



ATCH  
EXPLORE LIKE  
A CHAMPION  
TODAY

To FGB

DECK

1  
00:00:07,510 --> 00:00:03,030  
okay station this is houston are you

2  
00:00:12,470 --> 00:00:10,870  
station is ready for the event

3  
00:00:14,310 --> 00:00:12,480  
notre dame public information and

4  
00:00:16,470 --> 00:00:14,320  
communications office this is mission

5  
00:00:19,590 --> 00:00:16,480  
control houston please call station for

6  
00:00:22,790 --> 00:00:21,109  
station this is the notre dame public

7  
00:00:26,550 --> 00:00:22,800  
information and communications office

8  
00:00:31,189 --> 00:00:28,070  
i have you loud and clear who am i

9  
00:00:35,510 --> 00:00:31,199  
speaking with today

10  
00:00:38,790 --> 00:00:37,110  
i thought it was dennis good to hear

11  
00:00:39,910 --> 00:00:38,800  
your voice dennis i just wanted to make

12  
00:00:44,069 --> 00:00:39,920  
sure

13  
00:00:47,990 --> 00:00:46,470

to you kevin good to see you and it's

14

00:00:53,110 --> 00:00:48,000

really an honor and a privilege to speak

15

00:00:57,430 --> 00:00:54,869

thank you very much and welcome aboard

16

00:00:59,590 --> 00:00:57,440

the international space station uh we

17

00:01:01,430 --> 00:00:59,600

have we had a great christmas yesterday

18

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

and uh well rested and i've been looking

19

00:01:05,189 --> 00:01:03,440

forward to this event since i saw it on

20

00:01:07,270 --> 00:01:05,199

the schedule uh about four or five days

21

00:01:09,030 --> 00:01:07,280

ago so welcome aboard dennis and welcome

22

00:01:10,230 --> 00:01:09,040

aboard to all the notre dame community

23

00:01:13,910 --> 00:01:10,240

great to have you on board international

24

00:01:17,830 --> 00:01:15,270

thanks very much

25

00:01:19,109 --> 00:01:17,840

let me uh let me begin with a couple of

26

00:01:20,630 --> 00:01:19,119

questions you know

27

00:01:22,870 --> 00:01:20,640

there's a lot of excitement surrounding

28

00:01:26,710 --> 00:01:22,880

the notre dame football team and i know

29

00:01:28,230 --> 00:01:26,720

you're a big irish football fan and

30

00:01:29,830 --> 00:01:28,240

so maybe you could tell us a little bit

31

00:01:32,550 --> 00:01:29,840

about how you've been able to follow the

32

00:01:35,429 --> 00:01:32,560

team this season both in star city

33

00:01:40,230 --> 00:01:35,439

russia as well as after your launch and

34

00:01:44,310 --> 00:01:41,910

well it's been a bit of a challenge

35

00:01:46,149 --> 00:01:44,320

dennis but uh the navy game that you

36

00:01:48,469 --> 00:01:46,159

played in ireland was the week before

37

00:01:49,749 --> 00:01:48,479

the weekend before i left for russia to

38

00:01:51,990 --> 00:01:49,759

begin this long journey to the

39

00:01:53,990 --> 00:01:52,000

international space station uh so i

40

00:01:55,990 --> 00:01:54,000

didn't i really kind of wanted to go to

41

00:01:58,709 --> 00:01:56,000

that game my my previous commander who

42

00:02:01,270 --> 00:01:58,719

was up here is a uh as a graduate of

43

00:02:02,789 --> 00:02:01,280

annapolis and i was hoping to to make it

44

00:02:05,670 --> 00:02:02,799

to that game but it didn't work out the

45

00:02:08,070 --> 00:02:05,680

schedule got busy so i came to russia

46

00:02:09,510 --> 00:02:08,080

and in star city we have armed forces

47

00:02:11,270 --> 00:02:09,520

network and i was able to watch some of

48

00:02:13,589 --> 00:02:11,280

the games through there like on regular

49

00:02:15,110 --> 00:02:13,599

tv but then i went from russia on to

50

00:02:16,630 --> 00:02:15,120

kazakhstan about

51  
00:02:18,949 --> 00:02:16,640  
maybe a third of the way into the season

52  
00:02:21,750 --> 00:02:18,959  
and there i had to watch via enter

53  
00:02:23,510 --> 00:02:21,760  
