September 5, 2005

IOWA BASKETBALL SCHEDULE NOW COMPLETE

IOWA CITY, IA - - An attractive home slate that includes non-conference games vs. North Carolina State and Arizona State highlights Iowa's 2005-06 men's basketball schedule. The schedule includes as many as 11 national television appearances.

Iowa will play in an exempt tournament for the second straight year, taking part in the Guardians Classic. Colgate will face Utah Valley State and Iowa will host Maryland-Eastern Shore in first round games Nov. 14-15 in Iowa City. The semi-finals of the event will be held in Kansas City Nov. 21-22. Other teams hosting first round games include Kentucky, West Virginia and Texas. Iowa placed second in the 2002 Guardians Classic.

Iowa placed second in the EA Sports Maui Classic a year ago, defeating two straight ranked opponents (Louisville and Texas) before a loss to North Carolina, the eventual national champion, in the title game.

North Carolina State visits Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Wednesday, Nov. 30 as the Hawkeyes return to the Big Ten/ACC Challenge. Iowa has not taken part in that event the last two seasons and has not hosted an Atlantic Coast Conference team since Georgia Tech visited during the 2003 NIT. The Wolfpack return three starters from a team that won 21 games and advanced to the NCAA Sweet 16 last season.

The Hawkeyes will again host their own tournament on Dec. 2-3, with Tulane meeting Valparaiso in Friday's first game prior to Iowa facing Fairfield. The Hawkeyes host Arizona State Dec. 17 and in-state rival Drake Dec. 20. Other non-conference home opponents include Texas-San Antonio (Nov. 26) and Robert Morris (Dec. 22).

"The strength of our schedule played a key role in our selection to the NCAA Tournament last year," said Iowa Coach Steve Alford. "This schedule is likely more difficult. It is an advantage to have the additional non-conference games, due to the exempt tournament, which could add as many as four games. With the caliber of teams on the non-conference schedule, we should certainly be tested and prepared for Big Ten play."

Along with the possibility of playing two games in Kansas City, Iowa will play non-conference road games at Northern Iowa (Dec. 6), Iowa State (Dec. 9) and Saint Louis (Dec. 30). The Hawkeyes could play as many as six non-conference games against NCAA participants from last season. The schedule includes opponents from Conference USA, Atlantic Coast, Atlantic 10, Big 12, Missouri Valley, Pac 10 and Southeastern Conferences.

Iowa opens the Big Ten portion of its schedule Jan. 5 at Wisconsin before hosting defending league champion Illinois Saturday, Jan. 7. Additional Saturday home games in Big Ten play include Ohio State Jan. 28, Michigan Feb. 4 and Wisconsin March 4 to end the regular season.

The 16-game league schedule includes single games with Michigan, Northwestern, Ohio State and Purdue, with Iowa traveling to Northwestern and Purdue and hosting the Buckeyes and Wolverines. The Big Ten Conference Tournament returns to Indianapolis March 9-12.

"The Big Ten, to me, will be the strongest it has been in my seven years at Iowa," added Alford. "Each team feels it is going to be improved. I think that will make for a very, very challenging Big Ten season."

Iowa's first public appearance is Saturday Oct. 22 at the annual Black and Gold Blowout. Exhibition games are scheduled Nov. 3 vs. Brock University of Canada and Nov. 9 vs. Wartburg. The Knights are coached by former Hawkeye Dick Peth.

Following is Iowa's 2005-06 men's basketball schedule:

Date	Opponent	Site	CT	TV
Sat., Oct. 22	Black and Gold Blowout presented by Mediacom	Iowa City	TBA	None
Thur., Nov. 3	Brock University of Canada (Exb.)	Iowa City	7:05	None
Wed., Nov. 9	Wartburg (Exb.)	Iowa City	7:05	None
	The annual Miracle Game presented by the Children's Hospital of Iowa, to benefit the Children's Miracle Network			
Mon-Tues., Nov. 14-15	Guardians Classic Colgate vs. Utah Valley State	Iowa City Iowa City	TBA	
	MD-Eastern Shore vs. Iowa	Iowa City	TBA	TBA
Mon-Tues. Nov. 21-22	Guardians Classic Finals Host teams: Iowa, Kentucky, Texas, West Virginia	Kansas City, MO	TBA	ESPN2
Sat., Nov. 26	Texas-San Antonio	Iowa City	12:05	ESPN-P
Wed., Nov. 30	North Carolina State	Iowa City	8:35	ESPN2
Fri. & Sat. Dec. 2-3	Hawkeye Challenge Tulane vs. Valparaiso;	Iowa City	5:45	
	Fairfield vs. Iowa		8:11	ESPN-P
Tue., Dec. 6	at Northern Iowa	Cedar Falls	7:05	FOX
Fri., Dec. 9	at Iowa State (Hy-Vee Cy-Hawk Series)	Ames	7:05	ESPN-P
Sat., Dec. 17	Arizona State	Iowa City	7:05	ESPN-P
Tue., Dec. 20	Drake	Iowa City	7:05	ESPN-P
Thu., Dec. 22	Robert Morris	Iowa City	7:05	ESPN-P
Fri., Dec. 30	at Saint Louis	Saint Louis	7:05	ESPN-P
Thu., Jan. 5	at Wisconsin	Madison	7:05	ESPN-P
Sat., Jan. 7	Illinois	Iowa City	1:05	ESPN
Sat., Jan. 14	at Penn State	State College, PA	11:05 a.m.	ESPN-WP
Wed., Jan. 18	Minnesota	Iowa City	7:05	ESPN-P
Sat., Jan. 21	at Michigan State	East Lansing, MI	11:05 a.m.	ESPN
Tue., Jan. 24	Indiana	Iowa City	8:05	ESPN
Sat., Jan. 28	Ohio State	Iowa City	7:05	ESPN-P
Wed., Feb. 1	at Purdue	West Lafayette, IN	7:05	ESPN2
Sat. Feb. 4	Michigan	Iowa City, IA	4:10	ESPN-WP
Wed., Feb. 8	at Northwestern	Evanston, IL	7:05	ESPN-P
Sat., Feb. 11	at Indiana	Bloomington, IN	11:05 a.m.	ESPN
Tue., Feb. 14	Michigan State	Iowa City	8:05	ESPN

Sat., Feb. 18	at Minnesota	Minneapolis, MN	3:35	ESPN-WP
Sat., Feb. 25	at Illinois	Champaign, IL	5:05	ESPN
Wed. Mar. 1	Penn State	Iowa City	7:05	ESPN-P
Sat., Mar. 4	Wisconsin	Iowa City	11:05/3:35	CBS/ESPN-WP
Thu-Sun., Mar. 9-12	Big Ten Tournament	Indianapolis, IN	TBA	CBS/ESPN
Thu-Sun, Mar. 16-19	NCAA Tournament, First/Second Rounds			
Thu-Sun., Mar. 23-26	NCAA Tournament, Regional Finals			
Sat-Mon., April 1-3	NCAA Final Four	Indianapolis, IN		

Note: All times listed are Central Time

Keys: ESPN-P - - ESPN Plus   ESPN-WP -- Weekend Package   TBA - - To Be Announced

Director: Phil Haddy   **Associate Director:** Steve Roe   **Assistant Directors:** Traci Wagner, Matt Weitzel, Tony Wirt

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