

IOWA HAWKEYES

University of Iowa Athletic Communications – Megan Rowley, Gymnastics Contact



WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS WEEKLY RELEASE

Feb. 17, 2016

2015-16 SCHEDULE

1/2	at Cancun	3rd/3 (192.350)
1/9	vs. Northern Illinois	W, 194.500
1/15	at Michigan State *	W, 194.900
1/18	vs. #13 Denver	L, 194.725
1/23	vs. #24 Ohio State *	W, 196.375
1/31	at Maryland *	W, 196.275
2/6	vs. #14 Nebraska * (BTN)	W, 196.650
2/13	at #21 Illinois *	W, 196.275
2/20	vs. Towson (Senior Night)	4 p.m.
2/27	at Denver	7 p.m.
3/4	at Iowa State	6:30 p.m.
3/12	Big Five Meet *	12 p.m.
3/19	Big Ten Championships *	TBA
4/2	NCAA Regional (Iowa City, Iowa)	4 p.m.
4/15-17	NCAA Championships	TBA

All times are Central and subject to change * - Conference Event



#24 IOWA
HAWKEYES

vs. Towson _____ Feb. 20
Time _____ 4 p.m. (CT)
Location _____ Iowa City, Iowa
Venue _____ Carver-Hawkeye Arena

Live Stats livestats.hawkeyesports.com
Twitter _____ @IowaGymnastics
Snapchat _____ @IowaGymnastics
Periscope _____ @IowaGymnastics



TOWSON
TIGERS

THIS WEEK:

The 24th-ranked University of Iowa women's gymnastics team returns to Carver-Hawkeye Arena for its final home contest of the season against Towson on Feb. 20. The meet is scheduled to begin at 4 p.m. (CT) and will serve as the annual Breast Cancer Awareness Pink Meet and Senior Night for Alie Glover and Opu Calucag. Iowa will honor the seniors with highlight videos and a presentation following the conclusion of the meet.

MEET COVERAGE:

- Fans can find meet highlight and live streams on Periscope and Twitter (@IowaGymnastics).
- Links to live stats and the Hawkeye All-Access stream are available on the women's gymnastics schedule page at hawkeyesports.com.

PROMOTIONS:

- Saturday is Senior Night and the annual Breast Cancer Awareness Pink Meet. The first 250 fans in attendance will receive a free pink Iowa gymnastics t-shirt.
- Saturday is also Junior Hawk Club Night. Junior Hawk Club members who present their membership card will receive a free ice cream sandwich at the concessions stand.
- An hour before every home meet this season will be Hot Dog Happy Hour -- purchase hot dogs for only \$1 (beginning at 3 p.m. Saturday).
- Kids Zone will be available for young Hawkeye fans prior to the meet.

IN THE RANKINGS:

Iowa is ranked No. 24 nationally for the first time this season with a 195.272 scoring average. There are 82 women's gymnastics teams in the nation. The GymHawks rank 15th nationally as a team on floor (48.994 average score) and 21st on vault (48.838) and bars (48.866).

Individually, junior Mollie Drenth ranks 33rd nationally in the all-around (39.169 average score), while junior Angel Metcalf ranks 73rd (38.872) out of 183 gymnasts. For single events, senior Alie Glover ranks 66th on floor (9.834), sophomore Nikki Youd ranks 75th on vault (9.800), and Metcalf ranks 77th on bars (9.806). There are over 615 gymnasts ranked individually on each event.

SCOUTING THE TIGERS:

- Towson took second at the Shelli Calloway Invitational on Feb. 12. The Tigers tallied a 193.425 to finish behind Pittsburgh (195.250) and ahead of Pennsylvania (191.775).
- The Tigers rank 48th nationally, averaging a score of 193.425 this season.
- Towson owns a 6-6-0 record this season, posting wins over Rutgers, Pittsburgh, University of Bridgeport, Brown, and Pennsylvania.
- The Tigers are led by head coach Vicki Chlisczyk, who is in her fifth season.

LAST TIME OUT:

Eighteen top five finishes lifted Iowa over 21st-ranked Illinois, 196.275-195.125, inside Huff Hall on Feb. 13. The win marks the Hawkeyes' third upset victory of the season and the first time they have topped Illinois in Champaign, Illinois, since Jan. 24, 2009.

Nine GymHawks earned a total of 18 top five finishes to highlight the competition. Leading the pack was junior Mollie Drenth who finished at the top of the podium on beam (9.875) and all-around (39.300), third on vault (9.800), and fifth on bars (9.800) and floor (9.825). Drenth claimed the all-around title for the sixth consecutive meet.

