## THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

# MAWKEYE HOME PLATE

Iowa Softball News and Notes

Probable Iowa I ineun

2004 Big Ten Tournament May 13-15, 2004 Ann Arbor, MI

#### 2004 Iowa Schedule

2004	7 IOWA SCNEUUIE
38-21	Overall, 14-6 Big Ten
Feb. 20	vs. Wisconsin L, 3-6
Feb. 20 Feb. 21	vs. Illinois State W, 7-3 vs. Utah State W, 5-1
Feb. 21	vs. #22 Arizona State W, 9-0 (5)
Feb. 22	vs. #22 Arizona State L, 0-3
Feb. 28	vs. Toledo W, 3-0
Feb. 28	vs. Western Kentucky W, 3-0
Feb. 29	vs. Louisville W, 4-0
Feb. 29	vs. Louisville L, 0-2
Mar. 4	vs. Baylor L, 3-4
Mar. 4 Mar. 5	vs. Boston University W, 4-0 vs. Northern Illinois W, 5-1
Mar. 5	vs. Team USA (Exhib.) L, 0-11 (5)
Mar. 6	vs. Troy State W, 1-0 (8)
Mar. 6	vs. TennChattanooga L, 0-1
Mar. 7	vs. Tennessee Tech L, 0-1
Mar. 12	vs. #8 Washington L, 2-8
Mar. 12	vs. Santa Clara W, 4-1
Mar. 13 Mar. 13	vs. Syracuse W, 2-0 vs. #3 California L, 2-8
Mar. 13	vs. #3 California L, 2-6 vs. #20 Arizona State W, 3-0
Mar. 17	at Sacramento State (1) W, 2-1 (8)
Mar. 17	at Sacramento State (2) W, 6-0
Mar. 19	vs. Saint Mary's W, 7-0
Mar. 19	vs. Utah State L, 1-2
Mar. 20	vs. Long Beach State L, 0-3
Mar. 20	vs. Long Island L, 1-2
Mar. 21 Mar. 24	vs. Nevada L, 0-2 at Illinois State L, 3-1
Mar. 27	Wisconsin W, 4-0
Mar. 27	Ball State W, 6-0
Mar. 28	Ball State W, 9-0
Mar. 28	Wisconsin L, 1-2
Mar. 31	at Drake L, 0-3
Apr. 2	Northwestern* W, 7-2
Apr. 3	Northwestern* W, 6-1
Apr. 4 Apr. 4	Michigan State (1)* W, 8-2 Michigan State (2)* W, 8-2
Apr. 7	Northern Illinois W, 2-0(11)
Apr. 9	at Indiana* W, 6-0
Apr. 10	at Indiana* W, 1-0
Apr. 11	at Purdue (1)* W, 6-0
Apr. 11	at Purdue (2)* W, 4-0
Apr. 15	at Iowa State W, 4-0
Apr. 16	Coe College W, 9-1 (6)
Apr. 18 Apr. 18	Michigan (1)* L, 1-3 Michigan (2)* L, 1-3
Apr. 10	Michigan (2)* L, 1-3 Northern Iowa W, 4-3
Apr. 23	Penn State* W, 3-2 (14)
Apr. 24	Penn State* W, 8-0 (6)
Apr. 25	Ohio State (1)* L, 3-5 (9)
Apr. 25	Ohio State (2)* W, 4-0
Apr. 28	at Western Illinois W, 5-1
Apr. 30	at Minnesota* L, 0-2
May 1 May 2	at Minnesota* W, 6-2 at Wisconsin (1)* W, 1-0
May 2 May 2	at Wisconsin (1)* W, 1-0 at Wisconsin (2)* W, 5-0
May 4	William Penn W, 10-0 (5)
May 8	at Illinois* L, 0-2
May 9	at Illinois* L, 2-5
	Big Ten Tournament
	NCAA Regionals
May 27-31	Women's College World Series

