



1
00:00:05,670 --> 00:00:02,310
station this is houston are you ready

2
00:00:11,509 --> 00:00:08,549
i am ready for the event

3
00:00:14,070 --> 00:00:11,519
sweetness kstp tv this is mission

4
00:00:15,430 --> 00:00:14,080
control houston please call station for

5
00:00:17,830 --> 00:00:15,440
a voice check

6
00:00:21,830 --> 00:00:17,840
station this is tim schernaugh with kstp

7
00:00:25,269 --> 00:00:23,910
hello tim i have you loud and clear

8
00:00:27,990 --> 00:00:25,279
welcome to the international space

9
00:00:28,000 --> 00:00:34,310
hi karen minnesota says hello

10
00:00:39,270 --> 00:00:37,510
hello to everybody in minnesota

11
00:00:41,030 --> 00:00:39,280
what are your responsibilities what's

12
00:00:44,790 --> 00:00:41,040
the job up there that you're doing this

13
00:00:48,869 --> 00:00:47,350

we have a lot going on there's uh of

14

00:00:51,350 --> 00:00:48,879

course right now the space station is

15

00:00:53,910 --> 00:00:51,360

mostly built and all of us like to spend

16

00:00:55,830 --> 00:00:53,920

as much time as possible on science

17

00:00:58,150 --> 00:00:55,840

so that's one of our major jobs but of

18

00:00:59,270 --> 00:00:58,160

course we have the daily activities of

19

00:01:00,869 --> 00:00:59,280

maintenance

20

00:01:03,349 --> 00:01:00,879

keeping the station up and running just

21

00:01:05,350 --> 00:01:03,359

like you have maintenance in your home

22

00:01:06,950 --> 00:01:05,360

and we also have

23

00:01:08,630 --> 00:01:06,960

visiting vehicles we've had a number of

24

00:01:11,990 --> 00:01:08,640

vehicles come and visit us and bring us

25

00:01:13,830 --> 00:01:12,000

cargo and supplies and so we had spent a

26

00:01:15,910 --> 00:01:13,840

lot of time unloading the cargo and

27

00:01:17,749 --> 00:01:15,920

loading those vehicles with trash

28

00:01:19,270 --> 00:01:17,759

and uh there's during our increment we

29

00:01:21,749 --> 00:01:19,280

had a couple spacewalks where my

30

00:01:23,830 --> 00:01:21,759

crewmates went out to repair some things

31

00:01:26,390 --> 00:01:23,840

and uh change out components outside so

32

00:01:27,910 --> 00:01:26,400

we've had a lot going on

33

00:01:29,429 --> 00:01:27,920

i have to say

34

00:01:31,429 --> 00:01:29,439

nice hair

35

00:01:36,469 --> 00:01:31,439

what's life like in

36

00:01:41,109 --> 00:01:39,109

it is a blast and actually after being

37

00:01:44,310 --> 00:01:41,119

here as long as i've been here now it it

38

00:01:46,069 --> 00:01:44,320

becomes a little commonplace uh the way

39

00:01:48,630 --> 00:01:46,079

everything behaves in space and the way

40

00:01:50,789 --> 00:01:48,640

you move around and it is fun it's it's

41

00:01:52,230 --> 00:01:50,799

awfully fun to start at one end of the

42

00:01:54,389 --> 00:01:52,240

space station and try and get going as

43

00:01:56,550 --> 00:01:54,399

fast as you can and swing around the

44

00:01:58,950 --> 00:01:56,560

corners using handrails and

45

00:02:03,109 --> 00:01:58,960

you can have a lot of fun

46

00:02:09,510 --> 00:02:04,389

between the

47

00:02:14,309 --> 00:02:11,990

we do get some off time we have uh we

48

00:02:15,589 --> 00:02:14,319

usually work day times about seven in

49

00:02:17,510 --> 00:02:15,599

the morning till seven at night or

50

00:02:19,990 --> 00:02:17,520

during the weekdays and then we have

51
00:02:22,550 --> 00:02:20,000
weekends mostly off we do some

52
00:02:25,030 --> 00:02:22,560
housekeeping on saturdays to keep the

53
00:02:27,750 --> 00:02:25,040
the filters clean and the walls clean

54
00:02:29,670 --> 00:02:27,760
and uh but saturday afternoon and and

55
00:02:33,589 --> 00:02:29,680
all of sunday usually is free time where

56
00:02:36,070 --> 00:02:33,599
we can do we'll do whatever we want

