

IOWA HAWKEYES

University of Iowa Athletic Communications – Megan Rowley, Gymnastics Contact



WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS WEEKLY RELEASE

March 9, 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
2/6	vs. #14 Nebraska * (BTN)	W, 196.650
2/13	at #21 Illinois *	W, 196.275
2/20	vs. Towson (Senior Night)	W, 194.150
2/27	at #13 Denver	2nd/4 (196.075)
3/4	at Iowa State	L, 196.000
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
 Facebook: facebook.com/iowagymnastics
 Twitter: twitter.com/iowagymnastics
 YouTube: youtube.com/iowagymnastics
 Periscope: @IowaGymnastics



#18 IOWA HAWKEYES

at Big Five Meet _____ March 12
 Time _____ 12 p.m. (CT)
 Location _____ University Park, Pa.
 Venue _____ Rec Hall

TV _____ BTN
 Live Stats _____ hawkeyesports.com
 Twitter _____ @IowaGymnastics
 Snapchat _____ @IowaGymnastics
 Periscope _____ @IowaGymnastics



PENN STATE (HOST)
 NITTANY LIONS

THIS WEEK:

The 18th-ranked University of Iowa women's gymnastics team travels to University Park, Pennsylvania, to take on Penn State, Michigan, Rutgers, and Minnesota in the Big Five Meet on March 12. The meet is scheduled to begin at 12 p.m. (CT) inside Rec Hall.

The meet will serve as the Big Ten Qualifier and decides which session teams will compete in and the rotation order for the Big Ten Championships on March 19 at the Devaney Center. The top three teams at each Big Five qualify for the evening session at 4 p.m., while the lower two teams will compete in the morning at 11 a.m.

MEET COVERAGE:

- Saturday's meet will air live on the Big Ten Network with Bernie Guenther (play-by-play) and Sharya Musser (color) on the call.
- Fans can 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.

IN THE RANKINGS:

Iowa is ranked No. 18 nationally with a RQS of 196.200, marking the program's first Top 20 ranking since 2011. There are 82 women's gymnastics teams in the nation. The GymHawks rank 13th nationally on bars (49.140 RQS), 17th on vault (49.030), 20th on beam (49.050), and 23rd on floor (49.070).

Individually, junior Mollie Drenth ranks 21st nationally in the all-around (39.285 RQS), while junior Angel Metcalf ranks 33rd (39.150) out of 104 gymnasts. For single events, Drenth ranks ninth on beam (9.895) and senior Alie Glover ranks 56th on floor (9.865). There are over 445 gymnasts ranked individually on each event.

LAST TIME OUT:

The Hawkeyes fell to the Cyclones, 196.025-196.000, on March 4 inside Hilton Coliseum. The Iowa Corn Cy-Hawk Series stands at 12-10 favoring Iowa after the loss. Six GymHawks earned a total of 12 top five finishes to highlight competition.

Leading the pack was junior Mollie Drenth, who finished at the top of the podium on vault (9.950) and beam (9.925), second in the all-around (39.325), and fourth on bars (9.750). Junior Angel Metcalf earned four top five finishes of her own, placing second on vault (9.850), third on beam (9.875) and in the all-around (39.275), and fourth on floor (9.850).

REGIONAL QUALIFYING SCORE:

Iowa is ranked No. 18 nationally with a Regional Qualifying Score (RQS) of 196.200. This is the first week that rankings are determined by RQS. RQS is determined by the six highest scores of the season -- at least three of which must be from away meets. The highest score is dropped, and the remaining five scores are averaged.

