



1
00:00:10,390 --> 00:00:04,150
station this is houston are you ready

2
00:00:14,629 --> 00:00:12,870
houston we're ready

3
00:00:16,870 --> 00:00:14,639
new york daily news this is mission

4
00:00:18,790 --> 00:00:16,880
control houston please call station for

5
00:00:20,790 --> 00:00:18,800
a voice check

6
00:00:24,630 --> 00:00:20,800
station this is new york daily news how

7
00:00:28,790 --> 00:00:27,429
i hear you loud and clear how about us

8
00:00:31,509 --> 00:00:28,800
hear you

9
00:00:36,790 --> 00:00:31,519
perfectly

10
00:00:38,709 --> 00:00:37,990
all right

11
00:00:42,790 --> 00:00:38,719
so

12
00:00:47,670 --> 00:00:45,590
i am it's a tough time for america right

13
00:00:49,110 --> 00:00:47,680

now ron with the debt ceiling and two

14

00:00:51,189 --> 00:00:49,120

foreign wars

15

00:00:52,950 --> 00:00:51,199

you know lots of people down here are

16

00:00:54,790 --> 00:00:52,960

are beleaguered and losing a little bit

17

00:00:56,549 --> 00:00:54,800

of hope now i don't mean to start you

18

00:00:58,069 --> 00:00:56,559

off with a tough question

19

00:00:59,590 --> 00:00:58,079

but you're in a unique position as an

20

00:01:01,110 --> 00:00:59,600

american you know up there in space

21

00:01:02,549 --> 00:01:01,120

you're representing all of us and what's

22

00:01:04,149 --> 00:01:02,559

best in all of us

23

00:01:06,230 --> 00:01:04,159

and you have a great perspective you

24

00:01:07,510 --> 00:01:06,240

know being up there in space

25

00:01:09,270 --> 00:01:07,520

and i hate to start the interview like

26

00:01:11,030 --> 00:01:09,280

this but i don't have a lot of time but

27

00:01:13,590 --> 00:01:11,040

what would you say to your countrymen

28

00:01:15,590 --> 00:01:13,600

down here to try and keep their hopes up

29

00:01:16,870 --> 00:01:15,600

and and you know keep them

30

00:01:22,070 --> 00:01:16,880

keep them pushing ahead with the

31

00:01:25,270 --> 00:01:23,830

well i mean i would simply say our

32

00:01:27,270 --> 00:01:25,280

country has been through a lot of tough

33

00:01:30,469 --> 00:01:27,280

times uh you know with this is no

34

00:01:31,990 --> 00:01:30,479

exception and you know every single time

35

00:01:34,390 --> 00:01:32,000

without fail we've pulled through it

36

00:01:36,789 --> 00:01:34,400

stronger than we were before and we have

37

00:01:39,350 --> 00:01:36,799

a lot to be proud of uh we have a

38

00:01:41,350 --> 00:01:39,360

wonderful nation uh we have amazing

39

00:01:43,990 --> 00:01:41,360

accomplishments uh this is one of them

40

00:01:45,749 --> 00:01:44,000

this uh amazing facility here this

41

00:01:47,830 --> 00:01:45,759

research facility this orbital research

42

00:01:50,149 --> 00:01:47,840

facility is making a big difference on

43

00:01:52,789 --> 00:01:50,159

earth and uh and the united states of

44

00:01:55,030 --> 00:01:52,799

america has a big part of that and they

45

00:01:57,109 --> 00:01:55,040

made a big contribution to that not just

46

00:01:58,870 --> 00:01:57,119

you know it's not just for the the sake

47

00:02:00,230 --> 00:01:58,880

of science and research and space

48

00:02:03,030 --> 00:02:00,240

exploration but international

49

00:02:04,630 --> 00:02:03,040

cooperation this is you know 15 diverse

50

00:02:06,789 --> 00:02:04,640

nations working together to accomplish

51
00:02:08,550 --> 00:02:06,799
this this is a this is a really big deal

52
00:02:09,749 --> 00:02:08,560
this is a really big accomplishment and

53
00:02:11,830 --> 00:02:09,759
it's something that we should be really

54
00:02:13,270 --> 00:02:11,840
proud of ron talk directly to the

55
00:02:15,110 --> 00:02:13,280
american people

56
00:02:17,030 --> 00:02:15,120
would you say stay strong would you say

57
00:02:21,910 --> 00:02:17,040
what would you say you know keep keep

58
00:02:25,270 --> 00:02:23,750
i would say i would say do what we've

59
00:02:27,350 --> 00:02:25,280
done throughout the history of our

60
00:02:29,510 --> 00:02:27,360
nation and that's persevere through the

61
00:02:30,949 --> 00:02:29,520
tough times and to come out on the other

62
00:02:32,790 --> 00:02:30,959
side stronger than we were when we

63
00:02:34,710 --> 00:02:32,800

started and uh that's what we do that's

64

00:02:36,630 --> 00:02:34,720