57
00:02:38,309 --> 00:02:36,080
i went and looked at your tweets you've

58
00:02:41,830 --> 00:02:38,319
sent some amazing pictures back down to

59
00:02:43,830 --> 00:02:41,840
us here at earth on earth

60
00:02:45,270 --> 00:02:43,840
do you ever get tired of the view out

61
00:02:50,550 --> 00:02:45,280
the window up there what are some of

62
00:02:55,190 --> 00:02:53,509
you never do get tired of it you know i

63
00:02:56,790 --> 00:02:55,200

actually every time i'm working out on

64

00:02:59,509 --> 00:02:56,800

our resistive exercise device it's right

65

00:03:00,869 --> 00:02:59,519

below the cupola and my workouts

66

00:03:02,550 --> 00:03:00,879

generally take a little longer than they

67

00:03:04,869 --> 00:03:02,560

need to because i'm constantly going up

68

00:03:06,949 --> 00:03:04,879

to take a peek and there's so many

69

00:03:09,670 --> 00:03:06,959

beautiful things i love to see

70

00:03:11,750 --> 00:03:09,680

the mountains uh white uh snow-capped

71

00:03:14,630 --> 00:03:11,760

mountains are just incredible to see the

72

00:03:16,149 --> 00:03:14,640

depth of that you can see from this

73

00:03:16,949 --> 00:03:16,159

from this altitude

74

00:03:19,110 --> 00:03:16,959

and

75

00:03:21,430 --> 00:03:19,120

it's amazing the earth really is a lot

76
00:03:22,470 --> 00:03:21,440
of water you start traveling over oceans

77
00:03:25,750 --> 00:03:22,480
and you just wonder if you're ever going

78
00:03:27,509 --> 00:03:25,760
to get to land um sunrises and sunsets

79
00:03:29,670 --> 00:03:27,519
are absolutely incredible i could watch

80
00:03:32,949 --> 00:03:29,680
those over and over there's just a lot

81
00:03:35,270 --> 00:03:32,959
of spectacular things to see i looked at

82
00:03:37,190 --> 00:03:35,280
your current orbit and it appears to me

83
00:03:39,670 --> 00:03:37,200
that you're between south america and

84
00:03:42,470 --> 00:03:39,680
africa right now when you're flying over

85
00:03:45,830 --> 00:03:42,480
north america if you do over home do you

86
00:03:47,509 --> 00:03:45,840
look down and and uh and

87
00:03:51,750 --> 00:03:47,519
the folks here in minnesota the folks

88
00:03:55,509 --> 00:03:53,670

i do i like to we actually haven't been

89

00:03:56,789 --> 00:03:55,519

over a daytime pass of the united states

90

00:03:59,110 --> 00:03:56,799

in a while but i think our orbit is

91

00:04:01,270 --> 00:03:59,120

going to start taking us there again

92

00:04:03,270 --> 00:04:01,280

the first time i was able to see my

93

00:04:05,350 --> 00:04:03,280

hometown area in central minnesota was

94

00:04:07,270 --> 00:04:05,360

pretty special and that was a couple

95

00:04:09,589 --> 00:04:07,280

months ago now i believe and i actually

96

00:04:11,990 --> 00:04:09,599

got a picture of the the lakes area

97

00:04:13,509 --> 00:04:12,000

where i grew up and that was pretty neat

98

00:04:15,589 --> 00:04:13,519

to see

99

00:04:17,909 --> 00:04:15,599

i have to ask you a legend has it you

100

00:04:22,230 --> 00:04:17,919

can see the mall of america from space

101
00:04:26,070 --> 00:04:24,070
gosh that's a good question i i don't

102
00:04:28,790 --> 00:04:26,080
know

103
00:04:31,110 --> 00:04:28,800
perhaps with a binoculars or uh or a

104
00:04:33,830 --> 00:04:31,120
zoom lens on your camera i'm not sure

105
00:04:35,189 --> 00:04:33,840
about uh with the naked eye

106
00:04:37,590 --> 00:04:35,199
you know

107
00:04:40,629 --> 00:04:37,600
clearly you're an inspiration to so many

108
00:04:42,550 --> 00:04:40,639
uh young men and young women uh around

109
00:04:44,790 --> 00:04:42,560
the world but here at home

110
00:04:47,430 --> 00:04:44,800
what would you say to the boys and girls

111
00:04:49,909 --> 00:04:47,440
here back home in minnesota who were

112