PIUU	Probable lowa Lineup												
No.	<u>Name</u>	Pos.	<u>B-T</u>	Yr.	GP	Avg.	Runs	<u>Hits</u>	RBI	<u>HR</u>	2B	SLG%	SB
9	Natalie Johnson	RF	L/L	So.	56	.308	38	49	20	5	11	.509	7
6	Amanda Hentges	LF	R/R	Sr.	55	.283	19	34	16	0	9	.375	7
18	Stacy May	SS	R/R	So.	59	.297	25	54	17	1	6	.346	2
17	Kylie Murray	3B	R/R	So.	58	.298	8	53	27	3	11	.410	0
4	Lisa Birocci	Р	R/R	Jr.	48	.270	14	30	10	5	5	.468	0
or 3	Ali Arnold	Р	R/R	So.	40	.296	7	24	12	2	6	.444	0
16	Sarah Thomson	1B	R/R	Sr.	58	.266	13	38	18	2	8	.378	4
21	Sami Baugh	С	R/R	Fr.	52	.210	10	21	9	1	2	.260	0
14	Laura Chipman	CF	R/R	Sr.	59	.235	20	23	9	1	5	.316	8
22	Emily Gerlick	2B	R/R	So.	59	.261	20	43	27	4	6	.430	7

#### **Probable Pitching Rotation** No. Name Throws Yr. Record Lisa Birocci RHP Jr. 21-11 3 Ali Arnold RHP So. 17-10 190 Sarah Thomson RHP Sr. 0-0 0 4.85 4.1

#### The Second Season

The University of Iowa softball team will head to the 2004 Big Ten Softball Tournament in Ann Arbor, MI. Iowa will be the No. 3 seed and take on No. 6 seeded Ohio State Friday at Noon

No. 2 Illinois and No. 7 Penn State will open the tournament with a 5 p.m. game Thursday. Top-seeded Michigan will face No. 8 Michigan State Friday night at 7:30 p.m. The final first round game will be between No. 4 Northwestern and No. 5 Minnesota at 2:30 p.m. on Friday. All times are Eastern.

#### Swept on the Final Weekend

Last weekend, the Hawkeyes were swept in a two-game series against the Illinois Fighting Illini, 2-0 and 5-2. The pair of wins moved Illinois into a second-place tie with the Hawkeyes and gave them the No. 2 seed at the Big Ten Tournament.

Game one was a classic Big Ten pitching dual between Lisa Birocci and Illinois' Amanda Fortune. Both pitchers threw complete games, with Birocci allowing four hits and striking out seven and Fortune giving up five hits and striking out six.

All nine hits in the game were singles.

The only runs of the game came in the bottom of the sixth inning, with the Fighting Illini using two walks and a single to load the bases for Katie O'Connell, who ripped a two-run single to give Illinois a 2-0 lead.

Both lowa runs came on solo home runs by Natalie Johnson and Emily Gerlick. The Hawkeyes recorded six hits on the day.

Johnson gave the Hawkeyes a 1-0 lead in the first with a lead-off home run, her fifth of the year.

Illinois responded in the top of the second by putting up three runs off a sacrifice fly and a two-run single from Sarah Baumgartner.

Gerlick cut the lead to 3-2 in the bottom of the fifth with her fourth home run of the year, but Illinois put two more on the board for a 5-2 lead in the top of the seventh to put the game out of reach.

Iowa Hawkeye

## 2004 Big Ten Records

# Hawkeye Softball Notes

5. MINNESOTA 10-10 33-2 6. Ohio State 8-11 33-2 7. Michigan State 8-12 30-2 Penn State 8-12 25-3 9. Indiana 7-13 32-3 10. Wisconsin 6-14 29-2 11. Purdue 5-14 32-2
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## lowa Sports Information

TONY WIRT, ASST. DIRECTOR SOFTBALL SID

tony-wirt@hawkeyesports.com

## lowa on the Web

The media and public can find a valuable and timely source of information about Iowa athletics at its world wide web site. The address for the site is:

www.hawkeyesports.com

## Softball Phone Numbers

Area Code is 319	
SOFTBALL OFFICE	335-9257
TICKET OFFICE	335-9327
Sports Marketing	335-9431
Press Box	335-9296

