



### GENERAL INFORMATION

Location .....	Iowa City, IA
Founded .....	1847
Enrollment .....	30,409
Nickname .....	Hawkeyes
Home Field/Capacity .....	Grant Field/1,000
Conference .....	Big Ten
School Colors .....	Black and Gold
University President .....	Sally Mason
Director of Athletics .....	Gary Barta
Field Hockey Administrator .....	Paula Jantz
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### COACHING INFORMATION

Head Coach .....	Tracey Griesbaum
Alma Mater/Year .....	West Chester/1989
Record at Iowa/Years .....	97-58/8
Overall Record/Years .....	110-79/10
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Associate Head Coach .....	Lisa Cellucci
Alma Mater/Year .....	University of Iowa/1998
E-mail Address .....	lisa-cellucci@iowafieldhockey.com
Assistant Coach .....	Meridith Thorpe
Alma Mater/Year .....	Virginia/1999
E-mail Address .....	meridith-thorpe@iowafieldhockey.com
Volunteer Assistant Coach .....	Barb Weinberg
Alma Mater/Year .....	University of Iowa/2004
Field Hockey Secretary .....	Kendra Wieditz
Field Hockey Office Phone .....	(319) 335-9259

The mission of the Department of Athletics is to provide the administrative and coaching support, facilities, resources, and equipment necessary for student athletes to graduate from The University of Iowa while participating in broad based championship caliber athletic competition. The overall well-being of the participant and integrity of the program will be paramount in all that we do.

The University of Iowa prohibits discrimination in employment, educational programs, and activities on the basis of race, national origin, color, creed, religion, sex, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or associational preference. The University also affirms its commitment to providing equal opportunities and equal access to University facilities. For additional information, contact the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, (319) 335-0705.



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**PRACTICE ATTENDANCE** - All practices are open to the media, and interviews may be conducted 15 minutes prior to or at the completion of practice. However, media must inform Patrick Sojka (319-335-9411) of their intention to attend practice. The Hawkeyes practice from 2:30-5 p.m. at Grant Field.

**PLAYER INTERVIEWS** - All player interviews are coordinated through Patrick Sojka of the sports information office. Please contact Patrick (319-335-9411) so that he may set a time for an interview which does not interfere with the student-athlete's academic or practice schedules.

The University of Iowa field hockey media guide was written and designed by Patrick Sojka. Photographs provided by David Bress, Joe Faraoni, the University Relations Photo Unit and the UI Visual Center's Photographic Services. Cover artwork designed by Mindy Heidgerken. Printing done by UI Printing in Iowa City, Iowa.



## **Tracey Griesbaum**

Head Coach

Ninth Year

West Chester Univ., 1989

Entering her ninth season as the Head Coach at the University of Iowa, Tracey Griesbaum is looking for a strong showing from the defending back-to-back Big Ten

Tournament champions. Griesbaum takes a record of 97-58 at Iowa and a 110-79 overall into the 2008 season. She recorded her 100th career victory with a win at Fairfield in 2007.

Last season under Griesbaum, Iowa finished 17-4, and ranked fifth nationally. The Hawkeyes also captured their second consecutive Big Ten Tournament championship. Additionally, the Hawkeyes advanced to the NCAA Tournament for the 19th time in the program's history. The Hawkeyes began the season ranked 10th, and at one point, were ranked as high as third.

In the first year of the Griesbaum era, the Hawkeyes fielded an extremely young team that finished with a respectable 12-8 record and a third place finish in the Big Ten.

Year two, was better for the Hawkeyes. They finished with a record of 13-5, an appearance in the Big Ten Tournament Championship game and ended the season ranked No. 12 by the NFCHA. On their way to the Big Ten Tournament Championship game, Griesbaum led the Hawkeyes past the co-Big Ten regular season champions, Michigan State 3-2 in overtime.

In the third year under Griesbaum, the Hawkeyes finished with a 9-8 record and ranked No. 20 by the NFCHA. The Hawkeyes opened the season with a great shutout victory over eventual National Champion Wake Forest, 1-0. They closed the season with a 2-1, double overtime loss to the eventual national runner-up Penn State. Six of the Iowa losses came by only one goal.

