

IOWA HAWKEYES

University of Iowa Athletic Communications – Megan Rowley, Gymnastics Contact



WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS WEEKLY RELEASE

Jan. 13, 2016

2015-16 SCHEDULE

1/2	at Cancun	3rd/3 (192.350)
1/9	vs. Northern Illinois	W, 194.500
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 (Iowa City, Iowa)	4 p.m.
4/15-17	NCAA Championships	TBA

All times are Central and subject to change * - 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.

FOLLOW THE HAWKEYES

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



IOWA
HAWKEYES

vs. Michigan St. _____ Jan. 15
 Location _____ East Lansing, Mich.
 Venue _____ Jenison Field House

vs. Denver _____ Jan. 18
 Location _____ Iowa City, Iowa
 Venue _____ Carver-Hawkeye Arena

Live Stats _____ hawkeyesports.com
 Twitter _____ [@iowagymnastics](https://twitter.com/iowagymnastics)



MICHIGAN STATE



DENVER

THIS WEEK:

The University of Iowa women's gymnastics team gears up for two meets in four days. The GymHawks hit the road for a Big Ten Conference matchup at Michigan State on Jan. 15 at 6 p.m. (CT) inside the Jenison Field House, before returning home to host Denver on Jan. 18 at 2 p.m. inside Carver-Hawkeye Arena.

PROMOTIONS:

- Monday is Student Day. The first 250 fans will receive a free Iowa Gymnastics drawstring bag.
- Fans with an Iowa Men's Basketball ticket from Jan. 17 will receive free admission to Monday's meet. Please bring your ticket stub for admission.
- An hour before every home meet this season will be Hot Dog Happy Hour -- purchase hot dogs for only \$1 (beginning at 1 p.m. Monday)
- Kids Zone will be available for young Hawkeye fans prior to the meet.

SEASON TICKET HOLDER PROMOTION:

Iowa Women's Gymnastics Season Ticket Holders that missed their sweatshirt pick up at the first home meet can still get their sweatshirts! Stop by the marketing office at Carver-Hawkeye Arena during business hours (Monday-Friday) to get your Season Ticket Holder Sweatshirt! If you are unable to do so, please contact James Kiekhaefer at james-kiekhaefer@uiowa.edu.

LAST TIME OUT:

Nine season bests led the GymHawks past Northern Illinois, 194.500-192.825, in home opening action on Jan. 9. Leading the pack was junior Mollie Drenth with a pair of bests on floor (9.825) and beam (9.875). Registering her own pair of career bests was junior Angel Metcalf, posting scores of 9.800 and 9.850 on floor and beam, respectively. Rounding out the season best list were senior Alie Glover, sophomores Ashley Fischer, Lanie Snyder, Melissa Zurawski and freshman Rose Piorkowski.

SCOUTING THE SPARTANS:

- Michigan State dropped its 2016 season opener 195.700-193.775 at No. 18 Arizona on Jan. 8.
- The Spartans finished the 2015 season with a 12-10 overall record and went 4-5 in Big Ten competition.
- MSU ranked seventh in the Big Ten and No. 26 in the nation in 2015.
- The Spartans return senior Lisa Burt and junior Elena Lagoski, who were both named First Team All-Big Ten in 2015.
- Burt led the Spartans in all-around competition last season, finishing 23rd in the nation. Lagoski earned eight floor crowns and placed among the top three in 10 regular season meets.
- Michigan State is led by head coach Kathie Klages, who is in her 25th season.

SCOUTING THE PIONEERS:

- The Pioneers finished the 2015 season at the NCAA Ames Regional, where they posted a 195.950 to finish third.
- Denver went 19-8-1 during the 2015 season.
- The Pioneers return senior Nina McGee -- a two-time All-American -- who finished tied for second on floor and No. 11 in the all-around at the 2015 NCAA National Championships. She also finished the season ranked No. 3 in the nation on floor and tied for No. 16 in the all-around.
- Denver is led by head coach Melissa Kutcher-Rinehart, who is in her 18th season.



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BIG TEN STANDINGS

Team	Overall W-L-T	Big Ten W-L-T	Pct.
Michigan	3-0-0	0-0-0	1.000
Nebraska	2-0-0	0-0-0	1.000
Minnesota	1-0-0	0-0-0	1.000
Ohio State	1-0-0	0-0-0	1.000
Maryland	2-1-0	0-0-0	.667
Iowa	1-2-0	0-0-0	.333
Illinois	0-1-0	0-0-0	.000
Michigan State	0-1-0	0-0-0	.000
Penn State	0-1-0	0-0-0	.000
Rutgers	0-2-0	0-0-0	.000

(As of Jan. 12)

ROAD TO NATIONALS RANKINGS

Rank	Team Name	Average
1(t)	L.S.U.	196.950
1(t)	Michigan	196.950
3	Florida	196.825
4	Oklahoma	196.725
5	UCLA	196.550
6	Alabama	196.300
7(t)	Auburn	196.175
7(t)	George Washington	196.175
7(t)	Utah	196.175
10	Arizona	195.700
11	California	195.575
12	Oregon State	195.425
13	Denver	195.375
14	Missouri	195.275
15	Georgia	195.200
16(t)	Arkansas	195.150
16(t)	Kent State	195.150
18	New Hampshire	195.100
19	Illinois-Champaign	195.075
20	Eastern Michigan	194.875
21	Kentucky	194.825
22	Stanford	194.800
23(t)	North Carolina State	194.700
23(t)	Minnesota	194.700
25	Maryland-College Park	194.400

(As of Jan. 12)

- 2016 opponents in bold

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.

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

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).

SEASON TICKETS:

Fans that are interested in attending home meets at Carver-Hawkeye Arena should visit hawkeyesports.com or contact the UI Athletics Ticket Office at 1-800 IA-HAWKS. Season tickets are currently on sale for \$27 for adults. 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.

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 Opu Calucag collected the Sportsmanship Award. Iowa has only had one other gymnast named to the All-Championship Team (Emma Stevenson, 2012) in program history.



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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.

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 (check the schedule page for live stats and live streams)

Facebook: [facebook.com/iowagymnastics](https://www.facebook.com/iowagymnastics)

Twitter: twitter.com/iowagymnastics

YouTube: [youtube.com/iowagymnastics](https://www.youtube.com/iowagymnastics)

UP NEXT:

The GymHawks return to action on Saturday, Jan. 23 hosting Ohio State inside Carver-Hawkeye Arena. The meet is set to begin at 7 p.m. (CT).



University of Iowa Women's Gymnastics

2015-16 ROSTER



Savannah Borman
Fr.
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
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Panama City, Fla.



Jori Robertson
So.
Iowa City, Iowa



Megan Ruzicka
So.
Plainfield, Ill.



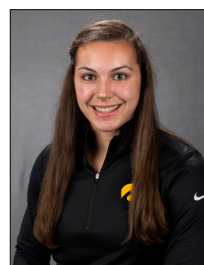
Lanie Snyder
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Omaha, Neb.



Johanny Sotillo
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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