



# HAWKEYE HOME PLATE

*Iowa Softball News and Notes*

4/7 vs. Northern Illinois - 4 p.m.  
 4/9 @ Indiana - 3 p.m.  
 4/10 @ Indiana - Noon  
 4/11 @ Purdue (DH) - Noon

## 2004 Iowa Schedule

### 22-15 Overall, 4-0 Big Ten

Feb. 14-15	at GA State Tournament	Rain
Feb. 20	vs. Wisconsin	L, 3-6
Feb. 20	vs. Illinois State	W, 7-3
Feb. 21	vs. Utah State	W, 5-1
Feb. 21	vs. #22 Arizona State	W, 9-0 (5)
Feb. 22	vs. #22 Arizona State	L, 0-3
Feb. 28	vs. Toledo	W, 3-0
Feb. 28	vs. Western Kentucky	W, 3-0
Feb. 29	vs. Louisville	W, 4-0
Feb. 29	vs. Louisville	L, 0-2
Mar. 4	vs. Baylor	L, 3-4
Mar. 4	vs. Boston University	W, 4-0
Mar. 5	vs. Northern Illinois	W, 5-1
Mar. 5	vs. Team USA (Exhib.)	L, 0-11 (5)
Mar. 6	vs. Troy State	W, 1-0 (8)
Mar. 6	vs. Tenn.-Chattanooga	L, 0-1
Mar. 7	vs. Tennessee Tech	L, 0-1
Mar. 12	vs. #8 Washington	L, 2-8
Mar. 12	vs. Santa Clara	W, 4-1
Mar. 13	vs. Syracuse	W, 2-0
Mar. 13	vs. #3 California	L, 2-8
Mar. 14	vs. #20 Arizona State	W, 3-0
Mar. 17	at Sacramento State (1)	W, 2-1 (8)
Mar. 17	at Sacramento State (1)	W, 6-0
Mar. 19	vs. Saint Mary's	W, 7-0
Mar. 19	vs. Utah State	L, 1-2
Mar. 20	vs. Long Beach State	L, 0-3
Mar. 20	vs. Long Island	L, 1-2
Mar. 21	vs. Nevada	L, 0-2
Mar. 24	at Illinois State	L, 3-1
Mar. 27	Wisconsin	W, 4-0
Mar. 28	Ball State	W, 6-0
Mar. 28	Ball State	W, 9-0
Mar. 28	Wisconsin	L, 1-2
Mar. 31	at Drake	L, 0-3
Apr. 2	Northwestern*	W, 7-2
Apr. 3	Northwestern*	W, 6-1
Apr. 4	Michigan State (1)*	W, 8-2
Apr. 4	Michigan State (2)*	W, 8-2
Apr. 7	Northern Illinois	4 p.m.
Apr. 9	at Indiana*	3 p.m.
Apr. 10	at Indiana*	Noon
Apr. 11	at Purdue (DH)*	Noon
Apr. 15	at Iowa State	4 p.m.
Apr. 16	Coe College	6 p.m.
Apr. 18	Michigan (DH)*	Noon
Apr. 20	Northern Iowa (DH)	4 p.m.
Apr. 23	Penn State*	6 p.m.
Apr. 24	Penn State*	Noon
Apr. 25	Ohio State (DH)*	Noon
Apr. 28	at Western Illinois	5 p.m.
Apr. 30	at Minnesota*	6 p.m.
May 1	at Minnesota*	Noon
May 2	at Wisconsin (DH)*	Noon
May 4	William Penn	6 p.m.
May 8	at Illinois*	6 p.m.
May 9	at Illinois*	Noon
May 13-15	Big Ten Tournament	
May 20-23	NCAA Regionals	
May 27-31	Women's College World Series	

