



**West Covina
Big League Dreams**



CITY OF WEST COVINA BIG LEAGUE DREAMS WALK OF FAME CEREMONY

**Saturday, December 4, 2010
10:00 a.m.**

**WEST COVINA
BIG LEAGUE DREAMS SPORTSPLEX
2100 S. AZUSA AVE.
WEST COVINA, CA 91792
(626) 839-1100**

WEST COVINA 2010 WALK



In 2008, the West Covina City Council approved the creation of a Walk of Fame inside the Big League Dreams Sportsplex to honor athletes, coaches and sports group volunteers from West Covina who have made significant contributions to make West Covina a better place to live, work and play. The Walk of Fame includes bronze plaques that are inserted into the concrete walkways that transverse the Big League Dreams facility.



Jeff Cook Basketball

A graduate of Edgewood High School, Jeff Cook played center for the NBA from 1979 to 1988. During his career, Jeff played for the Phoenix Suns, the Cleveland Cavaliers, the San Antonio Spurs and the Utah Jazz. He averaged 5.3 points a game with 4.5 rebounds. He also played basketball at Idaho State University.



Duke DeFrates Travel Baseball Coach

For more than 29 years, Duke DeFrates has been a volunteer baseball coach in the community. He has coached for the West Covina National Little League, West Covina Youth Pony and for more than 20 years with the West Covina Dukes Travel Baseball League. While coach of the Dukes, he won 16 league titles, 12 regional tournaments and two World Series titles in 1997 and 1998. The American Amateur Baseball Congress named him Coach of the Year in 1997. Duke also coached baseball at Bishop Amat High School from 1989 to 1998.



Mal Eaton High School Football Coach

A graduate of the University of California at Santa Barbara and the University of Southern California, Mal Eaton was a teacher and a coach at West Covina High School. In 1955, he established West Covina High School's football program, which became one of the most successful programs in California. Mal's career spanned more than 36 years with 256 career wins and 16 championships. He was selected "Coach of the Year" 10 times, was inducted into the Football Coaches Hall of Fame in 1993 and was coach of the decade for 1960-1970. In 1969, he was honored as "Alumnus of the Year" by UC Santa Barbara. He also coached at Mt. San Antonio College, Bonita High School and Avenal High School.



Pat Haden Football

A former resident of West Covina and a graduate of Bishop Amat High School, Pat Haden was a quarterback for the University of Southern California before playing for the Los Angeles Rams from 1976 to 1981. At USC, he made it to three Rose Bowl appearances and won two national championships. Pat is a member of the Rose Bowl Hall of Fame (1995) and the National High School Hall of Fame (1995). After retiring from football, Pat was a commentator for CBS and then NBC Sports, providing coverage of Notre Dame football. Following his sports career, Haden, who was a Rhodes Scholar and received his Juris Doctor from Loyola Law School, became a partner for at the venture capital firm of Riordan, Lewis & Haden. This summer, Pat rejoined USC as the Trojans' athletic director.

OF FAME HONOREES

All honorees are selected based on nominations received from the public and evaluated by the Walk of Fame Committee, which is made up of individuals representing the City of West Covina, Big League Dreams and the sports community.

Nominations are considered from any athletic program or sport. In addition, honorees must have exhibited high ethical standards in their respective athletic fields and in the community.

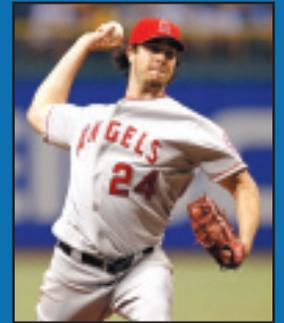
This year, we have 12 honorees:



Dan Haren

Baseball

A former West Covina resident and a graduate of Bishop Amat High School, Dan Haren is a pitcher with the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim. He played college baseball at Pepperdine University before being drafted by the St. Louis Cardinals in 2003. He played for the Cardinals from 2003 to 2004, the Oakland Athletics from 2005 to 2007 and the Arizona Diamondbacks from 2007 to 2010 before being traded to the Angels this past summer. In 2009, he was named No. 33 on the Sporting News' list of the 50 greatest current players in baseball. Dan has been selected to three all-star teams (2007, 2008 and 2009) has a career of 91 wins and 74 losses, a 3.66 ERA and 1,251 career strikeouts.