#### lowa's Home Run Leaders

1.	Alicia Gerlach (99-02)	29
2.	Jessica Bashor (00- 03)	21
3.	Brandi Macias (94-97)	17
4.	Kristin Johnson (00-03)	15
	Christina Schmaltz (01-03)	15
6.	DEBBIE BILBAO (95-97)	14
	TAMMY UTLEY (96-99)	14
8.	CHRISTY HEBERT (94-97)	12
9.	Kari Knopf (94-97)	11
10.	Katy Jendrzejewski (96-01)	9
11.	Liz Dennis (99-02 )	8
	Cara Coughenour (86-89)	8
	Shawnte Vallejo (98-99)	8
14.	Kristi Hanks (99-02)	7
	Karen Wick (87-90)	7

## 1,000 and Beyond

lowa Head Coach Gayle Blevins reached an astonishing milestone this season, winning her 1,000th career game. Blevins' current record is 1,009-469-5.

Only two other Division I coaches have hit the millennium mark. Fresno State coach Margie Wright has 1,125 wins, while JoAnn Graff of Florida State has won 1,049.

Sandy Jerstad of Division II Augustana ended her career last season with 1,014 wins.

#### 700 Club

Not only has Head Coach Gayle Blevins won her 1,000th career game, but her 1,000th win was also her 700th at the University of Iowa.

Her record at lowa stands at 709-321-3. She is the all-time winningest softball coach at lowa.

## Big Ten Tournament History

The lowa Hawkeyes have a 17-16 (.515) all-time record in the Big Ten Tournament. The only team with a better record is Michigan, who is 26-9 (.743).

The Hawkeyes are also second in titles won with two (2001 and 2003). Michigan has won the Big Ten Tournament six times (1995-98, 2000 and 2002). Northwestern (1982) and Minnesota (1999) have each won once.

## New Tournament Format

The Big Ten Tournament will have a different look this season, as it will move from a six-team, double-elimination tournament to an eight-team, single-elimination field.

Day One, May 13th

Game 1: #2 seed v. #7 seed, 5:00 p.m. ET Game 2: #1 seed v. #8 seed, 7:30 p.m. ET

Day Two, May 14th

Game 3: #3 seed v. #6 seed, 12:00 p.m. ET

Game 4: #4 seed v. #5 seed, 2:30 p.m. ET

Game 5: G1 winner v. G3 winner, 5 p.m. ET

Game 6: G2 winner v. G4 winner, 7:30 p.m. ET

Day Three, May 15th

Game 7: G5 winner v. G6 winner, 2:30 p.m. ET

#### Big Tens in Ann Arbor

Michigan earned the right to host the 2004 Big Ten Tournament by winning the regular season championship with a 17-3 record.

In the 11 year history of the Big Ten Tournament, the conference's postseason brackets have been played out in only two places, Ann Arbor and Iowa City. Michigan has hosted the tournament in 1982, 1995-96, 1998-99 and 2001-02, while Iowa had it in 1997, 2000 and 2003.

lowa is 10-13 in Big Ten Tournament games played in Ann Arbor.

## Looking at the Finals

No team besides Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Northwestern and Ohio State has ever reached the finals of the Big Ten Tournament. Last year's Iowa-Northwestern final was the first time Michigan failed to make the final game.

#### Last Year's Tournament

The Hawkeyes took the 2003 Big Ten Tournament title in one of the most hotly contested tournament fields yet.

Five of the ten games in last year's tournament played at Pearl Field went into extra innings, including lowa's 3-2, opening round win over Illinois.

The top-seeded Hawkeyes then toppled the sixth-seeded Northwestern Wildcats 2-1 in the semifinals, then again by the score of 2-0 in the finals to take their second Big Ten Tournament Championship.

Northwestern was the first No. 6 seed to make the finals of the Big Ten Tournament.

lowa's Lisa Birocci was named the Big Ten Tournament MVP, while Jessica Bashor and Stacy May were also named to the alltournament team.

#### Breaking Her Own Record

Junior pitcher Lisa Birocci has broken the lowa single-season strikeout record, which she set last year (267).

Birocci now has 283 strikeouts on the season.

## Birocci in the Big Ten

Junior Lisa Birocci is one of the most dominant pitchers in the Big Ten, and currently leads the conference with 283 strikeouts.

