TUNI 250 (HONORS ADVANCED TOPICS)

SPRING 2018 – My Family's Always Been in Whiskey Study Guide, Unit I: Bad Girls and Boys

Material from reading by Hewlett

1. Know whether or not it is true that, due to her income selling moonshine, Maggie Bailey had a luxurious lifestyle. Know whether or not Maggie Bailey had a particularly extensive knowledge of the Second Amendment. Know whether or not Maggie Bailey ever served a day in prison. Know whether or not, according to Judge Karl Forester, Maggie Bailey had six acquittals at three different courts on the same day. Know whether or not search warrants for Maggie Bailey's property were often thrown out because they were not written to include certain buildings. Know whether or not it is true that Maggie Bailey would sell whiskey to anyone. (Entire article)

Material from reading by Lee

1. Know whether or not, for her 101st birthday, Maggie Bailey received well wishes from President George Bush. Know whether or not Maggie Bailey was reportedly saved and baptized at the age of 75. Know whether or not Lora and Maggie Bailey had any children. Know whether or not Maggie Bailey reportedly still sold alcohol from her home at the age of 95. Know whether or not Maggie Bailey tried to avoid reading and watching news as much as possible. Know whether or not "Queen Maggie" was the only name by which she was known to Harlan Countians. (Entire article)

Material from reading by Morris

- 1. Know whether or not, according to police, Dean's car was traveling in excess of 100 mph when he crashed. Know whether or not any of his friends and associates told Dean they had any problem with Little Bastard. Know how many Porsche 550 Spyders were made. Know whether or not the nickname "Little Bastard" was one that Dean had gotten as a teenager. Know whether or not, after Dean wrecked it, "Little Bastard" went on to cause property damage, injury and even death. Know whether or not Dean's contract for "Giant" provided for him to be able to race while filming. Know whether or not either Dean or Wutherich were wearing seat belts at the time of the crash. Know whether or not Dean hired the customizer of the Batmobile (for the television show "Batman") to work on "Little Bastard." (Entire article)
- 2. Know whether or not Dean acquired "Little Bastard" during the filming of "Rebel Without a Cause." Know whether or not George Barris, who decorated "Little Bastard," was one of the few people who did not see an evil influence in the car. Know whether or not Dean originally planned to race the Porsche in an upcoming contest in Salinas, but had to settle for racing a Lotus Mk.X instead, or the other way around. Know whether or not Dean originally planned to race the Porsche in Salinas, but decided at the last minute to trailer it behind his station wagon, or the other way around. (Entire article)

Material from reading by Wolfe

- 1. Know whether or not it is true that, although he frequently drove loads of illegal alcohol, Junior Johnson was never known to brew it. Know whether or not Junior Johnson was famous for the "bootleg turn." Know whether or not Junior Johnson's switch to Ford was met with nearly universal approval by the "good old boys" Wolfe meets at the airport. Know whether or not Wolfe regards it as probable that, at the time he researches the article, the story that Junior is still using his old Chevrolet to haul moonshine is probably true. Know whether or not it was not until the 1970s that stock car racing began to build up a following. Know whether or not Detroit discovered that the South was one of the hottest car-buying areas in the country. Know whether or not, on a track that is fast and hard on tires, one car might go through ten complete tire sets. Know whether or not, despite the hardship, Junior Johnson said he "wouldn't take anything for his experience in prison." (Entire article)
- 2. Know whether or not the first lap of a stock-car race is a leisurely exercise that allows the drivers to "ease in" to the real race. Know whether or not modern stock-cars are too fast for their own parts. Know whether or not, although fast, stock-car speeds are still not as fast as those in the Indianapolis 500. Know whether or not stock-car drivers will generally readily admit putting each other "up against the wall." Know whether or not, in later life, Junior Johnson came to despise dirt-track racing. Know whether or not, for putting Lee Petty "against the wall," the Charlotte police chief threatened to charge Junior Johnson with "assault with a dangerous weapon." Know whether or not "drafting" creates a vacuum behind a leading car, causing both cars to go slower. (Entire article)
- 3. Know whether or not it is true that, by 1959, Junior Johnson had become one of the **most despised drivers** on the circuit. Know whether or not it is true that, in a way, qualifying runs present stock-car drivers **danger in its purest form**. Know

whether or not **A. J. Foyt** is one racer who has **challenged and beaten** the Southern stock-car drivers. Know whether or not many of the top drivers in competition are **poor at qualifying**. Know whether or not the people at the restaurant wanted Tom Wolfe to be **like Vance Packard** in describing Wilkes County. Know whether or not Wolfe believes that the obvious **high value** of Junior Johnson's home complicates problems of **class and status for him**. Know whether or not the residents of North Wilkesboro do not want to be **classified as "hillbillies."** Know whether or not **Vance Packard** once described Wilkes County as "the **bootleg capital of America**." (Entire article)

