Introduced by Council Members Freeman and Hazouri and Co-Sponsored by Council Members Morgan, Ferraro, Pittman, DeFoor, Newby, Carlucci, Diamond, Boylan, Becton, Wilson and Salem:

**RESOLUTION 2020-194**

A RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF LEGENDARY HIGH SCHOOL COACH AND PILLAR OF THE JACKSONVILLE COMMUNITY CORKY ROGERS FOLLOWING HIS RECENT PASSING; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**WHEREAS**, Charles Buxton "Corky" Rogers, IV, was born in Michigan where his father was stationed during World War II. His family soon returned to their hometown of Jacksonville where his father was first a journalist and then a long-time employee of the City's parks department. Corky Rogers graduated from Lee High School as a three-sport athlete playing on the Generals' 1960 unofficial state championship football team, the 1961 baseball state championship team and the basketball team; and

**WHEREAS**, after a year at the Florida Military Academy, Corky Rogers attended Georgia Tech on a football scholarship, playing for legendary head coach Bobby Dodd and earned a degree in industrial management. He returned to Jacksonville where he sold insurance briefly before beginning his career in high school football as an assistant coach at Ribault High School; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1972 Coach Rogers was named the head coach at Lee High School where he won 10 consecutive district titles from 1977 to 1986 and coached future Green Bay Packer stars Edgar Bennett and LeRoy Butler before leaving after the 1988 season with 141 wins over 17 seasons to take the head coaching position at the Bolles

1 School; and

2 **WHEREAS**, Coach Rogers' leadership helped turn the already
3 strong Bolles School football program into a dynasty. Under his
4 leadership, Coach Rogers' Bulldogs won 10 state championships
5 between 1989 and 2011. Corky Rogers' coaching excellence led to a
6 career record of 465 wins, 84 losses and 1 tie over 45 seasons of
7 head coaching. Additionally, Coach Rogers mentored thousands of
8 players, hundreds of whom earned college scholarships and went on
9 to lead successful lives; and

10 **WHEREAS**, Corky Rogers, the winningest coach in Florida high
11 school football history and the fifth winningest coach in the
12 nation, was awarded the Life Membership Award from the American
13 Coaching Association, was the 2004-05 National High School Coach of
14 the Year and was inducted into the National Federation of State
15 High School Associations Hall of Fame, the first Florida high
16 school football coach to earn that honor. In August of 2019, the
17 Bolles School dedicated the entry of the sports complex as Corky
18 Rogers Plaza with a monument erected in his honor; and

19 **WHEREAS**, on February 26, 2020, after a lengthy battle with
20 cancer, Corky Rogers peacefully passed away at the age of 76
21 leaving behind his wife, Linda, daughters Tracy and Jennifer, and
22 six grandchildren. The entire Jacksonville community mourns the
23 loss of one of our greatest local sports heroes and will forever
24 cherish the indelible legacy that Coach Corky Rogers has left
25 behind; now therefore

26 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

27 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby commemorates and
28 celebrates the life and achievements of legendary high school coach
29 and pillar of the Jacksonville community Corky Rogers for his
30 unmatched excellence as a local high school coach, for his
31 countless sporting achievements and accolades, for his

inspirational work with the local youth, and for being a pillar of the Jacksonville community.

    **Section 2.**    **Effective Date.**  This Resolution shall become effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective without the Mayor's signature.

Form Approved:

  /s/ Paige H. Johnston

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Anthony J. Baltiero, City Council Research

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