Olympic softball player Crystl Bustos to host hitting clinic at Palm Beach State College April 24

(Lake Worth, Fla. – April 20, 2010) Three-time Olympic softball player Crystl Bustos will host a fast-pitch hitting clinic Saturday, April 24 at Palm Beach State College’s Lake Worth campus.

At Palm Beach Community College, Bustos led the Panthers to a national junior college championship in 1996 as a shortstop. Twice she was named All-America and Junior College Player of the Year, with a NJCAA record 23 home runs in a season. Bustos received the ultimate honor in 2001, becoming the first PBCC athlete to have a jersey (#32) retired.

Bustos was a member of Team USA that won gold medals in the 2000 and 2004 Olympics and a silver medal in 2008. She has been called the Babe Ruth of softball; in the 2000 games in Sydney, she led the team with 10 hits, three home runs and five runs scored. She followed that up by batting .346 with five home runs and 10 runs batted in (RBIs) in the 2004 Athens games. At the Beijing games in 2008, Bustos hit .500 with a record-breaking six home runs and 10 RBI; Olympic record 12 runs scored.

The clinic, sponsored by Palm Beach State and Rhino Softball, will take place at the softball field on the Lake Worth campus, 4200 Congress Ave. There will be two sessions: 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Each session is $85 per player ($95 the day of the clinic). An autograph session with Bustos will take place following each clinic. For registration and more information, visit www.rhinosoftball.com.

Serving more than 49,000 students annually, Palm Beach State College is the largest institution of higher education in Palm Beach County, providing the bachelor’s degree, associate degrees, professional certificates, career training and lifelong learning. Established in 1933 as Florida’s first public community college, it offers more than 100 programs of study at locations in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade.

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