

# IOWA HAWKEYES

University of Iowa Athletic Communications – Megan Rowley, Gymnastics Contact



## WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS WEEKLY RELEASE

Feb. 3, 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 *	W, 194.900
1/18	vs. #13 Denver	L, 194.725
1/23	vs. #24 Ohio State *	W, 196.375
1/31	at Maryland *	W, 196.275
<b>2/6</b>	<b>vs. #14 Nebraska * (BTN)</b>	<b>11 a.m.</b>
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:** [livestats.hawkeyesports.com](http://livestats.hawkeyesports.com)  
**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)  
**Periscope:** @IowaGymnastics



IOWA  
HAWKEYES

vs. Nebraska \_\_\_\_\_ Feb. 6  
 Time \_\_\_\_\_ 11 a.m. (CT)  
 Location \_\_\_\_\_ Iowa City, Iowa  
 Venue \_\_\_\_\_ Carver-Hawkeye Arena  
  
 TV \_\_\_\_\_ BTN  
 Live Stats \_\_\_\_\_ [livestats.hawkeyesports.com](http://livestats.hawkeyesports.com)  
 Twitter \_\_\_\_\_ @IowaGymnastics  
 Snapchat \_\_\_\_\_ @IowaGymnastics  
 Periscope \_\_\_\_\_ @IowaGymnastics



#14 NEBRASKA  
CORNHUSKERS

#### THIS WEEK:

The University of Iowa women's gymnastics team returns home for another Big Ten contest against No. 14 Nebraska on Saturday, Feb. 6. The meet is set for 11 a.m. (CT) inside Carver-Hawkeye Arena and will be broadcast live on Big Ten Network.

#### MEET COVERAGE:

- Saturday's meet will air live on the Big Ten Network with Bernie Guenther (play-by-play) and Sharaya Musser (color) on the call.
- Fans can also find meet highlights and live streams on Periscope and Twitter (@IowaGymnastics).
- Links to live stats are available on the women's gymnastics schedule page at [hawkeyesports.com](http://hawkeyesports.com).

#### PROMOTIONS:

- Saturday is Camper Reunion and Girl Scout Day. There will also be a postgame autograph session with the Hawkeyes.
- Prior to the meet, fans will have the opportunity to register to win a baseball or softball season ticket package. Fans can register to win at the east entrance.
- An hour before every home meet this season is Hot Dog Happy Hour -- purchase hot dogs for only \$1 (beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday).
- Kids Zone will be available for young Hawkeye fans prior to the meet.

#### IN THE RANKINGS:

Iowa is currently ranked No. 27 nationally. There are 82 women's gymnastics teams in the nation. The Gym-Hawks rank 22nd nationally as a team on floor (48.942 average score), 22nd on vault (48.779) and 24th on bars (48.767).

Individually, junior Mollie Drenth ranks 36th nationally in the all-around (39.096 average score), while junior Angel Metcalf ranks 74th (38.779) out of 166 gymnasts. For single events, senior Alie Glover ranks 75th on floor (9.821) and Metcalf ranks 72nd on bars (9.808). There are over 570 gymnasts ranked individually on each event.

#### SCOUTING THE CORNHUSKERS:

- Nebraska upset No. 3 Michigan, 196.775-196.550, on Jan.29. The win marked the Cornhusker's first regular season victory over a top five team since 2012 and their first win over a top three ranked team since 2009.
- The Cornhuskers are ranked 14th nationally, averaging a team score of 195.700 this season.
- Nebraska owns a perfect 5-0-0 record this season, with a 3-0-0 record in Big Ten action.
- Individually, the Cornhuskers have four athletes ranked in the top 25. Sophomore Grace Williams ranks fifth on beam (9.900 average score), 20th in the all-around (39.267), and is tied for 22nd on bars (9.856). Freshman Catelyn Orel ranks 21st in the all-around (39.250), while junior Ashley Lambert ranks 25th (39.225). Sophomore Danielle Breen rounds out the individual rankings with a 25th ranking on beam (9.837).
- Nebraska junior Jennie Laeng earned Big Ten Event Specialist of the Week honors on Feb. 1 after helping the Cornhuskers to a victory over third-ranked Michigan. Laeng picked up individual titles on vault (9.850) and bars (9.925).
- The Cornhuskers are led by head coach Dan Kendig, who is in his 23rd season.



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## WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS WEEKLY RELEASE

### BIG TEN STANDINGS

Team	Overall W-L-T	Big Ten W-L-T	Pct.
Nebraska	5-0-0	3-0-0	1.000
Minnesota	4-0-0	3-0-0	1.000
<b>Iowa</b>	<b>4-3-0</b>	<b>3-0-0</b>	<b>.571</b>
Michigan	5-1-0	2-1-0	.833
Illinois	2-2-0	2-1-0	.500
Michigan State	3-3-0	1-2-0	.500
Maryland	2-3-0	0-2-0	.400
Penn State	0-3-0	0-2-0	.000
Ohio State	1-3-0	0-3-0	.250
Rutgers	1-6-0	0-3-0	.143

(As of Feb. 3)