IOWA'S RQS

196.650 - Home
 196.375 - Home
 196.275 - Away
 196.275 - Away
 196.075 - Away
 196.000 - Away

RQS: 196.200



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WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS WEEKLY RELEASE

BIG TEN STANDINGS

Team	Overall W-L-T	Big Ten W-L-T	Pct.
Minnesota	14-1-0	5-0-0	.933
Iowa	9-5-0	5-0-0	.643
Michigan	9-4-0	4-1-0	.692
Nebraska	11-3-0	3-2-0	.786
Penn State	8-6-0	3-2-0	.571
Illinois	8-4-0	2-3-0	.667
Ohio State	5-6-1	1-4-0	.458
Rutgers	10-10-0	1-4-0	.500
Michigan State	7-9-0	1-4-0	.438
Maryland	7-11-0	0-5-0	.389

(As of March 9)

ROAD TO NATIONALS RANKINGS

Rank	Team Name	RQS
1	Oklahoma	197.765
2	Florida	197.580
3	LSU	197.340
4	Alabama	197.325
5	Utah	197.105
6	Michigan	197.085
7	Auburn	196.940
8	UCLA	196.865
9	Georgia	196.820
10	Denver	196.605
11	Arkansas	196.470
12	Boise State	196.365
13	Stanford	196.305
14	California	196.290
15	Missouri	196.235
16(t)	Oregon State	196.205
16(t)	Nebraska	196.205
18	Iowa	196.200
19	Minnesota	196.105
20	Arizona	196.080
21	Kentucky	195.965
22	George Washington	195.905
23	Illinois-Champaign	195.765
24	Washington	195.750
25	West Virginia	195.665

(As of March 9)

SCOUTING THE NITTANY LIONS:

- Penn State defeated Arizona State, 195.350-194.625, inside the Wells Fargo Arena on March 4.
- The Nittany Lions are ranked No. 28 nationally with a RQS of 195.550.
- Penn State is ranked 18th on bars (49.105 RQS), 25th on beam (48.995), 29th on vault (48.895), and 36th on floor (48.965) nationally.
- The Nittany Lions own a 7-6-0 overall record so far this season, with a 3-2-0 mark in conference action.
- Individually, Penn State has two student-athletes ranked in the top 25 nationally. Kiera Brown ranks 12th on bars (9.900 RQS) and 20th in the all-around (39.290), while Nicole Medvitz ranks 24th on beam (9.875).
- Penn State is led by head coach Jeff Thompson, who is in his 6th season.

SCOUTING THE WOLVERINES:

- Michigan fell to Utah, 197.525-197.050, on March 4 at Crisler Center.
- The Wolverines are ranked No. 6 nationally with a RQS of 197.085.
- Michigan is ranked second on floor (49.450), fourth on beam (49.260), and sixth on vault (49.265) and bars (49.295).
- The Wolverines own a 9-3-0 overall record so far this season, with a 4-1-0 mark in conference action.
- Individually, the Wolverines have four student-athletes ranked in the top 25 nationally. Leading Michigan is Nicole Artz, who ranks third on floor (9.940), 12th in the all-around (39.445) and on bars (9.900), and 13th on beam (9.890).
- Olivia Karas ranks third on vault (9.925) and eighth in the all-around (39.480), Brianna Brown ranks 25th in the all-around (39.250), and Talia Chiarelli ranks 19th on vault (9.880).
- Michigan is led by head coach Bev Plocki, who is in her 26th season.

SCOUTING THE SCARLET KNIGHTS:

- Rutgers scored a 195.050 to win a quad meet at the Livingston Gym on March 6. The Scarlet Knights topped Towson (192.775), Southern Connecticut State (190.725), and West Chester (188.475).
- Rutgers is ranked No. 40 nationally with a RQS of 194.685.
- The Scarlet Knights are ranked 36th on beam (48.730), 37th on vault (48.775), 45th on floor (48.815 RQS), and 53rd on bars (48.390).
- The Scarlet Knights own a 7-10-0 overall record so far this season, with a 1-4-0 mark in conference action.
- Rutgers is led by head coach Louis Levine, who is in his 5th season.