## Probable Iowa Lineup

No.	Name	Pos.	B-T	Yr.	GP	Avg.	Runs	Hits	RBI	HR	2B	SLG%	SB
9	Natalie Johnson	RF	L/L	So.	34	.302	19	26	12	3	7	.512	4
6	Amanda Hentges	LF	R/R	Sr.	35	.307	12	27	14	0	8	.420	6
18	Stacy May	SS	R/R	So.	37	.292	16	33	8	1	4	.354	2
17	Kylie Murray	3B	R/R	So.	37	.322	5	37	17	1	10	.435	0
4	Lisa Birocci	P	R/R	Jr.	30	.319	8	23	5	2	5	.500	0
or 3	Ali Arnold	P	R/R	So.	27	.283	5	15	10	2	4	.472	0
16	Sarah Thomson	1B	R/R	Sr.	36	.289	6	22	9	1	5	.421	2
21	Sami Baugh	C	R/R	Fr.	32	.218	5	12	4	0	2	.255	0
14	Laura Chipman	CF	R/R	Sr.	37	.254	14	15	6	1	3	.356	7
22	Emily Gerlick	2B	R/R	So.	37	.291	14	32	20	2	5	.482	6

## Probable Pitching Rotation

No.	Name	Throws	Yr.	Record	G	SV	C	G	SH	ERA	SO	BB	IP
4	Lisa Birocci	RHP	Jr.	10-8	18	0	10	4		1.09	174	40	128 1/3
3	Ali Arnold	RHP	So.	12-7	19	1	9	4		1.42	96	29	123 1/3
16	Sarah Thomson	RHP	Sr.	0-0	0	0	0	0		5.25	1	0	4

## On the Road Again

The University of Iowa softball team will hit the road this weekend when it travels to the state of Indiana for games against Indiana University and Purdue. The Hawkeyes will take on the Hoosiers Friday (3 p.m.) and Saturday (Noon), then travel to West Lafayette to battle Purdue in a Sunday doubleheader at noon.

Before the weekend, Iowa will play a non-conference game Wednesday against Northern Illinois. First pitch at Pearl Field is set for 4 p.m.

## Looking Back at the Big Ten Opener

The Hawkeyes opened their Big Ten season last weekend in a big way, taking four games from conference foes Northwestern and Michigan State. Iowa topped Northwestern 7-2 on Friday and 6-1 on Saturday, then swept a Sunday doubleheader with Michigan State. Iowa won by a score of 8-2 in both games.

In Friday's game with Northwestern, Iowa fell into an early 2-0 hole, then rebounded to pound out seven runs in the final three innings.

**Amanda Hentges** and **Emily Gerlick** each picked up a pair of RBIs on the day, while **Lisa Birocci** threw five no-hit innings in relief to pick up the win.

On Saturday, the Hawkeyes came from behind again and posted a 6-1 win. Iowa exploded for four runs on five hits in the fourth inning. **Natalie Johnson**, **Gerlick** and **Laura Chipman** each picked up two hits.

On Sunday, the Hawkeyes fell into an early 1-0 hole when Spartan pitcher Jessica Beach hit a first-inning home run. Iowa responded with a leadoff home run from Johnson, her third of the year.

Iowa put the game away in the bottom of the third with four runs off four hits, led by **Sarah Thomson's** three-run bases loaded double.

The Hawkeyes added two runs in the fifth and a run in the sixth to take the win. **Ali Arnold**, who pitched five and two-thirds innings of relief, picked up the win.

## 2004 Big Ten Records

	CONF.	OVERALL
1. IOWA	4-0	22-15
MICHIGAN	4-0	29-6
3. MINNESOTA	3-1	22-11
4. ILLINOIS	2-2	23-13-1
OHIO STATE	2-2	19-12
PENN STATE	2-2	14-21
7. MICHIGAN STATE	1-3	19-13
NORTHWESTERN	1-3	16-11
WISCONSIN	1-3	19-16
10. PURDUE	0-2	22-12
INDIANA	0-2	23-18

## Iowa Sports Information

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## Iowa on the Web

THE MEDIA AND PUBLIC CAN FIND A VALUABLE AND TIMELY SOURCE OF INFORMATION ABOUT IOWA ATHLETICS AT ITS WORLD WIDE WEB SITE. THE ADDRESS FOR THE SITE IS:

[www.hawkeyesports.com](http://www.hawkeyesports.com)

