



HAWKEYE HOME PLATE

Iowa Softball News and Notes

4/19 - vs. Iowa State
Hy-Vee Cy-Hawk Series

2005 IOWA SCHEDULE

37-9 Overall, 8-4 Big Ten

2/12-13	at Stetson Invitational	
2/12	Virginia Tech	W, 8-0 (6)
2/12	Stetson	L, 2-6
2/13	Virginia Tech	W, 3-2
2/13	Stetson	W, 3-0
2/18-20	at Littlewood Classic	
2/18	Long Island	W, 6-0
2/18	Arizona State	W, 2-0
2/26-27	at Courtyard by Marriott Tourney	
2/26	Minnesota	W, 3-0
2/26	Louisville	W, 5-3
2/27	#24 Missouri	L, 3-1 (8)
2/27	Ball State W,	8-0 (6)
3/4-6	at Buzz Classic	
3/4	Georgia Southern	W, 6-0
3/4	Georgia Southern	W, 6-0
3/5	Auburn	L, 2-1
3/5	Middle Tennessee State	W, 3-1
3/5	Gardner-Webb	W, 9-1 (5)
3/6	Virginia Tech	W, 3-1
3/6	Auburn	W, 16-1 (5)
3/6	Ohio State	W, 5-0
3/11-13	at NIST, San Jose, CA	
3/11	Connecticut	W, 5-0
3/11	UC Davis	W, 2-1 (8)
3/12	San Jose State	W, 5-4
3/12	#2 California	L, 2-7
3/13	Colorado State	W, 5-1
3/16	at Pacific Mini Tournament	
3/16	vs. Rhode Island	W, 6-0
3/16	vs. Pacific	W, 4-2
3/17	vs. Utah (at Pacific)	W, 13-7
3/18-20	at Capital Classic Tournament	
3/18	vs. #17 Oregon State	L, 2-6
3/18	vs. Long Island	W, 8-0
3/23	Illinois State (DH)	PPD
3/26-27	Hawkeye Classic	
3/26	vs. Ball State	W, 4-0
3/26	vs. South Dakota State	W, 9-0 (5)
3/27	vs. Ball State	W, 10-0 (6)
3/27	vs. North Dakota State	W, 2-0
4/1	at #1 Michigan*	W, 5-2
4/2	at #1 Michigan*	L, 1-3
4/3	at #23 Northwestern*	L, 11-1 (5)
4/3	at #23 Northwestern*	L, 0-2
4/6	at Northern Illinois	W, 8-2
4/8	Purdue*	W, 3-2
4/9	Purdue*	L, 1-2
4/10	Indiana*	W, 5-0
4/10	Indiana*	W, 3-0
4/13	William Penn	W, 6-0
4/15	at Ohio State*	W, 4-1
4/16	at Ohio State*	W, 6-2
4/17	at Penn State*	W, 3-1
4/17	at Penn State*	W, 5-1
4/19	Iowa State	4 p.m.
4/22	at Michigan State*	3 p.m.
4/23	at Michigan State*	Noon
4/24	South Dakota State (DH)	1 p.m.
4/26	Western Illinois	6 p.m.
4/29	Wisconsin*	6 p.m.
4/30	Wisconsin*	Noon
5/1	Minnesota (DH)*	Noon
5/5	Drake	6 p.m.
5/7	Illinois*	Noon
5/8	Illinois*	Noon
5/12-14	Big Ten Tournament	TBA
5/19-22	NCAA Regionals	TBA
5/27/29	NCAA Super Regional	TBA
6/2-6	Women's College World Series	TBA

