



1
00:00:04,625 --> 00:00:06,875
[Music throughout]

2
00:00:06,875 --> 00:00:10,666
What do a professional basketball player and a NASA engineer have in common?

3
00:00:23,041 --> 00:00:31,250
[Natasha Cloud] My name is Natasha Cloud, I play for the Washington Mystics, and I plan in the WNBA so I plan

4
00:00:31,250 --> 00:00:34,416
In 2019, Natasha Cloud and the Mystics won the WNBA Championship

5
00:00:36,000 --> 00:00:40,791
[Nayi Castro] I'm Nayi Castro, and I work at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland.

6
00:00:40,791 --> 00:00:46,166
And I'm currently working on OSIRIS-REx project and the MAVEN mission.

7
00:00:46,166 --> 00:00:51,416
On October 20, 2020, the OSIRIS-REx spacecraft will attempt to sample asteroid Bennu.

8
00:00:51,416 --> 00:00:58,250
How We Prepare: OSIRIS-REx and WNBA

9
00:00:58,250 --> 00:01:04,708
[Mission Announcer] T-minus one minute and counting

10
00:01:04,708 --> 00:01:08,875
No issues with the range, everything continues to be go

11
00:01:08,875 --> 00:01:15,291
25. Status check. Go Atlas. Go Centaur. Go OSIRIS-REx

12
00:01:15,291 --> 00:01:16,750
Everyone is go.

13
00:01:16,750 --> 00:01:22,583

[Natasha Cloud] We knew where we wanted to be at the end of the season, we got to that point, and now it is j

14

00:01:22,583 --> 00:01:29,708

[Mission Announcer] 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1

15

00:01:31,250 --> 00:01:34,458

and lift-off of OSIRIS-REx

16

00:01:37,083 --> 00:01:42,500

[Natasha Cloud] We go into every season thinking tat we're going to win a championship.

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00:01:42,500 --> 00:01:45,666

And just because we won doesn't mean that we're going to be handed a championship.

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00:01:45,666 --> 00:01:48,958

Once we go into this season, everything is erased and we're starting anew.

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00:01:48,958 --> 00:01:52,625

Countless hours of dedicated practice propelled Natasha Cloud and her teammates to victory in the 2019 WNE

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00:01:55,791 --> 00:02:00,916

[Nayi Castro] We almost have to reset during every phase because everything has been kind of a different min

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00:02:00,916 --> 00:02:03,750

Just approach was, you know, a mission of itself

22

00:02:03,750 --> 00:02:06,250

Trying to learn how to navigate around Bennu

23

00:02:06,250 --> 00:02:08,833

What kind of gravity environment was at Bennu

24

00:02:08,833 --> 00:02:10,833

Would we be in a very stable orbit?

25

00:02:10,833 --> 00:02:14,708

Nayi Castro and her teammates have practiced flight operations at Bennu for the past two years,

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00:02:14,708 --> 00:02:18,166

bringing the OSIRIS-REx spacecraft within meters of the surface.

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00:02:18,166 --> 00:02:19,708

[Nayi Castro] But it's always really rewarding like

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00:02:19,708 --> 00:02:22,375

even when you saw the first, you know, approach picture to Bennu

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00:02:22,375 --> 00:02:24,083

It's like, oh my gosh, that's our target

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00:02:27,333 --> 00:02:29,875

[Natasha Cloud] It takes a lot of practice, a lot of hours in the gym

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00:02:29,875 --> 00:02:31,625

a lot of perfecting your craft

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00:02:32,791 --> 00:02:35,875

[Nayi Castro] So it's a constant learning process to be an engineer

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00:02:35,875 --> 00:02:40,000

being open, and knowing that there is a lot of education that you can continue to do

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00:02:40,000 --> 00:02:41,875

I feel like I learn something new every day

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00:02:43,541 --> 00:02:46,375

[Natasha Cloud] So you go into it, you have nerves, you have anxieties

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00:02:46,375 --> 00:02:48,166

obviously it is kind of do or die time,

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00:02:48,166 --> 00:02:50,500

but you just prepare as if it is any other game

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00:02:54,083 --> 00:02:56,416

[Nayi Castro] Despite all the challenges that are ongoing,

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00:02:56,416 --> 00:02:59,541

we really can lead successful operations

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00:03:02,458 --> 00:03:04,625

[Natasha Cloud] Especially for young women, there's going to be a lot of people

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00:03:04,625 --> 00:03:06,333

who tell them they can't do it

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00:03:06,333 --> 00:03:09,333

there's going to be a lot of roadblocks, if you will

43

00:03:09,333 --> 00:03:14,916

and for me as a female athlete, it is important for them to see a role model