



Proclamation

For the past 35 years, the University of Hawai'i's Women's Athletics Program has provided valuable opportunities for thousands of young women to participate in collegiate sports. From its humble beginnings of offering two sports – volleyball and track – in its inaugural year, Rainbow Wahine athletics has since grown to include more than 200 athletes competing in 12 sports. The dramatic expansion of the program has been the result of the tireless efforts of numerous administrators, coaches, athletes and supporters.

An immediate and direct result of the enactment of Title IX, the UH Women's Athletics Program was founded in 1972 under the leadership of Dr. Donnis Thompson, the first full-time women's athletic director. Within its first decade, the program added five new sports and won the first team national championship in UH's history – the 1979 AIAW National Volleyball Championship.

Steadfast progress continued over the next two decades. During the 1980s, under Women's Administrator Cindy Boerner-Mazda, UH joined the Big West Conference, added another team sport and the women's volleyball team won three more national championships. During the 1990s, under current Women's Administrator Marilyn Moniz-Kaho'ohanohano, a member of UH's first volleyball team, the program unveiled the Stan Sheriff Center and a revamped Rainbow Wahine Softball Stadium, added three more sports, and joined the men's teams in the Western Athletic Conference.

This year marks the 35th anniversary of the enactment of the landmark Title IX legislation, now called the Patsy T. Mink Equal Opportunity in Education Act in honor of the late Congresswoman, as well as the 35th anniversary of the UH Women's Athletics Department. On August 30, a fundraising dinner will be held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village to celebrate these occasions and pay tribute to Congresswoman Mink for her remarkable legacy. Proceeds raised from this event will help fund women's athletics scholarships at UH.

THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor, and I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR., Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim **August 30, 2007**, as

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I RAINBOW WAHINE ATHLETICS DAY

in Hawai'i, and join with everyone in celebrating the UH women's athletics program, as well as in honoring the late Congresswoman Patsy T. Mink.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-seventh day of August 2007.

Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai'i

James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i