

# WHITEFISH BAY HIGH SCHOOL



*Blue Dukes*

## ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

**BILL BRAND**

*Distinguished Contributor*

Bill was a lifelong resident of Whitefish Bay, attending Cumberland Grade School and Whitefish Bay High School. While in grade school, he was the team manager for the high school basketball team. Throughout high school, he was a member of the football, basketball, volleyball, cross country, and track teams. Because of his love of athletics, he was also the team manager for both football and basketball.

After college graduation, he taught at Henry Clay and Cumberland where he also coached football and basketball. Because of his involvement in all sports, he developed a philosophy that all children should be given an opportunity to participate in sports to develop the lifelong lessons that he learned, a tradition he passed on to his children and his grandchildren. During these years he also refereed all sports at all levels and continued to help out with the Whitefish Bay athletic program by chaperoning buses, hiring officials, and working at athletic events.

When he retired from teaching he continued to do whatever he could for the Whitefish Bay Athletic Department. He was the game manager for football, basketball and track. Bill also served as the Commissioner of the North Shore Conference. He was so proud of his job and responsibilities because he could remain close to high school athletics and Whitefish Bay. He hired all officials for all sports and participated in conference athletic director meetings. Bill will always be remembered for his love of athletics and Whitefish Bay, specifically Whitefish Bay athletics.

**Class of 2013-14**

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## ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

### DANTE DE LA PASQUA *Coach*

Dante De La Pasqua started teaching in the Business Education Department at Whitefish Bay High School in 1967. That same year, he was asked to coach the boys' volleyball team. That decision started a coaching tenure that lasted over 40 years.

From 1967-1975, Dante coached the boys' varsity volleyball program at Whitefish Bay High School. His teams' accomplishments include Suburban Conference Championships in 1968, 1970, 1972 and 1975, and second place finishes at the State Championships in 1971 and 1972 and a State Championship in 1973.

In 1976, Dante left the boys' program to coach the girls' varsity volleyball team. He coached for 11 seasons and guided his teams to conference championships in 1980 and 1981 and a regional championship in 1978. He coached the girls' softball team from 1986 to 1990 before he returned to coaching the girls' volleyball team from 1996 until 2001.

Dante coached several club volleyball programs starting in 1987. He led his girls' U-16 team to the first Badger Region Championship in 1995. He also founded the successful Ozaukee Wave Volleyball Club.

Dante De La Pasqua's calm and fair coaching style along with educating and developing players were cornerstones of his success. His philosophy was always put the athlete first.

**Class of 2013-14**

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## ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

LIZ BERRY LARSEN

*Class of 1975 - Athlete*

A 4-year letter winner in both swimming and track and field, Liz won the 1973 WIAA State Championship in the 880 yard run and was a member of the 1974 women's 400 yard freestyle relay team that won the state championship and set a new state record. During her high school career Liz also finished second at the WIAA State Championships in five different events - the 100-yard freestyle, the 500 yard freestyle, the 880 yard run (twice), and the mile. In 1974, she set the national high school record in the mile with a time of 5:07.4.

Liz graduated 6th in her class and attended Penn State on a full athletic scholarship, where she was an All American and varsity letterwoman. Her 1975 cross country team finished 2nd at the collegiate national championships, and the following spring Liz finished 5th in the 3 mile run at the AIAW Track and Field Championships. In 1978, she posted the eighth fastest time ever run in the woman's marathon, 2:41:10, and finished 7th at the Bonnie Bell National 10K Championships.

Liz began her cycling career in 1982 after injuries forced a retirement from running. She was the U.S. Cycling Federation national time trial champion in 1985, silver medalist in both 1984 and 1986, and a member of the USCF National Team from 1985 -1987.

Liz credits her success to the support and encouragement from her coaches and teammates at WFB.

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## ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

**JEFF THIELKE**

*Coach/Distinguished Contributor*

Jeff Thielke started teaching and coaching at Whitefish Bay High School in 1969. For the next 34 years, Jeff worked in the high school as a teacher of industrial education, driver education and Athletic/Activities Director.

Jeff coached boys' freshman basketball for seven years, boys' JV basketball for five years and boys' varsity basketball for sixteen years. His teams won four Conference Championships, made four State Championship appearances and captured two State titles. The 1996 championship team was part of a historic undefeated season. In addition, Jeff was an assistant in a very successful cross country team for seven years and an assistant coach in boys' track and field for eighteen years focusing on sprint and hurdle events. Numerous track athletes had outstanding conference and state performances with some continuing to hold state records.

Jeff was named Whitefish Bay High School Athletic and Activities Director in 1987 and served sixteen years in that position. During his tenure he was instrumental in forming the Lois Wolf Track and Field Invitational, the Bob Bradley Gymnastics Invitational, the Morgan Byers Swimming and Diving Invitational and the Richard VandenAvond Cross Country Invitational. He was honored as District VII Athletic Director of the Year in 1996 by the Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association.

Jeff stressed active student participation in the life of the school and advocated excellence in athletics, activities and the arts.

**Class of 2013-14**