internet and uh it wasn't the greatest

54  
00:02:25,030 --> 00:02:23,520  
system in the world and the uh the rate

55  
00:02:26,630 --> 00:02:25,040  
was pretty good i could keep up with the

56  
00:02:28,550 --> 00:02:26,640  
games i could always tell who won pretty

57  
00:02:30,550 --> 00:02:28,560  
much real time but i didn't get to see

58  
00:02:33,750 --> 00:02:30,560  
every single play unfortunately and then

59  
00:02:36,229 --> 00:02:33,760  
on the space station we get uh we get a

60  
00:02:37,670 --> 00:02:36,239  
ku band some community communications to

61  
00:02:39,830 --> 00:02:37,680  
the satellites that's normally used for

62  
00:02:41,430 --> 00:02:39,840  
science data but on the weekends if it's

63  
00:02:42,949 --> 00:02:41,440

free they'll let us get a little bit of

64

00:02:44,790 --> 00:02:42,959

a tv up through a net meeting

65

00:02:46,470 --> 00:02:44,800

application so i've been able to watch

66

00:02:47,910 --> 00:02:46,480

it we do have gaps in coverage so

67

00:02:49,270 --> 00:02:47,920

sometimes you miss some of the critical

68

00:02:51,430 --> 00:02:49,280

parts and you have to come back and get

69

00:02:52,869 --> 00:02:51,440

an update on the score but i've been

70

00:02:54,470 --> 00:02:52,879

able to follow the team and see a lot of

71

00:02:56,070 --> 00:02:54,480

plays and i've got some pictures of me

72

00:02:58,149 --> 00:02:56,080

in front of a screen with notre dame

73

00:03:00,070 --> 00:02:58,159

football players on the laptop in the

74

00:03:03,509 --> 00:03:00,080

international space station to send you

75

00:03:07,509 --> 00:03:05,830

oh that's great to hear um any

76

00:03:12,149 --> 00:03:07,519

impressions on the season i'm sure

77

00:03:16,229 --> 00:03:13,990

very excited to watch it there were some

78

00:03:17,830 --> 00:03:16,239

nail biters in there and there were some

79

00:03:19,670 --> 00:03:17,840

late nights for me

80

00:03:21,589 --> 00:03:19,680

the west coast games that start in the

81

00:03:23,110 --> 00:03:21,599

evening start about 1 a.m here on board

82

00:03:24,550 --> 00:03:23,120

the space station so i was up in the

83

00:03:26,309 --> 00:03:24,560

middle of the night and had to do some

84

00:03:28,470 --> 00:03:26,319

recovering on sunday

85

00:03:30,789 --> 00:03:28,480

the season's been fantastic i thought

86

00:03:32,630 --> 00:03:30,799

about you a lot i know

87

00:03:34,229 --> 00:03:32,640

you you're involved in all aspects of

88

00:03:35,670 --> 00:03:34,239

what's going on at the university but of

89

00:03:37,910 --> 00:03:35,680

course when the football team is having

90

00:03:40,390 --> 00:03:37,920

a special season like that you must be

91

00:03:42,869 --> 00:03:40,400

all very busy very proud obviously very

92

00:03:45,350 --> 00:03:42,879

proud of the team and and and the whole

93

00:03:47,509 --> 00:03:45,360

university the way they've handled it

94

00:03:50,550 --> 00:03:47,519

and looking forward to the the big game

95

00:03:53,030 --> 00:03:50,560

in miami against alabama i asked houston

96

00:03:54,949 --> 00:03:53,040

for a little bit of slack on the morning

97

00:03:56,070 --> 00:03:54,959

following the big game so i can catch

98

00:03:57,750 --> 00:03:56,080

most of it during the middle of the

99

00:03:59,990 --> 00:03:57,760

night and still function well the next

100

00:04:02,229 --> 00:04:00,000

day on space station but the teams

101  
00:04:04,149 --> 00:04:02,239  
played great obviously the defense is

102  
00:04:05,830 --> 00:04:04,159  
very special and the offense is just

103  
00:04:08,070 --> 00:04:05,840  
really clicking and i am looking forward

104  
00:04:12,229 --> 00:04:08,080  
to a great game on the the 7th of

105  
00:04:17,189 --> 00:04:14,949  
you'll have you'll have the highest view

