

IOWA HAWKEYES

University of Iowa Athletic Communications – Madison Petersen Gymnastics Contact



WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS WEEKLY RELEASE

Jan. 25, 2017

2016-17 SCHEDULE

1/8	at Northern Illinois	2nd, 194.200
1/13	vs. Michigan State*	W, 195.475-193.875
1/15	vs. California-Berkeley	L, 195.500-194.400
1/21	at Ohio State *	W, 196.175-195.525
1/29	vs. Maryland*	2 p.m.
2/5	at Nebraska*	1 p.m.
2/11	vs. Illinois*, UIC	4 p.m.
2/13	at Illinois *	4 p.m.
2/17	at George Washington	7 p.m.
2/19	at LSU	2:30 p.m.
2/24	at BYU	8 p.m.
3/4	Big Five Meet *	8 p.m.
3/19	vs. Iowa State*	11 a.m.
3/11	Big Five Meet*	3 p.m.
3/18	Big Ten Championships	TBA
4/1	NCAA Regional Championships	TBA
4/14-4/17	NCAA Championships	TBA

All times are Central and subject to change -- Home events in BOLD

- Exhibition Event * - Conference Event



IOWA
HAWKEYES

vs. Maryland _____ Jan. 29
Time _____ 2 p.m. (CT)
Location _____ Iowa City, Iowa

Live Stats _____ hawkeyesports.com
Twitter _____ @IowaGymnastics



MARYLAND
TERRAPINS

THIS WEEK

The University of Iowa women's gymnastics team hosts Big Ten foe Maryland inside Carver-Hawkeye Arena at 2:00 p.m. (CT).

PROMOTIONS

- The GymHawks will sign autographs for fans post meet.
- The hour before every home meet this season will be Hot Dog Happy Hour -- purchase hot dogs for only \$1 (beginning at 1 p.m. on Sunday).
- Kids Zone will be available for young Hawkeye fans prior to the meets and will include tattoos, trivia questions, and building snowflakes.
- A few lucky fans will be selected for the "Best Seat in the House" with floor seats.

DOWN GOES NO. 18

- Iowa defeated No. 18 Ohio State, 196-195.525, on Jan. 21 in Columbus, Ohio for their second consecutive conference win.
- The team registered high scores on uneven bars (49.050) and beam (49.375) and tied their season high on floor (49.050).
- Senior Mollie Drenth took first in the all-around with a season best of 39.350.
- Drenth also took the title on beam with a score of 9.925 to tie her career best.
- Freshman Clair Kaji earned her second floor title of the year with a season high of 9.900. She received Big Ten Freshman of the Week honors for her accomplishments.
- Junior Melissa Zurawski received first-place honors on uneven bars with a score of 9.875.
- Freshman Charlotte Sullivan brought home the title on vault with a season best of 9.800.

IN THE RANKINGS

Iowa is currently ranked No.22 in the Road to Nationals polls and third in the Big Ten Conference after defeating No. 18 Ohio State. The Hawkeyes stayed steady in the Road to Nationals polls and jumped two spots from No. 5 in the Big Ten Conference from last week.

SCOUTING THE TERRAPINS

- Maryland fell to Penn State, 195.525-194.175, on the road on Jan. 21.
- The Terrapins rank 42nd nationally, averaging a team score of 193.675 this season.
- Maryland returns 11 letterwinners off the 2016 NCAA Regional squad, including senior Sarah Faller. They also welcomed five new freshman to the 2017 squad, including Alecia Farina.
- Faller posted a career high of 9.850 on bars and tied her career high of 9.800 on beam last season.
- Farina is the only gymnastics in Ohio history to earn at perfect 10.0 on vault. She also finished second on floor, 10th on vault, and 23rd in the all-around at the 2016 U.S. Junior Olympic National Championship.
- The Terrapins finished the 2016 season with a tenth-place finish at the Big Ten Championships after posting a score of 194.025.
- Maryland owned an overall record of 7-13 in 2016.
- The Terrapins are led by head coach Brett Nelligan, who is in his 13th season.

