

Assembly Resolution No. 171

BY: M. of A. Buttenschon

CONGRATULATING the Utica University Men's Ice Hockey Team upon the occasion of capturing the United Collegiate Hockey Conference Men's Ice Hockey Championship on March 4, 2023

WHEREAS, Individual and team championships are highly sought after in collegiate sports; this Legislative Body commends rare athletic achievements and pays special recognition to those who pursue such excellence and become examples for the youth of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Athletic competition helps to enhance both the moral and physical development of young athletes, preparing them for the future by instilling in them the importance of teamwork, encouraging a standard of healthy living, and developing a sense of fair play and competition; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate the Utica University Men's Ice Hockey Team upon the occasion of capturing their second straight United Collegiate Hockey Conference Men's Ice Hockey Championship; and

WHEREAS, To the praise and applause of their excited fans, the number one seed Pioneers defeated number two seed Nazareth College in a thrilling 5-3 victory on Saturday, March 4, 2023, at the Utica Memorial Auditorium in Utica; and

WHEREAS, With this monumental win, the Utica University Men's Ice Hockey Team has earned an automatic berth into the 2023 NCAA Division III Men's Ice Hockey Championship Tournament; and

WHEREAS, Proudly donning the school's colors of navy and orange, family, friends, and the community at large loyally and enthusiastically supported the Pioneers throughout their journey as they ended their regular season with an impressive 24-2-1 overall record; and

WHEREAS, In a sport such as ice hockey, which demands athletic prowess, speed and agility, Head Coach Gary Keenan and Assistant Coaches, Nick Thierren and Adam Dekker worked hard to hone the skills of this championship team, teaching these outstanding athletes lessons which will prove invaluable both on and off the ice; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Gary Keenan, Assistant Coaches Nick Thierren and Adam Dekker, and all of the outstanding athletes on the Utica University Men's Ice Hockey Team have clearly utilized dedication, determination and teamwork in providing a lasting contribution to the spirit of excellence which is a tradition of their school; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate the members of the Utica University Men's Ice Hockey Team: Bryan Landsberger, Brian Scoville, Connor Fedorek, Jayson Dobay, Jaxon

Rutkowski, Shane Murphy, John Gutt, Chris Carroll, Matt Wood, Josh Kagan, Justin Allen, Lucas Herrmann, Blake Holmes, Drake Barnish, Mic Curran, Kimball Johnson, Joey Berkopec, Remy Parker, Regen Cavanagh,

Jakob Breault, Brandon Osmundson, Buster Larsson, Andrew Doran, Avery Sturtz, Khristian Acosta, Dante Zapata, and John Moncovich; Head Coach Gary Keenan; and Assistant Coaches, Nick Thierren and Adam Dekker upon the occasion of capturing the United Collegiate Hockey Conference Men's Ice Hockey Championship on March 4, 2023; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the members of the Utica University Men's Ice Hockey Team, Head Coach Gary Keenan, and Assistant Coaches Nick Thierren and Adam Dekker.