

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA



# HAWKEYE HOME PLATE

## Iowa Softball News and Notes

March 23-25  
Hawkeye Classic  
Iowa City

### 2007 IOWA SCHEDULE

#### 18-13 Overall, 0-0 Big Ten

Feb. 9-11	at Stetson Tournament (DeLand, FL)	
Feb. 9	vs. Howard	W, 11-0 (5)
Feb. 9	vs. Marist	W, 8-0 (5)
Feb. 10	vs. Marist	W, 5-2
Feb. 10	at Stetson	L, 3-5
Feb. 11	at Stetson	W, 4-1
Feb. 16-18	at Littlewood Classic (Tempe, AZ)	
Feb. 16	vs. UC Davis	W, 9-1
Feb. 16	vs. North Carolina	L, 5-10
Feb. 17	vs. Illinois State	L, 1-5
Feb. 17	at #2 Arizona State	L, 3-4
Feb. 18	vs. Idaho State	W, 10-4
Feb. 24-25	at Red and Black Tournament (Louisville, KY)	
Feb. 24	vs. Kent State	W, 5-2
Feb. 24	vs. Kansas	L, 3-7
Feb. 25	vs. Louisville	W, 3-2 (8)
Mar. 2-4	at Buzz Classic (Woodstock, GA)	
Mar. 2	vs. Gardner-Webb	W, 5-3
Mar. 2	vs. Boston	L, 5-7
Mar. 3	vs. Dartmouth	W, 1-0
Mar. 3	vs. Georgia Southern	W, 2-0
Mar. 4	vs. Troy	W, 10-2 (6)
Mar. 4	vs. #24 Georgia Tech	L, 0-6
Mar. 9-11	at NIST (Sunnyvale, CA)	
Mar. 9	vs. #23 California	L, 1-4
Mar. 9	vs. UC Riverside	L, 5-7
Mar. 10	vs. Cal Poly	L, 0-6
Mar. 10	vs. Santa Clara	W, 2-1
Mar. 11	vs. San Jose State	W, 9-8 (10)
Mar. 13	vs. Colorado State (at Sacramento, CA)	L, 0-1 (9)
Mar. 13	vs. Colorado State (at Sacramento, CA)	L, 4-5
Mar. 15-17	at Capital Classic (Sacramento, CA)	
Mar. 15	vs. BYU	W, 4-0
Mar. 16	vs. Georgia Southern	W, 9-0 (6)
Mar. 16	vs. Mercer	W, 13-6
Mar. 17	vs. Santa Clara	W, 3-1
Mar. 17	vs. Cal Poly	L, 3-8
Mar. 23-25	Hawkeye Classic (Iowa City, IA)	
Mar. 23	vs. South Dakota State	5 p.m.
Mar. 24	vs. North Dakota State	12:30 p.m.
Mar. 24	vs. Ball State	3 p.m.
Mar. 25	vs. Northern Illinois	4 p.m.
Mar. 28	at Northern Illinois	4 p.m.
Mar. 30	at Indiana	2 p.m.
Mar. 31	at Indiana	2 p.m.
Apr. 1	at Purdue	11 a.m.
Apr. 1	at Purdue	1:15 p.m.
Apr. 3	Iowa State	4 p.m.
Apr. 6	at Minnesota	6 p.m.
Apr. 7	at Minnesota	12 p.m.
Apr. 8	at Wisconsin	12 p.m.
Apr. 8	at Wisconsin	2:15 p.m.
Apr. 11	South Dakota State	3 p.m.
Apr. 13	Michigan	6 p.m.
Apr. 14	Michigan	12 p.m.
Apr. 15	Michigan State	12 p.m.
Apr. 15	Michigan State	2:15 p.m.
Apr. 18	Upper Iowa	4 p.m.
Apr. 20	Penn State	6 p.m.
Apr. 21	Penn State	12 p.m.
Apr. 22	Ohio State	12 p.m.
Apr. 22	Ohio State	2:15 p.m.
Apr. 24	at Northern Iowa	4 p.m.
Apr. 27	at Northwestern	3 p.m.
Apr. 28	at Northwestern	12 p.m.
Apr. 29	Western Illinois	2 p.m.
May 2	at Drake	5 p.m.
May 5	Illinois	12 p.m.
May 6	Illinois	1 p.m.
May 10-12	Big Ten Tournament (TBA)	
May 18-20	NCAA Regionals (TBA)	
May 25-26	NCAA Super Regionals (TBA)	