Jay Johnstone

Baseball

A graduate of Edgewood High School, Jay Johnstone played major league baseball from 1966 to 1985. During his career, Jay played as an outfielder for the California Angels, the Los Angeles Dodgers, the Chicago White Sox, the Oakland Athletics, the Philadelphia Phillies, the New York Yankees, the San Diego Padres and the Chicago Cubs. He was a member of the 1978 World Champion Yankees and the 1981 World Champion Dodgers. In his baseball career, Jay had a 0.267 batting average, with 102 home runs and 531 runs batted in. At the end of his baseball career, Jay was a baseball announcer and still maintains his involvement with major league baseball and promotes local baseball programs throughout the country and here in West Covina.



Mike Lamb

Baseball

A former resident of West Covina and a graduate of Bishop Amat High School, Mike Lamb is an infielder with the Florida Marlins. Mike attended Cal State Fullerton and was a member of its 1995 NCAA National Championship baseball team. Originally drafted by the Texas Rangers, Mike has also played for the Houston Astros, the Minnesota Twins, the New York Mets and the Milwaukee Brewers. Mike has a career batting average of .276, 746 hits, 349 runs batted in and 69 home runs.



Bee Nichols

Little League Volunteer

For more than 40 years, Bee Nichols was an active volunteer for the West Covina American Little League. She began in the early 1960s when sons George, Jim and Bobby played for West Covina American Little League. The tradition continued when grandson Garrett played in the same league.





Aaron Small

Baseball

A graduate of South Hills High School, Aaron Small was drafted by the Toronto Blue Jays in 1989 and made his major league pitching debut with the Blue Jays in 1994. From 1994 to 2006, Aaron played for the Blue Jays, the Florida Marlins, the Oakland Athletics, the Arizona Diamondbacks, the Atlanta Braves, the Chicago Cubs and the New York Yankees. In 2005, Aaron went 10-0 for the Yankees with a 3.20 ERA. For his career, Aaron had 25 wins and 13 losses, 5.20 ERA and 170 career strikeouts.



John Vanettes

Little League Volunteer

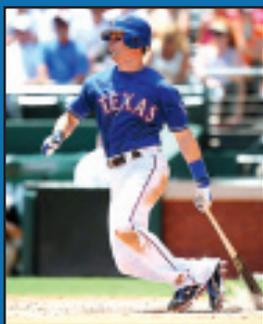
John Vanettes started his volunteer service as an umpire for West Covina Little League at the age of 14. A few years later, he began umpiring for the West Covina American Little League, a position he held for 25 years. In addition to umpiring, John also served as field maintenance supervisor for the league. Over the years, it is estimated that John umpired more than 1,500 baseball games at no charge to the league. When not volunteering his time on the baseball field, John can be found volunteering at West Covina Methodist Church.



Ken Wells

High School Football and Baseball Coach

Prior to his career in coaching, Ken Wells played football and baseball at Bonita High School and later at the University of Redlands. Ken began his career at West Covina High School under his lifelong mentor and fellow Walk of Fame honoree, Mal Eaton, who also coached Ken as a player at Bonita. In 1962, Ken became the head football and baseball coach at Edgewood High School, a position he held for more than 15 years.



Michael Young

Baseball

A graduate of Bishop Amat High School, Michael Young is the third baseman for the Texas Rangers. Originally drafted in 1994 by the Baltimore Orioles, Michael chose to attend U.C. Santa Barbara instead of signing with the Orioles. In 1997, Michael signed with the Toronto Blue Jays and made his major league debut with the Texas Rangers in 2000. During his 10 years with the Rangers, Michael was selected to the All-Star Team on six occasions (2004 to 2009), Gold Glove winner in 2008, American League Batting Champion in 2005, member of the United States 2006 World Baseball Classic Team and MVP of the 2006 All-Star Game. Michael has a career batting average of .300, 1,841 hits, 808 runs batted in and 158 home runs.

WEST COVINA WALK OF FAME COMMITTEE

- Mayor Pro Tem Steve Herfert
- Councilmember Sherri Lane
- City Manager Andrew Pasmant
- Deputy City Manager Chris Freeland
- Big League Dreams West Covina General Manager Adrian Williams
- West Covina Sports League Representative Dave Bletcher
- At-Large Member Appointed by the City Council Greg Gano

Congratulations to this year's 12 honorees and to our past Walk of Fame honorees.

Thank you for your contributions to sports in the community!

PAST WALK OF FAME HONOREES:

- RICK AGUILERA
- TOM BRUNANSKY
- JIM GONSALVES
- MIKE POWELL
- GARY ROENICKE
- RON ROENICKE

WEST COVINA CITY COUNCIL

MAYOR:

**Shelley Sanderson
MAYOR PRO TEM:**

**Steve Herfert
COUNCILMEMBER:
Roger Hernández**

**COUNCILMEMBER:
Sherri Lane**

**COUNCILMEMBER:
Mike Touhey**