what it is to be american

65

00:02:38,869 --> 00:02:36,640

tough times

66

00:02:41,589 --> 00:02:38,879

and stay the course

67

00:02:43,190 --> 00:02:41,599

and that's what we

68

00:02:44,070 --> 00:02:43,200

ron how do you feel about the end of the

69

00:02:49,030 --> 00:02:44,080

uh

70

00:02:53,750 --> 00:02:50,949

well i think it i'd like to look at it

71

00:02:55,830 --> 00:02:53,760

as a end of a chapter in our nation's

72

00:02:58,149 --> 00:02:55,840

history uh an end of the chapter in

73

00:03:00,149 --> 00:02:58,159

space exploration and

74

00:03:02,630 --> 00:03:00,159

what my hopes are and i think all of our

75

00:03:04,390 --> 00:03:02,640

hopes are is that by closing this

76
00:03:06,630 --> 00:03:04,400
chapter we are opening a new chapter and

77
00:03:08,470 --> 00:03:06,640
opening a new era in space exploration

78
00:03:10,309 --> 00:03:08,480
an error which will see us leaving low

79
00:03:11,990 --> 00:03:10,319
earth orbit and exploring our solar

80
00:03:14,790 --> 00:03:12,000
system

81
00:03:16,830 --> 00:03:14,800
and opening another one a chapter

82
00:03:20,790 --> 00:03:16,840
that will see us

83
00:03:23,589 --> 00:03:20,800
leaving our soul uh leaving our orbit

84
00:03:24,470 --> 00:03:23,599
and exploring our solar system

85
00:03:25,910 --> 00:03:24,480
great

86
00:03:28,470 --> 00:03:25,920
uh

87
00:03:33,670 --> 00:03:28,480
so i i understand why is it so important

88
00:03:37,190 --> 00:03:35,350

well i think space exploration is

89

00:03:39,509 --> 00:03:37,200

important in general and i think it's

90

00:03:40,550 --> 00:03:39,519

important to have people to have humans

91

00:03:42,309 --> 00:03:40,560

in space

92

00:03:44,070 --> 00:03:42,319

because uh for a number of reasons one

93

00:03:46,149 --> 00:03:44,080

is the from the uh the exploration part

94

00:03:47,750 --> 00:03:46,159

of it but also because of the research

95

00:03:49,110 --> 00:03:47,760

part of it i mean we are conducting

96

00:03:51,030 --> 00:03:49,120

experiments on board the international

97

00:03:52,630 --> 00:03:51,040

space station that will not only enable

98

00:03:54,949 --> 00:03:52,640

us to go further in our exploration of

99

00:03:56,470 --> 00:03:54,959

space but our make the experiments that

100

00:03:57,910 --> 00:03:56,480

are making a huge difference and will

101
00:03:59,910 --> 00:03:57,920
make a huge difference

102
00:04:02,390 --> 00:03:59,920
in improving life on planet earth

103
00:04:04,470 --> 00:04:02,400
everything from ways to to provide clean

104
00:04:07,509 --> 00:04:04,480
water more food more efficient

105
00:04:09,350 --> 00:04:07,519
fuel fuel efficiency and so you know the

106
00:04:11,350 --> 00:04:09,360
list goes on and on and on of the

107
00:04:13,429 --> 00:04:11,360
research that is being conducted in this

108
00:04:14,470 --> 00:04:13,439
very very unique place where you know a

109
00:04:16,229 --> 00:04:14,480
place where

110
00:04:17,670 --> 00:04:16,239
the research being conducted here simply

111
00:04:22,390 --> 00:04:17,680
cannot be conducted anywhere else

112
00:04:26,390 --> 00:04:25,110
we are conducting cannot be

113
00:04:29,030 --> 00:04:26,400

conducted

114

00:04:34,790 --> 00:04:29,040

anywhere else what is it like to be in

115

00:04:39,110 --> 00:04:37,430

well it's it's interesting uh it's you

116

00:04:40,710 --> 00:04:39,120

know your body takes a while to get used

117

00:04:42,950 --> 00:04:40,720

to it and you know the human body is an

118

00:04:45,430 --> 00:04:42,960

amazingly adaptive thing and right after

119

00:04:46,950 --> 00:04:45,440

you get here you your body realizes it

120

00:04:49,270 --> 00:04:46,960

doesn't it it's the heart doesn't have

121

00:04:51,350 --> 00:04:49,280

to work as hard uh you know the muscles

122

00:04:53,830 --> 00:04:51,360

don't have to work as hard the you don't

123

00:04:56,070 --> 00:04:53,840

need a skeleton anymore so you start to

124

00:04:58,230 --> 00:04:56,080

have changes in your body that

125

00:05:01,189 --> 00:04:58,240

necessarily aren't so good um start

126

00:05:02,469 --> 00:05:01,199

losing bone density muscle mass etc so

127

00:05:04,070 --> 00:05:02,479

there's things that we have to do to

128

00:05:06,150 --> 00:05:04,080

combat that that you know we have to do

129