Probable Iowa Lineup

No.	Name	Pos.	B-T	Yr.	GP	Avg.	Runs	Hits	RBI	HR	2B	SLG%	SB
14	Brandi Sargent	1B	L/L	Jr.	35	.278	9	20	7	3	5	.472	2
24	Steph Ackerson	1B	R/R	Fr.	33	.212	7	11	3	0	2	.250	2
2	Summer Downs	2B	R-R	Fr.	40	.266	22	34	20	4	7	.430	3
10	Stacy May	SS	R-R	Jr.	46	.320	28	47	26	7	12	.558	2
12	Abby Ruff	3B	R-R	Sr.	41	.221	14	15	10	1	6	.353	5
17	Kylie Murray	RF	R-R	Jr.	45	.318	10	35	22	2	6	.427	1
or 5	Jenna Spratt	RF	L-R	So.	42	.259	15	15	7	0	0	.259	5
11	Mindy Heidgerken	CF	R-R	So.	46	.292	28	31	13	2	7	.472	16
9	Natalie Johnson	LF	L-L	Jr.	46	.259	18	28	13	3	4	.380	4
13	Sami Baugh	C	R-R	So.	44	.268	14	30	14	3	6	.402	1
or 1	Emily Nichols	C	R/R	Fr.	46	.339	27	40	39	15	6	.788	1

Probable Pitching Rotation

No.	Name	Throws	Yr.	Record	GS	SV	CG	SH	ERA	SO	BB	IP
4	Lisa Birocci	RHP	Sr.	21-7	25	6	22	10	1.13	194	30	185.1
3	Ali Arnold	RHP	Jr.	15-2	20	0	10	7	1.54	151	32	113.1
24	Steph Ackerson	RHP	Fr.	0-0	1	1	0	0	3.82	6	2	7.1

THE SETTING

The University of Iowa softball team (37-9, 8-4) hosts Iowa State (13-25, 1-10) in the final event of the first annual HyVee Cy-Hawk series Tuesday. Game time is set for 4 p.m. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for students and free for UI students and children five or younger.

THE HYVEE CY-HAWK SERIES

Hy-Vee, Inc., in conjunction with Hawkeye Sports Properties, a division of Learfield Communications and Cyclone Sports Marketing, a division of Clear Channel and ESPN Regional, reached an agreement with Iowa State University and the University of Iowa to serve as the title sponsor for the schools' Cy-Hawk Series - the name given to the collection of regular-season, head-to-head intercollegiate athletic events featuring Cyclone and Hawkeye teams.

Intercollegiate athletic teams from Iowa and Iowa State will square off in head-to-head competition nine different times during the 2004-05 academic year.

Two points are awarded for an institution if the student-athlete graduation rate for all student-athletes is greater than the national average for all student-athletes, according to the annual graduation rate report issued each September/October by the NCAA.

Iowa currently leads the Cy-Hawk series, 9-8 and can clinch the title with a win at Pearl Field on Tuesday.

2005 BIG TEN STANDINGS

	CONF.	OVERALL
1. NORTHWESTERN	12-0	30-9
2. MICHIGAN	11-1	44-3
3. IOWA	8-4	37-9
4. MICHIGAN ST.	6-6	16-24
T5. PENN ST.	5-5	27-16
PURDUE	5-5	28-17
7. OHIO ST.	4-6	20-14
T8. MINNESOTA	3-7	22-20
WISCONSIN	3-7	13-19
10. INDIANA	2-8	12-31
11. ILLIONIS	1-11	19-23

THIS WEEK'S BIG TEN ACTION

April 18

North Dakota St. at Wisconsin (DH) 3 p.m.

April 19

Bradley at Northwestern (DH) 3 p.m.

Ohio State at Wright State 3 p.m.

Purdue at Valparaiso (DH) 3 p.m.

Loyola-Chicago at Wisconsin (DH) 3 p.m.

Michigan St. at Oakland (DH) 3:30 p.m.

Iowa State at Iowa 4 p.m.

Eastern Michigan at Michigan 4 p.m.

April 20

Indiana at Missouri (DH) 4 p.m.

Illinois-Chicago at Northwestern 6:30 p.m.

April 21

Bradley at Illinois (DH) 4 p.m.

April 22

Ohio State at Northwestern 3 p.m.

Wisconsin at Purdue 3 p.m.

Iowa at Michigan State 4 p.m.

Minnesota at Indiana 4 p.m.

Penn State at Michigan 6 p.m.

