



1
00:00:06,070 --> 00:00:03,669
aboard the international space station

2
00:00:08,549 --> 00:00:06,080
expedition 24 flight engineers doug

3
00:00:11,030 --> 00:00:08,559
wheelock tracy caldwell dyson and

4
00:00:14,390 --> 00:00:11,040
shannon walker fielded questions about

5
00:00:16,870 --> 00:00:14,400
life and work in space from ktrh radio

6
00:00:18,950 --> 00:00:16,880
in houston and the houston chronicle

7
00:00:20,550 --> 00:00:18,960
during a series of in-flight interviews

8
00:00:22,790 --> 00:00:20,560
on july 6th

9
00:00:26,150 --> 00:00:22,800
walker who launched to the station june

10
00:00:28,870 --> 00:00:26,160
16th on a russian soyuz rocket is the

11
00:00:30,630 --> 00:00:28,880
first native-born houstonian to fly in

12
00:00:34,069 --> 00:00:30,640
space all right excellent

13
00:00:36,310 --> 00:00:34,079

shannon walker uh you and you have a

14

00:00:38,389 --> 00:00:36,320

i was going to say a fellow woman aboard

15

00:00:40,630 --> 00:00:38,399

that doesn't quite work does it

16

00:00:41,990 --> 00:00:40,640

flight engineer tracy caldwell dyson

17

00:00:44,630 --> 00:00:42,000

with you as well

18

00:00:50,630 --> 00:00:44,640

has it become kind of a click there

19

00:00:56,150 --> 00:00:52,869

no i wouldn't say it's a click at all we

20

00:00:59,670 --> 00:00:57,830

douglas we're like i have to know what

21

00:01:08,310 --> 00:00:59,680

was it like for all of you to spend

22

00:01:13,190 --> 00:01:10,950

well it was a it was really a great

23

00:01:14,950 --> 00:01:13,200

treat of course it was it was a busy day

24

00:01:17,749 --> 00:01:14,960

for us because it was the day that our

25

00:01:20,149 --> 00:01:17,759

progress resupply ship docked uh that

26

00:01:22,070 --> 00:01:20,159

day on their second attempt and so it

27

00:01:23,429 --> 00:01:22,080

was a it was a great day for us and very

28

00:01:24,710 --> 00:01:23,439

successful day

29

00:01:27,590 --> 00:01:24,720

and it was um

30

00:01:29,670 --> 00:01:27,600

it was uh actually very nostalgic for me

31

00:01:32,310 --> 00:01:29,680

it was uh we got to spend some time with

32

00:01:35,190 --> 00:01:32,320

our russian uh partners and uh just

33

00:01:38,230 --> 00:01:35,200

celebrating our independence uh in the

34

00:01:40,630 --> 00:01:38,240

u.s and uh and um they were uh they

35

00:01:43,190 --> 00:01:40,640

celebrated with us and it was uh it was

36

00:01:46,230 --> 00:01:43,200

quite a quite an awesome moment to look

37

00:01:47,270 --> 00:01:46,240

uh on our world and and understand that

38

00:01:49,510 --> 00:01:47,280

we have

39

00:01:51,590 --> 00:01:49,520

no borders from this vantage point and

40

00:01:53,670 --> 00:01:51,600

uh it was uh just a great uh day of

41

00:01:55,590 --> 00:01:53,680

celebration

42

00:01:58,069 --> 00:01:55,600

i have to know if you were able to see

43

00:02:03,030 --> 00:01:58,079

any of the fireworks from your vantage

44

00:02:07,990 --> 00:02:04,630

unfortunately no we could not see any of

45

00:02:11,910 --> 00:02:09,430

shannon you were the first houston

46

00:02:17,830 --> 00:02:11,920

native to launch into space i'm guessing

47

00:02:22,869 --> 00:02:20,630

i did i have a few mementos from houston

48

00:02:27,750 --> 00:02:22,879

i have a

49

00:02:31,910 --> 00:02:27,760

little plaque from rice university which

50

00:02:34,150 --> 00:02:31,920

is my alma mater and then i also have a

51
00:02:36,070 --> 00:02:34,160
a poster from the university of houston

52
00:02:38,949 --> 00:02:36,080
where my father taught for many many

53
00:02:44,470 --> 00:02:42,229
what is uh the the real mission that

54
00:02:47,110 --> 00:02:44,480
you're particularly following there

55
00:02:48,550 --> 00:02:47,120
shannon is this uh

56
00:02:50,229 --> 00:02:48,560
i guess it's all laid out in advance

57
00:02:55,509 --> 00:02:50,239
what what exactly are you doing while

58
00:03:00,550 --> 00:02:58,149
well doing during the six months that uh

59
00:03:02,229 --> 00:03:00,560
i'll be here we actually have all of us

60
00:03:05,110 --> 00:03:02,239