00:05:07,909 --> 00:05:06,160

exercise and whatnot but but living and

130

00:05:09,510 --> 00:05:07,919

working in space i mean is is just

131

00:05:11,590 --> 00:05:09,520

absolutely wonderful you know i commute

132

00:05:12,710 --> 00:05:11,600

to work like i guess like superman would

133

00:05:15,510 --> 00:05:12,720

you know i just

134

00:05:17,909 --> 00:05:15,520

get out of my bed and i fly off to to my

135

00:05:19,749 --> 00:05:17,919

to my job so it's a you know we go from

136

00:05:22,070 --> 00:05:19,759

and the space station is enormous it's a

137

00:05:23,510 --> 00:05:22,080

it's a huge complex so to get from one

138

00:05:24,870 --> 00:05:23,520

place to the other we're just flying

139

00:05:26,790 --> 00:05:24,880

flying around so it's pretty pretty

140

00:05:29,029 --> 00:05:26,800

interesting and it's amazing how fast

141

00:05:30,469 --> 00:05:29,039

you adapt to that it's amazing how fast

142

00:05:32,070 --> 00:05:30,479

it just becomes second nature and you

143

00:05:34,310 --> 00:05:32,080

don't even think about it and then you

144

00:05:36,150 --> 00:05:34,320

wonder hey how did i just get from point

145

00:05:37,749 --> 00:05:36,160

a to point b and then you trace those

146

00:05:39,270 --> 00:05:37,759

steps and you see you know all the

147

00:05:41,189 --> 00:05:39,280

things that your entire body did not

148

00:05:43,110 --> 00:05:41,199

just your feet you know your hands and

149

00:05:44,469 --> 00:05:43,120

and your legs and everything else to get

150

00:05:46,870 --> 00:05:44,479

you from one place the other it's really

151

00:05:48,710 --> 00:05:46,880

it's it's really a neat adaptation

152

00:05:50,469 --> 00:05:48,720

ron any words i know you're a big giant

153

00:05:52,629 --> 00:05:50,479

fan for tom coughlin and eli and the

154

00:05:54,870 --> 00:05:52,639

bunch i mean we just football season's

155

00:05:56,309 --> 00:05:54,880

right around the corner

156

00:05:58,950 --> 00:05:56,319

what would you say to them talk directly

157

00:05:59,749 --> 00:05:58,960

to the to the game

158

00:06:12,950 --> 00:05:59,759

i

159

00:06:14,950 --> 00:06:12,960

and you'll

160

00:06:16,950 --> 00:06:14,960

come out stronger on the other end did

161

00:06:20,230 --> 00:06:16,960

you see derek jeter's 3000 hit by the

162

00:06:23,909 --> 00:06:22,150

i i did not uh see that of course i've

163

00:06:25,270 --> 00:06:23,919

heard obviously heard about it that's a

164

00:06:27,430 --> 00:06:25,280

wonderful accomplishment a great

165

00:06:29,909 --> 00:06:27,440

milestone and i wish i i wish i was able

166

00:06:33,110 --> 00:06:29,919

to see it but but no i'll get to see it

167

00:06:41,029 --> 00:06:35,350

what would you uh

168

00:06:44,710 --> 00:06:43,430

well just uh you know i like i try and

169

00:06:46,870 --> 00:06:44,720

do all the time tell them how much i

170

00:06:49,189 --> 00:06:46,880

love them and miss them and and how

171

00:06:51,110 --> 00:06:49,199

you know any any big accomplishment or a

172

00:06:53,670 --> 00:06:51,120

big endeavor like this requires a lot of

173

00:06:54,629 --> 00:06:53,680

support from the home front and uh

174

00:06:58,150 --> 00:06:54,639

this is

175

00:06:59,990 --> 00:06:58,160

there's no way that any of us could do

176
00:07:02,150 --> 00:07:00,000
what we do without tremendous support

177
00:07:03,670 --> 00:07:02,160
from home so just a lot of gratitude and

178
00:07:04,710 --> 00:07:03,680
thanks

179
00:07:06,070 --> 00:07:04,720
what's the thing that you missed the

180
00:07:07,990 --> 00:07:06,080
most ron

181
00:07:09,350 --> 00:07:08,000
besides your family and your wife and

182
00:07:13,029 --> 00:07:09,360
kids

183
00:07:16,550 --> 00:07:14,790
well you know it's it's interesting when

184
00:07:17,749 --> 00:07:16,560
i got ready to fly and i realized i was

185
00:07:20,309 --> 00:07:17,759
going to be up here for a long time i

186
00:07:22,230 --> 00:07:20,319
started noticing things like oh you know

187
00:07:24,950 --> 00:07:22,240
i i hear the sounds of the birds or i

188
00:07:26,870 --> 00:07:24,960

hear your smell smell the you know the

189

00:07:28,150 --> 00:07:26,880

flowers or whatever and i think you know

190

00:07:29,909 --> 00:07:28,160

what i'm going to spend six months

191

