

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA



# HAWKEYE HOME PLATE

## Iowa Softball News and Notes

March 28  
at Northern Illinois  
DeKalb, IL

### 2007 IOWA SCHEDULE

#### 22-13 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	W, 4-1
Mar. 24	vs. North Dakota State	W, 3-0
Mar. 24	vs. Ball State	W, 9-2
Mar. 25	vs. Northern Illinois	W, 2-0
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
8	Erin Riemersma	SS	R-R	So.	34	.228	24	23	16	1	3	.287	11
10	Taylor Leichsenring	RF	L-R	Fr.	31	.367	14	18	2	0	0	.367	4
1	Emily Nichols	C	R-R	Jr.	35	.424	27	50	29	8	11	.737	4
2	Summer Downs	DP	R-R	Jr.	35	.275	9	28	11	2	6	.392	0
12	Colleen McGlaughlin	3B	R-R	So.	35	.318	17	34	19	2	8	.467	5
6	Rachel West	LF	R-R	So.	33	.352	26	25	9	2	0	.549	16
5	Jenna Spratt	2B	L-R	Sr.	34	.333	11	5	1	0	0	.333	4
24	Stephanie Ackerson	1B	R-R	Jr.	35	.256	4	22	17	0	5	.314	3
11	Mindy Heidgerken	CF	R-R	Sr.	35	.138	6	9	9	1	0	.185	7

#### Pitching Rotation

No.	Name	Throws	Yr.	Record	GS	CG	SHO	SV	ERA	SO	BB	IP
7	Brittany Weil	RHP	So.	5-1	7	5	4	1	1.06	72	14	46.1
24	Stephanie Ackerson	RHP	Jr.	9-5	13	5	2	0	1.88	70	37	82.0
14	Amanda Zust	RHP	Fr.	8-6	14	7	2	0	2.75	102	65	99.1
3	Katie Brown	RHP	Fr.	0-1	1	0	0	0	5.25	3	8	8.0

#### ON THE ROAD AGAIN

The University of Iowa softball team opens up a five-game road trip Wednesday when they travel to DeKalb, IL, to face Northern Illinois. First pitch is set for 4 p.m.

#### 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 or Rob Brooks will handle play-by-play commentary.

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

#### HAWKEYES ON THE WEB

Iowa softball fans can follow the Hawkeyes every week with Gametracker at [hawkeyesports.com](http://hawkeyesports.com). Just click on the Gametracker link found on the softball schedule page.

#### IOWA CLAIMS HAWKEYE CLASSIC CHAMPIONSHIP

Iowa claimed its own tournament title with a 4-0 record last weekend at the Hawkeye Classic. The Hawkeyes defeated South Dakota State (4-1), North Dakota State (3-0), Ball State (9-2) and Northern Illinois (2-0).

#### REMATCH ON WEDNESDAY

Iowa defeated Northern Illinois, 2-0 last Sunday en route to the Hawkeye Classic title. Freshman **Lindsey Digmann** scored on an RBI single by sophomore **Erin Riemersma** and freshman **Taylor Leichsenring** scored on a sacrifice fly by senior **Emily Nichols** for the only runs of the game.

Sophomore **Brittany Weil** threw her fifth complete game and fourth shutout of the season. She allowed four hits and struck out nine in the win.

## 2007 BIG TEN STANDINGS

	CONF.	OVERALL
1. MICHIGAN	0-0	25-5
2. NORTHWESTERN	0-0	24-6
3. WISCONSIN	0-0	15-7
4. ILLINOIS	0-0	20-11
5. IOWA	0-0	22-13
6. INDIANA	0-0	17-12
7. MICHIGAN STATE	0-0	18-13
8. OHIO STATE	0-0	17-13
9. MINNESOTA	0-0	13-12
10. PENN STATE	0-0	12-12
11. PURDUE	0-0	17-21-1

## BIG TEN ACTION THIS WEEK

### Friday, March 30

#### Iowa at Indiana

Illinois at Purdue

Michigan at Northwestern

Minnesota at Ohio State

Penn State at Wisconsin

### Saturday, March 31

#### Iowa at Indiana

Illinois at Purdue

Michigan at Northwestern

Minnesota at Ohio State

Penn State at Wisconsin

### Sunday, April 1 (DH)

#### Iowa at Purdue

Illinois at Indiana

Penn State at Minnesota

Michigan State at Northwestern

Wisconsin at Ohio State

## IOWA SPORTS INFORMATION

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## Hawkeye Softball Notes

### SUPER SOPHOMORES VS. NDSU

Four sophomores led Iowa to a 3-0 win over North Dakota State last Saturday.

Erin Riemersma and Rachel West each hit home runs against the Bison. Riemersma's long ball plated Colleen McGlaughlin, who singled earlier in the inning.

Brittany Weil threw a complete game shutout, striking out 10 and walking zero.