have a variety of jobs and it just

61
00:03:07,350 --> 00:03:05,120
depends on

62
00:03:09,350 --> 00:03:07,360
what the needs of the ground are we do

63
00:03:10,710 --> 00:03:09,360

everything from science lots of

64

00:03:12,710 --> 00:03:10,720

different kinds of science to

65

00:03:14,790 --> 00:03:12,720

maintenance and repairs

66

00:03:16,790 --> 00:03:14,800

so i can't tell you exactly one

67

00:03:18,630 --> 00:03:16,800

particular thing that i'm doing because

68

00:03:20,790 --> 00:03:18,640

we're doing lots of different things

69

00:03:23,270 --> 00:03:20,800

while we're here

70

00:03:24,229 --> 00:03:23,280

tracy caldwell dyson to you

71

00:03:26,869 --> 00:03:24,239

while

72

00:03:28,789 --> 00:03:26,879

the astronauts there will be present for

73

00:03:30,390 --> 00:03:28,799

the end of the shuttle program

74

00:03:32,630 --> 00:03:30,400

this has got to be a busy time for you

75

00:03:37,509 --> 00:03:32,640

but yet bittersweet and nostalgic at the

76

00:03:41,910 --> 00:03:39,350

yeah i have to say

77

00:03:44,309 --> 00:03:41,920

it it's been busy since i got here about

78

00:03:46,149 --> 00:03:44,319

three months ago and

79

00:03:47,589 --> 00:03:46,159

it's just now starting to kind of even

80

00:03:50,070 --> 00:03:47,599

out as we uh

81

00:03:52,550 --> 00:03:50,080

um look forward to our our spacewalks

82

00:03:54,550 --> 00:03:52,560

and some robotic arm operations and

83

00:03:56,229 --> 00:03:54,560

there will be a shuttle coming after i

84

00:03:58,949 --> 00:03:56,239

leave um

85

00:04:00,949 --> 00:03:58,959

and from that respect yeah it's uh it's

86

00:04:03,830 --> 00:04:00,959

going to be bittersweet to leave this

87

00:04:05,110 --> 00:04:03,840

space station which is just uh

88

00:04:08,149 --> 00:04:05,120

an amazing

89

00:04:10,229 --> 00:04:08,159

vehicle and in a in a most miraculous

90

00:04:14,149 --> 00:04:10,239

place to be honest

91

00:04:16,710 --> 00:04:14,159

but then to um to see our shuttles

92

00:04:18,150 --> 00:04:16,720

make their last flights to uh to space

93

00:04:19,430 --> 00:04:18,160

and back

94

00:04:21,670 --> 00:04:19,440

it

95

00:04:23,030 --> 00:04:21,680

brings a lot of joy knowing that

96

00:04:24,870 --> 00:04:23,040

they've been so successful and they've

97

00:04:27,270 --> 00:04:24,880

got us to where we are now

98

00:04:31,990 --> 00:04:27,280

but we definitely are going to miss

99

00:04:38,230 --> 00:04:34,950

tracy i'd like to know what you think at

100

00:04:40,150 --> 00:04:38,240

this point will be your most important

101
00:04:45,909 --> 00:04:40,160
memory from your experiences on the

102
00:04:50,230 --> 00:04:48,070
wow

103
00:04:52,950 --> 00:04:50,240
that is a hard one

104
00:04:55,110 --> 00:04:52,960
to date i guess my

105
00:04:58,390 --> 00:04:55,120
one of one of the most profound uh

106
00:05:01,670 --> 00:04:58,400
memories i have is when we

107
00:05:03,749 --> 00:05:01,680
said goodbye to our uh expedition 23

108
00:05:04,870 --> 00:05:03,759
crewmates as they made their way back to

109
00:05:05,670 --> 00:05:04,880
mother earth

110
00:05:07,590 --> 00:05:05,680
and

111
00:05:08,870 --> 00:05:07,600
the three uh

112
00:05:10,230 --> 00:05:08,880
the three of us that flew up here

113
00:05:12,870 --> 00:05:10,240

together

114

00:05:14,870 --> 00:05:12,880

alexander and mikhail and myself were

115

00:05:17,909 --> 00:05:14,880

left alone on the space station for

116

00:05:20,950 --> 00:05:17,919

about two weeks before my expedition 24

117

00:05:22,710 --> 00:05:20,960

crewmates arrived and i remember

118

00:05:24,390 --> 00:05:22,720

thinking one night

119

00:05:27,029 --> 00:05:24,400

that there were only three people in

120

00:05:27,830 --> 00:05:27,039

space and i was one of them and that was

121

00:05:31,510 --> 00:05:27,840

uh

122

00:05:33,590 --> 00:05:31,520

a pretty emotional moment for me

123

00:05:35,430 --> 00:05:33,600

um but i hope that those memories aren't

124

00:05:38,950 --> 00:05:35,440

over yet we still got a little bit of