00:07:32,150 --> 00:07:29,919

without hearing that sound or smelling

192

00:07:34,710 --> 00:07:32,160

that smell and and you know we have a

193

00:07:37,189 --> 00:07:34,720

really really wonderful beautiful planet

194

00:07:38,870 --> 00:07:37,199

and uh you know i i just miss living on

195

00:07:40,550 --> 00:07:38,880

earth it's it's definitely my favorite

196

00:07:41,589 --> 00:07:40,560

planet and uh

197

00:07:43,189 --> 00:07:41,599

you know

198

00:07:52,390 --> 00:07:43,199

it's a wonderful wonderful place that we

199

00:07:54,950 --> 00:07:53,430

list the

200

00:07:57,670 --> 00:07:54,960

important question here you know ron i

201

00:07:59,749 --> 00:07:57,680

know you're a man of faith

202

00:08:01,350 --> 00:07:59,759

how does being on earth i mean how does

203

00:08:02,869 --> 00:08:01,360

being on the space station and seeing

204

00:08:04,150 --> 00:08:02,879

having that perspective of god's

205

00:08:07,909 --> 00:08:04,160

creation

206

00:08:09,350 --> 00:08:07,919

whatever you whatever you american

207

00:08:12,150 --> 00:08:09,360

believes in

208

00:08:17,270 --> 00:08:12,160

how does it influence your faith and and

209

00:08:21,909 --> 00:08:19,589

well i think it does i mean it does in a

210

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

way that when i don't think it's

211

00:08:26,070 --> 00:08:23,840

possible to look at our earth from space

212

00:08:28,430 --> 00:08:26,080

without being moved in some way and when

213

00:08:30,550 --> 00:08:28,440

you get struck by the just the

214

00:08:33,430 --> 00:08:30,560

undescrivable beauty the indescribable

215

00:08:35,670 --> 00:08:33,440

beauty of of our planet and you really

216

00:08:37,990 --> 00:08:35,680

feel this this this overwhelming

217

00:08:40,870 --> 00:08:38,000

gratitude that we've been given this

218

00:08:42,310 --> 00:08:40,880

incredible incredible gift and you know

219

00:08:43,670 --> 00:08:42,320

it fills you with some sadness though

220

00:08:45,509 --> 00:08:43,680

too when you think about how we've

221

00:08:47,910 --> 00:08:45,519

treated that gift and and you know all

222

00:08:50,710 --> 00:08:47,920

the problems that we have and you know i

223

00:08:52,949 --> 00:08:50,720

think you know the the even the hdtv

224

00:08:55,829 --> 00:08:52,959

doesn't do it justice to to see the view

225

00:08:57,430 --> 00:08:55,839

that we have here and to see um you know

226

00:08:58,949 --> 00:08:57,440

how fragile it is and to see that

227

00:09:00,630 --> 00:08:58,959

paper-thin atmosphere and to realize

228

00:09:02,550 --> 00:09:00,640

that's the only thing keeping us

229

00:09:04,070 --> 00:09:02,560

from the you know from that's the only

230

00:09:06,389 --> 00:09:04,080

thing keeping every living thing on our

231

00:09:08,630 --> 00:09:06,399

planet alive and how precarious it is

232

00:09:10,870 --> 00:09:08,640

and how fragile is and it's it's you

233

00:09:13,430 --> 00:09:10,880

know it's i i don't think you can help

234

00:09:15,190 --> 00:09:13,440

but be moved and be be have this feeling

235

00:09:16,949 --> 00:09:15,200

of gratitude of what we've been given if

236

00:09:18,790 --> 00:09:16,959

you see this with your own eyes and i

237

00:09:20,070 --> 00:09:18,800

wish everybody could and i wish

238

00:09:21,430 --> 00:09:20,080

everybody could see this with their own

239

00:09:24,150 --> 00:09:21,440

eyes so we're trying to do the best we

240

00:09:25,750 --> 00:09:24,160

can to help everybody see this through

241

00:09:33,030 --> 00:09:25,760

our eyes and to be able to describe it

242

00:09:33,040 --> 00:09:38,550

ron thanks so much pal

243

00:09:42,389 --> 00:09:40,310

sam here was great talking to you say hi

244

00:09:48,630 --> 00:09:42,399

to everybody back in new york especially

245

00:09:52,470 --> 00:09:50,790

station this is houston acr that

246

00:09:54,550 --> 00:09:52,480

concludes the new york daily news

247

00:09:58,230 --> 00:09:54,560

portion of the event please stand by for

248

00:10:00,550 --> 00:09:58,240

a voice check from kbtv tv

249

00:10:04,949 --> 00:10:00,560

station this is kbtv tv how do you hear

250

00:10:04,959 --> 00:10:11,350

station hears you loud and clear

251

00:10:15,190 --> 00:10:13,910