In 2003, the Hawkeyes finished 11-8 with a final ranking of 16th by STX/NFCHA. During the season, Iowa reached as high as No. 6 in the poll. Six of Iowa's eight losses came from team ranked in the top ten.

During Griesbaum's fifth year, she directed the Hawkeyes to a 13-8 record and their 13th regular season Big Ten Championship with a 5-1 conference record. The Hawkeyes' exceptional play earned them a trip to the NCAA Tournament for the 16th time in school history. Griesbaum was named Big Ten Coach of the Year and the Division I Coach of the Year by WomensFieldHockey.com for her efforts.

In 2005, Iowa fielded a young team that resembled Griesbaum's first Hawkeye squad in 2000. As in 2000, the '05 team finished the year with a 12-8 record and a third place finish in the Big Ten.

In 2006, Griesbaum guided the Hawkeyes to a 12-9 record, Big Ten Tournament Championship, an appearance in the NCAA Tournament and a final ranking of 14th in the STX/National Field Hockey Coaches Association Poll. Iowa had a preseason rank of 12, but a tough schedule with many close losses dropped the Hawkeyes' rank. Six of Iowa's nine losses came against teams ranked in the top five and only two of their losses were by more than one point.

Griesbaum has a long history with the United States Field Hockey program. She has served in many capacities within the USFHA, including a full-time assistant and head coach for the U.S. Under-21 Team. She led the Under-21 team to a second-place finish at the Pan American Junior Championships and a spot in the 2001 Junior World Cup, where she served as an assistant coach. Her work was good enough





to earn her the 2000 United States Field Hockey Coach of the Year award.

Before leaving to accept her post with U.S.A. Field Hockey, Griesbaum was an assistant coach with the Hawkeyes for eight seasons. She helped Iowa win four Big Ten Championships, advancing to the NCAA Tournament six times and the Final Four four times.

While Griesbaum worked for the United States Team in a full-time capacity for only one year, she has served the organization for 16 years as a coach.

In 2006, Griesbaum was the head coach of the Midwest Region's EPTC Program team, which placed second at the national tournament. She also coached the Midwest in 2004 and attended the FIH Coaching Course held in conjunction with the Champions Challenge and coached at the Elite Team Trials.

Griesbaum was head coach of the 2000 Super Camp and B Camp, and an assistant coach for the 1999 Under-20 Junior National Team which toured Canada and Argentina.

During the summer of 1998, she worked with the USA Field Hockey program. She was the head coach for the USA Under-23 team that competed in the USFHA National Indoor Tournament, toured Holland playing various club teams and competed in Canada against the Canadian National and Under-23 squads.

Griesbaum has also coached at the USFHA A-camp since 1995. In 1998, she was one of 38 international coaches selected to attend the International Field Hockey coaching course, held in conjunction with the 1998 World Cup in Holland.

In the spring and summer of 1997, Griesbaum worked camps and coached the national teams throughout the country. She coached at the United States Field Hockey Association A-Camp and served as assistant coach for the United States Under-21 National Team that played

in the Junior National World Cup Qualifying Tournament in January of 1997 (Santiago, Chile). Griesbaum participated in that same tournament as an assistant coach in Venezuela in the fall of 1992.

In 1996, 1997, 1999, and 2001-04 she was a selector at the National Futures Tournament in Maryland. Those same summers Griesbaum was a coach at the USFHA B-Camp. Following B-Camp she coached the Under-18 team in a mini-tournament held in Boston (1996).

During the summer of 1996, Griesbaum was the co-head coach of the U.S. Under-18 National Team which traveled to Montreal, Quebec to compete in the Montreal Cup.

As the head coach at LaSalle University in Philadelphia, PA, during the 1990 and 1991 seasons, Griesbaum led her team to a 13-21-3 overall record.

A 1989 graduate of West Chester University, Griesbaum earned a bachelor's degree in liberal arts with a minor in health sciences and coaching. She was former Hawkeye coach Beth Beglin's first recruit at West Chester University in 1984 and was a three-time regional All-American and a two-time national All-American. In 1987 she was named the Pennsylvania Association Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (PAIAW) Field Hockey Player of the Year and Female Athlete of the Year.