125

00:05:41,110 --> 00:05:38,960

time left a half a an increment three

126

00:05:44,469 --> 00:05:41,120

months to go and a space walk to look

127

00:05:46,550 --> 00:05:44,479

forward to and just a lot of fun with my

128

00:05:48,150 --> 00:05:46,560

crew mates here

129

00:05:50,629 --> 00:05:48,160

doug wheel like i have to ask you pretty

130

00:05:52,070 --> 00:05:50,639

much the same thing if you have a memory

131

00:05:54,070 --> 00:05:52,080

that you would like to bring back with

132

00:06:00,870 --> 00:05:54,080

you has it already been made are you

133

00:06:04,390 --> 00:06:02,790

well uh

134

00:06:06,390 --> 00:06:04,400

there are surprises that wait around

135

00:06:07,590 --> 00:06:06,400

each corner while you're here in space

136

00:06:09,350 --> 00:06:07,600

and so uh

137

00:06:12,230 --> 00:06:09,360

we had one of those this weekend and

138

00:06:14,710 --> 00:06:12,240

when we had to try again to redock this

139

00:06:17,350 --> 00:06:14,720

vehicle and so um

140

00:06:19,430 --> 00:06:17,360

each day is is sort of magical in itself

141

00:06:20,550 --> 00:06:19,440

up here um

142

00:06:22,950 --> 00:06:20,560

from the

143

00:06:24,790 --> 00:06:22,960

the sub-systems on the space station to

144

00:06:27,590 --> 00:06:24,800

uh visiting vehicles and things and

145

00:06:29,110 --> 00:06:27,600

doing a spacewalk has its own challenges

146

00:06:31,909 --> 00:06:29,120

and its own uh

147

00:06:35,189 --> 00:06:31,919

real personal memories uh as we get to

148

00:06:37,990 --> 00:06:35,199

experience that next month but um i

149

00:06:40,390 --> 00:06:38,000

think uh i think it's just the

150

00:06:42,390 --> 00:06:40,400

the collection of uh of daily memories

151
00:06:45,189 --> 00:06:42,400
up here that uh i'm trying to keep a

152
00:06:47,670 --> 00:06:45,199
journal and and just kind of

153
00:06:52,230 --> 00:06:47,680
catalog those things

154
00:06:55,430 --> 00:06:53,830
shannon walker i'd like to ask if

155
00:06:57,350 --> 00:06:55,440
there's any message that you would like

156
00:07:00,870 --> 00:06:57,360
to convey to your

157
00:07:02,790 --> 00:07:00,880
i guess i would say classmates at

158
00:07:04,629 --> 00:07:02,800
westbury high school where you attended

159
00:07:07,110 --> 00:07:04,639
here in houston what would you like to

160
00:07:08,870 --> 00:07:07,120
say to those kids who some of whom may

161
00:07:12,950 --> 00:07:08,880
be looking forward to a career like

162
00:07:16,070 --> 00:07:14,629
well i certainly hope that some of them

163
00:07:18,629 --> 00:07:16,080

will be looking forward to a career like

164

00:07:20,309 --> 00:07:18,639

mine i would say to the kids uh

165

00:07:22,550 --> 00:07:20,319

persevere life gives you a lot of

166

00:07:24,390 --> 00:07:22,560

challenges but if you

167

00:07:26,469 --> 00:07:24,400

work hard you can overcome just about

168

00:07:27,990 --> 00:07:26,479

any challenge or obstacle in your path

169

00:07:31,670 --> 00:07:28,000

and

170

00:07:33,350 --> 00:07:31,680

always pursue your dreams maintain

171

00:07:35,589 --> 00:07:33,360

maintain awareness of what you want out

172

00:07:37,350 --> 00:07:35,599

of life and always work towards it it

173

00:07:39,589 --> 00:07:37,360

may not always be easy but you can get

174

00:07:41,830 --> 00:07:39,599

where you want to be

175

00:07:43,189 --> 00:07:41,840

tracy dyson to you if you could make one

176

00:07:44,309 --> 00:07:43,199

comment

177

00:07:45,830 --> 00:07:44,319

to the white house the bush

178

00:07:47,909 --> 00:07:45,840

administration don't want to take this

179

00:07:50,390 --> 00:07:47,919

political that is for sure but if you

180

00:07:52,309 --> 00:07:50,400

could ask what is in store for this

181

00:07:53,909 --> 00:07:52,319

program you don't want to be in the dr

182

00:07:55,430 --> 00:07:53,919

in the passenger seat you want to stay

183

00:07:57,270 --> 00:07:55,440

in the driver's seat

184

00:08:02,950 --> 00:07:57,280

what would be your pitch to keep our

185

00:08:07,430 --> 00:08:05,350