excellent guys uh the the aggie hat

252

00:10:19,910 --> 00:10:15,200

thank you very much we appreciate that

253

00:10:22,630 --> 00:10:21,269

no doubt about it

254

00:10:24,470 --> 00:10:22,640

all right here we go

255

00:10:25,829 --> 00:10:24,480

colonel mike fossum colonel ron garan we

256

00:10:28,150 --> 00:10:25,839

thank you very much for joining us this

257

00:10:30,069 --> 00:10:28,160

afternoon first off you two are in the

258

00:10:32,310 --> 00:10:30,079

midst of your first expeditions on the

259

00:10:33,590 --> 00:10:32,320

international space station six months

260

00:10:34,710 --> 00:10:33,600

each for you guys up there colonel

261

00:10:36,550 --> 00:10:34,720

fossum can you tell us a little bit

262

00:10:41,590 --> 00:10:36,560

about some of the research and the work

263

00:10:44,790 --> 00:10:43,030

we're in a period of transition right

264

00:10:46,870 --> 00:10:44,800

now on the space station uh with the

265

00:10:49,430 --> 00:10:46,880

departure of uh space shuttle atlantis a

266

00:10:51,910 --> 00:10:49,440

couple of weeks ago uh we've we've moved

267

00:10:54,069 --> 00:10:51,920

out of the assembly phase and into the

268

00:10:55,829 --> 00:10:54,079

utilization phase first step in that

269

00:10:57,190 --> 00:10:55,839

though is putting away the thousands of

270

00:10:59,670 --> 00:10:57,200

pounds of stuff that they brought up

271

00:11:02,630 --> 00:10:59,680

here and we began uh really turning up

272

00:11:04,470 --> 00:11:02,640

the heat this week on the on getting a

273

00:11:06,230 --> 00:11:04,480

lot of the facilities and in some cases

274

00:11:08,310 --> 00:11:06,240

it was literally turning the heat up

275

00:11:10,230 --> 00:11:08,320

begin activating a lot of the science uh

276

00:11:11,910 --> 00:11:10,240

science facilities you know i completed

277

00:11:14,550 --> 00:11:11,920

the first round in a plant growth

278

00:11:16,550 --> 00:11:14,560

experiment today where one uh a set of

279

00:11:17,990 --> 00:11:16,560

the plants were growing in zero gravity

280

00:11:20,150 --> 00:11:18,000

the other set we're growing in a

281

00:11:22,069 --> 00:11:20,160

centrifuge spinning in exactly the same

282

00:11:24,470 --> 00:11:22,079

temperature and conditions you know at

283

00:11:25,990 --> 00:11:24,480

1g to simulate being on earth funny to

284

00:11:27,910 --> 00:11:26,000

come up to space to simulate being on

285

00:11:29,829 --> 00:11:27,920

earth so that's just an example we're

286

00:11:31,190 --> 00:11:29,839

activating a furnace facility going

287

00:11:33,269 --> 00:11:31,200

through some of its stabilization

288

00:11:34,790 --> 00:11:33,279

checkouts right now and really from one

289

00:11:36,870 --> 00:11:34,800

end to the other we're bringing these

290

00:11:38,230 --> 00:11:36,880

systems up and online at the same time

291

00:11:40,790 --> 00:11:38,240

we're the guinea pigs for a lot of the

292

00:11:42,710 --> 00:11:40,800

studies ourselves where bones muscles

293

00:11:44,630 --> 00:11:42,720

those kind of things

294

00:11:46,470 --> 00:11:44,640

you gentlemen rode up on the

295

00:11:47,990 --> 00:11:46,480

russian ship it was the first time for

296

00:11:49,590 --> 00:11:48,000

that for you all can you talk about the

297

00:11:51,430 --> 00:11:49,600

differences between going up on a

298

00:11:55,590 --> 00:11:51,440

shuttle as compared to going up on a

299

00:11:59,350 --> 00:11:57,350

yeah you know really there is a there is

300

00:12:01,509 --> 00:11:59,360

quite a difference you know the space

301
00:12:03,190 --> 00:12:01,519
shuttle is this massive

302
00:12:05,350 --> 00:12:03,200
you know vehicle that you that you're

303
00:12:06,790 --> 00:12:05,360
riding inside and it's shaking and it's

304
00:12:08,550 --> 00:12:06,800
it's you know there's just just

305
00:12:11,590 --> 00:12:08,560
tremendous amount of force

306
00:12:13,509 --> 00:12:11,600
um the the soyuz on the other hand it's

307
00:12:15,030 --> 00:12:13,519
it's kind of it's it's as much smaller

308
00:12:17,190 --> 00:12:15,040
vehicle you're you're crammed in there

309
00:12:19,110 --> 00:12:17,200
really really tight uh and it's almost

310
00:12:21,110 --> 00:12:19,120
as if you're wearing it so you're

311
00:12:22,710 --> 00:12:21,120