2015-16 ROSTER

Savannah Borman	Jr.	Chesapeake, Va.
Opu Calucag	Sr.	South Pasadena, Calif.
Misty-Jade Carlson	Fr.	Portland, Ore.
Nicole Chow	Fr.	Port Coquitlam, B.C.
Mollie Drenth	Jr.	Riverview, Fla.
Ashleigh Edlin	Jr.	Woodlawn, Tenn.
Ashley Fischer	So.	St. Louis, Mo.
Alie Glover	Sr.	Destin, Fla.
Sydney Hogan	Fr.	Waterloo, Iowa
Caroline McCrady	Jr.	Eagan, Minn.
Angel Metcalf	Jr.	Swansboro, N.C.
Lexi Mura	Jr.	Caseyville, Ill.
Maria Ortiz	Fr.	Fort Myers, Fla.
Rose Piorkowski	Fr.	Panama City, Fla.
Jori Robertson	So.	Iowa City, Iowa
Megan Ruzicka	So.	Plainfield, Ill.
Lanie Snyder	So.	Omaha, Neb.
Johanny Sotillo	RS Sr.	Valencia, Venezuela
Lexy Wadsworth	Fr.	Kalona, Iowa
Tessa Walsh	Fr.	Naperville, Ill.
Nikki Youd	So.	Panama City, Fla.
Melissa Zurawski	So.	Darien, Ill.

FOLLOW THE HAWKEYES

Live Stats: livestats.hawkeyesports.com
Facebook: facebook.com/iowagymnastics
Twitter: twitter.com/iowagymnastics
YouTube: youtube.com/iowagymnastics
Periscope: @IowaGymnastics

hawkeyesports.com



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WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS WEEKLY RELEASE

BIG TEN STANDINGS

Team	Overall W-L-T	Big Ten W-L-T	Pct.
Minnesota	6-0-0	5-0-0	1.000
Iowa	6-3-0	5-0-0	.667
Michigan	8-1-0	4-1-0	.889
Nebraska	5-2-0	3-2-0	.714
Penn State	2-3-0	2-2-0	.400
Illinois	2-4-0	2-3-0	.333
Ohio State	3-4-0	1-4-0	.429
Michigan State	3-5-0	1-4-0	.375
Rutgers	3-7-0	1-4-0	.300
Maryland	2-6-0	0-4-0	.250

(As of Feb. 15)

ROAD TO NATIONALS RANKINGS

Rank	Team Name	Average
1	Oklahoma	197.428
2	Florida	197.258
3	Michigan	196.993
4	Alabama	196.959
5	Utah	196.729
6	LSU	196.721
7	UCLA	196.671
8	Auburn	196.357
9	Boise State	196.210
10	Georgia	196.182
11	Arkansas	196.168
12	Stanford	195.971
13	Denver	195.954
14	Nebraska	195.875
15	California	195.730
16	Oregon State	195.721
17	George Washington	195.675
18	Minnesota	195.658
19	Missouri	195.646
20	Arizona	195.442
21	Eastern Michigan	195.418
22	Kentucky	195.357
23	Southern Utah	195.317
24	Iowa	195.272
25	Illinois-Champaign	195.263

(As of Feb. 15)

2016 opponents in bold

SALUTE TO THE SENIORS:

For two GymHawk seniors -- Alie Glover and Opu Calucag -- Saturday's meet against Towson will be the final contest of their careers in Carver-Hawkeye Arena. Iowa will honor the seniors with highlight videos and a presentation following the conclusion of the meet.

The senior duo has helped earn the team's first top 25 nationally ranking since 2012, highest team score (196.650) since March 5, 2004, and three upset victories this year over No. 25 Ohio State, No. 14 Nebraska and No. 21 Illinois.

Glover has competed in every meet on floor, beam, and vault for the GymHawks in all four years at Iowa. Last year, the Destin, Florida, native was named to the All-Championship Team at Big Ten Championships -- one of six gymnasts in Iowa history to receive the honor. Glover holds individual team best on vault (9.925) and placed ninth on beam and 10th on floor overall at NCAA Regional. She has also earned Academic All-Big Ten honors and was named Big Ten Freshman of the Week on Feb. 8, 2013 after posting a career-high 39.050 for the all-around title against Michigan State and Illinois-Chicago. Her personal bests are: vault (9.925), bars (9.825), floor (9.900), beam (9.875), and all-around (39.125).

Calucag competed on beam three times, scoring her career-high 9.075 in Iowa's win over Iowa State on March 8, 2013. The senior also saw action on beam at Southern Utah (March 15) and at the Big Ten Championships (March 23). In her junior season, Calucag was named Academic All-Big Ten and earned the Sportsmanship Award at the Big Ten Championships.

