

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:23 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) terrorist organization.

Prime Minister Netanyahu referred to ISIL by an alternative designation, the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS).

## Remarks Honoring the 2013 Major League Soccer Champion Sporting Kansas City October 1, 2014

*The President.* Hello, everybody! Hello, Kansas City. Everybody, have a seat. Have a seat. Welcome to the White House. Give it up to the MLS champ, Sporting Kansas City. [Applause] Yay!

Now, my Press Secretary, Josh Earnest, is from Kansas City. He has made the observation that the Royals are advancing, that the Chiefs made the Patriots look kind of bad on Monday night. [Laughter] And so, clearly, something is going on in Kansas City, but apparently, these guys are the ones who got it all started, got the ball rolling. It's a pretty good day to be from Kansas City. You guys are feeling kind of cocky right now. [Laughter]

We've got some Members of Congress who are here today from Kansas City, who obviously love sports. It's a great sports town. We've got the Sporting KC's owners and family. I want to congratulate your manager, Peter Vermes, for becoming the first person in MLS history to win titles both as a player and a coach in the same organization. [Applause] Pretty good.

That is not the only history that Sporting KC made this season. After beating New England and Houston in the playoffs to win the Eastern Conference, they were rewarded with the coldest title game ever played in Major League Soccer. [Laughter] When the game started, the temperature was just 20 degrees. By the end, it was less than 10 degrees. I'm sure that felt good. [Laughter] That was after 120 minutes of soccer and the longest penalty shoot-out—10 rounds—in MLS Cup history. But finally, Aurélien Collin kicked the winning penalty shot, and KC raised their second Cup.

And the thing about Kansas City fans is that even in below-freezing temperatures, the seats were filled. Sporting Park was packed. It is a

city that loves soccer. They've sold out 51 straight games. In a section of seats called the Cauldron, thousands of fans came out to stand and chant all game long.

And this past summer, when Americans passed restaurants—packed restaurants and stadiums and city parks during the World Cup, the fans in Kansas City led the way. It seemed like 10 minutes couldn't pass without seeing live shots of thousands of fans crowding the Power and Light District and cheering on Team U.S.A. I know they cheered extra hard for Matt Besler and Graham Zusi, who represented Sporting KC and their country in Brazil. So, as soccer continues to grow here in the United States, it does so in large part because of the great example of dedicated fans in Kansas City. So congratulations to all of you.

In the same way that Kansas City has embraced its soccer team, the soccer team has embraced the city. Aurélien has a fashion line and men's clothing shop in Kansas City. [Laughter] Is he—where are you? You want to model some of your stuff? [Laughter] He's got the pocket square, the earrings. I'm going to look like him after I get out of office. [Laughter] He looks pretty sharp. You've got Seth Sinovic, the assistant—and Assistant Coach Kerry Zavagnin and goalkeeper Jimmy Nielsen, who all made their debuts in the Kansas City Ballet last year. [Laughter] That's impressive. They got to bring that trophy with them on stage to distract the audience from their limited ballet skills. [Laughter]

And through the Victory Project, Sporting KC works to raise money for kids in the region with cancer and special needs and life-threatening medical conditioning—conditions through the Make-A-Wish Foundation. They've opened new

practice fields, they're hosting soccer clinics all over Missouri and Kansas. So this is an organization that knows that being a champion isn't just about what you do on the field, it's also what you do off the field.

I know that the entire city is very, very proud of you. We want to congratulate you. And I want to congratulate all the fans of Kansas City for the great job you do as well. So give them all a big round of applause.

*Manager Peter J. Vermes.* So a little background. Fourteen years ago, as you stated earlier, I won the MLS Cup with the team as a player. And unfortunately, I didn't get a chance to come to the White House, so I figured I had to go back and become a coach to win it so that I could get here. So here I am. [Laughter] So I'm pretty excited about that aspect.

What I'd like to say is, from the entire organization, thank you very much for hosting us. We greatly appreciate it. Obviously, this is an incredible honor for all of us. And more impor-

tantly, hopefully, we can do it again, and we can show up here again and see you in a year from now.

So I'd like to first present you with this medal. We also have a—I'm not sure which side it's on—there is a—it's on this side? We have a shirt; you might want to go take a look at that. I think it's pretty good.

*The President.* It's a beautiful shirt, but I'm going to have to break the glass to wear it. [Laughter]

Thank you so much. Congratulations.

*Manager Vermes.* Thank you, I really appreciate it.

*The President.* Good, appreciate you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:13 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Neal L. Patterson, Clifford W. Illig, Greg S. Maday, D. Patrick Curran, and Robb Heineman, owners, Aurélien Collin, Matthew S. Besler, and Seth Sinovic, defenders, and Graham J. Zusi, midfielder, Sporting Kansas City.

## Remarks at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois October 2, 2014

Hello, Evanston! Hello, Northwestern! Oh, thank you so much. Everybody, have a seat. Have a seat. It is so good to be here. Go 'Cats! I want to thank your president, Morty Shapiro, and the dean of the Kellogg business school, Sally Blount, for having me. I brought along some guests. Your Governor, Pat Quinn, is here. Your Senator, Dick Durbin, is here. Your Congresswoman, Jan Schakowsky, is here. We've got some folks who represent the Chicagoland area in Congress and do a great job every day: Danny Davis, Robin Kelly, Mike Quigley, Brad Schneider. We've got your mayor, Elizabeth Tisdahl. Where's Elizabeth? There she is. One of my great friends, former Chief of Staff, the mild-mannered mayor of Chicago, Rahm Emanuel, is here. [Laughter]

It is great to be back home. It's great to be back at Northwestern. Back when I was a Senator, I had the honor of delivering the commencement address for the class of 2006. And as it turns out, I've got a bunch of staff who

graduated from here, and so they're constantly lobbying me about stuff. And so, earlier this year, I popped in via video to help kick off the dance marathon. [Laughter] I figured this time I'd come in person—[laughter]—not only because it's nice to be so close to home, but it's also just nice to see old friends, people who helped to form how I think about public service, people who helped me along the way. Toni Preckwinkle was my alderwoman before—and was a great supporter. Lisa Madigan, your attorney general, was my seatmate. State Senator Terry Link was my golf buddy. So you've got people here who I've just known for years and really not only helped me be where I am today, but helped develop how I think about public service.

And I'm also happy to be here because this is a university that is brimming with the possibilities of a new economy: your research and technology, the ideas and the innovation, the training of doctors and educators and scientists