

Al Maxwell was named 2nd team 4-A all-state on defense by the Texas Sports Writers Association in 1999 as a senior after leading Belton to an undefeated regular season and two victories in the playoffs.

Alfonso Dwayne Maxwell was born in Belton on March 23, 1981, and was raised in Belton by his mother, Bertha Milo, with three older siblings, Henry Maxwell, Artisha Shanks and Carlton Shanks. He attended Southwest Elementary School, Belton Intermediate School, Belton Jr. H.S. and Belton H.S. where he graduated in 2000. Al participated in track, basketball and football during his high school years in Belton.

Al was a member of the Tiger JV track team as a soph and junior and finished 4th in the 100-yd dash at 11.27 and 2nd in the 220-yd dash at 23.43 in the JV district 25-4A track meet. He started for the Tiger varsity basketball team as a junior in 1999 when the team was 8-20 under 1st year coach Ed Braeuer and as a senior in 2000 when the team was 17-13 (8-4). The 6'2" Maxwell's strength was rebounding as he averaged 7 rebounds per game in his senior year and made 2nd team all-district.

In football Al was a FB and safety on the Tiger sophomore team which won district in 1997 (Belton's last year in 5A). As a junior the 6'0" 180 lb. Maxwell was the leading tackler (with 120 on the season) on defense for the Tiger varsity which was 9-4 on the year, co-champion (with Marble Falls) of District 25-4A, and defeated Austin Travis 16-12 and Hays Consolidated 28-21 before losing to Alice 16-14 in the regional. Maxwell was named to the 25-4A all-district 1st team on defense at LB.

As a senior Maxwell was Belton's only returning starter on defense and led the Tigers to an 11-1 record on the year including an undefeated (10-0) regular season, a District Championship, and a playoff victory over Austin McCallum 42-12. The team lost to Hays Consolidated 19-10 in the regional semi-final but finished the year ranked #9 in 4A in Texas. The Tiger defense gave up an average of only 9.8 points and 198.4 yards per game on the season. The Tiger offense was led by Cody Fredenburg and Lazarus Ross and the Tigers were given the Gordon Wood award as the top team in Texas based on team "character." "Big Al" Maxwell, at 6'2" and 195 lbs, anchored the Tiger defense as a senior as he made 132 tackles (61 solo), forced 4 fumbles and intercepted one pass on the year. His highlight game was the 23-0 victory over Pflugerville Connally when he had 12 tackles, one interception and one caused fumble to lead the Tiger defense which held Connally to 138 yards and no points after the 8-1 Cougars had averaged 390 yards and 36 points per game.

Maxwell was given the Harry Wilson Defensive Tiger of the Year award, the Tiger Legacy award, and an Academic all-district award at the annual football banquet. He was named 1st team all-district at LB and co-MVP of the district on defense. He was also named 1st team LB on the Austin American-Statesman's All-Centex team which ranked the Tigers as the top defensive team in Central Texas and 2nd team All-Centex by the Waco Tribune. One newspaper described Maxwell as having a "superb blend of strength and speed to terrorize opponents throughout the season." He was named 2nd team all-state on defense by the Texas Sportswriters and honorable mention all-

state by the Associated Press. He was listed by Dave Campbell's Football Magazine as a one of the top 300 football recruits in Texas after the 1999 season (the only player listed in the top 300 from Temple or Belton).

Maxwell was recruited by Baylor, Texas A&M at Kingsville, and Stephen F. Austin, and played as a safety for one year at A&M-Kingsville. Al graduated from Texas State U. in 2004 and coached at Lockhart and Rosebud-Lott before becoming the head football coach at Travis Middle School in Temple in 2006. In 2009, Al Maxwell, 28, lived in Temple and remained the coach at Travis Middle School.