

# 2025 AVCA Thirty Under 30 College



**Emily Garrett**

University of Missouri - Columbia  
Director of Volleyball Operations

#### **Career Accomplishments to Date:**

- 6 NCAA Tournament appearances (2018, 2019, 2021[covid year], 2021, 2023, 2024) (4 First Round, 1 Round of 32, 1 Sweet 16)
- 1 NIVC Tournament Appearance (2017)
- 4 All-Region Honorable Mention
- 11 All-Region Players
- 1 Region Player of the Year
- 5 All-American Honorable Mention
- 1 All-American 3rd Team
- 6 AVCA Team Academic Awards
- 10 Student-Athletes moved on to play Professional Volleyball

#### **Coaching Roles:**

- Illinois State University - Director of Volleyball Operations: 2017-2022
- Texas Tech University - Director of Volleyball Operations: 2022-2023
- University of Missouri - Director of Volleyball Operations: 2023-Present

**What made you decide to get into coaching volleyball?**

I have always loved being around sports and loved being organized. I "fell into" volleyball during my undergrad years. I was working in the Monmouth College Athletic Department, when Coach Kari Shimmin asked if I knew how to cut film and create a highlight film for the end of the year banquet. I told her "I'd figure it out" and worked in the Volleyball Office for 4 years. Illinois State then needed a Director of Ops and Leah Johnson took a chance on someone with very little Volleyball knowledge. From there it's history and here we are on year 8.

### **What are your career goals in the sport?**

I would like to eventually get into administration, as an Senior Woman Administrator, Internal Operations or Compliance.



### **Which coaches have influenced you the most?**

- In High School, I was influenced and became a better player by Ashley Danekas Kuddes and Amber Springsteen.
- In College, Kari Shimmin, Jennifer Braun and Tracie Henry were influential and supportive of pursuing the Operations Field.
- Leah Johnson and Leanna Bordner took a chance on a 22 year old and I am forever indebted to them for giving me a start in my career.
- Dawn Sullivan for allowing me to jump on board at Mizzou and be a part of an amazing program turnaround.

### **What do you enjoy most about your coaching job?**

I truly enjoy the interaction I have with everyone that touches our program. Everyone from our airline pilots, hotel contacts, bus drivers, restaurants, facilities, and everyone who has a hand in making our student-athletes successful on and off the court. I love being "behind-the-scenes", problem solving and handling things our student-athletes would have no idea about, and it all coming together so smoothly (and on time).