106  
00:04:18,710 --> 00:04:17,199  
of the of the game a bird's eye view so

107  
00:04:20,789 --> 00:04:18,720  
to speak and

108  
00:04:22,390 --> 00:04:20,799  
any words of encouragement for coach

109  
00:04:26,230 --> 00:04:22,400  
kelly and the team as they prepare for

110  
00:04:31,510 --> 00:04:29,110  
i think uh i think he uh he knows how to

111  
00:04:33,350 --> 00:04:31,520  
motivate those players uh you know a big

112  
00:04:34,950 --> 00:04:33,360  
part of motivation is just absolutely

113  
00:04:36,790 --> 00:04:34,960

doing your best every day

114

00:04:38,310 --> 00:04:36,800

um i don't know if you can see it dennis

115

00:04:39,510 --> 00:04:38,320

my son and daughter are notre dame grads

116

00:04:40,950 --> 00:04:39,520

as you might remember too and my

117

00:04:43,189 --> 00:04:40,960

daughter made me a sign that says

118

00:04:45,510 --> 00:04:43,199

explore like a champion today i have it

119

00:04:47,990 --> 00:04:45,520

above the uh the airlock here that goes

120

00:04:49,830 --> 00:04:48,000

out into some of our working modules and

121

00:04:51,270 --> 00:04:49,840

it's it's good motivation for me to put

122

00:04:53,350 --> 00:04:51,280

my hand on there and tap it once in a

123

00:04:55,030 --> 00:04:53,360

while as i go to work every day to

124

00:04:57,510 --> 00:04:55,040

remember that every day is very

125

00:04:59,030 --> 00:04:57,520

important and and you only have so many

126

00:05:00,950 --> 00:04:59,040

opportunities in life and you need to

127

00:05:02,710 --> 00:05:00,960

give it your best every day that's what

128

00:05:04,550 --> 00:05:02,720

we do on the space station this is a

129

00:05:06,390 --> 00:05:04,560

once in a lifetime opportunity for me

130

00:05:08,310 --> 00:05:06,400

and we give it our all and i know the

131

00:05:10,390 --> 00:05:08,320

players will give it our all their all

132

00:05:12,710 --> 00:05:10,400

too on on the big day just like they

133

00:05:15,350 --> 00:05:12,720

have all season so

134

00:05:16,790 --> 00:05:15,360

those opportunities are very rare and i

135

00:05:20,390 --> 00:05:16,800

expect them to be on the top of their

136

00:05:23,350 --> 00:05:21,990

great thanks kevin

137

00:05:27,510 --> 00:05:23,360

what about

138

00:05:29,270 --> 00:05:27,520

station you're the commander now and uh

139

00:05:31,590 --> 00:05:29,280

can you tell us a little bit about your

140

00:05:36,390 --> 00:05:31,600

responsibilities in that role and and

141

00:05:40,950 --> 00:05:38,550

well day to day uh we have six members

142

00:05:42,150 --> 00:05:40,960

on board three cosmonauts and three u.s

143

00:05:44,710 --> 00:05:42,160

segment crew members we have one

144

00:05:46,790 --> 00:05:44,720

canadian on board chris hadfield another

145

00:05:47,909 --> 00:05:46,800

u.s astronaut tom marshburn just arrived

146

00:05:49,029 --> 00:05:47,919

to join me

147

00:05:50,870 --> 00:05:49,039

and

148

00:05:52,390 --> 00:05:50,880

day to day we are all busy with the

149

00:05:54,710 --> 00:05:52,400

technical details i do the same

150

00:05:58,230 --> 00:05:54,720

technical work that they do and we all

151  
00:06:00,150 --> 00:05:58,240  
three do science essentially for uh for

152  
00:06:02,629 --> 00:06:00,160  
those people on the ground who really

153  
00:06:04,150 --> 00:06:02,639  
have great ideas to explore up here and

154  
00:06:05,749 --> 00:06:04,160  
we're just the hands-on if you will we

155  
00:06:08,150 --> 00:06:05,759  
get the racks set up we can put the

156  
00:06:09,990 --> 00:06:08,160  
experiment devices inside take care of

157  
00:06:11,909 --> 00:06:10,000  
all those kinds of things to get science

158  
00:06:13,469 --> 00:06:11,919  
done a big part of running a space

159  
00:06:16,230 --> 00:06:13,479  
