In the fall of 1977, Irene N. Darmochwal entered Rutgers-Newark as the first female recipient of a full athletic scholarship. Her outstanding volleyball ability and leadership qualities were quickly recognized by her election as co-captain during her first full season. She remained so until her junior year at which time she was appointed captain, a position she held until her graduation.

During each of her four years at Rutgers-Newark, she was elected to the New Jersey Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for the Women’s Volleyball All Star Team. In her final season, she was voted the Rutgers-Newark Woman Athlete of the year.

Irene continued to be active with volleyball both with local club teams as well as coach for junior high and grade school teams since her graduation. Her busy schedule as a law student at Seton Hall Law School curtailed her volleyball activities. She is currently employed by Kidder Peabody as a legal clerk and graduated from law school in 1986.