## Softball Phone Numbers

AREA CODE IS 319

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## Iowa's Home Run Leaders

1.	Alicia Gerlach (99-02)	29
2.	Jessica Bashor (00-03)	21
3.	Brandi Macias (94-97)	17
4.	Kristin Johnson (00-03)	15
	Christina Schmaltz (01-03)	15
6.	Debbie Bilbao (95-97)	14
	Tammy Utley (96-99)	14
8.	Christy Hebert (94-97)	12
9.	Kari Knopf (94-97)	11
10.	Katy Jendrzejewski (96-01)	9
11.	Liz Dennis (99-02)	8
	Cara Coughenour (86-89)	8
	Shawnte Vallejo (98-99)	8
14.	Kristi Hanks (99-02)	7
	Karen Wick (87-90)	7

# Hawkeye Softball Notes

In game two, the Iowa offense kept rolling and pounded out 13 hits on the Spartan pitching staff. Lisa Birocci went the distance, allowing only five hits and striking out seven.

## Countdown to 1,000

Iowa Head Coach **Gayle Blevins** is closing in on an astonishing milestone. With 993 career victories, the Head Hawk is just seven games shy of winning her 1,000th NCAA Division I game.

Only two Division I coaches have hit the millennium mark. Fresno State coach Margie Wright has 1,112 wins, while JoAnn Graff of Florida State has won 1,036.

Sandy Jerstad of Division II Augustana ended her career last season with 1,014 wins.

## Scouting Northern Illinois

The Northern Illinois Huskies are 10-22 on the season and 2-4 in the Mid American Conference.

The top hitter in the Huskie office is Kelly Drozd, who is batting .284 on the season with 11 RBIs and eight stolen bases. The power source for Northern Illinois is Shelby Bernard, who has a pair of home runs and a team-best 13 RBIs.

In the circle, Northern Illinois is led by Amy Krahula, who is 5-6 with a 2.81 ERA. Kathy Dearborn is 3-9 with a 2.89 ERA in a team-leading 80 innings pitched.

## Scouting Indiana

The Indiana Hoosiers come into the week with a record of 23-18 and a 0-2 mark in the Big Ten Conference.

Karly McCormack leads the team with a .358 batting average. The senior also has three home runs and 21 RBIs. Redshirt freshman Tory Yamaguchi is hitting .328 with six home runs and 14 RBIs.

In the pitching circle, Venezuelan import Mariangee Bogado is the ace with a 12-9 record and 1.18 ERA. She has recorded 145 strikeouts on the season.

Indiana is coached by Sara Hayes, who is in her second season at the helm. Prior to her stint with the Hoosiers, Hayes was the head coach at Northern Iowa for two seasons.

Iowa leads the all-time series between the two schools, 46-27-1.

## Scouting Purdue

The Purdue Boilermakers are 22-12 on the season and 0-2 in the Big Ten Conference. Before taking on Iowa, Purdue will play a midweek doubleheader with Notre Dame on Wednesday and play a pair of games with Illinois on Friday and Saturday.

The Purdue offense is led by Tricia Lilley, who is hitting .389 with two home runs and 24 RBIs.

In the circle, Brooke Baker is 13-3 with a 1.67 ERA. Diana LaRiva is 9-9 with a 2.09 ERA.

The Boilermakers will be without the services of all-American second baseman Andrea Hillsey, who tore her ACL in practice two weeks ago. She will miss the rest of the season.

Purdue is coached by former Hawkeye Carol Bruggeman, who is in her 10th year at the helm.

Iowa leads the all-time series with Purdue 25-3.

## She Loves Big Ten Play

Sophomore **Stacy May** busted out in a big way in her first Big Ten weekend, hitting .467 (7-of-15) on the weekend.

May raised her average almost 30 points on the weekend, from .265 to .292.

Last season, May led the Big Ten in hitting during conference play with a .450 average.

## A Single Shy

Hawkeye first baseman **Sarah Thomson** had a great day against Michigan State on Sunday, going 5-for-7 with three doubles and six RBIs.

In the second game, Thomson was a single short of hitting for the cycle. She was 3-of-4 in the game with a double, triple and home run.

