

Albert Schoterman'68

Al Schoterman's youth began as a "sickly kid" with rheumatoid fever and other ailments. Doctors advised his mother to keep him confined to bed and prophesized he would never thrive to be a normal healthy youngster. But Al's mother refused to accept that prognosis, defied medical direction, and encouraged her son to work hard to improve his health. Her gift to him of a weight bench at age nine, along with much encouragement, whole milk from their dairy farm, and constant encouragement caused Al to not only develop but also thrive and flourish physically and mentally.

In high school, Al became an accomplished athlete excelling in football and track and field events. He made All County in football and placed second in NYS in the shot put and discus throw.

After leaving Bay Shore, Al attended Kent State University having been recruited by Coach Doug Raymond. At KSU, he earned his BS Degree in Industrial Recreation and Management in 1973. During his years at Kent State, under the direction and mentorship of Doug Raymond, Al became a driven, fierce competitor in track & field events. The year Coach Raymond recruited Al; he also recruited a Frenchman, Jock Acambray with the distinct intention of pushing both men to higher levels of achievement based upon their competitive natures. The coach's strategy was successful for Al. In the hammer throw he was a five time Division 1 All American, and a four time NCAA Division 1 champion, breaking the NCAA record 16 times. His 1972 Kent State record still stands today. He was also Mid-American Conference champion in the hammer throw five times and ultimately named one of the top 50 athletes in Mid-American School Conference history.

Al was a member of the USA track & field team that competed against Team USSR in 1970 and 1971 in Richmond, Virginia. He qualified for and competed in the 1972 world Olympics in Munich. Later that year he participated in the Pan American Games in Cali, Columbia and the Penn Relays where he set the hammer throw record and was named

Penn Relay's most outstanding performer. The following year Al participated in the Scottish Highland Games held in Pennsylvania.

From 1978 – 1980 Al resided in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia where he coached over 100 athletes for the Saudi Arabian Olympic Team in field events and weight lifting. His coaching career continued from 1980-1985 as an assistant track coach at Kent State University, producing eight All Americans. He was also the personal coach from 1976-1998 for Jud Logan, four time Olympian and current American hammer throw record holder.

Al is married to his college sweetheart, Dyanne. They reside in Kent, Ohio. He retired from full time coaching in 2000 and now operates a home remodeling business. In his spare time he enjoys his family, two dogs, friends and fishing.

Al warmly remembers his Bay Shore High School years and the dedicated coaches who encouraged him to work hard and persevere. He also thanks his mother, his greatest supporter, who never missed attending his major competitions even if it meant traveling great distances. She gave him the constant strength to succeed and to attain his athletic goals. And he certainly attained one of those goals when this Bay Shore alumnus represented the United States of America at the World Olympics!