April 23

Ohio State at Northwestern 12 p.m.

Wisconsin at Purdue 12 p.m.

Iowa at Michigan State 12 p.m.

Minnesota at Indiana 12 p.m.

Penn State at Michigan 12 p.m.

April 24

Penn State at Northwestern (DH) 10:30 a.m.

Minnesota at Purdue (DH) 11 a.m.

Illinois at Michigan St. (DH) 12 p.m.

Wisconsin at Indiana (DH) 12 p.m.

Iowa vs. South Dakota St. (DH) 1 p.m.

all times listed are local

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Hawkeye Softball Notes

IOWA TOPS OHIO STATE

The Hawkeyes used a three-run third inning to defeat Ohio State, 4-1 last Friday. Iowa collected nine hits, including home runs from **Stacy May** and **Mindy Heidgerken**.

May hit a two-run home run in the third to put the Hawkeyes up, 2-0. **Summer Downs** followed with a double to right center and **Sami Baugh** singled to right, scoring Downs for a 3-0 lead. Heidgerken scored Iowa's final run in the fourth when she blasted her second home run of the season.

Lisa Birocci went the distance and collected her 20th win of the season. Birocci gave up no earned runs and struck out three.

COMEBACK KIDS DOWN OHIO STATE

Iowa scored six unanswered runs to defeat Ohio State, 6-2 and earned a series sweep over the Buckeyes.

After Ohio State jumped out to an early 2-0 lead in the first, Iowa responded with a three-run third inning. **Stacy May** hit a two-run double and **Kylie Murray** singled, plating **Jenna Spratt** to put Iowa up, 3-2.

The Hawkeyes added two more in the fourth when **Natalie Johnson** scored on a fielding error and **Lisa Birocci** scored on a fielder's choice.

Emily Nichols scored the final run in the fifth on a fielding error by the Ohio State third baseman.

Ali Arnold threw just over three innings and picked up the win, while Birocci earned her sixth save of the season.

HAWKEYES SWEEP PENN STATE

The Hawkeyes swept a double-header against Penn State on Sunday to improve their record to 37-9 overall and 8-4 in the Big Ten. Iowa won the first game 3-1 and two, 5-1.

Lisa Birocci led the Hawkeyes both offensively and in the circle in game one. The senior threw a complete game and allowed only one run on six hits and struck out six. She also was 2-3 with three RBI and smashed her third home run of the season.

In game two, Iowa scored one run in the bottom of the first for an early advantage. **Emily Nichols** hit her 15th home run of the season in the third to cap a three-run inning and the Hawkeyes scored an insurance run in the sixth to secure the victory.

Ali Arnold threw a complete game and allowed one run on four hits and struck out 11.

SCOUTING IOWA STATE

The Iowa State Cyclones are 13-25 overall and 1-10 in the Big 12 Conference.

Katie Reichling leads the Cyclone offense. She is batting .287 with seven doubles, one triple, two home runs and nine RBI. Cary Akins and Kim Rodgers lead the team with 14 RBI.

Reichling is also Iowa State's leading pitcher. She has a 6-9 record with a 2.89 ERA. Alyssa Ransom leads the Cyclones with 85 strikeouts.

Iowa State leads the all-time series, 28-25-1.

LAST MEETING

Lisa Birocci pitched seven shut-out innings while striking out 10 in a 4-0 victory against the Cyclones last season. Birocci helped her cause by blasting a two-run home run in the top of the second.

WE'RE GOIN' SREAKING

The Hawkeyes have won seven straight games, dating back to their sweep against Indiana. Iowa rode an eight game winning streak before a 7-2 defeat by California earlier this season.

