

IOWA HAWKEYES

University of Iowa Athletic Communications – Megan Rowley, Gymnastics Contact



WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS WEEKLY RELEASE

Jan. 6, 2016

2015-16 SCHEDULE

12/5	Black & Gold Intrasquad #	11 a.m.
1/2	at Cancun	3rd/3 (192.350)
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 (Iowa City, Iowa)	4 p.m.
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 hosts Northern Illinois in its home opener on Saturday. The meet is set to begin at 4 p.m. (CT) inside Carver-Hawkeye Arena.

PROMOTIONS:

- Friday is Special Olympics Night. The first 250 fans will receive a free Iowa Gymnastics notebook. There will also be a postgame autograph session with the Hawkeyes.
- An hour before every home meet this season will be Hot Dog Happy Hour -- purchase hot dogs for only \$1 (beginning at 3 p.m. Saturday)
- Kids Zone will be available for young Hawkeye fans prior to the meet.

SEASON TICKET HOLDER PROMOTION:

All 2016 Iowa Women's Gymnastics season ticket holders can pick up their sweatshirts at Saturday's home opener. To receive your sweatshirt, have your ID ready and stop by the marketing table at the east entrance of Carver-Hawkeye Arena.

LAST TIME OUT:

The GymHawks posted a 192.350 to place third in its 2016 season opener on the road at the Cancun Classic on Jan. 2 in Cancun, Mexico. Iowa posted its highest score on floor, recording a 48.725. Sophomore Melissa Zurawski (9.825) and junior Savannah Borman (9.775) each recorded career bests in the event. Twelve Hawkeyes saw action inside the Iberostar Grand Ballroom, including two seniors, five juniors, three sophomores and two freshmen.

SCOUTING THE HUSKIES:

- The Huskies finished the 2015 season at the Mid-American Conference Gymnastics Championships, where they posted a 193.200 to finish tied for sixth.
- Northern Illinois went 11-9-1 during the 2015 season.
- The Huskies return senior Lauren Africano, who averaged 9.729 on bars, and junior Megan Greenfield, who averaged 9.777 on vault.
- Northern Illinois is led by head coach Sam Morreale, who is in his fifth 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.

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.

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.



IOWA HAWKEYES

University of Iowa Athletic Communications – Megan Rowley, Gymnastics Contact



WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS WEEKLY RELEASE

ROSTER BREAKDOWN:

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

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).

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.

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 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.

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
Twitter: twitter.com/iowagymnastics
YouTube: youtube.com/iowagymnastics

UP NEXT:

The GymHawks travel to East Lansing, Michigan, to take on the Michigan State Spartans on Jan. 15. The meet is set to begin at 6 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.



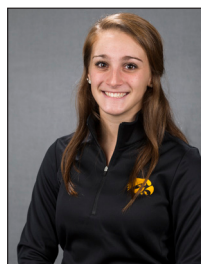
Alie Glover
Sr.
Destin, Fla.



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
Fr.
Panama City, Fla.



Jori Robertson
So.
Iowa City, Iowa



Megan Ruzicka
So.
Plainfield, Ill.



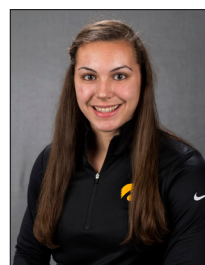
Lanie Snyder
So.
Omaha, Neb.



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