DRENTH LEADS THE GYMHAWKS AGAINST NEBRASKA:

- Drenth, a preseason Big Ten Gymnast to Watch, finished at the top of the podium on beam (9.925) and all-around (39.475), and finished second on vault (9.850) and bars (9.850) against No. 14 Nebraska.
- The junior took the all-around title for the third consecutive meet and the fifth time this season with a career-high score of 39.475. Her score earned her a No. 10 ranking in the Iowa record books for highest individual performance in the all-around.
- The Riverview, Florida, native set the pace for Iowa once again on beam, tallying a career-high 9.925 to earn first place overall. The junior's score earned her a No. 3 ranking in the Iowa record books for highest individual performance on beam.

UNDEFEATED IN THE BIG:

Iowa and Minnesota are the only two teams left in the league with a perfect conference record, each owning a 5-0-0 mark. The Hawkeyes have collected big wins over No. 25 Ohio State, Michigan State, Maryland, No. 14 Nebraska, and No. 21 Illinois.

IOWA SELECTED TO HOST 2016 NCAA REGIONAL:

Iowa and Carver-Hawkeye Arena have been selected to host 2016 NCAA Regional competition, beginning April 2 at 4 p.m. (CT). The Hawkeyes last hosted an NCAA Regional in 2009. Iowa has been selected to compete in NCAA Regional competition in seven of the last eight seasons.

Fans can purchase tickets by calling the University of Iowa Athletics Ticket Office at (319) 335-9323 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Fans can also visit their website at hawkeyesports.com/tickets or at NCAA.com/tickets. Tickets may be purchased in advance, or the day of the meet at the north, west, and south entrances of Carver-Hawkeye Arena beginning at 3 p.m.

DOWN GOES NO. 25:

Fifteen season bests and a season high team score in every event helped the GymHawks upset 25th-ranked Ohio State, 196.375-195.025, on Jan. 23. The win marks the first time the Hawkeyes have topped Ohio State since February 6, 2010. The Hawkeyes' overall score is a season best for the team, replacing their previous high of 194.900 at Michigan State on Jan. 15.

Ten GymHawks earned a total of 15 season bests, while the team earned season high scores on vault (49.000), bars (49.175), beam (49.000), and floor (49.200) to highlight the competition. Senior Alie Glover paced the GymHawks with a trio of bests on vault (9.800), beam (9.825), and floor (9.900). Junior Angel Metcalf registered her own trio of bests on vault (9.775), beam (9.875), and floor (9.825).

ROSTER BREAKDOWN:

The majority of GymHawks are underclassmen, with seven freshmen, six sophomores, six juniors, and three seniors on the roster.



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GYMHAWKS MAKE HISTORY IN EAST LANSING:

Thirteen top five finishes lifted the GymHawks over Michigan State, 194.900-192.575, inside the Jenison Field House on Jan. 15. The win marked the first time the Hawkeyes topped Michigan State in East Lansing since Jan. 7, 2011.

Six GymHawks earned a total of 13 top five finishes to highlight the competition. Leading the pack was junior Mollie Drenth who finished at the top of the podium on vault (9.775) and all-around (39.125), second on floor (9.800) and beam (9.750), and fourth on bars (9.800).

HAWKEYE NEWCOMERS:

This season, the Hawkeyes welcomed eight newcomers -- junior transfer Savannah Borman and freshmen Misty-Jade Carlson, Nicole Chow, Sydney Hogan, Maria Ortiz, Rose Piorkowski, Lexy Wadsworth and Tessa Walsh -- to the 2016 squad.

METCALF, DRENTH NAMED TO BIG WATCH LIST:

Angel Metcalf and Mollie Drenth were recognized on the 2016 Big Ten Gymnasts to Watch List released on Dec. 10. Metcalf, who was also featured on the 2014 Big Ten Watch List, registered Iowa's individual season bests on beam (9.900 at No. 20 Ohio State, Jan. 24) and in the all-around (39.400 vs. No. 15 Illinois, Feb. 14) last season. She earned fourth on floor (9.900), 19th in the all-around (38.575) and 26th place on bars (9.825) at the Big Ten Championships on March 21, and was named to the All-Championship Team for her efforts. She ended the season at the NCAA Auburn Regional on April 4 with a fifth place finish in the all-around (39.175) and 12th place result on bars (9.800).

Drenth, a 2015 Big Ten All-Championship Team member, competed in every meet last season and owns Iowa's individual season best on uneven bars (9.925). Drenth earned the first Big Ten Event Specialist of the Week accolade of her career on March 16 after capturing an event title on bars (9.925) at the Big Five meet. Last season, the junior earned a second place finish on beam (9.900) and a ninth place finish on bars (9.775) at the Big Ten Championships on March 21. Drenth ended the season at the NCAA Auburn Regional where she earned ninth on bars (9.825) and eighth in the all-around (39.050).