2016-17 ROSTER

Savannah Borman	Sr.	Chesapeake, Va.
Misty-Jade Carlson	So.	Portland, Ore.
Nicole Chow	So.	Port Coquitlam, B.C.
Mollie Drenth	Sr.	Riverview, Fla.
Ashleigh Edlin	Sr.	Woodlawn, Tenn.
Breanna Fizke	Fr.	West Allis, Wis.
Sydney Hogan	So.	Waterloo, Iowa
Clair Kaji	Fr.	Vancouver, Can.
Annie Kustoff	Fr.	San Antonio, Texas
Gina Leal	Fr.	Glastonbury, Conn.
Angel Metcalf	Sr.	Swansboro, N.C.
Lexi Mura	Sr.	Caseyville, Ill.
Maria Ortiz	So.	Fort Myers, Fla.
Rose Piorkowski	So.	Panama City, Fla.
Jori Robertson	Jr.	Iowa City, Iowa
Lanie Snyder	Jr.	Omaha, Neb.
Charlotte Sullivan	Fr.	Christchurch, N. Z.
Tessa Walsh	So.	Naperville, Ill.
Nikki Youd	Jr.	Panama City, Fla.
Melissa Zurawski	Jr.	Darien, Ill.

FOLLOW THE HAWKEYES

Live Stats: hawkeyesports.com
Facebook: [facebook.com/iowagymnastics](https://www.facebook.com/iowagymnastics)
Twitter: twitter.com/iowagymnastics
Instagram: [instagram.com/iowagymnastics](https://www.instagram.com/iowagymnastics)
YouTube: [youtube.com/iowagymnastics](https://www.youtube.com/iowagymnastics)



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BIG TEN STANDINGS

Team	Overall W-L-T	Big Ten W-L-T	Pct.
Nebraska	2-0-0	2-0-0	1.000
Minnesota	4-1-0	2-0-0	.800
Iowa	4-2-0	2-0-0	.667
Ohio State	4-1-0	1-1-0	.800
Penn State	4-1-0	1-1-0	.800
Illinois	4-2-0	1-1-0	.667
Michigan	3-2-0	1-1-0	.600
Rutgers	5-4-0	0-2-0	.556
Michigan State	1-2-0	0-2-0	.333
Maryland	1-4-0	0-2-0	.200

(As of Jan. 25)

ROAD TO NATIONALS RANKINGS

Rank	Team Name	Average
1	Oklahoma	197.900
2	LSU	197.625
3	Florida	197.342
4	Utah	197.050
5	Alabama	197.008
6	Kentucky	196.375
7	Denver	196.367
8	UCLA	196.263
9	Southern Utah	196.150
10	Michigan	196.100
11	Missouri	195.950
12	Nebraska	195.875
12	Georgia	195.875
14	Boise State	195.763
15	California	195.725
16	Auburn	195.717
17	Oregon State	195.667
18	George Washington	195.592
19	Washington	195.250
20	Ohio State	195.223
21	Illinois-Champaign	195.133
22	Iowa	195.063
23	Arkansas	194.775
24	North Carolina State	194.619
25	West Virginia	194.608

(As of Jan. 25)

- 2017 opponents in bold

KAJI TAKES BIG TEN FRESHMAN OF THE WEEK HONORS

Freshman Clair Kaji earned Big Ten Freshman of the Week honors after winning her second floor title of the year with a season best 9.900 against Ohio State in Columbus, Ohio, on Jan. 21.

The Vancouver, Canada, native placed fourth overall on beam with a season best score of 9.875. She also recorded a 9.750 on uneven bars in the competition.

The freshman has earned a title at every meet so far. She took first overall on uneven bars at Northern Illinois (9.875), on beam against Michigan State (9.850), and on floor against California (9.825).

Kaji comes to Iowa from a successful career on the Canadian national team. She took first on beam and in the all-around at the B.C. Provincial Championships in 2014, and then returned in 2015 to take first in the all-around again. In 2014, Kaji also won on vault and placed second on beam at the Western Canadian Championships. She highlighted her career by taking sixth in the all-around at the 2015 Canada Winter Games to help her team take home the bronze medal.