**Iowa Hawkeye
Softball**

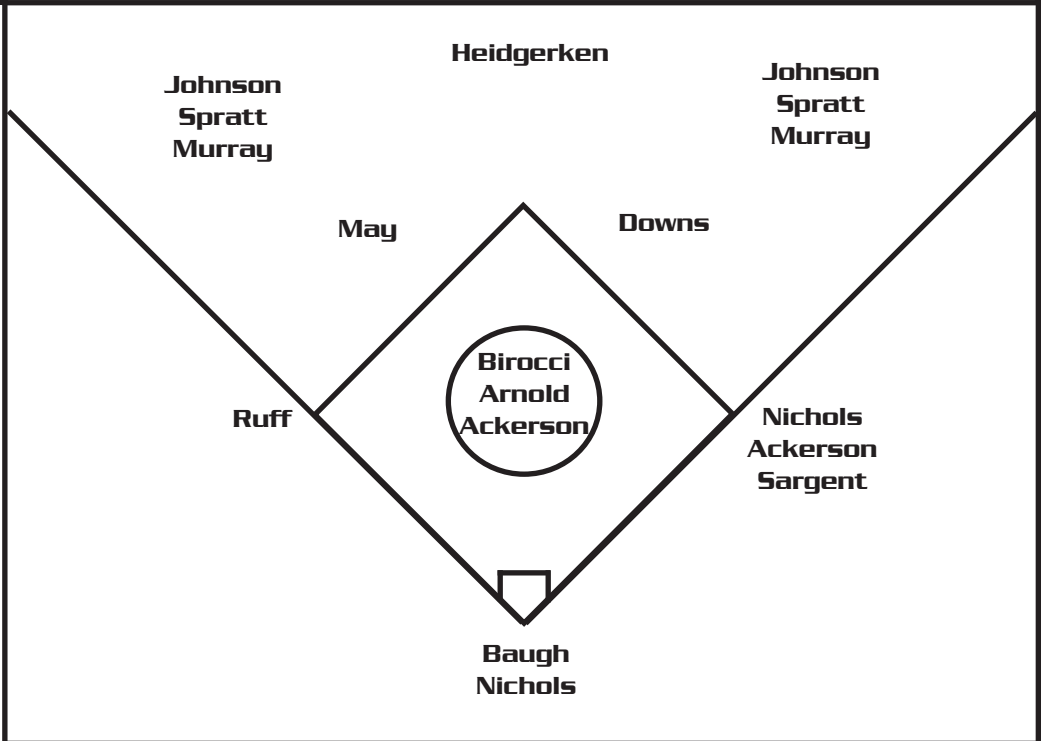
- 1** **EMILY NICHOLS**
- 2** **SUMMER DOWNS**
- 3** **ALI ARNOLD**
- 4** **LISA BIROCCI**
- 5** **JENNA SPRATT**
- 9** **NATALIE JOHNSON**
- 10** **STACY MAY**
- 11** **MINDY HEIDGERKEN**
- 12** **ABBY RUFF**
- 13** **SAMI BAUGH**
- 14** **BRANDI SARGENT**
- 17** **KYLIE MURRAY**
- 22** **EMILY GERLICK**
- 24** **STEPHANIE ACKERSON**

HEAD COACH
GAYLE BLEVINS

ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH
MICHELLE VENTURELLA

ASSISTANT COACH
DEBBIE BILBAO

VOLUNTEER ASSISTANT
KRISTIN JOHNSON



HEIDGERKEN HAS SOLID WEEK

Sophomore centerfielder **Mindy Heidgerken** hit .571 (8-14) with a home run, two triples, a double and four RBI in five games last week. Heidgerken is currently in the middle of a seven game hitting streak and leads the Hawkeyes with 16 stolen bases. She is batting .292 on the season.

MOVIN' ON UP

Junior pitcher **Ali Arnold** is currently sixth on the all-time career strikeout list. She has 411 K's in her career and has passed Diane Roorda, who recorded 389 strikeouts in her four-year career. Next on the list is current pitching coach **Debbie Bilbao**, who sits in fifth place with 476 K's.

BIROCCI BECOMES STRIKEOUT LEADER

With seven strikeouts against Northern Illinois, **Lisa Birocci** became Iowa's all-time career strikeout leader. Birocci struck out seven of the 10 batters she faced in three innings of relief work to pass former Hawkeye all-American Kristi Hanks. Birocci's career total stands at 839.

