

Sotomayor Drops Interim Label, Named New Head Softball Coach at UT-Dallas

RICHARDSON, TX (Sept. 8, 2005) - **Kimberly Sotomayor**, the assistant coach who has been the Interim Head Softball Coach at the University of Texas at Dallas since earlier this summer, has officially been appointed as Head Softball Coach, UTD Athletics Director Chris Gage has announced.

Sotomayor, a native of Tucson, Arizona, joined the UTD softball staff as the program's first fulltime assistant coach in July 2004, and took over head coaching duties during the 2005 season when Coach Tricia Hoffmann left on maternity leave. When Coach Hoffmann resigned this summer to stay home with her child, Sotomayor was named Interim Head Coach pending a national search for a replacement. Sotomayor applied for the position and went through the same interview process as other candidates before winning the job.

Sotomayor was also UTD's women's cross country coach in 2004, and sent two runners to the NCAA Regional Meet. She is continuing responsibilities with the cross country team this fall until a new assistant coach is hired.

"Kim showed great leadership last season when she stepped right in during the season, and the team did not miss a beat," Gage said. "The young women on our team developed a trust in her as their head coach, and have respect for her knowledge of the game and leadership abilities. I am confident Kim will keep our softball program moving forward."

Prior to joining the UTD staff, Sotomayor spent three seasons as an assistant coach at New Mexico Highlands University, a Division II school in Las Vegas, New Mexico. The NMHU teams advanced to the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference tournament in 2003 and 2004. She also coached for a year at her alma mater, William Penn College in Oskaloosa, Iowa; and a year at a middle school in Tucson.

Sotomayor was an NFCA Division III All-West Region catcher at William Penn, where she earned a BA in sociology in 1998. In high school, her team at Amphitheater HS in Tucson finished third place in the 1992 state tournament.

She inherits a softball program that Hoffmann began in 2002, and has recorded a 50-32 record over the last two seasons while qualifying three straight years for the American Southwest Conference post-season championship tournament.