



F. DON MILLER AWARD RECIPIENT JOE SISNEROS

Former Colorado Springs School For The Deaf And Blind football, basketball, wrestling coach and teacher Joe Sisneros is the 2008 winner of the coveted Col. F Don Miller Award, presented annually by The Sports Corp to an individual who best represents the commitment to sport and youth in the city which was a standard of the late former U.S. Olympic Committee Executive Director (1969-1985) who helped relocate the USOC to Colorado Springs in 1978 after a distinguished military career as a decorated World War II combat officer in Europe and as a boxing official and athlete at the University of Wisconsin. Col. F Don Miller retired from the USOC in 1985 and became the first President of the United States Olympic Foundation.

Sisneros, who came out of tiny Crowley High School, joined the CSDB staff in 1966 after starting the football program from scratch at Calhan High School in 1964 just after graduating from Adams State College. He stayed for 26 years, coaching and teaching kids with disabilities to surmount perceived boundaries and become successful and inspired. His 1977 football team won the state 8-man championship. Coming full circle in 2007, he came out of retirement to be the school's football coach one more time, four decades later.

He also coached at Palmer and St. Mary's High Schools after leaving CSDB before hanging up his spikes and chalkboard in 2000, and has been inducted into the National High School Sports Hall of Fame.