00:04:51,990 --> 00:04:49,919
students uh what message would you have

113
00:04:53,510 --> 00:04:52,000

for them as they're in school and trying

114

00:04:57,749 --> 00:04:53,520

to figure out what they can do and what

115

00:05:02,550 --> 00:04:59,830

well first just it's important that

116

00:05:04,790 --> 00:05:02,560

every every kid knows that they have a

117

00:05:06,950 --> 00:05:04,800

lot of potential everybody but everybody

118

00:05:08,390 --> 00:05:06,960

has different skills and talents and

119

00:05:10,629 --> 00:05:08,400

everybody has different interests and

120

00:05:12,469 --> 00:05:10,639

there are so many opportunities and so

121

00:05:14,710 --> 00:05:12,479

many things that these kids could be

122

00:05:17,270 --> 00:05:14,720

doing and all you need to do is figure

123

00:05:19,430 --> 00:05:17,280

out what it is you like and work really

124

00:05:21,110 --> 00:05:19,440

hard at it and it's going to take you

125

00:05:22,550 --> 00:05:21,120

far especially in school when you work

126

00:05:24,870 --> 00:05:22,560

hard even if you're not a straight a

127

00:05:26,550 --> 00:05:24,880

student if you work hard your teachers

128

00:05:28,790 --> 00:05:26,560

and and others can tell that you're

129

00:05:30,390 --> 00:05:28,800

working hard and if you're getting the

130

00:05:31,909 --> 00:05:30,400

best grades you can you're going to go

131

00:05:34,150 --> 00:05:31,919

far and you're going to be able to do a

132

00:05:36,790 --> 00:05:34,160

lot of different things with your life

133

00:05:38,629 --> 00:05:36,800

when you think back to your childhood

134

00:05:40,310 --> 00:05:38,639

in minnesota in vining

135

00:05:42,629 --> 00:05:40,320

is there a minnesota memory anything you

136

00:05:44,469 --> 00:05:42,639

can think of that that was the beginning

137

00:05:49,510 --> 00:05:44,479

of the inspiration that helped you get

138

00:05:53,430 --> 00:05:51,590

i don't know i decided that i wanted to

139

00:05:55,270 --> 00:05:53,440

be an astronaut when i was pretty young

140

00:05:57,510 --> 00:05:55,280

and i i don't honestly know exactly

141

00:05:59,270 --> 00:05:57,520

where that where that thought came from

142

00:06:00,469 --> 00:05:59,280

and how i decided that that's what i

143

00:06:02,469 --> 00:06:00,479

wanted to do

144

00:06:04,469 --> 00:06:02,479

but certainly certainly the the

145

00:06:05,990 --> 00:06:04,479

education i got i went to a very small

146

00:06:07,670 --> 00:06:06,000

high school and i think that was very

147

00:06:09,510 --> 00:06:07,680

good for me

148

00:06:11,749 --> 00:06:09,520

you know academic wise we didn't have a

149

00:06:13,670 --> 00:06:11,759

lot of the classes that that students

150

00:06:15,430 --> 00:06:13,680

that i started in college with had in

151
00:06:17,430 --> 00:06:15,440
other schools but i was able to catch up

152
00:06:19,670 --> 00:06:17,440
very easily with that but being from a

153
00:06:21,510 --> 00:06:19,680
small town and going to a small school i

154
00:06:23,830 --> 00:06:21,520
participated in everything that i could

155
00:06:26,070 --> 00:06:23,840
i played on all the sports teams and i

156
00:06:27,909 --> 00:06:26,080
was in uh staying in the choir and

157
00:06:29,909 --> 00:06:27,919
played in the band and i think if i had

158
00:06:32,469 --> 00:06:29,919
been in a large school i probably didn't

159
00:06:34,870 --> 00:06:32,479
have the abilities to do all of that and

160
00:06:37,189 --> 00:06:34,880
so i think for me it was it was very

161
00:06:39,590 --> 00:06:37,199
advantageous and it taught me um

162
00:06:42,629 --> 00:06:39,600
teamwork being on teams um

163
00:06:45,029 --> 00:06:42,639

playing uh playing along in groups

164

00:06:48,309 --> 00:06:45,039

so i think uh i think that part of it

