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Biz

Biz was on hand June 7 when Raleigh's Jonathan Trappe made news by attaching a cluster of 55 helium balloons to an office chair and flying from the outskirts of Franklinton to Rocky Mount.

Trappe's ingenuity certainly stood out, but what impressed Biz the most was his grace under pressure.

Biz flew alongside Trappe's contraption in a hot air balloon for the first hour or so of the flight. In listening to the radio conversations among Trappe, his ground crew and two hot air balloon pilots, it quickly became obvious that this was one cool customer.

Biz's favorite exchange came while the team was discussing the rate at which Trappe was rising and a ground crew member observed that they had done their calculations on the number of balloons and the amount of ballast correctly.

Trappe - whose good health depended upon getting that math right since he was dangling nearly a mile high at the time - had just a one-word reply, "Rockstar."