She also on top of four conference-only categories. Birocci leads the Big Ten in wins (11), opposing batting average (.166), strikeouts (113) and strike outs looking (29) in league play.

Iowa Hawkeye

## Iowa Hawkeye Roster

- 3 Ali Arnold
- 4 LISA BIROCCI
- 5 Jenna Spratt
- 6 AMANDA HENTGES
- 7 Elisha Huse
- 9 Natalie Johnson
- 10 STACY MAY
- 11 MINDY HEIDGERKEN
- 12 ABBY RUFF
- 13 SAMI BAUGH
- 14 Laura Chipman
- 16 SARAH THOMSON
- 17 Kylie Murray
- 22 EMILY GERLICK

Head Coach: Gayle Blevins Assistant: Michelle Venturella Assistant: Holly Van Vlymen

## 2003 Awards

#### Jessica Bashor

- First Team All-Big Ten
- Second team NFCA Mideast Regional All-American

#### Lindsay Bashor

- Second Team All-Big Ten

#### Lisa Birocci

- Third team NFCA All-American
- First team NFCA Mideast Reional All-American
- Big Ten Pitcher of the Year
- First Team All-Big Ten
- Big Ten Tournament MVP

#### Katie Boney

- Second Team All-Big Ten
- Second team NFCA Mideast Regional All-American

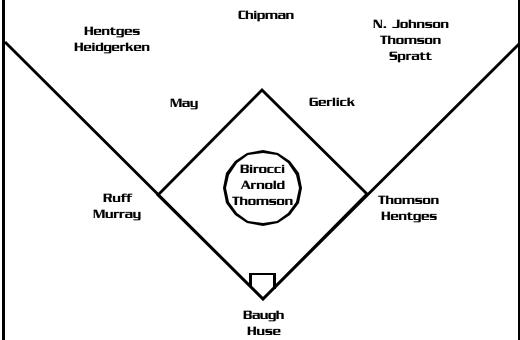
#### Krisin Johnson

- Second team NFCA All-American
- First team NFCA Mideast Regional All-American
- First team all-Big Ten

#### Stacy May

- Big Ten Freshman of the Year
- First Team All-Big Ten
- Second team NFCA Mideast Regional All-American

## Hawkeye Defensive Depth Chart



## Big in the Big Ten

Hawkeye shortstop Stacy May is hitting a solid .297 this season.

Her average jumps significantly in conference play, where she is hitting .369. May is second in the Big Ten with 24 hits in conference play.

The Reno, NV, native led the conference in hitting during Big Ten play last season as a freshman with a .450 average.

#### Crossing the Plate

Hawkeye lead-off hitter Natalie Johnson leads the team with 38 runs scored this season, 13 more than Stacy May, who is in second place.

Johnson leads the Big Ten with 17 runs scored in conference play.

#### Walk-on Success

The Hawkeye infield has a pair of walk-on athletes in it. Sophomore Emily Gerlick has started every game at second base this season and is hitting .261 with a team-best five triples. Junior Abbie Ruff has started 38 games at third base.

#### That's Why She Hits First

Sophomore Natalie Johnson has settled into her role of the Hawkeye lead-off hitter nicely.

The Burlington native has a .472 on base percentage when leading off an inning.

## Hitting When it Counts

Sophomore Emily Gerlick is hitting .261 overall, but you wouldn't want to face her with runners on base. With a runner on, her average jumps to .344. It vaults to .370 with runners in scoring position.

## Van Vlymen to Resign

Hawkeye pitching coach Holly Van Vlymen has announced she will resign at the end of the season to pursue a job as a kinderaarten teacher.

She recently was hired by Virgil Grissom Elementary School in Princeton, IA.

Van Vlymen has coached at lowa four years, working primarily with the Hawkeye pitching staff. She coached former Hawkeye Kristi Hanks to first team all-America honors and her second-consecutive Big Ten Pitcher of the Year award in her first season on staff. She also guided Lisa Birocci to third team all-America laurels and a Big Ten Pitcher of the Year award last season.