165

00:06:50,150 --> 00:06:48,319

was very very beneficial for me next

166

00:06:55,510 --> 00:06:50,160

time you're you're back in minnesota

167

00:06:58,230 --> 00:06:56,870

i'm sorry you were broken up can you ask

168

00:06:59,909 --> 00:06:58,240

one more time

169

00:07:03,110 --> 00:06:59,919

next time you're back

170

00:07:04,309 --> 00:07:03,120

in minnesota going back home family or

171

00:07:09,589 --> 00:07:04,319

what's the first thing you want to do

172

00:07:14,390 --> 00:07:11,589

well i always look forward to going back

173

00:07:16,710 --> 00:07:14,400

i grew up on a lake east battle lake and

174

00:07:18,790 --> 00:07:16,720

my parents still live in that same house

175

00:07:21,029 --> 00:07:18,800

and i i don't know the last time i was

176

00:07:23,270 --> 00:07:21,039

swimming in that lake and that was

177

00:07:26,390 --> 00:07:23,280

obviously something that i did every

178

00:07:29,270 --> 00:07:26,400

single summer day in and day out and so

179

00:07:31,029 --> 00:07:29,280

um i'd love to do that again i of course

180

00:07:32,550 --> 00:07:31,039

have to time it the two months out of

181

00:07:35,029 --> 00:07:32,560

the year whatever it is that's a

182

00:07:37,670 --> 00:07:35,039

possibility but and i'd like to be able

183

00:07:39,589 --> 00:07:37,680

to take my son and and uh have him go

184

00:07:42,230 --> 00:07:39,599

fishing like i used to do off the dock

185

00:07:44,150 --> 00:07:42,240

and and that sort of thing

186

00:07:48,469 --> 00:07:44,160

we can't see your feet right now what's

187

00:07:53,189 --> 00:07:51,670

i'm hanging onto a handrail with my toes

188

00:07:56,469 --> 00:07:53,199

as we speak

189

00:07:57,990 --> 00:07:56,479

and if i let go i will float away so you

190

00:07:59,670 --> 00:07:58,000

actually use your feet a lot for

191

00:08:01,510 --> 00:07:59,680

translating in fact i'm developing

192

00:08:03,189 --> 00:08:01,520

developing calluses on the tops of my

193

00:08:05,189 --> 00:08:03,199

feet

194

00:08:07,110 --> 00:08:05,199

but that's just kind of a difference of

195

00:08:09,350 --> 00:08:07,120

living in space

196

00:08:11,510 --> 00:08:09,360

if i could ask you for a little visual

197

00:08:13,110 --> 00:08:11,520

treat for zero gravity just spin your

198

00:08:14,629 --> 00:08:13,120

microphone or something that just shows

199

00:08:22,469 --> 00:08:14,639

us some of the magic of where you are

200

00:08:22,479 --> 00:08:26,710

do you have myself

201
00:08:26,720 --> 00:08:32,149
do you have any idea how cool that is

202
00:08:35,670 --> 00:08:34,230
it is cool and like i said it after

203
00:08:37,829 --> 00:08:35,680
you're here while it kind of becomes

204
00:08:40,709 --> 00:08:37,839
commonplace and you almost forget

205
00:08:43,110 --> 00:08:40,719
just how neat it is so i wish everybody

206
00:08:45,509 --> 00:08:43,120
could experience it

207
00:08:47,269 --> 00:08:45,519
we have a minute left uh in that minute

208
00:08:48,710 --> 00:08:47,279
if you could tell us uh

209
00:08:50,710 --> 00:08:48,720
what do you look forward to when you go

210
00:08:52,310 --> 00:08:50,720
back to earth as far as like for example

211
00:08:54,790 --> 00:08:52,320
do you miss gravity what's something

212
00:08:58,790 --> 00:08:54,800
that's that that you miss

213
00:09:03,190 --> 00:09:01,350

i think gravity is going to be my enemy

214

00:09:05,990 --> 00:09:03,200

for a few days or a few weeks or maybe

215

00:09:07,670 --> 00:09:06,000

even a couple months when i get back but

216

00:09:10,070 --> 00:09:07,680

i miss my family

217

00:09:12,230 --> 00:09:10,080

my husband and my son i miss them dearly

218

00:09:14,550 --> 00:09:12,240

so i'm really looking forward to getting

219

00:09:16,230 --> 00:09:14,560