### McGLAUGHLIN HEATS UP AT PEARL

Sophomore Colleen McGlaughlin batted .583 (7-12) with two doubles, two RBI and three runs scored at the Hawkeye Classic last weekend.

McGlaughlin played both second and third base last weekend.

### WEIL RETURNS TO FORM

Sophomore pitcher Brittany Weil threw 21 innings without giving up an earned run in three games pitched at the Hawkeye Classic. Weil tossed three complete games and two shutouts while striking out 28 and walking only three.

The Garden Grove, CA, native is 5-1 with a 1.06 ERA since returning to the lineup March 13. She has four double-digit strikeout performances, including a career-high 15 K's against BYU.

### 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. NIU PITCHERS

Junior Emily Nichols is a combined 2-6 with no home runs in her career against Northern Illinois pitchers.

Nichols is 2-4 against Renee Dearborn and 0-2 with a sacrifice fly against Kate Greenough.

### LEADING...EVERYTHING

Junior Emily Nichols leads the Hawkeyes in virtually every offensive category. Her team-best numbers include at bats (118), runs (27), hits (50), doubles (11), home runs (8), RBI (29), total bases (87), slugging percentage (.737) and on-base percentage (.462).

### LEICHSENRING EARNS STARTING SPOT

Freshman Taylor Leichsenring started in right field the past 13 games. She is batting .400 (18-45) with one RBI and seven runs scored since moving to the starting role.

### NO SOPHOMORE SLUMP

Sophomore Rachel West has come on strong in 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 against Colorado State and at the Capital Classic.

West belted her second home run of the season and collected four hits at the Hawkeye Classic last weekend.

### QUICK ON THE BASEPATHS

As a team, Iowa has stolen 67 bases this season. Sophomore Rachel West leads the team with 16 stolen bases followed by sophomore Erin Riemersma with 11.

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 37-16 in the first inning and 24-5 in the fifth inning of games this season.

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

### 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.

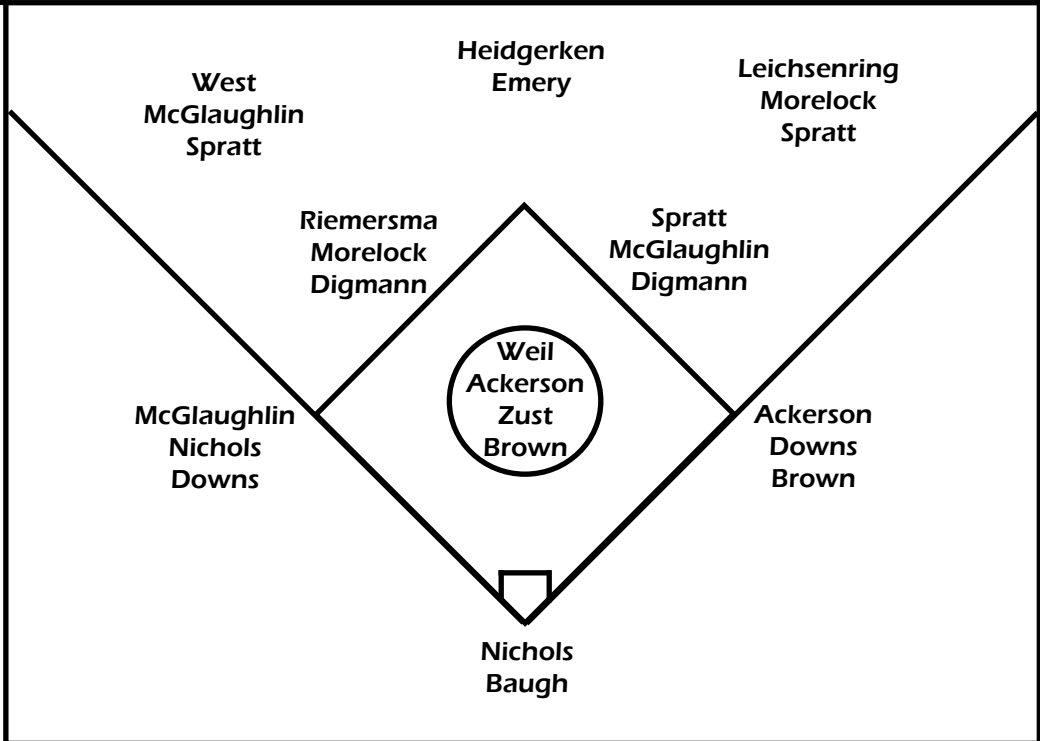
### ACKERSON THROWS NO-HITTER IN OPENER

Junior Stephanie Ackerson took full advantage of her first career start in the circle, tossing a five-inning no-hitter in Iowa's season opener against Howard. The Clive, IA, native allowed only four Howard baserunners and struck out five.

Prior to the start against Howard, Ackerson had only thrown 11 innings in relief.

