

2024

AVCA Thirty Under 30 High School



Michelle Forbes

Dunlap Community High School
Head Varsity Coach

Career Accomplishments to Date:

- Washington Community High School: Overall head coaching record of 57-7 as Washington Sophomore Coach. One conference runner up title and one conference championship.
- Eastside Volleyball Club: Overall record of 106-45 in 3 club seasons as national head coach at the high school level in club/premier/open divisions. Premier National Bid Winner in 2022.
- Dunlap High School: Rebuilt a program that had 7 season wins the year before to finishing fourth in the Mid-Illini Conference and an overall record of 21-13 in year one and third place in the Mid-Illini conference with a 23-13 season record in year two.

Coaching Roles:

- Washington Community High School 2019-2021: Served as the Sophomore Coach and Varsity Assistant Coach
- Eastside Volleyball Club 2021-present: Served as the 15u National and 16u National Head Coach
- Dunlap Community High School 2023-present: Head Varsity Coach

What made you decide to get into coaching volleyball?

I decided to coach volleyball to give back to a community that has given me so much in my 28 years. From all the lessons it has taught me, to all the bridesmaids it gave me standing by my side on my wedding day, I would not be who I am without this game and the people it brought me.



What are your career goals in the sport?

My career goals in volleyball are to continue shaping the lives of young athletes to teach them to work through adversity, concentrate on what they can control, work together, and always strive for success.

Which coaches have influenced you the most?

The coach that has influenced me the most has been Dawn Davis. She was the woman who taught me how to play volleyball in the 4th grade and I eventually coached under her in her last 2 years as head varsity coach at Washington. She taught me to never give up and to embrace adversity.

What do you enjoy most about your coaching job?

I think what I enjoy the most about coaching is being able to watch athletes succeed and building awesome bonds with them as not only players, but as people. I have been blessed at Dunlap with such an amazing group my first 2 years there as head coach and being apart of their journey has been so special to me. They have taken me in, bought into my culture, and have all worked hard every single day. That is more than I could ever ask for as a coach.