back to them into my home

220

00:09:17,990 --> 00:09:16,240

well you can't see me but i'm waving

221

00:09:21,670 --> 00:09:18,000

goodbye it was a great thrill to talk to

222

00:09:21,680 --> 00:09:27,190

it was great to talk to you

223

00:09:32,750 --> 00:09:30,070

station this is houston acr karen that

224

00:09:36,470 --> 00:09:32,760

concludes the kstb

225

00:09:38,790 --> 00:09:36,480

kstp tv portion of the event thank you

226
00:09:48,870 --> 00:09:38,800
mike please stand by for a voice check

227
00:09:55,670 --> 00:09:50,550
station this is rick pisa with the big

228
00:09:58,870 --> 00:09:57,350
and rick i hear you loud and clear this

229
00:10:02,230 --> 00:09:58,880
is mike hopkins from the international

230
00:10:08,150 --> 00:10:03,590
great mike we're just about to get

231
00:10:08,160 --> 00:10:16,790
perfect

232
00:10:19,750 --> 00:10:18,790
and mike this is houston acr if you

233
00:10:21,750 --> 00:10:19,760
could please

234
00:10:23,829 --> 00:10:21,760
turn your microphone off after we are

235
00:10:25,750 --> 00:10:23,839
happy to be joined by howard griffith

236
00:10:28,389 --> 00:10:25,760
one of mike's former teammates at the

237
00:10:29,990 --> 00:10:28,399
university of illinois and howard since

238
00:10:31,990 --> 00:10:30,000

mike is now at the international space

239

00:10:34,470 --> 00:10:32,000

station let's not waste any more time

240

00:10:36,710 --> 00:10:34,480

let's welcome in mike hopkins from the

241

00:10:37,910 --> 00:10:36,720

international space station well mike

242

00:10:39,910 --> 00:10:37,920

let's give the folks a little bit of

243

00:10:42,389 --> 00:10:39,920

background i know you left from a

244

00:10:44,470 --> 00:10:42,399

cosmodrome in kazakhstan about a month

245

00:10:48,870 --> 00:10:44,480

or so ago you're supposed to be at the

246

00:10:50,389 --> 00:10:48,880

iss until spring of 2014 what is life

247

00:10:55,110 --> 00:10:50,399

like for someone when you're aboard the

248

00:10:59,430 --> 00:10:57,590

well it's absolutely incredible and i

249

00:11:01,269 --> 00:10:59,440

even today i've been here for about

250

00:11:02,790 --> 00:11:01,279

three weeks i guess now and i still have

251
00:11:04,870 --> 00:11:02,800
to pinch myself because sometimes it's

252
00:11:06,470 --> 00:11:04,880
hard to believe that i'm here uh and

253
00:11:08,550 --> 00:11:06,480
it's it takes a little while to get into

254
00:11:10,550 --> 00:11:08,560
a normal routine up here you know we're

255
00:11:12,710 --> 00:11:10,560
working from about seven to seven every

256
00:11:15,269 --> 00:11:12,720
day uh monday through friday

257
00:11:17,110 --> 00:11:15,279
and uh and so on the weekends as well uh

258
00:11:18,630 --> 00:11:17,120
we have to clean up and and then we get

259
00:11:20,150 --> 00:11:18,640
a little bit of free time usually on

260
00:11:22,310 --> 00:11:20,160
sundays maybe to watch a little bit of

261
00:11:23,829 --> 00:11:22,320
football but uh you know what's really

262
00:11:25,990 --> 00:11:23,839
amazing about up here is you're just

263
00:11:30,069 --> 00:11:26,000

floating around and that's an incredible

264

00:11:38,870 --> 00:11:32,550

mike what was it like when you first

265

00:11:43,269 --> 00:11:40,630

well actually it was it was a little bit

266

00:11:44,790 --> 00:11:43,279

overwhelming and to be honest my gyros

267

00:11:47,670 --> 00:11:44,800

were still spinning a little bit from

268

00:11:49,750 --> 00:11:47,680

the launch when i first got up into into

269

00:11:51,750 --> 00:11:49,760

microgravity into the space environment

270

00:11:53,670 --> 00:11:51,760

i felt like i was falling

271

00:11:55,910 --> 00:11:53,680

and like i was sitting on the ceiling

272

00:11:58,150 --> 00:11:55,920

and falling and when i first got into

