



BOBBI ANN HUNT TRIPLETT

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Ironton Native, Bobbi Ann Hunt, started competing and winning by the age of 5. Bobbi Ann was a natural in the sport of gymnastics. By the age of 11, she had caught the eye of one of the nation's top coaches, Cap Caudill. He added her to his team of Olympic hopefuls and quickly went to work with the young star. While attending Ironton Middle School, Bobbi Ann spent her days traveling by plane between school and training, living summers and weeks during school away from home. She finished in the top 15 in the country in the Olympic Trials at the tender age of 12. She also won the bronze medal in the "All-Around" at the Junior Olympics at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO. She had suffered a knee injury 2 weeks prior to this competition and had knee surgery shortly after.

Her gymnastics came to a standstill with the injury. As an Ironton High School student, she became a majorette, all the while coaches at the national level wanted her to return. Bobbie Ann began helping Ironton's gymnastics team. By her senior year, she decided to return to competition. That year, she won the All-Around Gold Medal in the Ohio State Gymnastics Championship, defeating all divisions of high school while representing Ironton High School. She won Gold in balance beam, uneven bars, and vault, and silver medal in floor exercise. She was considered by many as the surprise of the tournament.

While offers from many Division 1 colleges came, she selected the University of Louisville and received a full athletic scholarship. Louisville was one of the top 6 colleges in gymnastics. She got to travel the country and compete with Ohio State, UCLA, Penn State, Florida State, LSU, SIU and many more. While attending U of L, Bobbi Ann was a two time "All-American." Individually, she won the All-Around Gold Medal in the Regional Intercollegiate Championship 3 or 4 years. She also won the All-Around gold medal in the Kentucky Women's Intercollegiate Championship 3 separate years. Bobbie Ann was ranked 16th in the country as a freshman and then finished as high as 6th nationally. She graduated from U of L with a Bachelors degree in Political Science.

Bobbi Ann has since taught many kids in gymnastics. She has done choreography over the years both for gymnasts and for high school plays. She taught fitness for years and has helped with conditioning for other sports, including the Dallas Cowboys off season work outs and her husband's football teams, assisting with advances in off season conditioning and training. She enjoys photography now, especially of sports, families, seniors and weddings and as an Intensive Care RN at Cabell Huntington Hospital.