SPARTANS FALL TO HAWKEYES

- Iowa notched their first conference win of the season against Michigan State, 195.475-193.875, on Jan. 13 inside Carver-Hawkeye Arena.
- In the all-around, freshman Charlotte Sullivan finished at the top of the podium with a 39.050 for the first all-around win of her collegiate career.
- Senior Mollie Drenth and sophomore Rose Piorkowski tied for first on vault with scores of 9.850.
- Senior Angel Metcalf and freshman Clair Kaji tied for the win on beam, as both tallied scores of 9.850.

SULLIVAN EARNS BIG TEN FRESHMAN OF THE WEEK

Freshman Charlotte Sullivan earned Big Ten Freshman of the Week honors after taking home second in the all-around (38.900) in her Hawkeye debut in the quad meet against Northern Illinois, Western Michigan, and Lindenwood in Dekalb, Illinois on Jan. 8.

The New Zealand native placed third on vault with a score of 9.750. She went on to record a 9.775 on beam, a 9.700 on uneven bars, and a 9.675 on floor.

The freshman comes to Iowa after a successful career on the New Zealand national team. Sullivan won the New Zealand Nationals in 2014, 2013, 2012, 2010, and 2007. She also won a bronze medal on beam at the World Cup Event in Portugal in 2015.

DRENTH, METCALF NAMED TO BIG WATCH LIST

Seniors Mollie Drenth and Angel Metcalf were named to the 2017 Big Ten Gymnasts to Watch List for the second consecutive year on Dec. 15.

Metcalf, who has been featured on the Big Ten Watch List for three consecutive years, took part in all 14 meets during the 2016 season and competed in the all-around in 13 meets. At the Big Ten Championships, she took 12th on beam (9.825), 20th on uneven bars (9.825), and finished ninth in the all-around (39.225) to be named to the All-Big Ten Championship Team for the second year in a row. She ended the season at her third NCAA Regionals with a fourth-place finish on bars (9.900) and tenth-place result in the all-around (38.650) and was selected to the All-Championship Team.

Drenth competed in every meet in the all-around during the 2016 season and owns Iowa's individual season best on vault (9.950 at No. 13 Denver, Feb. 27), beam (9.925 at Iowa State, March 4), and the all-around (39.475 vs. No. 14 Nebraska, Feb. 6). The senior earned a runner-up finish on vault (9.925) and placed 20th on uneven bars (9.825) at the Big Ten Championships to be named to the All-Big Ten Championship Team. At the NCAA Regionals, she finished seventh on vault (9.825), fourth on uneven bars (9.900), 13th on floor (9.825), third in the all-around (39.450) and was the beam champion with a 9.900 to make the All-Championship team and qualify for the NCAA Championships as an individual. She finished the season with a third-place finish (9.9125) at the NCAA Championships and All-American honors.



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WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS WEEKLY RELEASE

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HAWKEYE NEWCOMERS

The Hawkeyes welcome five new freshmen -- Charlotte Sullivan, Clair Kaji, Breanna Fitzke, Gina Leal, and Annie Kustoff-- to the 2017 squad.

Sullivan is from Christchurch, New Zealand and is a five-time New Zealand Nationals Champion. She also won a bronze medal on beam at the World Cup in Portugal (2015).

Kaji is from Vancouver, Canada. She is a four-time Canadian Championship qualifier and a four-time Elite Canada competitor. In 2015, she placed sixth in the all-around at the Canada Winter Games to help her team take home the bronze.

Fitzke is from West Allis, Wisconsin. She is a three-time regional qualifier and a two-time state qualifier. Fitzke finished fifth in the state on floor in 2014 and fourth in 2015.

Leal is from Glastonbury, Connecticut. In 2012, she was the state champion on vault and bars and runner-up on floor and in the all-around, was the regional champion on vault and bars, and won vault at the Western National Championship.

Kustoff is from San Antonio, Texas. In 2014, she placed first on bars and second in the all-around at state competition, won bars at regionals, and was the champion on beam and runner-up on bars at the Western National Championship.

SEASON TICKETS

For more ticket information, please visit hawkeyesports.com or contact the UI Athletics Ticket Office at 1-800 IA-HAWKS. Season tickets are currently on sale for \$42. Fans who purchased season tickets will gain admission to six home competitions inside Carver-Hawkeye Arena, against Michigan State, California-Berkeley, Maryland, Iowa State, Illinois and UIC and the home finale of the Big Five Meet. Youth (18 and younger) and UI students are admitted free to all home matches.

