514

they really could have fun even in the midst of such a huge level of competition.

585

00:27:43,875 --> 00:27:47,880

One thing for the T O C Champion that's never been, At play before,

586

00:27:47,885 --> 00:27:53,220

not noticeably at play, was that you're guaranteed a spot in Masters.

587

00:27:53,250 --> 00:27:56,340

So as if the bragging rights of saying You're a Tournament of

588

00:27:56,345 --> 00:27:59,220

Champions winner isn't enough now.

589
00:28:00,120 --> 00:28:04,980
You know that you're headed to primetime,
you're going primetime A, B, C, masters.

590
00:28:05,399 --> 00:28:07,800
Does that motivate you more?

591
00:28:07,830 --> 00:28:10,020
Does it put a little extra pressure?

592
00:28:10,020 --> 00:28:12,240
What does that add to the stakes for you,

593
00:28:12,240 --> 00:28:12,600
Ben?

594
00:28:13,179 --> 00:28:15,360
It does add a little bit of pressure.

595
00:28:16,110 --> 00:28:20,760
It would just be such an amazing
experience to be able to play in Masters

596
00:28:21,149 --> 00:28:23,700
one, you get to play more than one game.

597
00:28:23,700 --> 00:28:26,280
You're guaranteed to play more
than one game, and I forget.

598
00:28:26,325 --> 00:28:29,355
Which of the Champs set at this season.

599
00:28:29,925 --> 00:28:31,725
But that really is the best
part of winning is that you

600
00:28:31,725 --> 00:28:33,105
get to play more jeopardy.

601
00:28:33,345 --> 00:28:33,765

Yeah.

602

00:28:33,855 --> 00:28:37,395
And I think it's the worst part
of losing is that you don't

603

00:28:37,395 --> 00:28:38,715
get to play any more jeopardy.

604

00:28:38,745 --> 00:28:39,075
Right?

605

00:28:39,075 --> 00:28:47,115
So Masters is a unique opportunity to
play a lot more jeopardy that really.

606

00:28:47,715 --> 00:28:49,395
Is a huge incentive.

607

00:28:49,785 --> 00:28:55,556
Um, as I said, I try not to be outcome
oriented and work process oriented, but

608

00:28:55,556 --> 00:28:57,165
a little difficult in this situation.

609

00:28:57,165 --> 00:28:57,465
Yeah.

610

00:28:57,465 --> 00:28:59,265
But it's, it's a little, it's
a little difficult in this

611

00:28:59,265 --> 00:28:59,955
situation.

612

00:29:00,075 --> 00:29:02,295
Alright, well I have a couple
of questions from one of my

613

00:29:02,295 --> 00:29:04,395
podcast co-host Buzzy Cohen.

614
00:29:04,545 --> 00:29:05,535
Where's buzzing?

615
00:29:05,565 --> 00:29:07,575
I know he's not here today.

616
00:29:07,635 --> 00:29:12,165
He's wrapping up a little holiday
vacation, but he has a couple of questions

617
00:29:12,165 --> 00:29:13,905
he likes to ask, so I have to know.

618
00:29:13,905 --> 00:29:15,705
What's your go-to lunch order?

619
00:29:15,795 --> 00:29:19,514
When you're here on the Sony
lot, Getting ready to play.

620
00:29:19,514 --> 00:29:23,145
You know, the fourth game you've played
in three, it's, it's middle of the day.

621
00:29:23,145 --> 00:29:24,044
What are you going to for

622
00:29:24,044 --> 00:29:24,615
lunch?

623
00:29:25,004 --> 00:29:27,465
Uh, we had different
lunch options every day.

624
00:29:27,465 --> 00:29:33,105
I think I tried to stay on the
lighter side with, um, if there

625
00:29:33,105 --> 00:29:34,995
was a salad with a protein in it.

626

00:29:35,415 --> 00:29:36,435
I went with that.

627

00:29:36,435 --> 00:29:37,784
So that was my, my go-to.

628

00:29:38,419 --> 00:29:39,409
Lunch order.

629

00:29:39,620 --> 00:29:40,040
All right.