## Have a Seat

Junior **Lisa Birocci** is continuing her strikeout rampage this season, and currently leads the Big Ten with 174.

The Des Moines native is averaging 9.5 strikeouts per seven innings.

Last season as a sophomore, Birocci set the Iowa single-season record with 260 in 238 1/3 innings pitched, an average of 7.6 per seven innings.

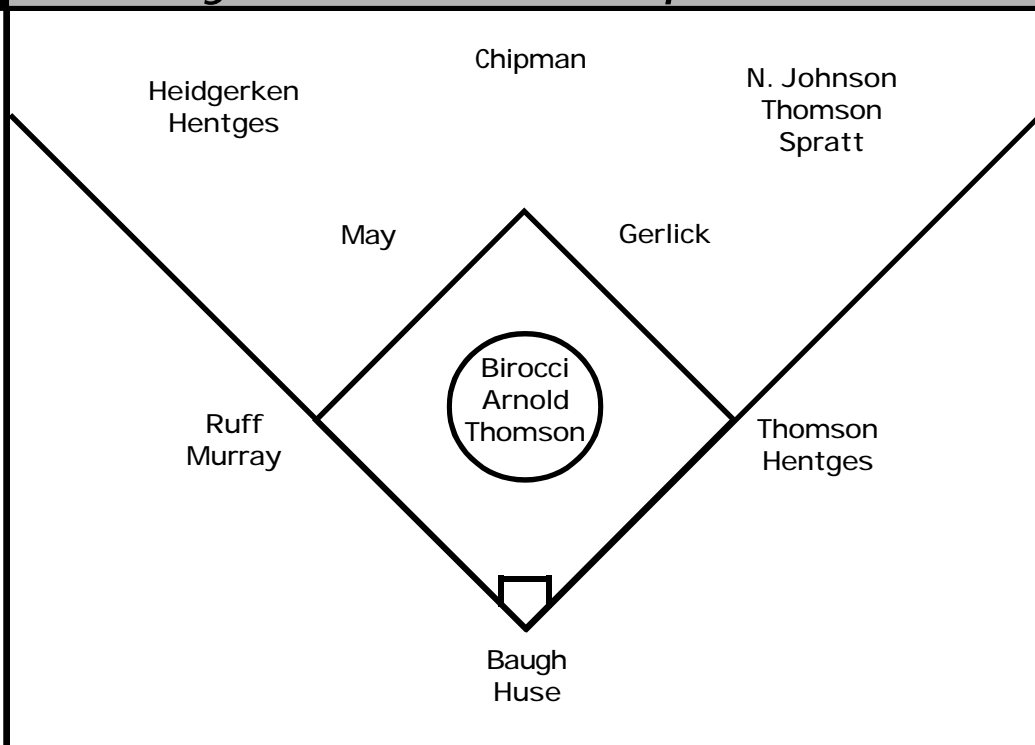
In just two and a half seasons, Birocci is

## Iowa Hawkeye Roster

3	ALI ARNOLD
4	LISA BIROCCI
5	JENNA SPRATT
6	AMANDA HENTGES
7	ELISHA HUSE
9	NATALIE JOHNSON
10	STACY MAY
11	MINDY HEIDGERKEN
12	ABBY RUFF
13	SAMI BAUGH
14	LAURA CHIPMAN
16	SARAH THOMSON
17	KYLIE MURRAY
22	EMILY GERLICK

**HEAD COACH:** GAYLE BLEVINS  
**ASSISTANT:** MICHELLE VENTURELLA  
**ASSISTANT:** HOLLY VAN VLYMEN

## Hawkeye Defensive Depth Chart



## 2003 Awards

### Jessica Bashor

- First Team All-Big Ten
- Second team NFCA Midwest Regional All-American

### Lindsay Bashor

- Second Team All-Big Ten

### Lisa Birocci

- Third team NFCA All-American
- First team NFCA Midwest Regional All-American
- Big Ten Pitcher of the Year
- First Team All-Big Ten
- Big Ten Tournament MVP

### Katie Boney

- Second Team All-Big Ten
- Second team NFCA Midwest Regional All-American

### Krisin Johnson

- Second team NFCA All-American
- First team NFCA Midwest Regional All-American
- First team all-Big Ten

### Stacy May

- Big Ten Freshman of the Year
- First Team All-Big Ten
- Second team NFCA Midwest Regional All-American

already fifth on the Iowa all-time strikeout list with 512. Kristi Hanks (1999-2002) is the all-time leader with 815.