Griesbaum, a 1987 Broderick Award Nominee, also has extensive international playing experience. She was a member of the U.S. National Team from 1989-91, 1993 and the U.S. National Reserve Team in 1988. Griesbaum played on the U.S. National team that competed in the 1993 Intercontinental Cup. She played in the 1991 Pan American Games, World University Games and Olympic Qualifying Tournament. In addition, she was a two-time U.S. Olympic Festival participant, winning the Gold Medal in 1989. In 2003, she played in the North American Premiere Indoor League for Philadelphia, and played three years in the USFHA Summer League.

### The Hawkeyes Under Griesbaum

- \* 11 All-Americans
  - 4 First Team
  - 3 Second Team
  - 4 Third Team
- \* 31 Regional all-Americans
- \* 32 All-Big Ten Conference Selections
  - 15 First Team
  - 17 Second Team
- \* 2 Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year
- \* 2 Big Ten Freshman of the Year
- \* 1 Big Ten Regular Season Championship
- \* 2 Big Ten Tournament Championships
- \* 3 NCAA Tournament Appearances

### Griesbaum's Year-By-Year Records at Iowa

Year	Record	Pct.	Big Ten	Final Ranking
2000	12-8	.600	3-3	NR
2001	13-5	.722	3-3	12th
2002	9-8	.530	2-4	20th
2003	11-8	.579	2-4	16th
2004	13-8	.619	5-1	11th
2005	10-8	.556	3-3	14th
2006	12-9	.571	2-4	14th
2007	17-4	.810	4-2	5th
Overall Record			Big Ten Record	
97-58 (.626)			24-24 (.500)	





## **Lisa Cellucci**

**Associate Head Coach**

**Ninth Year**

**University of Iowa, 1998**

Lisa Cellucci is in her ninth season as a member of the Hawkeye coaching staff. This past spring she was promoted to associate head coach. She is the recruiting

coordinator, director of the Iowa Field Hockey Camp and primarily works with the goalkeepers and the defense.

In her eight years at Iowa, the Hawkeyes have compiled a 97-58 record and have been consistently ranked in the NFHCA top 20. In 2007, Cellucci helped coach the Hawkeyes to their second straight Big Ten Tournament Championship and their 19th NCAA Tournament appearance in addition to a top five national ranking.

During Cellucci's time with Iowa, Hawkeye goalkeepers have enjoyed tremendous success. Barb Weinberg, a 2005 graduate and currently a volunteer assistant coach, has become one of nation's top goalkeepers and is currently part of the USA National Team. Under Cellucci's guidance Weinberg became a two-time all-American, three-time all-Big Ten selection and three time all-region pick.

Last season, Cellucci was a crucial part in the Hawkeyes' success. She coached junior goalkeepers Lissa Munley and Melissa Helsel to a total of five shutouts, including matches against second-ranked Wake Forest and another against fourth-ranked Duke. The goalkeepers allowed one goal or less in 16 of the Hawkeyes' 21 games, including a streak of eight-straight contests.

As a player, Cellucci was one of the greatest goalkeepers ever to don the Black and Gold. During her four years with Iowa, the Broomall, PA, native was a three-time all-American, four-time all-Big Ten selection and four-time regional all-American.

In her playing days, Cellucci made an immediate impact for the Hawkeyes. As a freshman, she earned first team all-Big Ten, first team regional all-American and third team NFHCA all-American honors as she helped Iowa to a 16-4 record. Her sophomore campaign was even more impressive, when she went 18-3 and was first team all-Big Ten and a regional all-American, along with being second team NFHCA All-American.

During her senior campaign, Cellucci became Iowa's all-time saves leader by stopping her 494th shot in a 5-3 win over Ball State. She ended her career with 592 saves.