station though too is day-to-day

160  
00:06:18,629 --> 00:06:16,240  
operations and maintenance on the

161  
00:06:20,710 --> 00:06:18,639  
various things we need to live on board

162  
00:06:22,870 --> 00:06:20,720  
so about half of our time is split with

163  
00:06:24,710 --> 00:06:22,880

science and half with maintenance as the

164

00:06:26,710 --> 00:06:24,720

commander i just want to make sure

165

00:06:28,950 --> 00:06:26,720

everybody's happy that our schedules all

166

00:06:30,710 --> 00:06:28,960

fit together well and that at the end of

167

00:06:33,909 --> 00:06:30,720

the day we get as much done as a crew as

168

00:06:36,469 --> 00:06:33,919

we can sometimes you can really improve

169

00:06:38,629 --> 00:06:36,479

efficiency by having a couple hands on

170

00:06:40,550 --> 00:06:38,639

so my my job is just just to keep the

171

00:06:42,309 --> 00:06:40,560

crew members happy at this point and and

172

00:06:44,309 --> 00:06:42,319

just give them advice they just arrived

173

00:06:46,230 --> 00:06:44,319

three or four days ago so they're still

174

00:06:48,710 --> 00:06:46,240

learning the how to live and work around

175

00:06:51,029 --> 00:06:48,720

here and then of course in some kind of

176  
00:06:52,230 --> 00:06:51,039  
off nominal situations emergencies you

177  
00:06:54,150 --> 00:06:52,240  
know we have possibilities of

178  
00:06:55,830 --> 00:06:54,160  
depressurization events or a fire on

179  
00:06:57,430 --> 00:06:55,840  
board or something like that then my

180  
00:06:59,350 --> 00:06:57,440  
role is to make sure i communicate very

181  
00:07:00,629 --> 00:06:59,360  
well with the ground and get a very

182  
00:07:03,029 --> 00:07:00,639  
organized plan make sure all the crew

183  
00:07:05,029 --> 00:07:03,039  
members are safe and we we leave by

184  
00:07:07,189 --> 00:07:05,039  
soyuz if we need to we make decisions

185  
00:07:09,510 --> 00:07:07,199  
that are are wise at the time so i have

186  
00:07:10,790 --> 00:07:09,520  
some some time i spend just kind of

187  
00:07:12,230 --> 00:07:10,800  
thinking through those kinds of things

188  
00:07:14,150 --> 00:07:12,240

as the commander and take the lead role

189

00:07:15,430 --> 00:07:14,160

if i need to in those situations the

190

00:07:17,350 --> 00:07:15,440

guys i have on board though are

191

00:07:19,189 --> 00:07:17,360

outstanding they they could they're

192

00:07:21,430 --> 00:07:19,199

commander quality people themselves too

193

00:07:23,749 --> 00:07:21,440

so uh we're all uh we're all ready to do

194

00:07:25,670 --> 00:07:23,759

what's uh what's required day to day and

195

00:07:29,670 --> 00:07:25,680

the nominal situations are off nominal

196

00:07:33,589 --> 00:07:31,749

no problem thanks kevin and

197

00:07:34,629 --> 00:07:33,599

any um

198

00:07:36,309 --> 00:07:34,639

anything you can share with us

199

00:07:38,230 --> 00:07:36,319

concerning your experiences at notre

200

00:07:41,589 --> 00:07:38,240

dame and how they prepared you

201  
00:07:44,629 --> 00:07:41,599  
for your career uh both as a military

202  
00:07:49,430 --> 00:07:44,639  
pilot uh and now certainly uh on onboard

203  
00:07:54,070 --> 00:07:51,430  
well you know the big thing that stands

204  
00:07:56,390 --> 00:07:54,080  
out dennis is that uh

205  
00:07:59,350 --> 00:07:56,400  
the education you get at notre dame is a

206  
00:08:02,550 --> 00:07:59,360  
is a general education uh to take you

207  
00:08:04,390 --> 00:08:02,560  
out into the into the world really and

208  
00:08:05,990 --> 00:08:04,400  
even though my major at notre dame was

209  
00:08:08,550 --> 00:08:06,000  
in aerospace engineering and it was

210  
00:08:10,070 --> 00:08:08,560  
fantastic technical education

211  
00:08:13,749 --> 00:08:10,080  
