



CANDACE DANE CHAMBERS/Associated Press

Former President Barack Obama surprises a group of high school freshman girls during the WNBA Changemaker Day at the Obama Presidential Center in Jackson Park on the South Side on Friday.

Obama Surprises WNBA All-Stars at Center

BY DOUG FEINBERG
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

CHICAGO — Caitlin Clark was in awe after meeting former President Barack Obama after he surprised the WNBA All-Stars on Friday at his Presidential Center.

Clark called her conversation with Obama “a moment I’ll probably remember for the rest of my life.”

“It was obviously super cool. He just complimented me for the way that I handle everything, obviously with everything that’s been going on,” the Indiana Fever star said Friday after meeting Obama. “He’s somebody that has been in front of the media quite a bit and he reminded me, ‘When I got famous in my 40s, I didn’t have to do it in my 20s.’”

Obama spoke to the players for a few minutes on the basketball court at the center which opened last month.

“Some of you I’m meeting for the first time. All of you are extraordinary and I could not be bigger fans,” Obama said. “The way the game has been growing lately, the way it’s been picking up and people paying attention to your excellence, I think it’s been something for basketball fans, generally, a sight to see. It’s been making me happy.”

He spoke to the players for a few minutes before taking a group photo. Obama then spent about 10 minutes shaking hands

with the players and taking photos with them, including Clark.

“I know many of you are involved in some wonderful ventures off the court, looking out for other young people and inspiring them. I just wanted to say thanks,” Obama said.

The former president gave a shout out to A’ja Wilson in his talk to the players and then went over and chatted with her as well.

After the photo-ops were done, Obama stepped on the court and talked with New York Liberty star Jonquel Jones, getting down in a defensive stance for a few seconds on her.

“I feel like as a hooper, you know when someone’s challenging you. So I was just like, let me go over there with the basketball, you know, do a little cross, bump him a little bit,” Jones said. “And I knew that I would get him activated a little because he’s a hooper, too.”

Jones said she had met Obama once before.

“He’s a role model for me and it was nice to be able to have that moment,” Jones said. “Someone that I look up to, someone that has paved the way for a lot of people to be here and see him continuing, his family continuing to give back to the community when they’ve already done so much is just so inspirational.”

That was the extent of his time on the court. He told the players that he didn’t play 5-on-5 anymore to protect his Achilles. He

did say that he broke in the court with a game of “horse.”

Obama was the first sitting U.S. President to attend a WNBA game when he and his daughter, Sasha, sat courtside in 2010 for a Washington Mystics game. He also has hosted many of them at the White House after they either won WNBA championships or NCAA titles.

Obama was gifted with a No. 44 WNBA All-Star jersey that the players were going to autograph later.

This was the first professional sport to use the basketball court at the center, which opened in June. Obama went to the NBA All-Star Game in Los Angeles in February. Obama said he unfortunately wasn’t going to be able to make the All-Star Game on Saturday because of a previous engagement with his wife, Michelle.

“It’s fitting for our 30th anniversary that we’re here as the first sports league to play in the Obama Presidential Center,” WNBA Commissioner Cathy Engelbert said. “Someone who has inspired hundreds of millions of people to dream big and accomplish things like President Obama has and his tie to basketball is amazing, too. I think there’s no more fitting person to be meeting with the players.”

After talking to the players, Obama went across the center to talk to a group of investors in the league and nearly 100 high school girls to talk.



JACQUELYN MARTIN/Associated Press

FIFA President Gianni Infantino, left, and President Donald Trump comment on the medals as they wait to congratulate the Spanish players after the World Cup final soccer match between Spain and Argentina in East Rutherford, N.J., near New York on July 19.

IOC won't pursue its member Infantino over FIFA red-card ruling at World Cup

BY GRAHAM DUNBAR
ASSOCIATED PRESS

GENEVA — IOC member and FIFA leader Gianni Infantino will not have to explain to the Olympic body how U.S. President Donald Trump helped to stop a player’s ban at the World Cup.

The IOC said on Friday it has no jurisdiction to investigate Infantino’s alleged lack of political neutrality.

A London-based NGO formally complained this month to the International Olympic Committee ethics commission about Infantino, including his part in ensuring United States forward Folarin Balogun did not serve a mandatory one-game ban despite being sent off in

the previous game.

The IOC’s Olympic Charter cites neutrality among “fundamental principles of Olympism” for sports bodies like FIFA and its 100-plus members, which has included Infantino since 2020.

No formal investigation will be opened, the IOC said, because the complaint by rights group FairSquare did not relate to FIFA’s or Infantino’s specific relations with the Olympic body.

The complaint “refers only to (FIFA’s) decisions on its governance and its management, including its relations with government, and to (FIFA’s) implementation of the rules of its sport,” the IOC said in a statement.

“Consequently, the complaint falls outside the IOC ethics commission’s jurisdiction,” the statement said.

The ethics body does not have independent powers to start investigations and sanction officials, but can make recommendations to the IOC executive board chaired by President Kirsty Coventry. She attended the World Cup final last Sunday at East Rutherford, New Jersey.

Action has been taken against just one IOC member in the past eight years for unethical conduct: Sheikh Ahmad al-Fahad al-Sabah, a key power broker who built a reputation as the “kingmaker” of Olympic elections.

YOUR CUSTOMER JUST READ THIS AD.
ADVERTISE WITH US.

On Friday, August 7th

OVER 34,000 HOUSEHOLDS IN ELIZABETHTOWN, RADCLIFF and VINE GROVE WILL RECEIVE A COPY OF The NEWS-ENTERPRISE

Center, as depicted in this rendering by LK Architecture v. Submit for this space to accommodate smaller retail stores and Penney, which will remain in its original location. The horses

Undergoing major renovation to become City Center

LADY

FROM PAGE B1

12 over her first 13 holes of play, with one birdie and three bogeys.

Central Hardin finished seventh with a 377 total in the 14-team field with Emilia Jackson shooting 86, followed by Avery Gaddie (100), Evie McDougal (117) and Alaena Jones (128). The top four scores from each team are used for team scores.

Elizabethtown, the defending 5th Region Tournament champions, was ninth at 392 as senior Meredith Dyer shot a team-best 83 and was followed by Anne Vencil Donahue (102), Evan Tyler (102), Mia Miller (105) and Grace Spevak (124).

LaRue County finished with a 410-team total to place 11th. Khloe Miller shot 101 and was followed by Maci Albrow (102), Emma Abell (103), Riley William (104) and Addie Roberts (129).

Breckinridge County was sixth at 369 with Barren



JEFF D'ALESSIO/The News-Enterprise

A seventh-grader, Anne Vencil Donahue tees off Friday morning on the eighth hole in the Lady Bruin Invitational at the Elizabethtown Country Club.

County eighth at 391, with a 517 total.

Boyle County 10th at 393,

Washington County 12th at 449,

Green County 13th at 459 and Bullitt East 14th

Jeff D'Alessio can be reached at jdalessio@thenewsenterprise.com.

al developer
ding millions to
athe new life' into
year-old retail space

WORKERS
F

*PUBLIC NOTICE
ADVERTISING
EXCLUDED

Advertise your business in our Summer Sample Edition

Advertising Deadline:
Thursday, July 30th, 2026 @ 3pm

Contact your account rep. for details

Portia Oldham 270-505-1419
Brenda Chism 270-505-1441
Allison Shepherd 270-765-9096
Lizzy Marshall 270-691-7225
Anna Shepherd 502-349-0278
Alice Walker 859-336-5905
Rose Rainwater 270-465-6541

THE NEWS-ENTERPRISE
www.thenewsenterprise.com