A member of the U.S. National Team from 1999-2000, Cellucci has extensive experience with the U.S. program. She played on the 1998 U.S. Under-23 National Team and on the U.S. Under-18 National Team in 1994. Cellucci also participated in three U.S. Olympic Festivals (1993, 1994 and 1995) and won a gold medal at the 1993 Festival and a bronze medal at the 1995 Festival.

She also has coaching experience at the national level, coaching at the 2003-2006 A-Camps and the 2000-2004 B-Camps and the USFHA Super Camp. During the summer of 2005, Cellucci coached in the U.S. EPTC program that finished second at the National Tournament and was a goalkeeping coach at the U.S. Elite Team Trials. In 2006, she joined Griesbaum on the staff of the EPTC Midwest team that placed third in the USA Field Hockey Championships in Virginia Beach, VA. Last summer, Cellucci was, once again, part of the High Performance Training Center (formerly known as EPTC) coaching staff. She was joined by six current and two former Hawkeye student-athletes at the National Tournament. There, the Midwest team finished second. Additionally, Cellucci coached the Junior National Team Camp in 2008.

Before returning to Iowa as a coach, Cellucci was an assistant coach at James Madison, where she helped the Dukes to a 15-7 record and a spot in the NCAA Tournament in 1999.

Cellucci graduated from the University of Iowa in 1998 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in communication studies.

Associate Head Coach Lisa Cellucci was a three-time all-American, four-time all-Big Ten selection and four-time regional all-American at Iowa. She is the Hawkeyes' all-time leader in saves.



### **The Cellucci File**

- 1998 U.S. Under-23 Team Member
- 1999 Pan American Team (alternate)
- 1999 U.S. National Team Tour of England
- 1999-2000 U.S. National Team Member
- Three-time NFHCA All-American
- Four-time All-Big Ten Selection
- All-time Saves Leader at Iowa (592)
- 2003-2005 A-Camp Coach
- 2005-2008 U.S. HPTC Coach
- 2005-2006 Elite Team Trials Coach
- 2006-2008 Junior National Team Camp Coach
- All-time Saves Leader at Iowa (592)



### **Meridith Thorpe**

Assistant Coach

Second Year

University of Virginia, 1999

Meridith Thorpe is in her second season as an assistant coach for the Iowa field hockey team. She will be looking to help the Hawkeyes improve on their 2007 season, which included the team's second straight

Big Ten Tournament championship and a berth to the program's 19th NCAA Tournament.

Before coming to Iowa, Thorpe was an assistant coach at the University of Richmond. Her primary role was developing team strategies and conducting individual on-field work sessions with players. Before joining the coaching staff at Richmond, Thorpe served as the head coach at The Covenant School in Charlottesville, VA.

Prior to her time at The Covenant School, Thorpe was an assistant at her alma mater, the University of Virginia. She was a member of the coaching staff for six seasons helping the Cavaliers advance to the NCAA Tournament twice.

Thorpe was an assistant coach at Ohio State before returning to Virginia. During her two year stay, the Buckeyes spent the entire time in the NFHCA top-20 and reached the Big Ten Tournament semifinals both years.

Thorpe served as the head coach of the USFHA in Columbus and as a selector for the Great Lakes Tournament teams in 1999-2000 and in 2008. She was also a National Futures Tournament selector in 2008.

During her playing days, Thorpe had a decorated career. She was a member of the U.S. National team in 1997-1998, participating in Champions Trophy. In addition, Thorpe was co-captain of the U.S. Under-21 team from 1995 to 1997 and in 1994 played for the U.S. Under-18 team. She is also a three-time Olympic Festival participant.

Thorpe holds the career point and career goal records at the University of Virginia and in the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) with 230 career points and 101 goals.

Thorpe became the first Virginia field hockey player to be named a NFHCA first-team all-American. She was a four-time all-American, including three years as a first team selection. Thorpe was named the ACC Rookie of the Year in 1995. She is one of only three athletes in conference history to be selected to the all-ACC team four years. In 1997, Thorpe was named the University of Virginia's Female Athlete of the Year. She led the Cavaliers to back to back Final Four Appearances and was also named team MVP two years in a row. In 2002, she was named to the ACC 50th Anniversary Team.