wearing this spacecraft and and you're

312
00:12:24,230 --> 00:12:22,720
launching they're both wonderful

313
00:12:25,350 --> 00:12:24,240

experiences but they're very very

314

00:12:27,350 --> 00:12:25,360

different

315

00:12:29,350 --> 00:12:27,360

but the i guess the common theme between

316

00:12:31,829 --> 00:12:29,360

the two of them is you know it takes a

317

00:12:33,430 --> 00:12:31,839

lot of energy to get something into into

318

00:12:35,509 --> 00:12:33,440

orbit it takes you know you have to

319

00:12:36,949 --> 00:12:35,519

propel it to the velocity of five miles

320

00:12:38,230 --> 00:12:36,959

a second so

321

00:12:39,670 --> 00:12:38,240

you know that takes a lot of energy and

322

00:12:40,870 --> 00:12:39,680

a lot of force and in both cases you

323

00:12:42,710 --> 00:12:40,880

feel that there's a there's a lot of

324

00:12:44,389 --> 00:12:42,720

power behind you

325

00:12:45,750 --> 00:12:44,399

now colonel garren before he put the hat

326

00:12:47,829 --> 00:12:45,760

on i'm not sure if you were aware that

327

00:12:49,350 --> 00:12:47,839

colonel fossum was an aggie uh he may

328

00:12:51,350 --> 00:12:49,360

have made it abundantly clear in the

329

00:12:52,949 --> 00:12:51,360

last mission and the work that you guys

330

00:12:54,230 --> 00:12:52,959

have done on the expedition can you talk

331

00:12:59,350 --> 00:12:54,240

a little bit about how a guy from

332

00:13:04,870 --> 00:13:01,509

well well that's news to me i i had

333

00:13:06,550 --> 00:13:04,880

never known that mike was was an aggie

334

00:13:09,190 --> 00:13:06,560

but you know what we have in common is

335

00:13:11,430 --> 00:13:09,200

we're both aggie dads so uh you know

336

00:13:13,509 --> 00:13:11,440

we've we uh both have a great love of

337

00:13:15,430 --> 00:13:13,519

that uh university uh i didn't i didn't

338

00:13:16,870 --> 00:13:15,440

get to go to that university but uh we

339

00:13:19,190 --> 00:13:16,880

both have a great love

340

00:13:22,069 --> 00:13:19,200

yeah well

341

00:13:23,590 --> 00:13:22,079

i could be an aggie so but uh you know

342

00:13:25,910 --> 00:13:23,600

but to balance you know to balance the

343

00:13:28,069 --> 00:13:25,920

universe out though for in my personal

344

00:13:29,829 --> 00:13:28,079

uh family's point of view you know my

345

00:13:31,670 --> 00:13:29,839

aggies identical twin is also is a

346

00:13:32,829 --> 00:13:31,680

longhorn so we had to balance out the

347

00:13:36,389 --> 00:13:32,839

equation a little

348

00:13:38,069 --> 00:13:36,399

bit so that's a house divided and a

349

00:13:39,670 --> 00:13:38,079

family divided in a spaceship divided

350

00:13:41,189 --> 00:13:39,680

probably with that uh talk a little bit

351
00:13:43,269 --> 00:13:41,199
about colonel what you brought up aggie

352
00:13:48,150 --> 00:13:43,279
related besides the hat if you brought

353
00:13:52,790 --> 00:13:50,550
oh you bet i've got the uh i've got my

354
00:13:55,110 --> 00:13:52,800
12th man towel for uh foot when football

355
00:13:58,150 --> 00:13:55,120
season starts i've got some penance i've

356
00:13:59,430 --> 00:13:58,160
got uh an extra aggie ring with me for a

357
00:14:01,670 --> 00:13:59,440
very dear friend

358
00:14:03,990 --> 00:14:01,680
and uh so there's uh there's it happens

359
00:14:06,069 --> 00:14:04,000
to be a little bit of maroon up here

360
00:14:08,150 --> 00:14:06,079
now texas a m didn't land one of the

361
00:14:09,670 --> 00:14:08,160
retiring shuttles they bid for it but

362
00:14:11,269 --> 00:14:09,680
the engineering school is due to get a

363
00:14:12,949 --> 00:14:11,279

shuttle simulator colonel fossum what

364

00:14:14,790 --> 00:14:12,959

does that mean for the students and the

365

00:14:16,389 --> 00:14:14,800

instructors there and and how quickly

366

00:14:17,910 --> 00:14:16,399

are you going to be up to aggieland to

367

00:14:21,590 --> 00:14:17,920

help out once that simulator gets up and

368

00:14:25,430 --> 00:14:23,030

oh i can't wait to get back up to

369

00:14:27,110 --> 00:14:25,440

aggieland actually a trip to a m was one

370

00:14:28,790 --> 00:14:27,120

of the last things i did before i left

371

00:14:31,030 --> 00:14:28,800

houston to go to

372

00:14:32,710 --> 00:14:31,040

go to russia to complete the final