### Probable Iowa Lineup

No.	Name	Pos.	B-T	Yr.	GP	Avg.	Runs	Hits	RBI	HR	2B	SLG%	SB
1	Emily Nichols	3B	R-R	Jr.	31	.452	26	47	27	8	10	.798	4
10	Taylor Leichsenring	RF	L-R	Fr.	27	.351	13	13	2	0	0	.351	3
2	Summer Downs	DP/1B	R-R	Jr.	31	.318	8	28	11	2	6	.455	0
12	Colleen McGlaughlin	2B	R-R	So.	31	.284	14	27	17	2	6	.432	5
6	Rachel West	LF	R-R	So.	29	.339	21	21	8	1	0	.516	15
8	Erin Riemersma	SS	R-R	So.	30	.207	22	18	10	0	1	.218	10
13	Sami Baugh	C	R-R	Sr.	27	.318	2	21	13	0	5	.394	2
24	Stephanie Ackerson	1B/P	R-R	Jr.	31	.234	3	18	16	0	5	.299	2
11	Mindy Heidgerken	CF	R-R	Sr.	31	.119	5	7	6	1	0	.169	7

### Pitching Rotation

No.	Name	Throws	Yr.	Record	GS	CG	SHO	SV	ERA	SO	BB	IP
7	Brittany Weil	RHP	So.	2-1	4	2	2	1	1.93	44	11	25.1
24	Stephanie Ackerson	RHP	Jr.	9-5	12	5	2	0	1.71	70	34	81.2
14	Amanda Zust	RHP	Fr.	7-6	14	7	2	0	2.95	94	62	92.2
3	Katie Brown	RHP	Fr.	0-1	1	0	0	0	5.25	3	8	8.0

### HOME SWEET HOME

After playing its first 31 games of the season on the road, the University of Iowa softball team will open the home portion of its schedule this weekend by hosting the Hawkeye Classic. South Dakota State, North Dakota State, Ball State and Northern Illinois will join the Hawkeyes at Pearl Field. Below is a schedule of games for the Hawkeye Classic.

#### Friday, March 23

3 p.m. North Dakota State vs. Northern Illinois  
5 p.m. Iowa vs. South Dakota State

#### Saturday, March 24

10 a.m. Ball State vs. North Dakota State  
12:30 p.m. Iowa vs. North Dakota State  
3 p.m. Iowa vs. Ball State  
5 p.m. Northern Illinois vs. South Dakota State

#### Sunday, March 25

10 a.m. South Dakota State vs. North Dakota State  
12 p.m. Ball State vs. Northern Illinois  
2 p.m. Ball State vs. South Dakota State  
4 p.m. Iowa vs. Northern Illinois

### HAWKEYE CLASSIC TOURNAMENT PAGE

Fans not able to make it to Pearl Field can check out the Hawkeye Classic web page, found in the softball section of [hawkeyesports.com](http://hawkeyesports.com). Gametracker links for all 10 games of the Hawkeye Classic will be available.

## 2007 BIG TEN STANDINGS

	CONF.	OVERALL
1. MICHIGAN	0-0	23-3
2. NORTHWESTERN	0-0	19-5
3. WISCONSIN	0-0	15-7
4. ILLINOIS	0-0	16-9
5. OHIO STATE	0-0	14-10
6. IOWA	0-0	18-13
7. MICHIGAN STATE	0-0	15-12
8. INDIANA	0-0	12-11
9. MINNESOTA	0-0	13-12
10. PENN STATE	0-0	12-12
11. PURDUE	0-0	13-21

## BIG TEN ACTION THIS WEEK

### March 15-17

#### Iowa hosts Hawkeye Classic

Illinois at Diamond Devil Invitational

Indiana hosts Illinois-Chicago and Eastern Michigan

Michigan at Red and Black Classic

Michigan State at Miami Invitational

Northwestern at Saint Louis

Ohio State at Long Beach State

Penn State at St. Francis (PA)

Purdue at Miami Invitational

Wisconsin vs. Loyola

## IOWA SPORTS INFORMATION

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# Hawkeye Softball Notes

## HAWKEYES ON THE AIR

Iowa's final 31 regular season games will be broadcast via the Internet at [hawkeyesports.com](http://hawkeyesports.com). Jerry Kiwala and Rob Brooks will handle play-by-play commentary.