oh to put it in a nutshell i mean look

186

00:08:09,270 --> 00:08:07,440

at look at what we've done

187

00:08:12,469 --> 00:08:09,280

and i'm not just talking about we nasa

188

00:08:14,869 --> 00:08:12,479

i'm talking about we as a world we

189

00:08:17,909 --> 00:08:14,879

um we're a collective country um

190

00:08:20,550 --> 00:08:17,919

we have put men on the moon we have um

191

00:08:21,909 --> 00:08:20,560

we have brought things back to earth uh

192

00:08:23,830 --> 00:08:21,919

as a result of

193

00:08:26,550 --> 00:08:23,840

developing technologies to get us here

194

00:08:28,629 --> 00:08:26,560

into space we've built this incredible

195

00:08:31,830 --> 00:08:28,639

space station and it wasn't alone we did

196

00:08:33,110 --> 00:08:31,840

it with our partner nations of russia

197

00:08:35,430 --> 00:08:33,120

japan

198

00:08:37,670 --> 00:08:35,440

europa all over the world and we've

199

00:08:40,230 --> 00:08:37,680

brought them together here in space we

200

00:08:43,589 --> 00:08:40,240

assembled this this incredible vehicle

201
00:08:46,790 --> 00:08:43,599
in space and um gosh if that isn't worth

202
00:08:48,070 --> 00:08:46,800
continuing um then i don't know what is

203
00:08:49,670 --> 00:08:48,080
so i would say

204
00:08:50,550 --> 00:08:49,680
to the white house and our president

205
00:08:53,110 --> 00:08:50,560
that

206
00:08:55,030 --> 00:08:53,120
invest in our future because we've got a

207
00:08:56,630 --> 00:08:55,040
lot a lot of kids out there that are

208
00:08:58,630 --> 00:08:56,640
looking forward to getting here and to

209
00:09:00,550 --> 00:08:58,640
getting us beyond and we can't let them

210
00:09:03,190 --> 00:09:00,560
down

211
00:09:05,430 --> 00:09:03,200
shannon walker back to you a very quick

212
00:09:07,590 --> 00:09:05,440
answer because we're almost out of time

213
00:09:09,350 --> 00:09:07,600

what what exactly would do you think

214

00:09:14,150 --> 00:09:09,360

that the space program will be okay

215

00:09:17,590 --> 00:09:16,070

i think the space program will have

216

00:09:19,509 --> 00:09:17,600

different challenges without the shuttle

217

00:09:21,750 --> 00:09:19,519

we've certainly lost

218

00:09:22,870 --> 00:09:21,760

a capability at least in the short term

219

00:09:24,550 --> 00:09:22,880

to

220

00:09:26,070 --> 00:09:24,560

haul large amounts of cargo massive

221

00:09:28,070 --> 00:09:26,080

amounts of cargo into space and we've

222

00:09:29,509 --> 00:09:28,080

lost the capability to bring lots of

223

00:09:31,430 --> 00:09:29,519

hardware home and that's going to

224

00:09:33,829 --> 00:09:31,440

present different challenges for us to

225

00:09:36,150 --> 00:09:33,839

maintain and work on the space station

226
00:09:37,990 --> 00:09:36,160
to tracy caldwell dyson shannon walker

227
00:09:39,910 --> 00:09:38,000
doug willock thank you so much for

228
00:09:43,750 --> 00:09:39,920
taking the time to talk with us and safe

229
00:09:48,310 --> 00:09:46,310
thank you very much

230
00:09:51,350 --> 00:09:48,320
station this is houston acr that

231
00:09:52,790 --> 00:09:51,360
concludes the ktrh portion of the event

232
00:09:54,870 --> 00:09:52,800
please stand by for a voice check from

233
00:10:01,430 --> 00:09:54,880
the houston chronicle

234
00:10:06,069 --> 00:10:02,829
we hear you loud and clear on the

235
00:10:08,710 --> 00:10:06,079
station well great good morning um

236
00:10:10,310 --> 00:10:08,720
i guess first of all a question for

237
00:10:12,069 --> 00:10:10,320
shannon maybe talk about your feelings

238
00:10:12,790 --> 00:10:12,079

when you first reached the station were

239

00:10:14,630 --> 00:10:12,800

you

240

00:10:16,069 --> 00:10:14,640

relieved to be out of the soyuz capsule

241

00:10:20,710 --> 00:10:16,079

or was it were there other feelings

242

00:10:24,230 --> 00:10:22,069

oh there were a lot of feelings going

243

00:10:26,389 --> 00:10:24,240

through my mind i was very excited to be

244

00:10:28,150 --> 00:10:26,399

on the station after having

245

00:10:30,630 --> 00:10:28,160

