

Wednesday, September 07, 2011

It is with pleasure that I write this note of recommendation for Dr. Earl Suttle. I learned of Dr. Earl at the NFL / NCAA Life Skills and Professional Development Summit in Orlando, Fl. Dr. Earl's name came up when I asked the NFL Player Development directors for insights into someone who was dynamic and inspirational relative to drug education. After doing more research on Dr. Earl, I found that not only did he do "drug education", but he discusses managing high risk situations amongst the student-athlete population, conducts leadership training and delivers programming in several other important areas.

Dr. Earl visited Arizona State University during our New Student Athlete Orientation in August of 2011. He was asked to be the 8:15 AM morning speaker on their third day "at college" and not only "woke up" the group, but had them dancing, singing and learning what their stressors were that could lead them to being in a high risk situation. Later that afternoon, Dr. Earl visited with our football team - who was in the midst of rigorous two-a-day practices - and by the end of his high-energy conversation, he was noted by several of our players as "The best person you ever brought in here". Dr. Earl connected them in a way that was engaging, encouraging and challenged them to come out of their comfort zones.

While at ASU, Dr. Earl left a book with some of his and his colleague's "pearls of wisdom" with me. One of our coaches saw



the book on my desk and asked if he could borrow the book. I received a text from the coach while he was in Europe indicating that after reading the first 5 chapters, his "life had been changed". I must say personally that 2 minutes into my initial in-person meeting with Dr. Earl, I was personally inspired and motivated. Certainly, our student-athletes were inspired as well.

For those of us in the field who are looking for dynamic, highenergy speakers that the student-athletes can take something away from, I have no higher recommendation that Dr. Earl Suttle.

Enthusiastically,

Jean Boyd

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