Thorpe graduated from the University of Virginia in 1999 with a degree in sociology.



### **Barb Weinberg**

Volunteer Assistant Coach

Second Year

University of Iowa, 2004

Barb Weinberg, one of the greatest field hockey goalkeepers to ever play for the Iowa Hawkeyes, is in her second year on the Iowa sidelines as a volunteer assistant coach. She is currently a member of the

United States National Team and is an alternate to the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

Under the watchful eye of Assistant Coach Lisa Cellucci, Weinberg led the Hawkeyes in saves all four years during her collegiate career (2001-04).

During her freshman season, Weinberg played in 11 games with nine starts. She was named Big Ten Player of the Week after guiding Iowa to a victory over No. 17 Penn State in her first career start. Weinberg led the Hawkeyes to a Big Ten Tournament semi-final win over No. 6 Michigan State, earning Iowa a spot in the championship game.

As a sophomore, Weinberg stopped 82 shots on her way to being named first team all-Big Ten and second team NFHCA all-American. She started all 17 games for the Hawkeyes, recording five shutouts, including one over eventual NCAA Champion Wake Forest.

Weinberg started all 19 games in goal as a junior on her way to being named a NFHCA second team all-American, first team all-Big Ten and a NFHCA first team west regional all-American. She played every minute of the season while recording six shutouts including a 5:06.20 (spanning five games) without allowing a goal.

In her final season with the Hawkeyes, Weinberg was a NFHCA first team all-American and first team all-Big Ten. She recorded a save percentage of .793 with four shutouts, leading the Hawkeyes to a Big Ten Championship and a birth in the NCAA Tournament with an overall record of 13-8 and a conference record of 5-1.

Weinberg has achieved success on a national level as well. In 2002 she competed with the under-23 National Team on the South Africa Tour and the First Pan-Am Indoor Cup. Weinberg has been a member of the USA National Team since 2005.

In 2005, she was part of the Champion's Challenge Team in Virginia Beach, VA. In 2006, she played on the Four Nation's Tournament Team and the sixth place World Cup Team in Madrid, Spain. She was part of the 2007 Chile Four-Nation Team Champions. Weinberg also is a member of the 2008 US National Team that recently qualified for the Olympics.

In addition to her playing career, she also served as the goalkeeping coach at the International Field Hockey Club of Kentucky. She helped advance several goalkeepers to play at the college level.

Weinberg graduated from the University of Iowa with a degree in Psychology and Health and Sports Studies in 2005.

### SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Location	Time (CT)
Aug. 30	vs. Wake Forest	Winston-Salem, NC (Big Ten/ACC Challenge)	10 a.m.
Aug. 31	vs. North Carolina	Winston-Salem, NC (Big Ten/ACC Challenge)	1 p.m.
<b>Sept. 5</b>	<b>vs. American</b>	<b>Iowa City, IA</b>	<b>3 p.m.</b>
<b>Sept. 7</b>	<b>vs. Duke</b>	<b>Iowa City, IA</b>	<b>1 p.m.</b>
Sept. 13	at Stanford	Stanford, CA	2 p.m.
Sept. 14	vs. Pacific	Stanford, CA	1 p.m.
<b>Sept. 19</b>	<b>vs. Central Michigan</b>	<b>Iowa City, IA</b>	<b>3 p.m.</b>
<b>Sept. 21</b>	<b>vs. Boston</b>	<b>Iowa City, IA</b>	<b>1 p.m.</b>
Sept. 26	at Indiana*	Bloomington, IN	2 p.m.
Sept. 28	at Louisville	Louisville, KY	noon
<b>Oct. 3</b>	<b>vs. Northwestern*</b>	<b>Iowa City, IA</b>	<b>3 p.m.</b>
<b>Oct. 5</b>	<b>vs. Missouri State</b>	<b>Iowa City, IA</b>	<b>1 p.m.</b>
Oct. 10	at Penn State*!	University Park, PA	2 p.m.
Oct. 11	vs. Virginia	University Park, PA	1 p.m.
<b>Oct. 19</b>	<b>vs. Ohio State*</b>	<b>Iowa City, IA</b>	<b>noon</b>
Oct. 25	at Michigan State*!	East Lansing, MI	12 p.m.
<b>Nov. 2</b>	<b>vs. Michigan*!</b>	<b>Iowa City, IA</b>	<b>2 p.m.</b>
Nov. 6-9	at Big Ten Tournament	Bloomington, IN	TBA
Nov. 15-21	at NCAA Tournament	TBA	TBA
Nov. 23	at NCAA Championship	TBA	TBA