### Double Down

Sophomore **Kylie Murray** is hitting a team-leading .322, and is also leading the squad with 10 doubles.

### Triple Threat

Hawkeye sophomore **Emily Gerlick** hit her team-leading fifth triple of the season. The three-bagger put her within striking distance of the Iowa single-season record held by Christina Schmaltz (2001-03), who hit eight last season.

### A Monster With the Sacks Packed

The last thing an opposing pitcher wants to see is **Kylie Murray** in the batter's box when the bases are loaded. So far this season, Murray is 3-for-5 with the sacks packed. One of those outs with the bases loaded was an RBI groundout.

Last year as a freshman, Murray was 4-for-5 with two grand slams when the bases were loaded.

### Freshman With Fast Feet

Hawkeye freshman **Mindy Heidgerken** has become a terror on the basepaths in her first season.

The Long Grove, IA, native currently leads the team with 11 stolen bases and has only been thrown out twice.

### Playing Her Way In

Walk-on **Abbie Ruff** has made an impact on the 2004 Hawkeyes and earned a spot in the starting lineup. Ruff, a junior who played two years at Waubensee Community College, has started the last 12 games at third base. She has made just two errors in 38 chances, and is hitting .222 with six runs scored.

Ruff was a two-time first team All-Skyway Conference at Waubensee and was named the 2003 Skyway Conference MVP.

### Contact Hitter

Sophomore **Stacy May** is going to make you work to get her out. In 113 at bats, the Reno, NV, native has only struck out three times.

### Shutout Central

In a way, it has been an all-or-nothing year for Iowa this season. Nineteen of the 32 games Iowa has played in have been shutouts on one side or another. The Hawkeyes have a 12-7 record in shutouts this season.

## Iowa's Record When...

1-RUN GAMES .....	2-6
2-RUN GAMES .....	1-3
5+ RUN GAMES .....	9-2
EXTRA INNINGS .....	3-1
AT PEARL FIELD .....	7-1
SHUTOUTS .....	12-7
DAY GAMES .....	21-15
NIGHT GAMES .....	1-0
IOWA SCORES FIRST .....	17-4
OPPONENT SCORES FIRST .....	5-11
IOWA SCORES LAST .....	22-2
OPPONENT SCORES LAST .....	0-13
GIVING UP 3 RUNS OR LESS .....	22-11
GIVING UP 4+ RUNS .....	0-4
Vs. RANKED OPPONENTS .....	2-3
BIROCCI STARTS .....	9-8
ARNOLD STARTS .....	14-7
THOMSON STARTS .....	0-0
IOWA HITS A HOMERUN .....	9-2
OPPONENT HITS A HOMERUN .....	1-6
IOWA OUTHITS OPPONENT .....	21-7
OPPONENT OUTHITS IOWA .....	0-7
EQUAL NUMBER OF HITS .....	1-1
NO IOWA ERRORS .....	8-3
IOWA COMMITS AN ERROR .....	11-10
FLYING TO GAME .....	12-11
BUSING TO GAME .....	3-1
IN EASTERN TIME ZONE .....	3-3
IN CENTRAL TIME ZONE .....	7-3
IN MOUNTAIN TIME ZONE .....	3-2
IN PACIFIC TIME ZONE .....	6-6
IN IOWA .....	7-2
IN ARIZONA .....	3-2
IN GEORGIA .....	0-0
IN KENTUCKY .....	3-1
IN FLORIDA .....	3-3
IN CALIFORNIA .....	6-6
IN PENNSYLVANIA .....	0-0
IN OHIO .....	0-0
IN ILLINOIS .....	0-1
IN MICHIGAN .....	0-0
ON MONDAY .....	0-0
ON TUESDAY .....	0-0
ON WEDNESDAY .....	2-2
ON THURSDAY .....	1-1
ON FRIDAY .....	5-3
ON SATURDAY .....	7-4
ON SUNDAY .....	5-5
FLYING SAME DAY .....	0-3