we have classes

212  
00:08:16,390 --> 00:08:13,759  
in uh in such a broad brush the liberal

213  
00:08:18,950 --> 00:08:16,400

arts as well and it's amazing to me now

214

00:08:20,550 --> 00:08:18,960

that i'm out here doing you know this is

215

00:08:23,670 --> 00:08:20,560

a liberal arts kind of thing i'm doing

216

00:08:26,070 --> 00:08:23,680

right now communicating if you will um

217

00:08:27,830 --> 00:08:26,080

i i took a russian class at notre dame

218

00:08:29,430 --> 00:08:27,840

never in my wildest dreams that i think

219

00:08:32,070 --> 00:08:29,440

i would fly someday in a russian

220

00:08:34,070 --> 00:08:32,080

spacecraft with two cosmonauts speaking

221

00:08:36,149 --> 00:08:34,080

only russian and i took that course in

222

00:08:38,630 --> 00:08:36,159

the library at notre dame

223

00:08:40,790 --> 00:08:38,640

many other courses that i took there

224

00:08:42,469 --> 00:08:40,800

just just prepared me to to think

225

00:08:44,149 --> 00:08:42,479

outside the box i think just a little

226

00:08:46,389 --> 00:08:44,159

bit and and that's what you guys do at

227

00:08:48,150 --> 00:08:46,399

notre dame is provide a great general

228

00:08:50,790 --> 00:08:48,160

education along with a fantastic

229

00:08:53,190 --> 00:08:50,800

technical education so i i think about

230

00:08:55,670 --> 00:08:53,200

that so often uh throughout the

231

00:08:58,389 --> 00:08:55,680

throughout the the days that i spend on

232

00:09:01,350 --> 00:08:58,399

board here and and just back in nasa as

233

00:09:04,150 --> 00:09:03,190

well kevin we're all very proud of you

234

00:09:06,230 --> 00:09:04,160

um

235

00:09:08,550 --> 00:09:06,240

and i wish you the very best i know

236

00:09:11,350 --> 00:09:08,560

you've got another couple three months i

237

00:09:14,070 --> 00:09:11,360

think on board and

238

00:09:15,910 --> 00:09:14,080

we we wish you the best safe travels and

239

00:09:18,230 --> 00:09:15,920

thanks very much for

240

00:09:22,150 --> 00:09:18,240

taking the time to speak with us this

241

00:09:26,630 --> 00:09:24,150

okay well you're very welcome dennis i

242

00:09:28,070 --> 00:09:26,640

do have i had a lot of notre dame garb i

243

00:09:29,829 --> 00:09:28,080

if i'd had some time i was going to call

244

00:09:31,910 --> 00:09:29,839

you and ask you what i should wear i

245

00:09:33,750 --> 00:09:31,920

decided to go with my expedition 34 i

246

00:09:35,590 --> 00:09:33,760

kind of wear this every morning because

247

00:09:38,630 --> 00:09:35,600

it's kind of cool but

248

00:09:40,150 --> 00:09:38,640

on space station but i do have i do have

249

00:09:42,630 --> 00:09:40,160

plenty of garb i gotta play like a

250

00:09:45,110 --> 00:09:42,640

champion today t-shirt on board i wear

251

00:09:47,350 --> 00:09:45,120

that underneath a lot and uh

252

00:09:49,350 --> 00:09:47,360

so um it's been great talking to you

253

00:09:51,269 --> 00:09:49,360

very uh i do have a few more months up

254

00:09:53,190 --> 00:09:51,279

here and i'm going to come up and see

255

00:09:55,590 --> 00:09:53,200

you all you uh when i get home and tell

256

00:09:57,990 --> 00:09:55,600

you about the experience and and catch

257

00:09:58,870 --> 00:09:58,000

up with you as well so best of luck to

258

00:10:01,190 --> 00:09:58,880

the team

259

00:10:04,630 --> 00:10:01,200

it's going to be a fantastic game and i

260

00:10:10,630 --> 00:10:04,640

can't can't wait to see it

261

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

you're welcome dennis

262

00:10:20,870 --> 00:10:15,920

station this is houston acr thank you

263

00:10:24,870 --> 00:10:22,790

thank you notre dame public information

264

00:10:26,870 --> 00:10:24,880

and communications office station please