

# IOWA HAWKEYES

University of Iowa Athletic Communications – Megan Rowley, Gymnastics Contact



## WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS WEEKLY RELEASE

December 30, 2015

### 2015-16 SCHEDULE

12/5	Black & Gold Intrasquad #	11 a.m.
<b>1/2</b>	<b>at Cancun</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>
1/9	vs. Northern Illinois	4 p.m.
1/15	at Michigan State *	6 p.m.
1/18	vs. Denver	2 p.m.
1/23	vs. Ohio State *	7 p.m.
1/31	at Maryland *	1 p.m.
2/6	vs. Nebraska *	4 p.m.
2/13	at Illinois *	4 p.m.
2/20	vs. Towson	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	TBA
4/15-17	NCAA Championships	TBA

All times are Central and subject to change

# - Exhibition Event \* - Conference Event

### 2015-16 ROSTER

Savannah Borman	Jr.	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	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.

### THIS WEEK:

The University of Iowa women's gymnastics team travels to Cancun, Mexico, to take on Michigan and Arkansas in a season opening tri-meet on Saturday. The meet is slated to begin at 7:15 p.m. (CT) inside the Iberostar Grand Ball room.

### SCOUTING THE WOLVERINES:

- The Wolverines are ranked seventh in the 2016 NACGC/W Preseason Coaches Poll.
- Michigan finished the 2015 season with a fourth-place finish in the NCAA Semifinals.
- The Wolverines won the 2015 Big Ten Championships at the Crisler Center with a score of 197.825.
- Michigan went 12-2 during the 2015 regular season.
- The Wolverines return three All-Americans, including first team All-American on floor exercise senior Sachi Sugiyama.

### SCOUTING THE RAZORBACKS:

- The Razorbacks are ranked 14th in the 2016 NACGC/W Preseason Coaches Poll.
- Arkansas went 9-16 and placed fourth at 2015 NCAA Regionals with a score of 196.500.
- Razorback freshman Paige Zaziski claimed the 2015 SEC Freshman of the Year award. She also earned All-SEC Team honors for her performance last season.

### HAWKEYE NEWCOMERS:

This season, the Hawkeyes welcome 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 on Dec. 10. Metcalf, who was 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).

### ROSTER BREAKDOWN:

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

### 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).

### FIVE GYMHAWKS NAMED TO ALL-CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM:

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



# IOWA HAWKEYES



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## WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS WEEKLY RELEASE

### 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 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Fans can also visit their website at [hawkeyesports.com/tickets](http://hawkeyesports.com/tickets) or at [NCAA.com/tickets](http://NCAA.com/tickets). Tickets may be purchased in advanced, or the day of the meet at the north, west and south entrances of Carver-Hawkeye Arena beginning at 3:00 p.m.

### 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.

### SEASON TICKETS:

Fans that are interested in attending home meets at Carver-Hawkeye Arena should visit [hawkeyesports.com](http://hawkeyesports.com) or contact the UI Athletics Ticket Office at 1-800 IA-HAWKS. Season tickets are currently on sale for \$24 for adults; the price will jump to \$27 after Dec. 31. The season ticket package includes premium seating options and a sweatshirt. Fans purchasing season tickets will gain admission to five home competitions inside Carver-Hawkeye Arena, including two against Big Ten opponents (Ohio State, Nebraska) and a home finale against Towson. All youth, 18 and younger, and UI students are admitted free to all home matches.

### 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.

Web Address: [hawkeyesports.com](http://hawkeyesports.com) (check the schedule page for live stats and live streams)  
Facebook: [facebook.com/iowagymnastics](https://www.facebook.com/iowagymnastics)  
Twitter: [twitter.com/iowagymnastics](https://twitter.com/iowagymnastics)  
YouTube: [youtube.com/iowagymnastics](https://www.youtube.com/iowagymnastics)

### UP NEXT:

The GymHawks return to Carver-Hawkeye Arena to host Northern Illinois on Jan. 9 at 4 p.m. (CT) in their home opener.



# University of Iowa Women's Gymnastics

**2015-16 ROSTER**



**Savannah Borman**  
Fr.  
Chesapeake, Va.



**Opua Calucag**  
Sr. South Pasa-  
dena, 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.



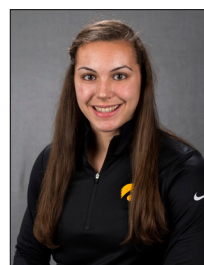
**Lanie Snyder**  
So.  
Omaha, Neb.



**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