SCOUTING THE GOLDEN GOPHERS:

- Minnesota scored a season-high, 197.225, to win a tri meet against Denver (197.050) and Air Force (193.825) on March 6.
- The Golden Gophers are ranked No. 19 nationally with a RQS of 196.105.
- Minnesota is ranked 13th on floor (49.195 RQS), 14th on beam (49.155), 15th on vault (49.055), and 17th on bars (49.110).
- The Golden Gophers own an 11-0-0 overall record so far this season, with a perfect 5-0-0 mark in conference action.
- Individually, the Golden Gophers have two student-athletes ranked in the top 25 nationally. Lindsay Mable ranks ninth on beam (9.895) and floor (9.925), 13th in the all-around (39.430), 20th on vault (9.875), and 21st on bars (9.885), while Bailie Holst ranks 21st on bars (9.885).
- Minnesota is led by head coach Jenny Hansen, who is in her 2nd season.

DRENTH NAMED STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE MONTH:

The University of Iowa's Student-Athlete Academic Services recognized junior Mollie Drenth as February's female Student-Athlete of the Month. Voted on by their peers, this honor recognizes student-athletes who have excelled not only in their sport, but in the classroom as well.

Undeclared in Big Ten competition this season with eight individual titles, Drenth ranks 12th nationally and third in the conference on beam. On Feb. 6, Drenth recorded career bests in vault (9.850), beam (9.925), and all-around (39.475) to lead Iowa to its first win over Nebraska in 17 years. Drenth's scores on beam and in all-around are the best of any Hawkeye in 2016. Drenth, a native of Riverview, Florida, is majoring in health and human physiology and has participated in numerous volunteer service events.

UNDEFEATED IN THE BIG:

Iowa and Minnesota are the only two teams left in the league with a perfect conference record, each owning a 5-0-0 mark. The Hawkeyes have collected big wins over No. 25 Ohio State, Michigan State, Maryland, No. 14 Nebraska, and No. 21 Illinois.



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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).

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).

DRENTH LEADS THE GYMHAWKS AGAINST NEBRASKA:

- The GymHawks earned a season-high team score to defeat No. 14 Nebraska, 196.650- 196.350, inside Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Feb. 6. The win marks the first time in 17 years that the Hawkeyes have topped the Cornhuskers.
- Drenth, a preseason Big Ten Gymnast to Watch, finished at the top of the podium on beam (9.925) and all-around (39.475), and finished second on vault (9.850) and bars (9.850) against No. 14 Nebraska.
- The junior took the all-around title for the third consecutive meet and the fifth time this season with a career-high score of 39.475. Her score earned her a No. 10-ranking in the Iowa record books for highest individual performance in the all-around.
- The Riverview, Florida, native set the pace for Iowa once again on beam, tallying a career-high 9.925 to earn first place overall. The junior's score earned her a No. 3-ranking in the Iowa record books for highest individual performance on beam.

UPSET IN CHAMPAIGN:

Eighteen top five finishes lifted Iowa over 21st-ranked Illinois, 196.275-195.125, inside Huff Hall on Feb. 13. The win marks the Hawkeyes' third upset victory of the season and the first time they have topped Illinois in Champaign, Illinois, since Jan. 24, 2009.

Nine GymHawks earned a total of 18 top five finishes to highlight the competition. Leading the pack was junior Mollie Drenth who finished at the top of the podium on beam (9.875) and all-around (39.300), third on vault (9.800), and fifth on bars (9.800) and floor (9.825). Drenth claimed the all-around title for the sixth consecutive meet.

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. 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 p.m.

ROSTER BREAKDOWN:

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

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.

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.



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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 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).

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

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).

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

UP NEXT:

The GymHawks travel to Lincoln, Nebraska, to compete at the Big Ten Championships on March 19 at the Devaney Center. There will be two sessions, with four teams competing in each session, based on regional qualifying scores (RQS) from the Big Five Meet. The top three teams at each Big Five qualify for the evening session at 4 p.m. (CT), while the lower two teams will compete in the morning at 11 a.m.



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2015-16 ROSTER



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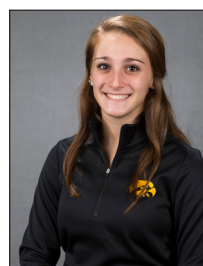
Alie Glover
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So.
Darien, Ill.



Larissa Libby
Head Coach
12th Season



Caleb Phillips
Assistant Coach
9th Season



Jennifer Green
Assistant Coach
2nd Season