worked on the ground for so many years

246

00:10:32,710 --> 00:10:30,640

watching the station being assembled and

247

00:10:34,630 --> 00:10:32,720

working to maintain it and and get it up

248

00:10:36,550 --> 00:10:34,640

and running it was just so incredibly

249

00:10:38,230 --> 00:10:36,560

exciting to actually be here to live on

250

00:10:40,230 --> 00:10:38,240

it um

251
00:10:41,670 --> 00:10:40,240
the soyuz is a wonderful spacecraft but

252
00:10:44,150 --> 00:10:41,680
it is small so it was nice to have a

253
00:10:45,990 --> 00:10:44,160
little bit more space to move around in

254
00:10:47,430 --> 00:10:46,000
and and doug i guess it's been almost

255
00:10:53,030 --> 00:10:47,440
three years since you were last the

256
00:10:58,710 --> 00:10:55,430
the the changes have been incredible we

257
00:11:01,030 --> 00:10:58,720
um on sts-120 back in 2007 we brought up

258
00:11:02,630 --> 00:11:01,040
the node two and so i was thinking about

259
00:11:05,110 --> 00:11:02,640
it the other day and we were actually

260
00:11:07,509 --> 00:11:05,120
docked and the uh shuttle discovery to

261
00:11:10,069 --> 00:11:07,519
the front the front end of the lab at

262
00:11:12,389 --> 00:11:10,079
that time and now there's so there's so

263
00:11:15,590 --> 00:11:12,399

much usable uh volume

264

00:11:18,150 --> 00:11:15,600

uh in laboratories forward of the lab

265

00:11:19,509 --> 00:11:18,160

now that it's just the uh the u.s

266

00:11:21,910 --> 00:11:19,519

segment has

267

00:11:23,670 --> 00:11:21,920

literally doubled in size or even even

268

00:11:25,350 --> 00:11:23,680

greater and so

269

00:11:27,910 --> 00:11:25,360

it's a tremendous uh

270

00:11:29,190 --> 00:11:27,920

it's a tremendous vehicle and it's uh it

271

00:11:30,870 --> 00:11:29,200

looks so much different as we're

272

00:11:33,829 --> 00:11:30,880

approaching it now

273

00:11:35,910 --> 00:11:33,839

as i approached it back three years ago

274

00:11:36,790 --> 00:11:35,920

all the solar arrays are installed now

275

00:11:39,829 --> 00:11:36,800

and

276

00:11:41,670 --> 00:11:39,839

it's a fantastic flying machine

277

00:11:42,949 --> 00:11:41,680

and and tracy maybe talk a little bit

278

00:11:47,990 --> 00:11:42,959

about what it's like to have another

279

00:11:52,389 --> 00:11:50,629

it's awesome

280

00:11:54,710 --> 00:11:52,399

no no it is nice because now i'm not the

281

00:11:56,230 --> 00:11:54,720

only one that gets the finger pointed at

282

00:11:59,269 --> 00:11:56,240

them when there's long hair stuck in

283

00:12:01,190 --> 00:11:59,279

someone's food or in their face no it's

284

00:12:02,069 --> 00:12:01,200

a delight to have shannon up here and to

285

00:12:04,230 --> 00:12:02,079

uh

286

00:12:05,430 --> 00:12:04,240

to we're kindred spirits and we're not

287

00:12:07,590 --> 00:12:05,440

really sure if that's because we're both

288

00:12:08,710 --> 00:12:07,600

female or just because we're a lot alike

289

00:12:10,389 --> 00:12:08,720

but um

290

00:12:12,389 --> 00:12:10,399

it is nice and

291

00:12:14,310 --> 00:12:12,399

a pleasant change to uh to have a lady

292

00:12:16,150 --> 00:12:14,320

on board with me yeah

293

00:12:18,629 --> 00:12:16,160

hey so it's already been an active

294

00:12:20,550 --> 00:12:18,639

atlantic hurricane season down here did

295

00:12:27,430 --> 00:12:20,560

anyone uh for a chance see hurricane

296

00:12:31,430 --> 00:12:29,509

our own alexander did actually the

297

00:12:33,430 --> 00:12:31,440

commander of the space station

298

00:12:34,150 --> 00:12:33,440

was trying desperately to get pictures

299

00:12:36,710 --> 00:12:34,160

of

300

00:12:39,269 --> 00:12:36,720

the hurricane and out his

301
00:12:40,550 --> 00:12:39,279
crew quarter window and uh much to his

302
00:12:42,550 --> 00:12:40,560
uh

303
00:12:45,590 --> 00:12:42,560
um i guess disappointment you could say

304
00:12:47,829 --> 00:12:45,600
in a in a in one light that he was he

305
00:12:50,710 --> 00:12:47,839
said that it looked mainly like a

306
