

Karilyn Cladue has been in the area of physical education her entire teaching career. She has made children her life, whether it would be as a coach or teacher. For the past nine years she has been at the elementary level. Karilyn has made a positive influence on all the children, by not only teaching them the appropriate PE units, but instilling other positive behaviors too. She names many of the simple exercise after healthy foods, (celery jumps, watermelon jacks, & etc.) She begins her classes with “Put Ups instead of put downs to encourage compliments.

The children learn that they can “Boo” only at Halloween time. They enjoy the hugs under the “Muscle toe” at Christmas. These are examples of how she intertwines normal events in the lives of the children into her classes. It is not uncommon for me to hear her tell the children how they can do an activity at home. The use of coffee can stilts and milk jugs for catchers provide the children with creative ways to have fun even at home. She incorporate classroom curriculum ideas into PE. From recycling to working with the music teacher and including a dance in the musical, she does it all.

Karilyn is devoted to her profession and everyone can see the enjoyment she receives when working with the children. Karilyn has the highest respect for the children in her classes. She makes every child feel that they are unique and special individuals.

It gives me great pleasure to introduce to you Karilyn Claude, the 2002 Elementary Physical Education Teacher of the Year.

Excerpts taken from letters of recommendations

Deb Patterson’s role is a physical education instructor at Bettendorf Middle school, While the title of her position reflects her teaching assignment, it does little to describe her teaching skills, professionalism, and commitment to the young adolescent child. Physical education teachers are sometimes perceived as coaches who focus on the narrow confines of athletics while paying little attention to the art of teaching. That cannot be said of Deb as she has consistently demonstrated teaching and professional skills that extend beyond the gymnasium.

Through years of contact with Deb she is known to be a “top-notch” physical education teacher. Her high energy level and contagious enthusiasm provide a very stable foundation for her effective day-to-day teaching. There is ample evidence of her willingness to give that extra effort for students that helps them through this transitory period in their lives. Dealing with boys and girls in an effective manner is commendable. Dealing with boys and girls in a manner that transcends effectiveness because of sensitivity to each of their needs, places Deb Patterson in a very laudable position that deserves the highest of praise. Her very unique blending of strong characteristics unquestionable qualifies her as an outstanding Middle School Physical Educator of the Year.

Taken from letters of recommendation: Regina McGill and Richard Herrig

Margene Van Horn is a dedicated professional who strives to make herself and those around her better. She is an advocate for kids and her program. She has a strong conviction that all students should be actively participating in Physical Education class. Her unwavering determination to keep this in place is an inspiration. She strongly believes that continued involvement of physical activity improves all aspects of students’ lives including the quantity and quality. She is a leader in the field of professional development with her colleagues. She has led the department through the development of standards, benchmarks and assessments. Teachers serve a number of roles in kids’ lives, but none is more important than role model. Margene works hard to gain the respect of kids through her actions. Students know what to expect in her classroom. She expects respect and models that to teach each of her students. She exhibits personal integrity, honesty, hard work, communication, cooperation and self-control. She lives the healthy lifestyle that she teaches about and

shows her concern about the needs of her students on a daily basis. Congratulations Margene for being chosen the 2002 Secondary Physical Education Teacher of the Year.

Excerpts taken from letters of recommendation from Lowell Ernst, Michael Ballenger, and Deb Clark

Mike Sinram has been a tremendous asset to the physical education program and teachers of the Cedar Rapids Community and surrounding school districts. while serving as the Adapted Physical Education Consultant for Grant Wood AEA. He has been a model leader in curriculum, professionalism, and advocacy for everyone.

He is actively involved with physically helping the students with special needs in the elementary Physical Education programs. He attend PE classes, supports, and consults not only the physical education teacher , but the classroom teachers, the special education teachers, and the paraeducators.

He is very creative with adaptations for the students and makes or provides a variety of equipment so the students can have success. He is very informed about individual students? specific limitations. He is a wealth of information for all when consulting. When I talked to Mike several times about the nomination of this award---he kept telling me...?we work as a team here and there are many other people that deserve this award?. So I would say Mike is very modest and would rather give someone else credit in most situations. Well....Mike tonight is your night to take credit and shine. It is my pleasure to announce the 2002 Adapted Teacher of the Year. Mike Sinram

Jean Pletchette is a great role model for her students, as well as her colleagues. Jean displays the highest level of integrity and continually promotes the type of professional characteristics necessary for today's educational learning environment. Jean possesses all the characteristics of an outstanding leader.

Under her gentle guidance, the P.E. departments? philosophy is now one of life-long activities. Winterset students run at the beginning of every lesson for cardio-vascular fitness, and they understand why they are doing it. Health is now a required class in high school. They have also added sections of health class in 8th grade. Jean?s straightforward way of giving information makes it comfortable for all students to learn and talk about such health issues as teen pregnancy and AIDS. It is a source of reassurance and pride to the community that all the students can perform CPR.--thank you Jean Pletchette.

Jean is currently a mentor to a beginning teacher and a teacher leader on the school improvement team. Personally, she lives what she teachers. She is active herself with running, tennis, golf, and biking. It gives me great pleasure to announce the 2002 Health Teacher of the Year--Jean Pletchette