The broadcasts are free and can be found in the Hawkeye All-Access section.

## LAST WEEK'S ACTION

Iowa wrapped up its Spring Break trip with a 4-3 record last week. The Hawkeyes dropped a doubleheader to Colorado State (1-0, nine innings, 5-4) before heading to the Capital Classic. Iowa finished the tournament with a 4-1 record, gaining victories over BYU (4-0), Georgia Southern (9-0, six innings), Mercer (13-6) and Santa Clara (3-1). Iowa's only defeat came against Cal Poly (8-3).

## HITTING STREAK SNAPPED

Junior **Emily Nichols'** school and Big Ten record hitting streak was snapped last weekend at the Capital Classic. Nichols failed to collect a hit against Mercer on March 16, ending her streak at 28 games.

Her 28-game hitting streak is also the seventh longest in NCAA history.

## NICHOLS TIES HOME RUN MARK

Junior **Emily Nichols** tied Iowa's career home run record with a solo home run against BYU on March 15.

Nichols is tied with former Hawkeye Alicia Gerlach, who hit 29 career home runs from 1999-02.

Nichols set Iowa's single-season home run mark with 16 long balls as a freshman along with five as a sophomore. She currently has eight home runs this season.

## NICHOLS VS. THIS WEEK'S PITCHERS

Junior **Emily Nichols** has hit one home run against the pitchers she will face this weekend.

Nichols is 4-11 with one home run, two doubles and five RBI against South Dakota State's Kim Westendorf. She is 1-5 lifetime against North Dakota State's Allison Bakke and 1-1 vs. North Dakota State's Andi Padilla. Nichols is 4-6 with a double and two RBI against Northern Illinois' Taryn Hagemann and has no official at-bat against Ball State's Laura Masch. Nichols drew a bases loaded walk against the Ball State pitcher.

## WEIL IMPRESSIVE IN RETURN

Sophomore pitcher **Brittany Weil** returned to Iowa's lineup against Colorado State on March 13 with a bang, striking out 12 batters in seven innings of work.

Weil then set a career-high with 15 K's in a complete game shutout against BYU. She then struck out 11 batters in her second consecutive complete game shutout against Georgia Southern.

Weil threw 23.1 consecutive scoreless innings last weekend and was the first Hawkeye pitcher since 2004 to record three-straight double-digit strikeout performances.

The Garden Grove, CA, native missed the first five weeks of the season with an injury.

## LAST YEAR AT THE HAWKEYE CLASSIC

Iowa finished the 2006 Hawkeye Classic with a perfect 4-0 record to claim the tournament title.

The Hawkeyes defeated Loyola-Chicago (5-0), South Dakota State (5-3, 10 innings), North Dakota State (3-0) and Ball State (5-0).

Sophomore **Erin Riemersma** and junior **Emily Nichols** each had solid performances at the plate. Riemersma finished the tournament with a .400 batting average along with two doubles and two RBI. Nichols tallied a .385 batting average with a home run, two doubles and four RBI.

## LEADING...EVERYTHING

Junior **Emily Nichols** leads the Hawkeyes in virtually every offensive category. Her team-best numbers include at bats (104), runs (26), hits (47), doubles (10), home runs (8), RBI (27), total bases (83), slugging percentage (.798) and on-base percentage (.496).

## LEICHSENRING EARNS STARTING SPOT

Freshman **Taylor Leichsenring** started in right field the past nine games. She is batting .394 (13-33) with one RBI and six runs scored since moving to the starting role.

