

## AU grad questions answers on ♦Jeopardy!♦ premiere Monday

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Were Alex Trebek to say, "After years as an armchair 'Jeopardy!' fan, this Alfred University grad will compete on the game show's season premiere Monday," one might ask, "Who is Catie Camille?" The class of 1998 alum and resident of Rochester surely fielded more difficult trivia during her mid-July taping of the show in Los Angeles. Camille's quest to compete on the premiere quiz show took her from coast to coast, but was spurred by years of family's good-natured goading. "My dad - actually, both my parents - had been after me for a while to do it," Camille, 29, said. "We would watch the show, and they would say, 'You could do that; why don't you do that?' I sent my name, not expecting to hear back, but I got an e-mail at the end of March asking me to take the written exam at the end of April." Camille headed to New York City to take the 50-question written exam, again expecting that to be as far as she advanced. In June, however, she received a call for a mid-July taping in Los Angeles. Contestants are barred from discussing the outcomes of tapings before they air; Camille has kept mum for months, only sharing the air date - given during taping - and behind-the-scenes stories. "The crew was wonderful, actually," she said on pre-show jitters. "They come in two to three hours before taping and really try to make the contestants feel comfortable. They let you practice on the buzzers, and you play two rounds first to warm up." Competing on stage before a live studio audience is much more difficult than chiming in from the couch, she added. Contestants don't meet host Alex Trebek until the show begins and he comes on stage, Camille said, adding the usually refined man can be rather randy when the tape stops rolling. "Off camera, he's pretty loopy," she said. "He seems very proper on camera, but he was hilarious, talking to the audience during breaks. He was telling a story during one break about how he has a cat named Sleazebucket who likes to pee on the neighbors' tires. They loved it, it was hysterical." Camille majored in clinical psychology and minored in public law at Alfred University. As an undergraduate, she was an active member of service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega and an actress in comedy troupe Pirate Theater. She obtained her master's degree in 2000 from John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York City. Afterward, she worked at State University of New York Health Science Center at Brooklyn - better known as SUNY Downstate Medical Center - before returning to her native Rochester about a year ago. Camille is finishing prerequisite science and math courses at Monroe Community College - "You know, those things I neglected in college," she said - before going to pharmacy school. This appearance isn't Camille's first go at her quiz show quest. That began while still a Saxon undergrad. "I sent my name in for the college competition, years and years ago," Camille said, "but never heard anything from that." "Jeopardy!" airs at 7:30 p.m. EST Monday on CBS.--Kyle Torok '01