TEAM SETS HOME RUN RECORD

Freshman **Emily Nichols** blasted two home runs against Northern Illinois, increasing the team total to 42 homers on the season, which shattered the school record for team home runs in a season. The previous school record was 41 home runs, set by the 2003 squad. The Hawkeyes currently have 46 home runs this season.

NICHOLS SETS SCHOOL RECORD

Freshman **Emily Nichols** entered the record books against Ball State on March 26, blasting her 11th home run which broke the single-season record. She leads the team in seven different offensive categories and has a season total of 15 homers.

GERLICK UNDERGOES SURGERY

Junior outfielder **Emily Gerlick** underwent successful surgery to repair a torn ACL on March 15. Gerlick suffered the ACL tear during Iowa's opening weekend at the Stetson Invitational on February 13. She will be out for the season.



IOWA'S RECORD WHEN...

1-RUN GAMES	4-2
2-RUN GAMES	7-3
EXTRA INNINGS.....	2-1
AT PEARL FIELD	8-1
ON THE ROAD	10-3
AT NEUTRAL SITE	19-5
DAY GAMES.....	29-9
NIGHT GAMES.....	8-0
IOWA SCORES FIRST.....	32-3
OPPONENT SCORES FIRST	5-6
GIVING UP 2 RUNS OR LESS.....	34-3
GIVING UP 3+ RUNS	3-6
VS. RANKED OPPONENTS	1-6
BIROCCI STARTS.....	20-6
ARNOLD STARTS.....	17-3
IOWA HITS A HOMERUN	24-1
OPPONENT HITS A HOMERUN	8-6
IOWA OUTHITS OPPONENT.....	29-1
OPPONENT OUTHITS IOWA.....	4-8
EQUAL NUMBER OF HITS.....	4-0
NO IOWA ERRORS	17-4
IOWA COMMITS AN ERROR	20-5
WEARING WHITE UNIFORMS	12-2
WEARING BLACK UNIFORMS	9-4
WEARING GREY UNIFORMS.....	12-3
FLYING AIR TRAN	10-2
FLYING UNITED	10-2
BUSING TO GAME.....	4-4
IN EASTERN TIME ZONE	18-4
IN CENTRAL TIME ZONE.....	9-3
IN MOUNTAIN TIME ZONE.....	2-0
IN PACIFIC TIME ZONE	8-2
IN IOWA	8-1
IN ARIZONA	2-0
IN GEORGIA	7-1
IN KENTUCKY.....	3-1
IN FLORIDA	3-1
IN CALIFORNIA	8-2
IN PENNSYLVANIA	2-0
IN OHIO	2-0
IN ILLINOIS.....	1-2
IN MICHIGAN	1-1
ON MONDAY.....	0-0
ON TUESDAY	0-0
ON WEDNESDAY	4-0
ON THURSDAY	1-0
ON FRIDAY.....	10-1
ON SATURDAY	9-5
ON SUNDAY	13-3

IOWA'S TEAM SINGLE GAME INFO...

LONGEST WINNING STREAK	8
LONGEST LOSING STREAK.....	3
LARGEST MARGIN OF VICTORY	15 (AUBURN)
LARGEST MARGIN OF DEFEAT.....	10 (NORTHWESTERN)
MOST AT-BATS.....	34 (UTAH)
MOST RUNS SCORED.....	16 (AUBURN)
MOST HITS.....	16 (UTAH)
MOST RBI	16 (AUBURN)
MOST DOUBLES	4 (GARNDNER-WEBB/UTAH)
MOST TRIPLES.....	1 (SEVEN TIMES)
MOST HOME RUNS.....	7 (AUBURN)
MOST STOLEN BASES	4 (LONG ISLAND)
MOST STRIKEOUTS	13 (UC DAVIS)
MOST ERRORS COMMITTED	5 (TWICE)
MOST RUNS ALLOWED	7 (CALIFORNIA & UTAH)
MOST HITS ALLOWED ...	11 (STETSON & CALIFORNIA)
MOST WALKS ALLOWED...5	(STETSON & NORTHWESTERN)

