

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, the **University of Tampa** (UT) was founded on October 5, 1931 as Tampa Junior College, and its home is located at the former iconic Tampa Bay Hotel overlooking the Hillsborough River, and it is well-known nationally for its world-class education, its outstanding academic programs offering over 200 areas of study, extraordinary beauty and architecture with spectacular domes, cupolas, and minarets atop Plant Hall, and it is designated a National Historic Landmark and is a proud Tampa treasure; and

WHEREAS, a private university, UT's mission includes delivering challenging and high-quality educational experiences to a diverse group of learners and is committed to developing each student to become productive and responsible citizens, and its highly qualified faculty members are committed to teaching, advising, and continuing intellectual growth, and are supportive of all aspects of student development including through activities, community service, honors program, leadership, study abroad programs, and championship sports; and

WHEREAS, the **University of Tampa Spartans Athletic Program** has been led by Director Larry Marfise for more than two decades and under his leadership, it has consistently earned Conference Championships, its athletes have earned All-American titles and named Academic All-Americans, bringing state, national and international acclaim to the Tampa Bay area; and

WHEREAS, the University of Tampa has claimed 22 NCAA II National Championships in collegiate sports, including the **University of Tampa Men's Swimming Team** who secured the school's first ever national championship title, on Saturday, March 16, 2024, won the **National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II National Title** after the UT Spartans led with a total of 473 points to defeat the runner-up, Drury University Panthers at the SPIRE Institute Aquatics Center in Geneva, Ohio and;

WHEREAS, led by Head Coach Jimi Kiner, named Coach of the Year for the 2023-24 season by the College Swimming and Diving Coaches Association of America (CSCAA) and Assistant Coaches Quentin Bishop and Phil Murray, the committed and talented University of Tampa Men's Swimming Team competed with determination during the season and especially during the final championship event, adding another victory to the University's Wall of Champions, and the dedicated team members and coaches consistently compete with professionalism, spirit, and dignity, and they serve as positive role models for the youth and fans in our community, state and nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Saturday, March 16, 2024, as

"UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA SPARTANS MEN'S SWIMMING TEAM DAY"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join with the University of Tampa Spartan fans in celebrating the impressive accomplishments of their Home Team, support the Men's Swimming Team as they continue to compete, and congratulate them for their impressive efforts.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 15th day of May 2024.




Mayor