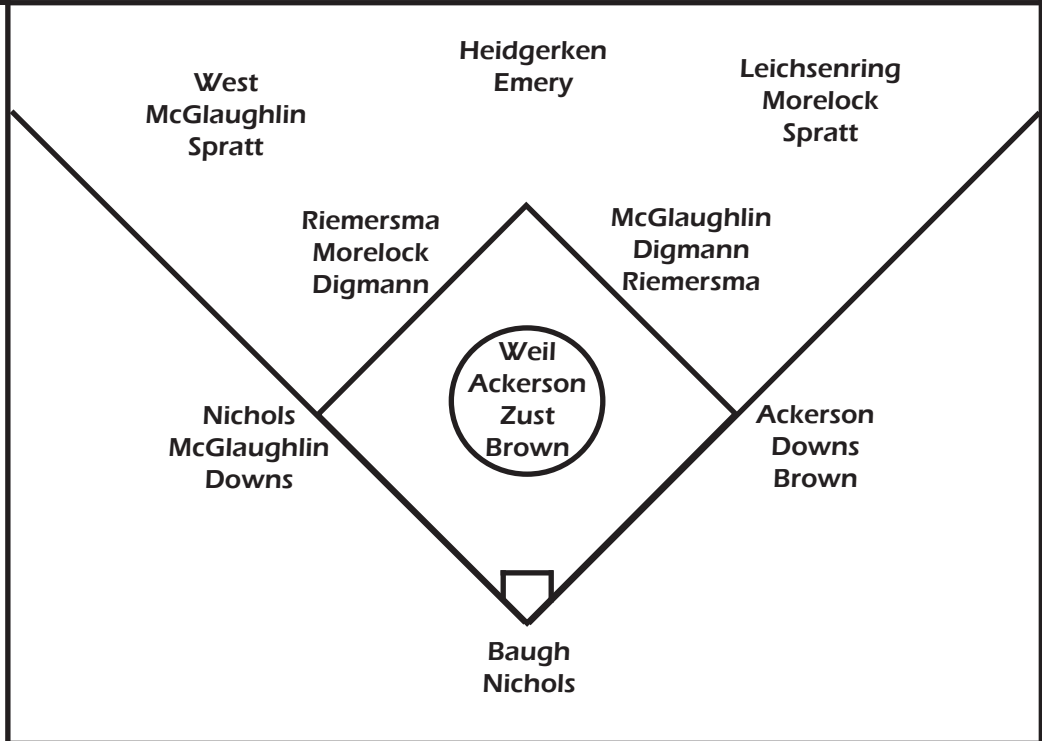
## NO SOPHOMORE SLUMP

Sophomore **Rachel West** has come on strong in the recent weeks.

West tallied a triple in three-straight games at the Buzz Classic and tallied four of her eight RBI at the NIST. She also hit her first career home run against San Jose State at the NIST.

The Burlington, IA, native collected 10 hits, including another triple, three RBI and seven runs scored last week.

- 1 EMILY NICHOLS
- 2 SUMMER DOWNS
- 3 KATIE BROWN
- 4 QUINN MORELOCK
- 5 JENNA SPRATT
- 6 RACHEL WEST
- 7 BRITTANY WEIL
- 8 ERIN RIEMERSMA
- 9 LINDSEY EMERY
- 10 TAYLOR LEICHSENRING
- 11 MINDY HEIDGERKEN
- 12 COLLEEN MCGLAUGHLIN
- 13 SAMI BAUGH
- 14 AMANDA ZUST
- 15 CALLIE ADREON
- 17 HEIDI DAUMEN
- 22 LINDSEY DIGMANN
- 24 STEPHANIE ACKERSON



**HEAD COACH**  
GAYLE BLEVINS

**ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH**  
MICHELLE VENTURELLA

**PITCHING COACH**  
AMANDA SCOTT

**VOLUNTEER ASSISTANT COACH**  
JEN FRIED

**STUDENT ASSISTANT COACH**  
STACY MAY

**QUICK ON THE BASEPATHS**

As a team, Iowa has stolen 63 bases this season. Sophomore **Rachel West** leads the team with 15 stolen bases followed by sophomore **Erin Riemersma** with 10.

Sophomore **Lindsey Digmann** and senior **Mindy Heidgerken** have not been thrown out this season. Digmann is a perfect 8-8, while Heidgerken is 7-7.

**SCORING EARLY AND OFTEN**

The Hawkeyes are outscoring their opponents 36-14 in the first inning and 23-5 in the fifth inning of games this season.

Iowa is outscoring its opponents in every inning except the third and sixth innings.

**IOWA EXTENDS BLEVINS' CONTRACT**

University of Iowa Athletic Director Gary Barta announced that **Gayle Blevins'** contract has been extended thru June 30, 2011.

Blevins is the all-time winningest coach in Iowa softball history and has led the Hawkeyes to four College World Series appearances, five Big Ten regular season titles and two Big Ten Tournament championships.