IOWA'S INDIVIDUAL TEAM BATTING LEADERS

BATTING AVG339 (NICHOLS)
GMS.	46 (THREE TIED)
GMS. STARTED.....	46 (THREE TIED)
AT BATS.....	147 (MAY)
RUNS	28 (HEIDGERKEN & MAY)
HITS	47 (MAY)
DOUBLES	12 (MAY)
TRIPLES	3 (HEIDGERKEN)
HOME RUNS	15 (NICHOLS)

RBI.....	39 (NICHOLS)
TOTAL BASES	93 (NICHOLS)
SLUGGING PCT.788 (NICHOLS)
WALKS	22 (NICHOLS)
HIT BY PITCH.....	2 (ACKERSON & NICHOLS)
STRIKEOUTS.....	29 (HEIDGERKEN)
ON-BASE PERCENTAGE.....	.448 (NICHOLS)
OPS	1.236 (NICHOLS)
SACRIFICE FLIES	2 (BAUGH)
SACRIFICE HITS.....	7 (MAY AND BAUGH)
STOLEN BASES	16 (HEIDGERKEN)
STOLEN BASE ATTEMPTS	17 (HEIDGERKEN)

IOWA'S INDIVIDUAL PITCHING LEADERS

ERA.....	1.13 (BIROCCI)
WINS.....	21 (BIROCCI)
LOSSES	7 (BIROCCI)
WINNING PCT750 (BIROCCI)
APPEARANCES.....	36 (BIROCCI)
GAMES STARTED	25 (BIROCCI)
COMPLETE GAMES	22 (BIROCCI)
SHUTOUTS	10 (BIROCCI)
SAVES.....	6 (BIROCCI)
INNINGS PITCHED.....	185.1 (BIROCCI)
STRIKEOUTS.....	194 (BIROCCI)
OPPONENT BATTING AVERAGE182 (BIROCCI)
WHIP.....	0.84 (BIROCCI)

Head Coach Gayle Blevins

THE HEAD HAWKEYE... Gayle Blevins finished her 17th season as the head coach of the Iowa softball program and she has established herself as one of the nation's top coaches. In 1999, Blevins was the 17th inductee into the NFCA Hall of Fame. In her 17 seasons at Iowa, Blevins has guided the Hawkeyes to 12 NCAA Tournament appearances and four Big Ten Championships. She is Iowa's all-time winningest coach with a record of 747-333-3 (.691).

Her career record in 25 years of coaching is 1,047-481-5 (.684). Blevins has been named the National Coach of the Year twice (1986 and 1991) and the Big Ten Conference Coach of the Year three times (1989, 1997 and 2000).



BLEVINS' YEAR-BY-YEAR RECORDS

YEAR	SCHOOL	RECORD	PCT.	YEAR	SCHOOL	RECORD	PCT.
1980	INDIANA	33-16	.673	1992	IOWA	34-20	.630
1981	INDIANA	26-12	.684	1993	IOWA	39-15	.722
1982	INDIANA	30-15	.666	1994	IOWA	35-23	.603
1983	INDIANA	45-20-1	.692	1995	IOWA	41-26-1	.612
1984	INDIANA	37-22	.633	1996	IOWA	47-19	.720
1985	INDIANA	47-20-1	.701	1997	IOWA	52-9	.852
1986	INDIANA	45-18	.714	1998	IOWA	38-20	.655
1987	INDIANA	37-23	.617	1999	IOWA	41-26-1	.616
1988	IOWA	33-20-1	.620	2000	IOWA	46-15	.754
1989	IOWA	40-21	.656	2001	IOWA	49-14	.778
1990	IOWA	43-28	.606	2002	IOWA	36-20	.643
1991	IOWA	53-11	.828	2003	IOWA	44-15	.746
				2004	IOWA	39-24	.619

TOTALS

OVERALL	1,047-481-5	.684
IOWA	747-333-3	.691

BIG TEN TOTALS

OVERALL	453-160-1	.739
IOWA	283-116-1	.709