

Ms. Weatherspoon. I'm doing fine. We're doing much better. We're enjoying ourselves and just happy to be able to say hello to you.

The President. Well, I'm proud of your season. I know that you're feeling good, and I think that you've really got the interest of the country going.

Ms. Weatherspoon. We're trying. We're trying to be positive role models for young ladies, even for the younger guys. Hopefully we've done some positive things to somehow, somehow have younger girls to want to be like one of us.

The President. I think you have. And you've taught a lot of people a lot about defense. [Laughter] I'll tell you, the next time——

Kym Hampton. Mr. President, I'm Kym Hampton, the other president, and you've been doing your homework, haven't you? [Laughter]

The President. I watch you all on television. I watch you on television.

Ms. Hampton. Okay. Well, you know, I can teach them a little bit about defense; you just continue to defend our little country here there, you know?

The President. I'll do it. You've got a deal.

Ms. Hampton. Well, I appreciate talking to you. Here's Rebecca Lobo.

The President. Thanks, Kym.

Rebecca Lobo. Hello, Mr. President.

The President. Hey, Rebecca. How are you?

Ms. Lobo. Great. How are you doing?

The President. I'm okay.

Ms. Lobo. Thank you very much for taking time out to speak with us.

The President. Well, I'm really pleased. I hope you're pleased with your first season, and I hope it continues, because I thought it was great.

I watched several of the games on television from the White House, and I thought they were exciting and good, and I think you've got a real future.

Ms. Lobo. Thank you very much. We appreciate it.

Ms. Weatherspoon. Can I say one more thing?

The President. Sure.

Ms. Weatherspoon. Even though we didn't win it all and, you know, normally the winners get the visitation there at your place, can we still come? [Laughter]

The President. Yes. You bet. If you want——

Ms. Weatherspoon. Because in our own right we're still champions.

The President. [Inaudible]—if you want to come down here and have a tour, I'd be glad to have you down here.

Ms. Weatherspoon. We're coming! [Laughter]

The President. All right.

Team member. You are one of a kind, aren't you, honey? [Laughter]

Ms. Coyle. Mr. President, this is Maureen Coyle again. I'm actually going to hold your scheduling people to that.

The President. All right. We'll do it. We'll set up a tour.

Ms. Coyle. Thank you very much.

Team members. Thank you.

The President. Goodbye. Thanks.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:53 p.m. from a private residence to the game site at The Summit in Houston, TX. New York Liberty director of public relations Maureen Coyle and players Teresa Weatherspoon, Kym Hampton, and Rebecca Lobo participated in the conversation.

Remarks on the Death of Princess Diana and an Exchange With Reporters in Martha's Vineyard

August 31, 1997

The President. Good morning. Let me say again how very sad Hillary and I are about the terrible accident that has taken the life of Princess Diana and the others who were with her. We liked her very much. We admired her work for children, for people with AIDS, for the cause of ending the scourge of landmines in

the world, and for her love for her children, William and Harry.

I know that this is a very difficult time for millions of people in the United Kingdom who are deeply shocked and grieving, and the American people send their condolences to all of them. We value their friendship, and we understand this great and painful experience.

For myself, I will always be glad that I knew the Princess and always think of her in very strong and positive terms, as will Hillary, and we can only hope that her work will go forward and that everyone who can, will support her two fine sons and help them to have the life and the future that she would want.

Thank you.

Q. Mr. President, you yourself on this vacation have been subject to intrusive photographers. Is there a lesson in this tragedy for the press? Should we back off?

The President. I think it is better right now if we let a little time pass and let this event and the people involved be honored and grieved, and then we'll have time to think about that and maybe make a better judgment. I think it's better for me not to say anything until this moment has received its due respect.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:20 a.m. at the Richard Friedman residence.

Remarks at Oak Bluffs School in Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts September 3, 1997

The President. Thank you very much, Dr. Cash, Mr. Binney, all the teachers who are here. I am delighted to have this chance to come by and visit with you. I know I'm on vacation, but when school starts, if I don't participate in some start-of-school event—[*laughter*—I begin to have a nervous twitch, and I—[*laughter*—and I was delighted to be invited to come by and spend a few moments with you.

Let me begin by saying, as you know, our family has been on vacation here now for a little over 2 weeks, and we have until the end of this week. This is the longest time we've been away together in a very long time, and it's been a wonderful opportunity for us. We love it here. And it's especially important this year because this is the last family vacation we'll have before our daughter begins her next big educational adventure. So it's been great.

You know, every start of a school year is special because, as you well know, teachers come together with a new sense of dedication and energy and students show up wide-eyed in anticipation and parents pour all their hopes into what they hope will come out of the next year, that they're all truly wonderful. And I think they reflect the central premise of what you do for a living, and that is that our most important common enterprise as a people is clearly education. It's necessary not only for young people to grow up and be able to earn a good living but, perhaps more importantly, to be good citizens and even beyond that to live their own lives to the fullest, with a high degree of self-

awareness and an ability to learn and absorb and grow throughout a lifetime. So it's always important.

But this year I think it's especially important. For one thing, we have the largest class of students in America, ever. We finally now have a student body, in the whole, in America of over 52 million, bigger than the largest years of the baby boom, which is a great burden for all of us aging baby boomers to have on our shoulders. [*Laughter*]

For another, we have the most diverse student body we have ever had. We now have 5 school districts in America that have children from over 100 different racial and ethnic groups. And within a couple of years, we'll have a dozen school districts that have children—but as you know, here in Martha's Vineyard, we're also diverse in other ways. We have massively huge school districts and we have very, very small school districts. And somehow, somehow, we expect you, all of you—you and your counterparts throughout the country—to work with our children and give them a world-class education and give them a shot to make the most of their own lives.

We also know that as we move closer and closer to the turn of the century and to the beginning of a whole new millennium, we're super-attuned to the fact that we're living increasingly in a global society as well as a global economy, where children in the smallest school on Martha's Vineyard, either now or someday soon, will be able to hook onto the Internet