**HEADSHOTS AVAILABLE ONLINE**

Media members interested in downloading headshots of current Hawkeye players can visit [pics.hawkeyesports.com](http://pics.hawkeyesports.com).

**IOWA ADDS TWO NEW COACHES**

**Jen Fried** and **Stacy May** are new members of the Iowa coaching staff. Fried is a volunteer assistant and May is a student assistant.

Fried joins the staff from Swarthmore College in Media, PA, where she was an assistant coach from 2005-06. Her duties included designing and implementing daily practices for outfielders along with batting instruction.

Fried played both softball and soccer at Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, PA. She was named the Centennial Conference Softball Player of the Year in 2004 and was an all-conference selection from 2001-04.

May was a four-year letterwinner at both third base and shortstop for Iowa from 2003-06. She was named both Big Ten Freshman of the Year and first team all-Big Ten in 2003. May was also a three-time NFCA all-Mideast Region pick and was a two-time *ESPN The Magazine* Academic All-America District 7 selection.

May was drafted by the Chicago Bandits of the National Professional Fastpitch League as the fourth pick in the second round in the 2006 draft. She earned the 2006 Nokona Rookie of the Year award and was also named to the all-NPF team.



## IOWA'S RECORD WHEN...

1-RUN GAMES .....	4-3
2-RUN GAMES .....	3-3
3+-RUN GAMES .....	11-7
EXTRA INNINGS.....	2-1
AT PEARL FIELD .....	0-0
ON THE ROAD .....	2-2
AT NEUTRAL SITE .....	16-11
DAY GAMES.....	18-12
NIGHT GAMES.....	0-1
IOWA SCORES FIRST.....	14-5
OPPONENT SCORES FIRST .....	4-7
SCORING 2 RUNS OR LESS .....	3-5
SCORING 3+ RUNS .....	15-8
GIVING UP 2 RUNS OR LESS.....	14-1
GIVING UP 3+ RUNS .....	4-12
VS. RANKED OPPONENTS .....	0-3
WEIL STARTS.....	2-2
ACKERSON STARTS.....	6-4
ZUST STARTS.....	10-6
BROWN STARTS .....	0-1
IOWA HITS A HOMERUN .....	7-5
OPPONENT HITS A HOMERUN .....	4-9
IOWA OUTHITS OPPONENT.....	15-2
OPPONENT OUTHITS IOWA.....	1-10
EQUAL NUMBER OF HITS.....	2-1
IOWA PITCHERS RECORD MORE K'S..	12-6
OPPONENT PITCHERS RECORD MORE K'S....	5-6
EQUAL NUMBER OF STRIKEOUTS ....	1-1
WEARING WHITE UNIFORMS .....	5-5
WEARING BLACK UNIFORMS .....	6-5
WEARING GREY UNIFORMS.....	7-3
FLYING TO GAME .....	16-12
BUSING TO GAME .....	2-1
IN EASTERN TIME ZONE .....	10-4
IN CENTRAL TIME ZONE.....	0-0
IN MOUNTAIN TIME ZONE.....	2-3
IN PACIFIC TIME ZONE .....	6-6
IN IOWA .....	0-0
IN FLORIDA .....	4-1
IN ARIZONA .....	2-3
IN KENTUCKY.....	2-1
IN GEORGIA .....	4-2
IN CALIFORNIA .....	6-6
IN ILLINOIS.....	0-0
IN INDIANA .....	0-0
IN MINNESOTA.....	0-0
ON SUNDAY .....	5-1
ON MONDAY.....	0-0
ON TUESDAY .....	0-2
ON WEDNESDAY .....	0-0
ON THURSDAY .....	1-0
ON FRIDAY.....	6-4
ON SATURDAY .....	6-6