\*Big Ten Conference Game

! - Televised by the Big Ten Network

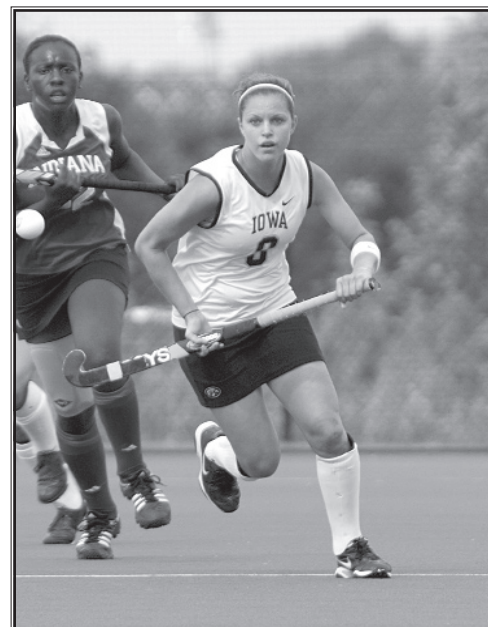
Bold = Home Games



Katie Naughton



Caroline Blaum



Lindsey Duffy





## ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Yr.	Hometown/High School
0	Melissa Helsel	GK	Sr.	Elizabethtown, PA/Donegal
2	Roz Ellis	B/MF	Sr.	Lewisburg, PA/Lewisburg
4	Becca Spengler	MF	Fr.	Lititz, PA/Warwick
5	Caitlin McCurdy	F/MF	Sr.	Mountain Top, PA/Crestwood
6	Lissa Munley	GK	Sr.	Mountain Top, PA/Crestwood
7	Katie Naughton	F/MF	Sr.	Goffstown, NH/Goffstown
9	Lindsey Duffy	F	Sr.	San Diego, CA/Scripps Ranch
10	Amy Baxter	F	So.	Warrington, PA/Central Bucks South
13	Jess Werley	MF/F	Jr.	Allentown, PA/Emmaus
15	Meghan Beamesderfer	B/MF	Jr.	Lititz, PA/Warwick
17	Lauren Pfeiffer	B/MF	Sr.	Mt. Laurel, NJ/Lenape
18	Nicole Fiorilla	B/MF	Fr.	Downington, PA/Bishop Shanahan
20	Caroline Blaum	F/MF	Sr.	Wilkes-Barre, PA/Wyoming Seminary
21	Tricia Dean	MF	Jr.	Bear, DE/William Penn
22	Sarah Pergine	F	So.	Collegeville, PA/Perkiomen Valley
23	Maggie Neill	B	So.	Ambler, PA/Hatboro-Horsham
24	Chelsea Miller	MF	So.	Dallas, TX/Hockaday School
25	Leslie Pyle	MF	Fr.	Lafayette Hill, PA/Plymouth Whitmarsh
31	Lauren Whalen	B	Fr.	Phoenixville, PA/Villa Maria Academy
32	Tori Garifo	GK	Fr.	Red Lion, PA/Red Lion

**Head Coach:** Tracey Griesbaum

**Associate Head Coach:** Lisa Cellucci

**Assistant Coach:** Meridith Thorpe

**Volunteer Assistant Coach:** Barb Weinberg



Roz Ellis



Caitlin McCurdy



Lauren Pfeiffer

# IOWA FIELD HOCKEY

## Season Preview

The 2008 Iowa Field Hockey team is looking to build on a very successful 2007 season that saw the Hawkeyes win their second straight Big Ten Tournament championship and reach their 19th NCAA Tournament. In addition, Iowa finished 17-4 overall and ranked fifth in the nation.