00:12:52,629 --> 00:12:50,720
a block of clouds like a

307
00:12:54,150 --> 00:12:52,639
a blanket of clouds and you couldn't

308
00:12:56,230 --> 00:12:54,160
really make out the structure too well

309
00:12:57,190 --> 00:12:56,240
of the hurricane well unfortunately i

310
00:12:59,509 --> 00:12:57,200
think he's going to have other

311
00:13:00,949 --> 00:12:59,519
opportunities in the coming months

312
00:13:02,870 --> 00:13:00,959
what about the oil spill have any of you

313
00:13:10,310 --> 00:13:02,880

seen that from space and how is that

314

00:13:15,430 --> 00:13:12,870

of course it's it's just tragic uh

315

00:13:17,110 --> 00:13:15,440

the bits of news that we get up here i

316

00:13:19,990 --> 00:13:17,120

was able to look out

317

00:13:22,949 --> 00:13:20,000

yesterday and out of the service module

318

00:13:25,350 --> 00:13:22,959

windows in the russian segment and we

319

00:13:29,030 --> 00:13:25,360

saw a little bit of the um

320

00:13:31,990 --> 00:13:29,040

of the oil from stretching from uh uh

321

00:13:34,470 --> 00:13:32,000

new orleans over to the um uh to the

322

00:13:36,069 --> 00:13:34,480

western coast of well alabama

323

00:13:37,190 --> 00:13:36,079

the gulf shores area

324

00:13:39,990 --> 00:13:37,200

and um

325

00:13:42,389 --> 00:13:40,000

just tragic and and another day i saw

326

00:13:43,910 --> 00:13:42,399

some of the fires that were burning

327

00:13:46,470 --> 00:13:43,920

that they had burning off some of the

328

00:13:49,350 --> 00:13:46,480

oil in the middle of the gulf

329

00:13:50,790 --> 00:13:49,360

i saw that as well and um just tragic

330

00:13:53,189 --> 00:13:50,800

and we hope

331

00:13:56,470 --> 00:13:53,199

and pray that we're able to get a get

332

00:13:59,590 --> 00:13:57,750

shannon your the blog you've been

333

00:14:01,030 --> 00:13:59,600

writing has been there's been a lot of

334

00:14:02,790 --> 00:14:01,040

really good response to that from

335

00:14:04,470 --> 00:14:02,800

readers so thank you for doing that i

336

00:14:06,230 --> 00:14:04,480

wanted to ask you what it's like to

337

00:14:10,470 --> 00:14:06,240

access the internet from space is that

338

00:14:14,230 --> 00:14:12,310

you know that's kind of funny you ask it

339

00:14:16,710 --> 00:14:14,240

is a little bit challenging and to be

340

00:14:18,870 --> 00:14:16,720

honest to date i have not um done that

341

00:14:21,030 --> 00:14:18,880

yet it takes a quite a bit of time to

342

00:14:23,430 --> 00:14:21,040

access the internet and our connection

343

00:14:25,990 --> 00:14:23,440

to the ground is is definitely not a

344

00:14:28,389 --> 00:14:26,000

broadband connection so um because i'm

345

00:14:30,310 --> 00:14:28,399

so busy during the day i have not

346

00:14:31,910 --> 00:14:30,320

had the opportunity to access the

347

00:14:33,670 --> 00:14:31,920

internet but it's good to hear that

348

00:14:35,829 --> 00:14:33,680

people are enjoying the blog and i will

349

00:14:37,590 --> 00:14:35,839

i will definitely keep writing

350

00:14:39,269 --> 00:14:37,600

oh thank you um

351

00:14:42,069 --> 00:14:39,279

tracy i wanted to ask you sort of about

352

00:14:43,509 --> 00:14:42,079

as the the construction winds up and you

353

00:14:45,590 --> 00:14:43,519

really sort of get into operational

354

00:14:47,110 --> 00:14:45,600

phase with the space station maybe talk

355

00:14:48,949 --> 00:14:47,120

a little bit about

356

00:14:50,150 --> 00:14:48,959

maybe one of the scientific experiments

357

00:14:52,150 --> 00:14:50,160

that you're working on or that you're

358

00:14:53,670 --> 00:14:52,160

familiar with that you think is is

359

00:14:58,629 --> 00:14:53,680

interesting has some potential for some

360

00:15:03,670 --> 00:15:00,870

what to say that um there's a lot of

361

00:15:04,629 --> 00:15:03,680

interesting science going on up here and

362

00:15:07,509 --> 00:15:04,639

uh

363

00:15:09,430 --> 00:15:07,519

right now we're all involved in in

364

00:15:12,949 --> 00:15:09,440

certain aspects of

365

00:15:15,430 --> 00:15:12,959