## IOWA'S TEAM SINGLE GAME INFO

LONGEST WINNING STREAK .....	4
LONGEST LOSING STREAK.....	4
CURRENT STREAK .....	LOST 1
LARGEST MARGIN OF VICTORY .....	11 (VS. HOWARD)
LARGEST MARGIN OF DEFEAT...6 (VS. GA TECH, CAL POLY)	
MOST AT-BATS.....	41 (VS. SAN JOSE STATE)
MOST RUNS SCORED.....	13 (VS. MERCER)
MOST HITS.....	19 (VS. MERCER)
MOST RBI .....	13 (VS. MERCER)
MOST DOUBLES .....	4 (TWICE, LAST VS. TROY)
MOST TRIPLES.....	1 (SIX TIMES)
MOST HOME RUNS... 2 (VS. IDAHO STATE, UC RIVERSIDE)	
MOST STOLEN BASES .....	7 (VS. KENT STATE)
MOST STRIKEOUTS .....	15 (VS. KENT STATE)
MOST ERRORS COMMITTED .....	5 (VS. UNC)
MOST RUNS ALLOWED .....	10 (VS. UNC)
MOST HITS ALLOWED .....	15 (VS. UC RIVERSIDE)
MOST WALKS ALLOWED.....	9 (VS. KANSAS)

HOME RUNS .....	6 (NICHOLS)
RBI.....	27 (NICHOLS)
TOTAL BASES .....	83 (NICHOLS)
SLUGGING PCT. (MIN. 5 AB'S).....	.798 (NICHOLS)
WALKS .....	13 (RIEMERSMA)
HIT BY PITCH.....	3 (RIEMERSMA)
STRIKEOUTS.....	20 (ACKERSON)
ON-BASE PERCENTAGE.....	.496 (NICHOLS)
SACRIFICE FLIES .....	2 (MCGLAUGHLIN & RIEMERSMA)
SACRIFICE HITS.....	6 (BAUGH)
STOLEN BASES .....	15 (WEST)
STOLEN BASE ATTEMPTS .....	18 (WEST)

### IOWA'S INDIVIDUAL TEAM BATTING LEADERS

BATTING AVG. (MIN. 5 AB'S).....	452 (NICHOLS)
GAMES PLAYED .....	31 (5 PLAYERS)
GAMES STARTED .....	31 (5 PLAYERS)
AT BATS.....	104 (NICHOLS)
RUNS .....	26 (NICHOLS)
HITS .....	47 (NICHOLS)
DOUBLES .....	10 (NICHOLS)
TRIPLES .....	4 (WEST)

### IOWA'S INDIVIDUAL PITCHING LEADERS

ERA.....	1.71 (ACKERSON)
WINS.....	9 (ACKERSON)
LOSSES .....	1 (WEIL)
APPEARANCES.....	20 (ACKERSON & ZUST)
GAMES STARTED .....	14 (ZUST)
COMPLETE GAMES .....	7 (ZUST)
SHUTOUTS .....	(ACKERSON, WEIL, ZUST)
SAVES.....	1 (WEIL)
INNINGS PITCHED.....	92.2 (ZUST)
STRIKEOUTS.....	94 (ZUST)
OPPONENT BATTING AVERAGE .....	.210 (ACKERSON)

## Head Coach Gayle Blevins

**THE HEAD HAWKEYE...** Gayle Blevins is in her 20th 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 and was also inducted into the Indiana University Hall of Fame in 2005. In her 19 seasons at Iowa, Blevins has guided the Hawkeyes to 14 NCAA Tournament appearances and four Big Ten Championships. She is Iowa's all-time winningest coach with a record of 817-373-3 (.686).

Her career record in 26 years of coaching is 1,117-521-5 (.681). 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	1994	IOWA	35-23	.603
1981	INDIANA	26-12	.684	1995	IOWA	41-26-1	.612
1982	INDIANA	30-15	.666	1996	IOWA	47-19	.720
1983	INDIANA	45-20-1	.692	1997	IOWA	52-9	.852
1984	INDIANA	37-22	.633	1998	IOWA	38-20	.655
1985	INDIANA	47-20-1	.701	1999	IOWA	41-26-1	.616
1986	INDIANA	45-18	.714	2000	IOWA	46-15	.754
1987	INDIANA	37-23	.617	2001	IOWA	49-14	.778
1988	IOWA	33-20-1	.620	2002	IOWA	36-20	.643
1989	IOWA	40-21	.656	2003	IOWA	44-15	.746
1990	IOWA	43-28	.606	2004	IOWA	39-24	.619
1991	IOWA	53-11	.828	2005	IOWA	50-14	.781
1992	IOWA	34-20	.630	2006	IOWA	39-22	.639
1993	IOWA	39-15	.722	2007	IOWA	18-13	.581
<b>TOTALS</b>				<b>1,117-521-5 .681</b>			