373

00:14:35,110 --> 00:14:32,720

preparations for launch out of

374

00:14:36,389 --> 00:14:35,120

kazakhstan made a quick run up to a m

375

00:14:38,949 --> 00:14:36,399

and i can't wait to get up there and see

376

00:14:40,470 --> 00:14:38,959

it i'm really excited that a m got the

377

00:14:42,310 --> 00:14:40,480

the shuttle simulator that's that

378

00:14:43,750 --> 00:14:42,320

simulator was a big part of our lives

379

00:14:46,550 --> 00:14:43,760

runs and mine together actually because

380

00:14:48,870 --> 00:14:46,560

we flew together on sts-124 three years

381

00:14:50,470 --> 00:14:48,880

ago so we spent a lot of time in that

382

00:14:52,870 --> 00:14:50,480

space shuttle simulator preparing for

383

00:14:55,030 --> 00:14:52,880

that mission and i think it's really

384

00:14:56,629 --> 00:14:55,040

exciting because the the students and

385

00:14:59,030 --> 00:14:56,639

faculty will have their hands on some

386

00:15:01,509 --> 00:14:59,040

real hardware that was a critical piece

387

00:15:03,110 --> 00:15:01,519

of our nation space program for

388

00:15:06,389 --> 00:15:03,120

for that particular piece of hardware

389

00:15:08,470 --> 00:15:06,399

for about 35 37 years so it's and it's

390

00:15:11,269 --> 00:15:08,480

it's real stuff and they can actually

391

00:15:13,670 --> 00:15:11,279

reprogram it to fly it as other vehicles

392

00:15:15,990 --> 00:15:13,680

and it'll be a great thing to use to

393

00:15:18,069 --> 00:15:16,000

learn with real hands-on

394

00:15:19,990 --> 00:15:18,079

you guys watch the last shuttle come up

395

00:15:22,150 --> 00:15:20,000

to you and then leave for earth one last

396

00:15:23,990 --> 00:15:22,160

time what did that mean to you too and

397

00:15:30,310 --> 00:15:24,000

has it even sunk in yet that the shuttle

398

00:15:33,670 --> 00:15:31,829

yeah i mean that was a that was

399

00:15:36,310 --> 00:15:33,680

bittersweet i mean we realized that we

400

00:15:38,629 --> 00:15:36,320

were witnessing history uh unfold before

401
00:15:40,949 --> 00:15:38,639
us we realized that you know a chapter

402
00:15:43,269 --> 00:15:40,959
of our nation's history a chapter of

403
00:15:44,949 --> 00:15:43,279
space exploration was closing but you

404
00:15:47,269 --> 00:15:44,959
know we are filled with confidence and

405
00:15:49,269 --> 00:15:47,279
optimism that you know that closing of

406
00:15:50,790 --> 00:15:49,279
that chapter uh leads to the opening of

407
00:15:52,870 --> 00:15:50,800
a new chapter and a new era of space

408
00:15:54,389 --> 00:15:52,880
exploration that will see us leaving low

409
00:15:55,910 --> 00:15:54,399
earth orbit and exploring the solar

410
00:15:58,470 --> 00:15:55,920
system

411
00:16:00,389 --> 00:15:58,480
now you two are both on twitter and

412
00:16:02,710 --> 00:16:00,399
you've been sending out messages and

413
00:16:03,910 --> 00:16:02,720

pictures from space uh colonel fossum

414

00:16:05,269 --> 00:16:03,920

you took some amazing shots that

415

00:16:06,710 --> 00:16:05,279

included the one with the northern

416

00:16:08,550 --> 00:16:06,720

lights going off in the sky you watched

417

00:16:09,910 --> 00:16:08,560

the shuttle go back to earth you took

418

00:16:11,670 --> 00:16:09,920

those pictures and you're sending those

419

00:16:13,269 --> 00:16:11,680

messages first off i guess how does

420

00:16:19,430 --> 00:16:13,279

social media change things for you guys

421

00:16:23,110 --> 00:16:21,189

oh it changes things because we're able

422

00:16:25,749 --> 00:16:23,120

to share the experience

423

00:16:27,990 --> 00:16:25,759

in almost real time and and that's just

424

00:16:29,670 --> 00:16:28,000

really really amazing you're not we're

425

00:16:30,470 --> 00:16:29,680

you're not limited and we're not limited

426
00:16:31,829 --> 00:16:30,480
to

427
00:16:33,509 --> 00:16:31,839
you know the short interviews that we're

428
00:16:35,350 --> 00:16:33,519
able to do like this because we don't

429
00:16:37,269 --> 00:16:35,360
have time but sometime in our spare time

430
00:16:38,949 --> 00:16:37,279
we can put together our thoughts send

431
00:16:41,670 --> 00:16:38,959
out pictures and our thoughts associated

432
00:16:43,350 --> 00:16:41,680
with those and and we're really i think

433
