

Buckles Appointed Assistant AD at UT-Dallas

RICHARDSON, TX (June 15, 2004) - **Albert Buckles** has been appointed as the new Assistant Director of Athletics for External Affairs at The University of Texas at Dallas, Athletics Director **Chris Gage** has announced.

Buckles, a native of Austin, Texas, will be responsible for development, fund-raising and marketing activities for the UTD Athletics Department.

"Albert is a welcome and important addition to our department," Gage said. "As the UTD program continues to grow and become a more viable force in intercollegiate competition, we are focused on finding means of becoming more actively involved with the business community as well as our alumni and other supporters. Albert will play a key role in cultivating those relationships."

Buckles comes to UTD after serving one year as the Executive Director for Alumni Affairs at the United States Sports Academy in Daphne, Alabama. He was previously an Assistant Athletics Director for Marketing and Event Promotion at Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville, where he earned his undergraduate degree.

After graduating from Stephen F. Austin High School in Austin in 1989, Buckles played collegiate basketball at Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas; then two seasons at SIU-Edwardsville. He earned a BS degree in Business Administration from SIU-Edwardsville in 1993, then an MBA degree from Webster University in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1997. He completed his Master of Sports Science degree from the U.S. Sports Academy in 2003, and was offered the position on the Academy's staff.

In addition to experience in the retail and entertainment industries, Buckles was an assistant basketball coach at Southwestern Illinois Community College in 1993-94. He also worked in management positions with several major athletic events, including the State Games of America in St. Louis; the Prairie State Games in Fairview Heights, Illinois; and the 2002 National Junior College Athletic Association Region 24 Men's Basketball Tournament in Lebanon, Missouri.

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