273

00:12:00,230 --> 00:11:58,160

the space station and and we had our

274

00:12:01,990 --> 00:12:00,240

chance to talk with the families i

275

00:12:04,470 --> 00:12:02,000

actually felt like i was leaning on my

276

00:12:06,150 --> 00:12:04,480

side like that and so it took probably

277

00:12:08,230 --> 00:12:06,160

about 18 hours before that feeling

278

00:12:11,590 --> 00:12:08,240

started to go away but absolutely

279

00:12:13,110 --> 00:12:11,600

incredible feeling

280

00:12:15,030 --> 00:12:13,120

so talk to me about some of the

281

00:12:19,829 --> 00:12:15,040

experiments and some of the science that

282

00:12:22,790 --> 00:12:21,110

yeah actually there's quite a bit of

283

00:12:24,069 --> 00:12:22,800

science going on on the space station

284

00:12:25,590 --> 00:12:24,079

right now and some of it we're very

285

00:12:27,430 --> 00:12:25,600

involved in

286

00:12:29,030 --> 00:12:27,440

because we're the guinea pigs so in fact

287

00:12:31,430 --> 00:12:29,040

this morning i was drawing some blood

288

00:12:34,550 --> 00:12:31,440

just to see how the immune system in the

289

00:12:36,069 --> 00:12:34,560

body changes in microgravity other

290

00:12:38,230 --> 00:12:36,079

experiments i was also working on this

291

00:12:40,470 --> 00:12:38,240

morning was a capillary flow experiment

292

00:12:42,790 --> 00:12:40,480

which is looking at how water

293

00:12:45,590 --> 00:12:42,800

flows up the walls of different vessels

294

00:12:47,829 --> 00:12:45,600

and maybe you can use that to move

295

00:12:48,949 --> 00:12:47,839

move liquids around in space and and

296

00:12:51,190 --> 00:12:48,959

also

297

00:12:52,870 --> 00:12:51,200

separate it from from gases and so those

298

00:12:54,550 --> 00:12:52,880

are just a couple of the

299

00:12:56,550 --> 00:12:54,560

hundreds of experiments that we're doing

300

00:13:00,870 --> 00:12:56,560

or that are going on up here on a on a

301
00:13:05,670 --> 00:13:03,190
now mike your job obviously makes you

302
00:13:07,190 --> 00:13:05,680
very unique in terms of former big ten

303
00:13:09,030 --> 00:13:07,200
football players and what they're now

304
00:13:11,509 --> 00:13:09,040
doing with their life but i know you

305
00:13:13,430 --> 00:13:11,519
stay in touch with the illinois football

306
00:13:16,150 --> 00:13:13,440
program i know from your twitter handle

307
00:13:18,389 --> 00:13:16,160
at astro illini you sometimes send out

308
00:13:20,550 --> 00:13:18,399
messages to current and former illinois

309
00:13:23,430 --> 00:13:20,560
players how much do you actually get to

310
00:13:27,590 --> 00:13:23,440
still follow your alma mater when you're

311
00:13:30,870 --> 00:13:29,350
i'm actually very fortunate not in fact

312
00:13:33,509 --> 00:13:30,880
all the astronauts are very fortunate up

313
00:13:35,269 --> 00:13:33,519

here is because we have a large support

314

00:13:36,949 --> 00:13:35,279

organization on the ground that helps us

315

00:13:39,590 --> 00:13:36,959

stay in touch with our families and stay

316

00:13:41,110 --> 00:13:39,600

in touch with the the organizations that

317

00:13:43,110 --> 00:13:41,120

are important to us and so i actually

318

00:13:45,189 --> 00:13:43,120

get the illinois football games are sent

319

00:13:46,710 --> 00:13:45,199

up to me every week so i don't get to

320

00:13:49,110 --> 00:13:46,720

see them live

321

00:13:53,269 --> 00:13:49,120

but while i'm working out i usually uh

322

00:13:57,430 --> 00:13:55,269

i love it the fact that he's in space

323

00:13:59,189 --> 00:13:57,440

and he's still working out rick that's

324

00:14:00,870 --> 00:13:59,199

incredible what are some of the things

325

00:14:02,550 --> 00:14:00,880

you do during the off time when you're