The Hawkeyes return several student-athletes from last year's championship team who have gained valuable experience. The list includes four all-Big Ten selections, four regional all-Americans and three all-Americans.

"We have an experienced and talented team," said Head Coach **Tracey Griesbaum**. "As a group we expect to be better on both sides of the ball this season."

Griesbaum is in her ninth season at the helm of the Iowa program. She is joined by Associate Head Coach **Lisa Cellucci** for the ninth year. Assistant Coach **Meridith Thorpe** is in her second year on the Hawkeye staff.

"Lisa and Meridith are a phenomenal coaching team," added Griesbaum. "Iowa is fortunate to have their expertise and enthusiasm."

### OFFENSE/FORWARDS

The Hawkeyes are looking to significantly improve their scoring production with six returners that have proven themselves in the offense. Seniors **Caroline Blaum**, **Lindsey Duffy**, **Caitlin McCurdy**, **Katie Naughton** and sophomores **Amy Baxter** and **Sarah Pergine** have all seen time on the forward line for the Hawkeyes.

McCurdy and Naughton are back for their final seasons as Hawkeyes. Both return as key players, starting the majority of Iowa's games last season. They will be counted on to lead Iowa's offensive attack.

"Caitlin and Katie add so much speed to our attack," added Griesbaum. "They are tremendous athletes who we will look to for solid and consistent play throughout the season."

Blaum returns for her fifth year with the Hawkeyes, as well. After sitting out 2006 with a knee injury, she came back with a vengeance in 2007. Blaum was named the 2007 Big Ten Tournament MVP after recording two goals against Michigan State and two assists vs. Michigan during the tournament. In addition, she started all 21 games for the Hawkeyes, led the team in assists and was a first team regional all-American and first team all-Big Ten selection.

"Caroline will be able to play both forward and midfield this season," said Griesbaum. "Her skills with the ball set her apart from most attackers in the country."

Additionally, Duffy returns for her senior season. As a junior she started 19 games last season. Baxter and Pergine will look to build on their rookie seasons. Baxter and Pergine started a combined ten games last season and will be counted on in 2008.

"Amy, Lindsey, and Sarah will add to the already potent attack that we have," added Griesbaum. "They will be asked to step up and play a major role within our offense."

### MIDFIELD

There will be two returning midfielders for the Hawkeyes this season. Juniors **Tricia Dean** and **Jess Werley** have spent their first two seasons in the midfield and have worked hard to improve. Dean started all 21 games last season and Werley was right behind, starting 20. The duo each recorded 13 points and will be forces for Iowa this season.

"Tricia is quick with and without the ball," said Griesbaum. "Her passing ability is phenomenal. She also plays a vital role in organizing our defensive schemes."

"Jess has amazing stick skills," added Griesbaum. "Her ability to eliminate defenders and make plays is extraordinary."

There may be some other returners finding time in the midfield. Blaum and **Lauren Pfeiffer** both have game experience in the midfield. **Chelsea Miller** also has had some time in the midfield.

"Chelsea has improved, both offensively and defensively, since last season and will be able to help our midfield."

Freshmen **Becca Spengler** and **Leslie Pyle** will look to contribute important minutes for the Black and Gold, as well.

"Becca and Leslie will add a lot of options for us. They have experience in many lines and we will see where they fit in best. No matter where they play, they will add a tremendous amount of hustle and speed."



The 2008 Hawkeyes will look to win their third-straight Big Ten Tournament championship.





## DEFENSE/BACKS

The Hawkeyes are stacked in the backfield with a handful of superb all-around players. Seniors **Roz Ellis** and Pfeiffer, and junior **Megan Beamesderfer** return to lead the Hawkeyes.

Ellis has started all 60 games in her Iowa career. Last season as a junior, Ellis was named third team all-America by *WomensFieldHockey.com* and a second team regional all-American. She was a first team all-Big Ten selection.

"Roz is a three-year starter who will be relied on to anchor our defense," said Griesbaum. "She possesses strong offensive and defensive skills with a high level of tactical awareness. This knowledge allows her to organize the structure and control the pace of the game."