Together with Gayle Blevins and fellow assistant Michelle Venturella, Van Vlymen was part of the Hawkeye staff that was named the NFCA Midwest Regional Coaching Staff of the Year last season.

Iowa Hawkeye

## lowa's Record When... 1-Run Games ..... 5-7 2-Run Games ...... 2-7 5+RUN GAMES ...... 15-2 Extra Innings ..... 5-2 DAY GAMES ......34-18 NIGHT GAMES ..... 4-3 OPPONENT SCORES FIRST .......... 7-15 IOWA SCORES LAST ...... 39-3 OPPONENT SCORES LAST ...... 0-18 GIVING UP 3 RUNS OR LESS .... 38-15 GIVING UP 4+ RUNS ..... 0-6 Vs. Ranked Opponents ...... 2-5 IOWA HITS A HOMERUN ........... 19-3 OPPONENT HITS A HOMERUN ...... 3-7 IOWA OUTHITS OPPONENT ...... 33-8 OPPONENT OUTHITS IOWA ...... 3-11 EQUAL NUMBER OF HITS ...... 2-1 IOWA COMMITTS AN ERROR ..... 17-13 FLYING TO GAME ...... 12-11 Busing To Game ...... 11-4 IN CENTRAL TIME ZONE ............ 19-9 In Mountain Time Zone ...... 3-2 In Georgia ..... 0-0 In Kentucky ..... 3-1 In California ...... 6-6 In Pennsylvania ..... 0-0 In Ohio ...... 0-0 In MICHIGAN ..... 0-0 On Monday ..... 0-0 On Tuesday ...... 1-0 On Wednesday ...... 5-2 On Thursday ...... 2-1 On Friday ...... 8-4 On Saturday ...... 10-6 FLYING SAME DAY ...... 0-3

**TOTALS** 

Overall

**I**OWA

## IOWA'S TEAM SINGLE GAME INFO...

Longest Winning Streak
HOWA'S INDIVIDUALTEAM BATTING LEADERS BATTING AVE. JOHNSON (.308) GMS. GERLICJK, MAY, CHIPMAN (59) GMS. STARTED GERLICJK, MAY, CHIPMAN (59) AT BATS MAY (182) RUNS JOHNSON (38) HITS MAY (54) DOUBLES MURRAY AND JOHNSON (11) TRIPLES GERLICK (5) HOME RUNS BIROCCI AND JOHNSON (5)

## Head Coach Gayle Blevins

THE HEAD HAWKEYE...Gayle Blevins finished her 15th season as the head coach of the lowa 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. In her 14 seasons at lowa, Blevins has guided the Hawkeyes to nine NCAA Tournament appearances and four Big Ten Championships. She is lowa's all-time winningest coach with a record of 709-321-3 (.685).

Her career record in 23 years of coaching is 1,009-469-5 (.684). 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).

1,009-468-5 .684

.685

709-320-3



.740

.706

#### **BLEVINS' YEAR-BY-YEAR RECORDS**

YEAR_	<u> School</u>	Record	<u>Рст.</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u> Ѕсноог</u>	RECORD	<u>Рст.</u>
1980	Indiana	33-16	.673	1992	Iowa	34-20	.630
1981	Indiana	26-12	.684	1993	Iowa	39-15	.722
1982	Indiana	30-15	.666	1994	Iowa	35-23	.603
1983	Indiana	45-20-1	.692	1995	Iowa	41-26-1	.612
1984	Indiana	37-22	.633	1996	Iowa	47-19	.720
1985	Indiana	47-20-1	.701	1997	Iowa	52-9	.852
1986	Indiana	45-18	.714	1998	Iowa	38-20	.655
1987	Indiana	37-23	.617	1999	Iowa	41-26-1	.616
1988	Iowa	33-20-1	.620	2000	Iowa	46-15	.754
1989	Iowa	40-21	.656	2001	Iowa	49-14	.778
1990	Iowa	43-28	.606	2002	Iowa	36-20	.643
1991	Iowa	53-11	.828	2003	Iowa	44-15	.746

**BIG TEN TOTALS** 

Iowa

Overall 445-156-1

275-112-1