### ROAD TO NATIONALS RANKINGS

Rank	Team Name	Average
1	Florida	197.438
2	Oklahoma	197.185
<b>3</b>	<b>Michigan</b>	<b>196.860</b>
4	Alabama	196.855
5	Utah	196.544
6	LSU	196.525
7	UCLA	196.363
8	Arkansas	196.210
9	Boise State	196.175
10	Auburn	196.080
11	Georgia	195.870
12	Stanford	195.856
<b>13</b>	<b>Denver</b>	<b>195.763</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>Nebraska</b>	<b>195.700</b>
15	Oregon State	195.694
16	Missouri	195.645
17	George Washington	195.517
<b>18</b>	<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>195.469</b>
19	California	195.456
<b>20</b>	<b>Illinois-Champaign</b>	<b>195.363</b>
21	Arizona	195.125
22	New Hampshire	195.095
23	West Virginia	195.083
24	Southern Utah	195.056
25	Kentucky	195.031
<b>27</b>	<b>Iowa</b>	<b>194.875</b>

(As of Feb. 3)

2016 opponents in bold

### LAST TIME OUT:

Seventeen top-five finishes led the University of Iowa women's gymnastics team to its second Big Ten road win of the season. The GymHawks topped Maryland, 196.275-195.500, inside the XFINITY Center Pavilion on Jan. 31.

Nine GymHawks earned a total of 17 top five finishes to highlight the competition. Leading the pack was junior Mollie Drenth, a preseason Big Ten Gymnast to Watch, who finished at the top of the podium on beam (9.850), floor (9.900), and all-around (39.350), and finished fourth on vault (9.775).

### 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 a.m. and 5 p.m. (CT). 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 advance, or the day of the meet at the north, west and south entrances of Carver-Hawkeye Arena beginning at 3 p.m.

### DOWN GOES NO. 25:

Fifteen season bests and a season high team score in every event helped the GymHawks upset 25th-ranked Ohio State, 196.375-195.025, on Jan. 23. The win marks the first time the Hawkeyes have topped Ohio State since February 6, 2010. The Hawkeyes' overall score is a season best for the team, replacing their previous high of 194.900 at Michigan State on Jan. 15.

Ten GymHawks earned a total of 15 season bests, while the team earned season high scores on vault (49.000), bars (49.175), beam (49.000) and floor (49.200) to highlight the competition. Senior Alie Glover paced the GymHawks with a trio of bests on vault (9.800), beam (9.825) and floor (9.900). Junior Angel Metcalf registered her own trio of bests on vault (9.775), beam (9.875) and floor (9.825).

### HAWKEYE NEWCOMERS:

This season, the Hawkeyes welcomed 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.

### GYMHAWKS MAKE HISTORY IN EAST LANSING:

Thirteen top five finishes lifted the GymHawks over Michigan State, 194.900-192.575, inside the Jenison Field House on Jan. 15. The win marked the first time the Hawkeyes topped Michigan State in East Lansing since Jan. 7, 2011.

Six GymHawks earned a total of 13 top five finishes to highlight the competition. Leading the pack was junior Mollie Drenth who finished at the top of the podium on vault (9.775) and all-around (39.125), second on floor (9.800) and beam (9.750), and fourth on bars (9.800).

### HAWKEYES ADD BTN APPEARANCE TO SCHEDULE:

Iowa's meet against Big Ten foe Nebraska on Feb. 6 will be featured on the Big Ten Network. The meet, originally scheduled for 4 p.m. (CT), has been moved to 11 a.m. inside Carver-Hawkeye Arena.

The Hawkeyes own a 4-1 record in dual meets thus far with wins against Northern Illinois, at Michigan State, against Ohio State, and at Maryland. It was the team's first win against the Spartans in East Lansing, Michigan, since 2011. Iowa, which will host NCAA Regional action on April 2 inside Carver-Hawkeye Arena, has qualified for regional competition in seven of the last eight seasons.



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## WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS WEEKLY RELEASE

### **METCALF, DRENTH NAMED TO BIG WATCH LIST:**

Angel Metcalf and Mollie Drenth were recognized on the 2016 Big Ten Gymnasts to Watch List released on Dec. 10. Metcalf, who was also 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 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](mailto:james-kiekhaefer@uiowa.edu).

### **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).

### **5 GYMHAWKS NAMED TO ALL-CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM:**

Five GymHawks received individual conference awards following the 2015 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.

### **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.

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

### **UP NEXT:**

The GymHawks travel to Champaign, Illinois, on Saturday, Feb. 13 to take on No. 19 Illinois. The meet is set for 4 p.m. (CT) inside Huff Hall.



# 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.



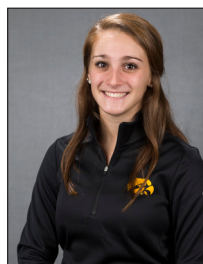
**Alie Glover**  
Sr.  
Destin, Fla.



**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.



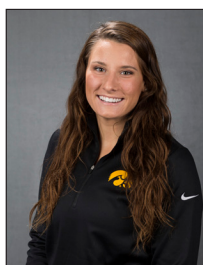
**Rose Piorkowski**  
Fr.  
Panama City, Fla.



**Jori Robertson**  
So.  
Iowa City, Iowa



**Megan Ruzicka**  
So.  
Plainfield, Ill.



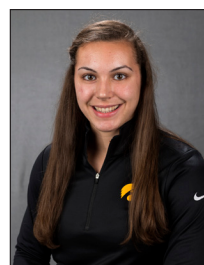
**Lanie Snyder**  
So.  
Omaha, Neb.



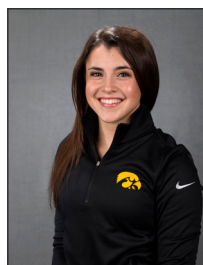
**Johanny Sotillo**  
Sr. Valencia,  
Venezuela



**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