- 4. Know whether or not there is more money in dirt-track racing than in conventional stock-car racing. Know whether or not Junior Johnson won his first Grand National race on dirt. Know whether or not Junior Johnson was one of the few people in his area who was in the whiskey business. Know whether or not, according to Johnson, during Depression years moonshine production was "a gangster business." Know whether or not, once Federal agencies got radios, the balance of the battle between them and the moonshine runners tipped heavily in the Federal agents' favor. Know whether or not, according to Johnson, it was common for Wilkes County runners to use smokescreens and "tack buckets" to throw off pursuit. Know whether or not agents finally caught Junior Johnson after a dangerous high-speed car chase. Know whether or not Junior Johnson considered his sentence both unfair and a punishment for his increasing notoriety. (Entire article)
- 5. Know whether or not, despite the enmity between the two sides, there was a "code" between agents and runners that included non-violence, and it was expected to be followed. Know whether or not, according to Junior Johnson, moonshining is an easy way to make a living. Know whether or not it was possible to completely disguise the sounds of the cars used for running moonshine. Know whether or not his arrest considerably dampened the ardor for the Junior Johnson legend. Know whether or not Wolfe claims that Southern drivers inspired Detroit automakers to make their cars go faster. Know whether or not tax on whiskey extends all the way back to 1791, to the time of Alexander Hamilton, almost as soon as the Constitution was ratified. Know whether or not, today, the price of liquor is only about 15 percent tax. Know whether or not Wolfe claims that the "Federals" (falsely) argue for taxing moonshine because it poisons, blinds, and kills people. (Entire article)
- 6. Know whether or not Junior Johnson considers Bowman-Gray Stadium, in Winston-Salem, to be one of the safest tracks. Know whether or not, according to Wolfe, despite spending millions on tire tests, Firestone and Goodyear have not been able to come up with a tire for stock-car racing at current speeds. Know whether or not one story has it that Junior Johnson broke both his axles performing power slides, but raced anyway because a spectator loaned him an axle from his own car. Know whether or not, according to Johnson, in dirt-track racing, gasoline and tire and engine wear aren't much of a problem. Know whether or not, according to Wolfe, the term "good old boy" is more likely to be applied to a male who is older, rather than younger, or the other way around. Know whether or not, according to legend, Junior Johnson won in a Chevrolet without a single cent of backing from Detroit. Know whether or not, like most sports stars, Junior Johnson is a celebrity almost entirely within the confines of the sport of auto racing itself. Know whether or not newspapers caught on to the growing popularity of stock-car racing relatively early in the game. (Entire article)
- 7. Know whether or not Wolfe believes that what finally put stock-car racing in the spotlight in the South was the intervention of the Detroit automobile firms. Know whether or not softer tires, for qualifying races, are nicknamed "gumballs." Know whether or not it is said that when Junior Johnson pushes it on qualifying runs, a ring of blue smoke appears over the entire track. Know whether or not, even though they are made on the same scale, a large number of parts in stock-car racing cars are lighter in weight than the same parts on a street automobile. Know whether or not stock-cars have lighter sheet metal for the body. Know whether or not having floor gear-shifts in the stock-car makes a big difference in stock-car racing. Know whether or not stock-cars have speedometers. Know whether or not, in stock-car racing, it's more important to know revolutions per minute than to know speed. (Entire article)
- 8. Know whether or not Junior Johnson claimed that his time in prison merely worsened his problems with his temper and his resistance to authority. Know whether or not Johnson won a number of championships in the Modified classification, but none in the Sportsman classification. Know whether or not Fireball Roberts was the man who discovered/invented drafting. Know whether or not Grand Prix racing requires more handling ability than stock-car racing. Know whether or not, at the Bridgehampton course, the southern racing drivers frightened officials with the speed at which they went into the corners. Know whether or not, driving a Ford at Daytona in 1963, Johnson set the all-time stock-car speed record in a hundred-mile qualifying race. Know whether or not, at Dayton, Junior lost because of "drafting" behind Bobby Johns' Pontiac in a vacuum so intense it blew the rear window out of Junior's car. Know whether or not "stroking it" means to drive more recklessly to outlast slower, less reckless cars. (Entire article)
- 9. Know whether or not, at the time of Wolfe's research, in the South, baseball was becoming far more popular than racing. Know whether or not Junior Johnson's sports fame is similar to that of Jack Dempsey and Ingemar Johanssen. Know whether or not, right after World War II, stock-car racing had an excellent reputation in the South. Know whether or not it is true that, in the 1950s Detroit automobile manufacturers discovered that a significant number of "good old boys" had begun forming allegiances to brands of automobiles. Know whether or not, in 1955, Pontiac started easing out of stock-car racing. Know whether or not the manufacturer of the car that was victorious in a NASCAR Grand National stock-car race would manufacture and market specially engineered, higher-powered cars, pitched to appeal to fans of the races. (Entire article)

10. Know whether or not, in addition to the grilles, there is usually a great deal of chrome on stock-cars. Know whether or not, prior to the time at which he wrote the article, Johnson had been winning consistently with the Dodge he'd been driving. Know whether or not Herb Nab (Freddie Lorenzen's chief mechanic) said that his strategy was to outrun Junior Johnson and outlast everyone else, or the other way around. Know whether or not, because their land had high crop yield, Scotch-Irish settlers found it more profitable to transport corn to market and sell it, than to make liquor out of it. Know whether or not the Whiskey Rebellion broke out in Western Pennsylvania in 1894. Know whether or not trouble over the whiskey tax became a symbol of something bigger. (Entire article)