DRENTH GARNERS ALL-AMERICAN HONORS AT NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP

Mollie Drenth represented the Hawkeyes at the NCAA Women's Gymnastics Championships on April 5. She finished in third place on beam with a score of 9.9125. Following the season, Drenth earned First Team All-American honors - Iowa's first since Alexis Maday in 2004.

At the Championships, Drenth earned a 9.8250 on floor and a 9.7750 on vault. She capped off the night on bars where she earned an 8.9625. Drenth finished 13th in the all-around with a total of 38.4750.

In the 2016 season alone, Drenth collected 19 individual titles, which included eight beam titles, seven titles in the all-around, three on vault, and one on floor. She captured Iowa's season high scores on vault (9.950), beam (9.925), and in the all-around (39.475).

2016 NCAA REGIONAL

Last season, the University of Iowa hosted the NCAA Regional in Iowa City on April 2. This was the first time the Hawkeyes hosted the event since 2009. Iowa has had representation at every NCAA Regional since 2005 - with three seasons of individual representation and nine team appearances.

Iowa finished the 2016 NCAA Regional in fourth with a score of 195.450. Six GymHawks placed in the top 15 for individual events. Mollie Drenth posted a score of 9.900 on beam to tie for first. Alie Glover posted a 9.875 to tie for sixth. Drenth and junior Angel Metcalf tied for fourth on bars, as both tallied a score of 9.900. Lexi Mura and Melissa Zurawski followed with scores of 9.875 to tie for eighth. Drenth also paced the GymHawks on floor with a score of 9.825 (T-13). Drenth and Rose Piorkowski tied for seventh on vault with a score of 9.825. Metcalf and Drenth represented Iowa in the all-around. Drenth tied for third with a 39.450, while Metcalf took 10th with a 38.650.

Metcalf and Drenth were selected to the All-Championship team for the second consecutive year. Drenth advanced to the NCAA Championship as an individual - Iowa's first NCAA Championship qualifier since 2011.

AWARD WINNING COACHES

At the conclusion of the regional meet, head coach Larissa Libby was named the NCAA North Central Region Coach of the Year. Assistant coaches Jennifer Green and Caleb Phillips were also recognized with NCAA North Central Region Assistant Coach of the Year recognition. The GymHawks coaching staff led the team to a 10-win season and No. 19 ranking.

UP NEXT

The GymHawks hit the road to face Big Ten opponent No. 12 Nebraska in Lincoln, Neb. at 1:00 p.m. (CT).



University of Iowa Women's Gymnastics

2016-17 ROSTER



Savannah Borman
Sr.
Chesapeake, Va.



Misty-Jade Carlson
So.
Portland, Ore.



Nicole Chow
So.
Port Coquitlam,
B.C.



Mollie Drenth
Sr.
Riverview, Fla.



Ashleigh Edlin
Sr.
Woodlawn, Tenn.



Breanna Fitzke
Fr.
West Allis, Wis.



Sydney Hogan
Fr.
Waterloo, Iowa



Clair Kaji
Fr.
Vancouver, Can.



Annie Kustoff
Fr.
San Antonio, Tex.



Gina Leal
Fr.
Glastonbury, Conn.



Angel Metcalf
Sr.
Swansboro, N.C.



Lexi Mura
Sr.
Caseville, Ill.



Maria Ortiz
So.
Fort Myers, Fla.



Rose Piorkowski
So.
Panama City, Fla.



Jori Robertson
Jr.
Iowa City, Iowa



Lanie Snyder
Jr.
Omaha, Neb.



Charlotte Sullivan
Fr.
Christchurch, N.Z.



Tessa Walsh
So.
Naperville, Ill.



Nikki Youd
Jr.
Panama City, Fla.



Melissa Zurawski
So.
Darien, Ill.



Larissa Libby
Head Coach
13th Season



Vince Smurro
Assistant Coach
1st Season



Jennifer Green
Assistant Coach
2nd Season