

Martinelli Joins UT-D Women's Soccer Staff

RICHARDSON, TX (July 8, 2005) - **Heather Martinelli**, a former varsity women's soccer player at the University of Oklahoma, has been named as the new Assistant Women's Soccer/Assistant Women's Tennis Coach at The University of Texas at Dallas, Athletics Director **Chris Gage** has announced.

Martinelli, a former all-state high school player on a three-time state championship team in Norman, Oklahoma, served as a volunteer assistant with the Comets last season while also working locally with the Sting Soccer Club.

"We are very happy to have Heather join us on a fulltime basis," UTD's longtime women's soccer coach John Antonisse said. "She really did a nice job working with our forwards last fall (on a team that won an American Southwest Conference co-championship), and she should be an even more valuable member of our staff this year."

Martinelli played four years of Big XII women's soccer at OU from 2000-2003, and was selected a team captain her final two seasons. She earned a BA degree in psychology in 2004.

Martinelli was four-time all-district player at Norman (OK) High School while playing on a team that won the Oklahoma state women's soccer championship in 1996, 1997 and 1998. She won all-state honors in 1998.

Her father is former OU strength coach, Pete Martinelli.

Martinelli takes over the UTD assistant coach position from Jenny Dunn, who resigned in the spring to pursue a career outside coaching.

The University of Texas at Dallas, located in Richardson, has an enrollment of 13,700 students, and is a member of the American Southwest Conference and NCAA Division III. For additional information about UTD, please visit the university's web site at www.utdallas.edu