630

00:29:40,040 --> 00:29:42,139
You think you're gonna stick
with something like that for

631

00:29:42,139 --> 00:29:43,460
the, uh, tournament of Champions?

632

00:29:43,909 --> 00:29:45,379
Yeah, I think I'll stick with that.

633

00:29:45,379 --> 00:29:48,860
I think the, the only change
I'll make is I think I needed

634

00:29:48,860 --> 00:29:50,570
more caffeine during the day.

635

00:29:50,575 --> 00:29:50,600
Okay.

636

00:29:50,600 --> 00:29:53,870
So I might, I might be more
highly caffeinated when I return.

637

00:29:53,870 --> 00:29:53,929
I.

638

00:29:54,190 --> 00:29:54,640
Alright.

639
00:29:54,640 --> 00:29:58,570
And my other question, there are so many
great stats, but what is your Jeopardy

640
00:29:58,570 --> 00:30:00,280
stat that you're the most proud of?

641
00:30:00,700 --> 00:30:03,610
Yeah, so this is one of the crazy things,
you know, that happens when you're

642
00:30:03,610 --> 00:30:08,260
waiting is that you, for me, I dug into
all the stats and so the Jeopardy fan

643
00:30:08,320 --> 00:30:10,750
site has come up on the pod before.

644
00:30:10,750 --> 00:30:10,751
Mm-hmm.

645
00:30:10,860 --> 00:30:15,850
Um, and Andy Saunders does a very
good job of curating different stats.

646
00:30:15,850 --> 00:30:21,060
And one of the things that he has on
his site is something called, The 300

647
00:30:21,060 --> 00:30:26,730
club where it was contestants who have
had 300 correct responses on jeopardy.

648
00:30:26,820 --> 00:30:33,810
And to my great surprise, I was very
close to being part of the 300 club.

649
00:30:33,815 --> 00:30:38,790
I had 288 correct
responses in my nine games.

650

00:30:39,120 --> 00:30:40,230
And so.

651
00:30:40,785 --> 00:30:43,605
I have a good chance of
reaching the 300 club.

652
00:30:43,665 --> 00:30:45,105
I love it when I come back.

653
00:30:45,105 --> 00:30:47,655
So yeah, that was the biggest surprise
was that I had that many correct

654
00:30:47,655 --> 00:30:49,215
responses 'cause it didn't feel like that.

655
00:30:49,815 --> 00:30:52,815
2 88 is probably my favorite stat.

656
00:30:52,965 --> 00:30:53,445
All right.

657
00:30:53,445 --> 00:30:56,445
Well, we look forward to
welcoming you into the 300 club

658
00:30:56,445 --> 00:30:58,125
when you're back for the T o c.

659
00:30:58,575 --> 00:31:00,855
Thanks so much for catching up with us.

660
00:31:01,065 --> 00:31:01,545
Thank you, Sarah.

661
00:31:03,090 --> 00:31:06,090
Always love the chance to
catch up with Ben Chan.

662
00:31:06,090 --> 00:31:10,410
He really does bring joy on the

Alex Rebek stage and certainly

663

00:31:10,410 --> 00:31:12,300
he did today on the pod.

664

00:31:12,450 --> 00:31:14,190
And that wraps up today's show.

665

00:31:14,190 --> 00:31:20,430
We'll be back next week to talk with 13
Game Jeopardy super champion Ray Leland.

666

00:31:20,760 --> 00:31:23,910
In the meantime, subscribe to the
podcast Rate us, leave us a comment,

667

00:31:23,910 --> 00:31:28,350
share across social and follow us at
Jeopardy on Instagram, on Facebook,

668

00:31:28,350 --> 00:31:30,630
on YouTube, on TikTok, on threads on.

669

00:31:31,020 --> 00:31:33,990
X or Twitter, whatever you
wanna call it, follow us there.

670

00:31:34,320 --> 00:31:38,520
And send us your questions to
Inside Jeopardy podcast@gmail.com.

671

00:31:39,000 --> 00:31:39,810
We'll see you next week.