326

00:14:07,509 --> 00:14:02,560

down on the Saturdays and Sundays

327

00:14:11,670 --> 00:14:09,509

is there anything else

328

00:14:15,670 --> 00:14:11,680

no actually that's a good chance for us

329

00:14:20,069 --> 00:14:17,590

it's a good chance for us to catch up on

330

00:14:21,590 --> 00:14:20,079

uh emails we can uh take a lot of photos

331

00:14:23,030 --> 00:14:21,600

or more opportunities to take photos

332

00:14:25,189 --> 00:14:23,040

that we may not have during the week

333

00:14:26,629 --> 00:14:25,199

because we are busy inside uh with

334

00:14:28,710 --> 00:14:26,639

experiments and just taking care of the

335

00:14:30,710 --> 00:14:28,720

station and then it's also it's a good

336

00:14:32,790 --> 00:14:30,720

chance we have to get to talk to the

337

00:14:34,949 --> 00:14:32,800

family and so uh once a week i get to

338

00:14:36,550 --> 00:14:34,959

talk to julie and the boys and uh it's

339

00:14:37,829 --> 00:14:36,560

it's very special because it's actually

340

00:14:40,550 --> 00:14:37,839

a video conference so you get to see

341

00:14:43,670 --> 00:14:41,829

well how much fun has it been

342

00:14:45,750 --> 00:14:43,680

particularly for your boys that are

343

00:14:47,990 --> 00:14:45,760

young growing up seeing their dad on the

344

00:14:49,350 --> 00:14:48,000

international space station and having a

345

00:14:54,629 --> 00:14:49,360

chance to communicate with them i guess

346

00:14:57,829 --> 00:14:56,069

well i like to think that the most

347

00:15:00,230 --> 00:14:57,839

popular kids in school because of

348

00:15:02,790 --> 00:15:00,240

themselves and not and not their dad

349

00:15:03,670 --> 00:15:02,800

i mean as you can imagine uh the kids

350

00:15:07,269 --> 00:15:03,680

are

351

00:15:08,949 --> 00:15:07,279

i've got one in high school and one in

352

00:15:11,350 --> 00:15:08,959

junior high and and so they keep pretty

353

00:15:14,069 --> 00:15:11,360

busy with school and sports and church

354

00:15:15,670 --> 00:15:14,079

and and so uh you know sometimes the

355

00:15:17,990 --> 00:15:15,680

days go by and and we don't have a

356

00:15:22,629 --> 00:15:18,000

chance to talk and and so it's very nice

357

00:15:26,310 --> 00:15:24,629

mike when did you know that this was

358

00:15:28,069 --> 00:15:26,320

something that you wanted to pursue not

359

00:15:30,069 --> 00:15:28,079

just aerospace engineering and your

360

00:15:32,389 --> 00:15:30,079

studies at illinois but when did you

361

00:15:34,790 --> 00:15:32,399

actually know and feel like you had the

362

00:15:36,310 --> 00:15:34,800

possibility to be part of an astronaut

363

00:15:40,389 --> 00:15:36,320

class that was going to spend time in

364

00:15:43,749 --> 00:15:41,910

well i actually

365

00:15:45,509 --> 00:15:43,759

decided or knew that i wanted to try and

366

00:15:46,790 --> 00:15:45,519

be an astronaut back in high school even

367

00:15:47,910 --> 00:15:46,800

before i went to the university of

368

00:15:49,829 --> 00:15:47,920

illinois

369

00:15:51,509 --> 00:15:49,839

but you never know if

370

00:15:53,269 --> 00:15:51,519

you're going to have that opportunity

371

00:15:55,990 --> 00:15:53,279

you have to get a little bit lucky

372

00:15:57,749 --> 00:15:56,000

things have to fall into into a line for

373

00:15:59,189 --> 00:15:57,759

you and it just happened so happened

374

00:16:01,030 --> 00:15:59,199

that it did for me and i feel very

375

00:16:04,550 --> 00:16:01,040

blessed feel very fortunate to have this

376

00:16:09,509 --> 00:16:06,790

you know you had a very interesting uh

377

00:16:11,350 --> 00:16:09,519

defensive back coach coach bernstein are

378

00:16:13,189 --> 00:16:11,360

there any lessons that he taught you

379