Pfeiffer returns for her final season at Iowa. She led the Hawkeyes in almost every statistical category last season, most notably in goals (15) and total points (38). She started all 21 games last season and was named first team all-American by *WomensFieldHockey.com* and second team all-American by NFHCA. Also, she was named a first team regional all-American and was first team all-Big Ten.

"Lauren will see time in both the backfield and midfield," said Griesbaum. "Her strength on the ball is untouched. She has improved her ability to distribute the ball which will help our attacking ability. She has taken her defense very seriously and has stepped up her ability to dispossess the ball."

After being named Big Ten Freshman of the Year in 2006, Beamesderfer followed it up as a sophomore by being selected first team all-Big Ten, second team all-America by *WomensFieldHockey.com* and third team all-America by NFHCA. In addition, she was named a first team regional all-American. She has started all 42 games in her career and will be counted on heavily this season.

"Meg is a two-year starter in the defense for the Hawks," said Griesbaum. "This year she may be needed in the middle of the field to spark our offense and keep the middle of the field organized on defense."

"Lauren, Roz and Meghan are virtually interchangeable in the backfield," added Griesbaum. "Their versatility will allow us to have many different looks."

Sophomore **Maggie Neill** will return this season after sitting out last year due to an injury. She will look to contribute some important minutes in 2008.

"Maggie will be back this season. She has the ability to distribute the ball well and the Hawks will look to her for some solid defense."

The Hawkeyes added freshmen **Nicole Fiorilla** and **Lauren Whalen** at the position. The talented pair will look for playing time and to add depth to an already tough Iowa defense.

"Nicole and Lauren will be called upon to raise the level of our defense," said Griesbaum. "They both have experience playing defensive positions. They have sound fundamental skills and are very eager to learn our system first hand."

## GOALKEEPERS

Seniors **Lissa Munley** and **Melissa Helsel** will solidify the 2008 Hawkeye squad as goalkeepers.

"It will be a phenomenal feeling heading into this season knowing that we have such strong leadership in the goalkeeping position."

Munley started all 21 games for the Hawkeyes last season. As a junior, she recorded shutouts against No. 2 Wake Forest, No. 4 Duke, William & Mary and Central Michigan. She will be counted on heavily this season as the goalkeeper with the most experience.

"Lissa is a very diligent athlete," added Griesbaum. "She has taken her skills to another level. Her ability to organize our defense will be paramount this season."

Helsel saw action in one contest last season. She teamed up with Munley to record a shutout against Sacred Heart.

"Melissa will be competing for time in goal," said Griesbaum. "She plays the ball with great strength and has improved her communication skills in the circle."

Freshman **Tori Garifo** will add depth to the position.

"Tori has an unbelievable opportunity to learn from two goalkeepers who know our program," said Griesbaum. "We will look to her to jump on board right away with her goalkeeping skills."

## SCHEDULE

As is often the case, the Hawkeyes have a very demanding schedule in 2008.

"We prepare to be a top team every year," said Griesbaum. "In order to maintain that level of hockey, you must compete against the best in the country. The 2008 schedule is as strong as ever."

The Hawkeyes kick off the 2008 season by traveling to Winston-Salem, NC. There, Iowa will compete in the Big Ten/ACC Challenge against Wake Forest (Aug. 30) and defending national champion North Carolina (Aug. 31). It is the seventh year of the Challenge.

Iowa will return to Iowa City the following weekend for its first home stand at Grant Field. The Hawkeyes will face American (Sept. 5) and Duke (Sept. 7).

The following weekend, Iowa will face its longest road trip of the season. The Hawkeyes head West to meet Stanford (Sept. 13) and Pacific (Sept. 14).

Iowa opens Big Ten conference play at Indiana Sept. 26. In addition, the Hawkeyes will face Big Ten foes Northwestern, Ohio State and Michigan at home and will travel to Penn State and Michigan State.

Beginning Nov. 6, Iowa will look to defend its back-to-back Big Ten Tournament championships in Bloomington, IN.