the human research and development we

366

00:15:17,110 --> 00:15:15,440

are taking blood and urine samples

367

00:15:19,030 --> 00:15:17,120

based off of a

368

00:15:21,269 --> 00:15:19,040

nutritional study that we're doing to

369

00:15:24,150 --> 00:15:21,279

help understand the effects of

370

00:15:26,150 --> 00:15:24,160

potassium on bone loss

371

00:15:28,949 --> 00:15:26,160

like i said we ourselves are subjects

372

00:15:30,629 --> 00:15:28,959

and um there was there's much

373

00:15:33,030 --> 00:15:30,639

work that we do on the ground prior to

374

00:15:34,870 --> 00:15:33,040

launching actually that uh goes into the

375

00:15:37,670 --> 00:15:34,880

study as well as when we when we come

376

00:15:40,230 --> 00:15:37,680

back home so that's kind of ongoing um

377

00:15:42,790 --> 00:15:40,240

and as shannon mentioned before we we're

378

00:15:44,870 --> 00:15:42,800

doing various experiments up here on a

379

00:15:46,710 --> 00:15:44,880

daily basis and

380

00:15:49,030 --> 00:15:46,720

i might be working one day on on this

381

00:15:51,110 --> 00:15:49,040

one particular experiment and then

382

00:15:53,269 --> 00:15:51,120

doug or shannon will be coming after me

383

00:15:56,870 --> 00:15:53,279

to finish it up but one that i'm

384

00:15:59,269 --> 00:15:56,880

consistent with uh recently is one that

385

00:16:01,990 --> 00:15:59,279

is called coarsening

386

00:16:03,829 --> 00:16:02,000

and it involves um two metal alloys that

387

00:16:05,590 --> 00:16:03,839

are um

388

00:16:08,550 --> 00:16:05,600

together in a and we're looking at

389

00:16:12,470 --> 00:16:08,560

combustion of these particles and

390

00:16:13,350 --> 00:16:12,480

to see to to understand um better uh how

391

00:16:15,829 --> 00:16:13,360

uh

392

00:16:18,150 --> 00:16:15,839

combustion works in in rocket engines

393

00:16:20,629 --> 00:16:18,160

and and to see uh how we can improve on

394

00:16:23,110 --> 00:16:20,639

that system and really i am not the

395

00:16:24,710 --> 00:16:23,120

brain of the operation i am really just

396

00:16:26,150 --> 00:16:24,720

the hands-on

397

00:16:28,470 --> 00:16:26,160

technician if you will i'm the one that

398

00:16:30,389 --> 00:16:28,480

puts the experiment together up here

399

00:16:32,870 --> 00:16:30,399

the hardware pieces and i flip the

400

00:16:34,949 --> 00:16:32,880

switches and tell the ground what i see

401

00:16:36,710 --> 00:16:34,959

it's really the the brains behind it all

402

00:16:38,790 --> 00:16:36,720

are the people that are

403

00:16:40,629 --> 00:16:38,800

on the ground uh the the principal

404

00:16:41,990 --> 00:16:40,639

investigators the scientists who dreamed

405

00:16:42,949 --> 00:16:42,000

up these experiments and they're the

406

00:16:44,550 --> 00:16:42,959

ones that

407

00:16:46,870 --> 00:16:44,560

can speak beautifully about their

408

00:16:49,509 --> 00:16:46,880

experiments all we can really uh shed

409

00:16:51,749 --> 00:16:49,519

light on are the fantastic setups that

410

00:16:54,710 --> 00:16:51,759

we perform up here

411

00:16:56,470 --> 00:16:54,720

well that was pretty modest thank you

412

00:16:58,550 --> 00:16:56,480

shannon aside from your family what what

413

00:17:00,870 --> 00:16:58,560

do you miss most so far about

414

00:17:06,069 --> 00:17:00,880

being away from houston uh and sort of

415

00:17:09,429 --> 00:17:07,909

that's a good question i think um it

416

00:17:11,189 --> 00:17:09,439

would probably be all the wonderful

417

00:17:13,110 --> 00:17:11,199

restaurants that we have in houston uh

418

00:17:14,230 --> 00:17:13,120

houston such a fantastic restaurant town

419

00:17:16,549 --> 00:17:14,240

and just the

420

00:17:19,110 --> 00:17:16,559

variety and food and being able to go

421

00:17:21,590 --> 00:17:19,120

out and get you know mexican one night

422

00:17:23,829 --> 00:17:21,600

and indian food the next night and

423

00:17:27,110 --> 00:17:23,839

thai food we have a lot of variety on

424

00:17:29,350 --> 00:17:27,120