00:16:14,629 --> 00:16:13,199

that you were able to use

380

00:16:18,470 --> 00:16:14,639

going through life to get you to where

381

00:16:22,870 --> 00:16:20,949

absolutely in fact the coaches coach

382

00:16:24,790 --> 00:16:22,880

bernstein coach tepper

383

00:16:26,470 --> 00:16:24,800

coach makvik all of them had a big

384

00:16:29,030 --> 00:16:26,480

influence on us and uh with coach

385

00:16:30,550 --> 00:16:29,040

bernstein i think uh was was certainly

386

00:16:32,629 --> 00:16:30,560

you know he had a certain fire about him

387

00:16:34,550 --> 00:16:32,639

a certain drive about him and uh that's

388

00:16:35,990 --> 00:16:34,560

contagious and and that certainly helps

389

00:16:37,910 --> 00:16:36,000

when you're when you're trying to pursue

390

00:16:40,949 --> 00:16:37,920

something that sometimes can be tough to

391

00:16:44,949 --> 00:16:43,189

you know mike i always think back to our

392

00:16:46,389 --> 00:16:44,959

times at illinois particularly when we

393

00:16:47,910 --> 00:16:46,399

were on the practice squad and we were

394

00:16:50,150 --> 00:16:47,920

getting banged around we were kind of

395

00:16:51,910 --> 00:16:50,160

practice dummies for the guys that were

396

00:16:54,150 --> 00:16:51,920

starting and one thing that always stuck

397

00:16:56,550 --> 00:16:54,160

out to me about you is that you

398

00:16:58,550 --> 00:16:56,560

continued to go out and play as hard as

399

00:17:01,030 --> 00:16:58,560

you could and we knew then that you were

400

00:17:02,710 --> 00:17:01,040

a special player and would be special to

401
00:17:04,549 --> 00:17:02,720
the university of illinois but had no

402
00:17:06,230 --> 00:17:04,559
idea that you'd be able to really

403
00:17:08,150 --> 00:17:06,240
accomplish what you have now and i just

404
00:17:11,189 --> 00:17:08,160
want to tell you that you've truly been

405
00:17:13,110 --> 00:17:11,199
an inspiration to all of us including

406
00:17:15,029 --> 00:17:13,120
you know the people around the world you

407
00:17:16,150 --> 00:17:15,039
inspire a lot of us we appreciate

408
00:17:19,590 --> 00:17:16,160
everything that you're doing for the

409
00:17:23,990 --> 00:17:21,829
well howard i'm not sure if i remember

410
00:17:24,949 --> 00:17:24,000
you ever being on the practice squad but

411
00:17:29,510 --> 00:17:24,959
uh

412
00:17:31,029 --> 00:17:29,520
be a part of it

413
00:17:32,630 --> 00:17:31,039

it's fun just to be a part of a team

414

00:17:35,029 --> 00:17:32,640

like that and an organization like that

415

00:17:36,390 --> 00:17:35,039

and around guys like you i mean uh you

416

00:17:37,909 --> 00:17:36,400

know one of the things i always wanted

417

00:17:41,110 --> 00:17:37,919

to be when i grew up was a professional

418

00:17:42,549 --> 00:17:41,120

uh football player and so you know hats

419

00:17:44,789 --> 00:17:42,559

off to you and the other guys that made

420

00:17:46,390 --> 00:17:44,799

it to the big leagues and that's that's

421

00:17:50,230 --> 00:17:46,400

you know very positive influence to be

422

00:17:53,430 --> 00:17:51,750

colonel mike hopkins joining us from the

423

00:17:55,430 --> 00:17:53,440

international space station colonel

424

00:18:00,789 --> 00:17:55,440

hopkins thanks so much for the time and

425

00:18:04,230 --> 00:18:02,870

okay thank you very much and uh you know

426

00:18:05,590 --> 00:18:04,240

i just want to let you guys know that

427

00:18:07,510 --> 00:18:05,600

there's still a little uh orange and

428

00:18:10,470 --> 00:18:07,520

blue up here if you can see uh if you

429

00:18:10,480 --> 00:18:16,789

we love it hoppy we love it

430

00:18:23,669 --> 00:18:19,430

station this is houston acr thank you

431

00:18:29,029 --> 00:18:26,870

thank you kstp tv and big 10 network