HOLDING STEADY IN THE RANKINGS:

Iowa was ranked in the top 25 for six consecutive weeks during the 2015 season. The GymHawks ended the season ranked No. 23 nationally, marking the program's first Top 25 ranking since 2012. There are 80 women's gymnastics teams in the nation. The GymHawks closed the season ranked 16th as a team on the uneven bars (49.175 average score) and 21st on beam (49.010).

5 GYMHAWKS NAMED TO ALL-CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM:

Five GymHawks received individual conference awards following the 2015 Big Ten Championship. Mollie Drenth, Alie Glover, Sydney Hoerr, and Angel Metcalf were all named to the All-Championship Team, while Opu Calucag collected the Sportsmanship Award. Iowa has only had one other gymnast named to the All-Championship Team (Emma Stevenson, 2012) in program history.

HEAD COACH LARISSA LIBBY:

Larissa Libby enters her 12th year as head coach, and 16th year overall, at the University of Iowa in 2015-16. In 2015, the GymHawks were selected for NCAA Regional competition, marking the program's seventh postseason berth in the last eight years. Five GymHawks placed in the top 15 for individual events, leading Iowa to a fifth place regional finish and a score of 194.475. Libby coached the GymHawks to a season high score of 196.500 at the Big Ten Championships -- the team's best championship team result since 2010. Iowa's performance also marked the highest team score for the program at the Big Ten Championships since March 20, 2004.

Under Libby, Iowa was ranked in the top 25 for six consecutive weeks during the 2015 season. The GymHawks ended the season ranked No. 23 nationally, marking the program's first Top 25 ranking since 2012. Libby led sophomores Mollie Drenth and Angel Metcalf, junior Alie Glover, and senior Sydney Hoerr, to earn spots on the All-Championship Team. Libby is also responsible for the only other gymnast named to the All-Championship Team (Emma Stevenson, 2012) in program history.

FOLLOW THE HAWKEYES:

A member of the Iowa gymnastics staff will offer interactive Twitter content live at every event this season via @IowaGymnastics. This feature gives die-hard Hawkeye fans the opportunity to stay up to date on the latest news and scores during every meet.

Live Stats: livestats.hawkeyesports.com
Facebook: facebook.com/iowagymnastics
Twitter: twitter.com/iowagymnastics
YouTube: youtube.com/iowagymnastics
Web Address: hawkeyesports.com (check the schedule page for live stats and live streams)

UP NEXT:

The GymHawks travel to Denver, Colorado, for a triangular meet against Denver, South East Missouri and Illinois-Chicago on Saturday, Feb. 27. The meet is set to begin at 7 p.m. (CT) inside Hamilton Gymnasium.



University of Iowa Women's Gymnastics

2015-16 ROSTER



Savannah Borman
Fr.
Chesapeake, Va.



Opua Calucag
Sr. South Pasadena, Calif.



Misty-Jade Carlson
Fr.
Portland, Ore.



Nicole Chow
Fr. Port Coquitlam, B.C.



Mollie Drenth
Jr.
Riverview, Fla.



Ashleigh Edlin
Jr.
Woodlawn, Tenn.



Ashley Fischer
So.
St. Louis, Mo.



Alie Glover
Sr.
Destin, Fla.



Sydney Hogan
Fr.
Waterloo, Iowa



Caroline McCrady
Jr.
Eagan, Minn.



Angel Metcalf
Jr.
Swansboro, N.C.



Lexi Mura
Jr.
Caseyville, Ill.



Maria Ortiz
Fr.
Fort Myers, Fla.



Rose Piorkowski
Fr.
Panama City, Fla.



Jori Robertson
So.
Iowa City, Iowa



Megan Ruzicka
So.
Plainfield, Ill.



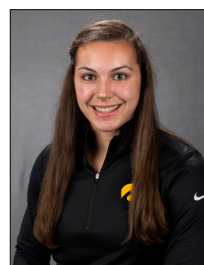
Lanie Snyder
So.
Omaha, Neb.



Johanny Sotillo
Sr. Valencia, Venezuela



Lexy Wadsworth
Fr.
Kalona, Iowa



Tessa Walsh
Fr.
Naperville, Ill.



Nikki Youd
So.
Panama City, Fla.



Melissa Zurawski
So.
Darien, Ill.



Larissa Libby
Head Coach
12th Season



Caleb Phillips
Assistant Coach
9th Season



Jennifer Green
Assistant Coach
2nd Season