## IOWA'S TEAM SINGLE GAME INFO...

LONGEST WINNING STREAK .....	4 (TWICE)
LONGEST LOSING STREAK .....	5
LARGEST MARGIN OF VICTORY .....	9 (TWICE)
LARGEST MARGIN OF DEFEAT .....	6 (TWICE)
MOST AT-BATS .....	MICHIGAN STATE (34)
MOST RUNS SCORED .....	ARIZONA STATE (9)
MOST HITS .. ARIZONA STATE, MICHIGAN ST. (x2) (13)	
MOST RBI .....	ARIZONA STATE (9)
MOST DOUBLES .....	BOSTON UNIVERSITY (5)
MOST TRIPLES .....	MICHIGAN STATE (2)
MOST HOME RUNS ... ILLINOIS STATE, SAINT MARY'S (2)	
MOST STOLEN BASES .....	TROY STATE (5)
MOST STRIKEOUTS .... ARIZONA STATE, TENN. TECH (9)	
MOST ERRORS COMMITTED ... WISCONSIN, T. TECH (4)	
MOST RUNS ALLOWED .....	WASHINGTON AND CAL (8)
MOST HITS ALLOWED .....	WASHINGTON (9)
MOST WALKS ALLOWED .....	MICHIGAN STATE (5)

### IOWA'S INDIVIDUAL TEAM BATTING LEADERS

BATTING AVE. ....	MURRAY (.322)
GMS. ....	FOUR TIED (37)
GMS. STARTED .....	GERLIJK, MAY, CHIPMAN (37)
AT BATS .....	MURRAY (115)
RUNS .....	JOHNSON (19)
HITS .....	MURRAY (37)
DOUBLES .....	MURRAY (10)
TRIPLES .....	GERLICK (5)
HOME RUNS .....	JOHNSON (3)

RBI .....	GERLICK (20)
TOTAL BASES .....	GERLICK (53)
SLUGGING PCT. ....	JOHNSON (.512)
WALKS .....	JOHNSON (8)
HIT BY PITCH .....	MAY (2)
STRIKEOUTS .....	JOHNSON (22)
ON-BASE PERCENTAGE .....	BIROCCI (.380)
OPS .....	BIROCCI (.880)
SACRIFICE FLIES .....	FOUR TIED (1)
SACRIFICE HITS .....	HENTGES (8)
STOLEN BASES .....	HEIDGERKEN (11)
STOLEN BASE ATTEMPTS .....	HEIDGERKEN (13)

### IOWA'S INDIVIDUAL PITCHING LEADERS

ERA .....	BIROCCI (1.09)
WINS .....	ARNOLD (12)
LOSSES .....	BIROCCI (8)
WINNING PCT. ....	ARNOLD (.631)
APPEARANCES .....	BIROCCI (28)
GAMES STARTED .....	ARNOLD (19)
COMPLETE GAMES .....	BIROCCI (10)
SHUTOUTS .....	ARNOLD, BIROCCI (4)
SAVES .....	ARNOLD (1)
INNINGS PITCHED .....	BIROCCI (128 1/3)
STRIKEOUTS .....	BIROCCI (174)
OPPONENT BATTING AVERAGE .....	BIROCCI (.146)
WHIP .....	BIROCCI (0.81)

## Head Coach Gayle Blevins

**THE HEAD HAWKEYE...** Gayle Blevins finished her 15th 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 14 seasons at Iowa, Blevins has guided the Hawkeyes to nine NCAA Tournament appearances and four Big Ten Championships. She is Iowa's all-time winningest coach with a record of 693-315-3 (.685).

Her career record in 23 years of coaching is 993-463-5 (.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

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>RECORD</u>	<u>PCT.</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>RECORD</u>	<u>PCT.</u>
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

### TOTALS

OVERALL	993-463-5	.684
IOWA	693-315-3	.685

### BIG TEN TOTALS

OVERALL	435-150-1	.740
IOWA	265-106-1	.706