Iowa Hawkeye  
Softball

- 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 LEICHSENING
- 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



**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.

**HAWKEYES ADD FIVE FRESHMEN**

Iowa welcomes a class of five freshmen to the 2007 squad. **Katie Brown**, **Lindsey Digmann**, **Taylor Leichsenring**, and **Amanda Zust** hail from Iowa while walk-on **Heidi Daumen** is from Illinois.

Brown and Zust will see time in the circle while Digmann will play second base. Leichsenring is an outfielder and Daumen is a utility player who can catch or play first base.

**FRESHMEN WIN RAINBOW CLASSIC**

Four of Iowa's freshmen were members of the Iowa Select All-Star team that won the Rainbow Classic championship in Hawaii over the summer. Those freshmen

**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 .....	4-3
3+-RUN GAMES .....	14-7
EXTRA INNINGS.....	2-1
AT PEARL FIELD .....	4-0
ON THE ROAD .....	2-2
AT NEUTRAL SITE.....	16-11
DAY GAMES.....	22-12
NIGHT GAMES.....	0-1
IOWA SCORES FIRST.....	17-5
OPPONENT SCORES FIRST .....	5-7
SCORING 2 RUNS OR LESS .....	4-5
SCORING 3+ RUNS .....	18-8
GIVING UP 2 RUNS OR LESS.....	18-1
GIVING UP 3+ RUNS .....	4-12
VS. RANKED OPPONENTS .....	0-3
WEIL STARTS.....	5-2
ACKERSON STARTS.....	7-4
ZUST STARTS.....	10-6
BROWN STARTS .....	0-1
IOWA HITS A HOMERUN .....	8-5
OPPONENT HITS A HOMERUN.....	5-9
IOWA OUTHITS OPPONENT.....	19-2
OPPONENT OUTHITS IOWA.....	1-10
EQUAL NUMBER OF HITS.....	2-1
IOWA PITCHERS RECORD MORE K'S..	16-6
OPPONENT PITCHERS RECORD MORE K'S....	5-6
EQUAL NUMBER OF STRIKEOUTS ....	1-1
WEARING WHITE UNIFORMS .....	6-5
WEARING BLACK UNIFORMS.....	7-5
WEARING GREY UNIFORMS.....	9-3
FLYING TO GAME.....	16-12
BUSING TO GAME.....	2-1
IN EASTERN TIME ZONE .....	10-4
IN CENTRAL TIME ZONE.....	4-0
IN MOUNTAIN TIME ZONE.....	2-3
IN PACIFIC TIME ZONE .....	6-6
IN IOWA .....	4-0
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 .....	6-1
ON MONDAY.....	0-0
ON TUESDAY .....	0-2
ON WEDNESDAY .....	0-0
ON THURSDAY.....	1-0
ON FRIDAY.....	7-4
ON SATURDAY .....	8-6

## IOWA'S TEAM SINGLE GAME INFO

LONGEST WINNING STREAK .....	4
LONGEST LOSING STREAK.....	4
CURRENT STREAK .....	WON 4
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 .....	8 (NICHOLS)
RBI.....	29 (NICHOLS)
TOTAL BASES .....	87 (NICHOLS)
SLUGGING PCT. (MIN. 5 AB'S).....	.737 (NICHOLS)
WALKS .....	13 (RIEMERSMA)
HIT BY PITCH.....	3 (RIEMERSMA)
STRIKEOUTS.....	21 (ACKERSON)
ON-BASE PERCENTAGE.....	.462 (NICHOLS)
SACRIFICE FLIES .....	2 (THREE TIED)
SACRIFICE HITS.....	6 (BAUGH & HEIDGERKEN)
STOLEN BASES .....	16 (WEST)
STOLEN BASE ATTEMPTS .....	19 (WEST)

### IOWA'S INDIVIDUAL TEAM BATTING LEADERS

BATTING AVG. (MIN. 5 AB'S).....	424 (NICHOLS)
GAMES PLAYED .....	35 (5 PLAYERS)
GAMES STARTED .....	35 (5 PLAYERS)
AT BATS.....	118 (NICHOLS)
RUNS .....	27 (NICHOLS)
HITS .....	50 (NICHOLS)
DOUBLES .....	11 (NICHOLS)
TRIPLES .....	4 (WEST)

### IOWA'S INDIVIDUAL PITCHING LEADERS

ERA.....	1.06 (ACKERSON)
WINS.....	9 (ACKERSON)
LOSSES .....	1 (WEIL)
APPEARANCES.....	21 (ACKERSON & ZUST)
GAMES STARTED .....	14 (ZUST)
COMPLETE GAMES .....	7 (ZUST)
SHUTOUTS .....	4 (WEIL)
SAVES.....	1 (WEIL)
INNINGS PITCHED.....	99.1 (ZUST)
STRIKEOUTS.....	102 (ZUST)
OPPONENT BATTING AVERAGE .....	.195 (WEIL)

## 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 821-373-3 (.687).

Her career record in 26 years of coaching is 1,121-521-5 (.682). 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	22-13	.629
<b>TOTALS</b>				<b>1,121-521-5 .682</b>			