orbit but it's just not quite the same

425

00:17:30,789 --> 00:17:29,360

i can imagine

426

00:17:32,870 --> 00:17:30,799

doug let's talk a little bit about the

427

00:17:35,190 --> 00:17:32,880

difference of visiting being a visitor

428

00:17:37,669 --> 00:17:35,200

to the space station for a couple weeks

429

00:17:39,990 --> 00:17:37,679

on the shuttle and actually living now

430

00:17:41,110 --> 00:17:40,000

on the station for six months is it talk

431

00:17:45,029 --> 00:17:41,120

about the differences in those

432

00:17:48,390 --> 00:17:45,830

well

433

00:17:50,150 --> 00:17:48,400

huge huge huge difference uh and when i

434

00:17:52,150 --> 00:17:50,160

was thinking about this and tracy and i

435

00:17:54,070 --> 00:17:52,160

are getting ready to do a spacewalk in

436

00:17:57,110 --> 00:17:54,080

in about a month and um

437

00:17:59,029 --> 00:17:57,120

and one of the one of the uh biggest

438

00:18:01,430 --> 00:17:59,039

things that when you're just visiting on

439

00:18:03,430 --> 00:18:01,440

a shuttle you don't have much time

440

00:18:05,029 --> 00:18:03,440

to learn how to control your body

441

00:18:06,789 --> 00:18:05,039

whether it's floating around inside of

442

00:18:10,070 --> 00:18:06,799

the station or working on the outside of

443

00:18:11,909 --> 00:18:10,080

the station it's uh it's very much a a

444

00:18:14,789 --> 00:18:11,919

work

445

00:18:17,510 --> 00:18:14,799

it's an art rather than a science uh

446

00:18:19,830 --> 00:18:17,520

controlling your body positioning

447

00:18:22,470 --> 00:18:19,840

and uh and and your accelerations and

448

00:18:24,789 --> 00:18:22,480

things on on your on your body and so

449

00:18:26,310 --> 00:18:24,799

so um that's that's one of the first

450

00:18:28,710 --> 00:18:26,320

things i've noticed that we've gotten a

451
00:18:30,950 --> 00:18:28,720
lot of practice doing that and i think

452
00:18:33,830 --> 00:18:30,960
that will certainly make a

453
00:18:36,789 --> 00:18:33,840
an eva a spacewalk a little we'll have a

454
00:18:38,630 --> 00:18:36,799
little more finesse in that respect

455
00:18:40,150 --> 00:18:38,640
the other is just sort of pacing

456
00:18:42,789 --> 00:18:40,160
yourself

457
00:18:46,630 --> 00:18:42,799
the shuttle flights tend to be uh kind

458
00:18:49,830 --> 00:18:46,640
of a sprint and uh very very packed days

459
00:18:51,110 --> 00:18:49,840
and um and very little margin for uh

460
00:18:53,750 --> 00:18:51,120
for timeline

461
00:18:56,230 --> 00:18:53,760
uh uh delays and so

462
00:18:57,990 --> 00:18:56,240
and the station is uh is again a tight

463
00:19:00,310 --> 00:18:58,000

tightly packed schedule but we run it

464

00:19:02,630 --> 00:19:00,320

more like a laboratory and so and so

465

00:19:05,590 --> 00:19:02,640

there's a there's a little bit of um

466

00:19:09,029 --> 00:19:05,600

of a discretion you can use and how

467

00:19:11,110 --> 00:19:09,039

when you start and begin begin and end

468

00:19:15,029 --> 00:19:11,120

your your daily tasks so

469

00:19:16,789 --> 00:19:15,039

so it's a it's more of a um

470

00:19:19,110 --> 00:19:16,799

it's more of a

471

00:19:21,669 --> 00:19:19,120

of a life up here rather than just a

472

00:19:23,270 --> 00:19:21,679

just an all-out sprint i see a final and

473

00:19:24,630 --> 00:19:23,280

a final quick question for shannon what

474

00:19:26,950 --> 00:19:24,640

kind of what's been the biggest surprise

475

00:19:34,070 --> 00:19:26,960

so far that you maybe not didn't expect

476

00:19:37,350 --> 00:19:35,510

that's a good question i'm not sure i

477

00:19:39,350 --> 00:19:37,360

really have an answer for you

478

00:19:42,230 --> 00:19:39,360

every day brings new surprises and new

479

00:19:45,270 --> 00:19:42,240

challenges but nothing really stands out

480

00:19:47,350 --> 00:19:45,280

it's just the wonder of learning how to

481

00:19:48,710 --> 00:19:47,360

to live in space

482

00:19:53,590 --> 00:19:48,720

i see well thank you very much this

483

00:19:57,590 --> 00:19:55,909

our pleasure