00:16:45,509 --> 00:16:43,360
we both feel a deep sense of history

434
00:16:47,509 --> 00:16:45,519
that we're we're in the closing pages of

435
00:16:49,110 --> 00:16:47,519
a 30-year history you know of the

436
00:16:50,629 --> 00:16:49,120
shuttle program and we're very very

437
00:16:52,790 --> 00:16:50,639
fortunate to have lived through this

438
00:16:55,509 --> 00:16:52,800

time but recognizing also that most of

439

00:16:57,670 --> 00:16:55,519

america most of the country only knows

440

00:16:59,590 --> 00:16:57,680

us as a country that flies space

441

00:17:01,110 --> 00:16:59,600

shuttles on a fairly routine basis with

442

00:17:04,630 --> 00:17:01,120

a lot of people coming and going from

443

00:17:06,470 --> 00:17:04,640

space and that chapter is has has ended

444

00:17:09,270 --> 00:17:06,480

and so it's going to be very interesting

445

00:17:11,110 --> 00:17:09,280

to see how things move in the in the you

446

00:17:12,949 --> 00:17:11,120

know years to come

447

00:17:14,630 --> 00:17:12,959

now the last time you two were in space

448

00:17:16,470 --> 00:17:14,640

you were joined on a discovery by

449

00:17:18,309 --> 00:17:16,480

captain mark kelly and obviously the

450

00:17:20,150 --> 00:17:18,319

tucson shooting and his wife's injuries

451
00:17:21,429 --> 00:17:20,160
they had an impact on the entire nation

452
00:17:24,630 --> 00:17:21,439
can you guys give some perspective

453
00:17:26,949 --> 00:17:24,640
though on how that incident and and

454
00:17:31,590 --> 00:17:26,959
mark's going through that impacted the

455
00:17:34,789 --> 00:17:33,110
well i think you hit the nail on the

456
00:17:36,950 --> 00:17:34,799
head it is a nasa family and i've still

457
00:17:39,430 --> 00:17:36,960
got my uh peace love gabby bracelet on

458
00:17:41,350 --> 00:17:39,440
uh in support of her recovery uh and in

459
00:17:43,190 --> 00:17:41,360
support of the the other victims of that

460
00:17:45,909 --> 00:17:43,200
terrible tragedy and

461
00:17:47,590 --> 00:17:45,919
um yeah we we all felt that

462
00:17:50,470 --> 00:17:47,600
gabby is a dear friend of all of ours

463
00:17:52,470 --> 00:17:50,480

and uh and not not just that i mean

464

00:17:54,310 --> 00:17:52,480

she's done a tremendous amount of uh

465

00:17:56,549 --> 00:17:54,320

work for the for her space program she's

466

00:17:58,150 --> 00:17:56,559

been a big uh proponent of our space

467

00:17:59,590 --> 00:17:58,160

program she believes how critically

468

00:18:01,750 --> 00:17:59,600

important space exploration is to the

469

00:18:03,110 --> 00:18:01,760

future of not only our country but the

470

00:18:05,350 --> 00:18:03,120

world

471

00:18:09,750 --> 00:18:05,360

and you know that all affected us all

472

00:18:15,350 --> 00:18:12,710

the next trip for aggieland uh

473

00:18:16,870 --> 00:18:15,360

to aggieland for an aggie dad and an

474

00:18:22,390 --> 00:18:16,880

aggie when are you guys next planning on

475

00:18:25,830 --> 00:18:23,909

well i'm going to be going to a football

476
00:18:27,669 --> 00:18:25,840
game for sure i don't know mike won't be

477
00:18:28,789 --> 00:18:27,679
back we'll be back in time okay he'll be

478
00:18:30,630 --> 00:18:28,799
back in time

479
00:18:31,830 --> 00:18:30,640
yeah i'll be i'll be back by the uh by

480
00:18:33,990 --> 00:18:31,840
the end of football season and look

481
00:18:35,430 --> 00:18:34,000
forward to getting back up there to see

482
00:18:36,710 --> 00:18:35,440
my son and a lot of good friends up

483
00:18:38,230 --> 00:18:36,720
there

484
00:18:39,510 --> 00:18:38,240
well when you guys come back we'd love

485
00:18:41,830 --> 00:18:39,520
to spend some time with you as well but

486
00:18:43,990 --> 00:18:41,840
for now uh have a fantastic rest of the

487
00:18:50,390 --> 00:18:44,000
mission and your message for aggieland

488
00:18:50,400 --> 00:18:53,990

gigger maggies

489

00:18:56,310 --> 00:18:55,110

thank you gentlemen very much we

490

00:19:00,549 --> 00:18:56,320

appreciate it and we'll see you when

491

00:19:00,559 --> 00:19:04,390

thank you very much

492

00:19:09,270 --> 00:19:06,870

station this is houston acr thank you

493

00:19:11,750 --> 00:19:09,280

that concludes the event

494

00:19:13,830 --> 00:19:11,760

thank you new york daily news and kbtx