

# IOWA HAWKEYES

University of Iowa Athletic Communications – Madison Petersen, Gymnastics Contact



## WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS WEEKLY RELEASE

March 15, 2017

### 2017 SCHEDULE

1/8	at Northern Illinois	2nd, 194.200
1/13	vs. Michigan State*	W, 195.475-193.875
1/15	vs. California-Berkeley	L, 195.500-194.400
1/21	at Ohio State *	W, 196.175-195.525
1/29	vs. Maryland *	W, 195.975-193.800
2/5	at Nebraska*	L, 196.825-195.725
2/11	vs. Illinois*, UIC	1st, 196.475
2/17	at George Washington	1st, 196.400
2/19	at LSU	3rd, 194.200
2/24	at BYU	W, 196.550-196.425
3/4	vs. Iowa State*	W, 196.725-195.300
3/11	Big Five Meet*	2/5, 196.400
3/18	Big Ten Championships	4 PM
4/1	NCAA Regional Championships	TBA
4/14-4/17	NCAA Championships	TBA

All times are Central and subject to change -- Home events in BOLD

# - Exhibition Event \* - Conference Event

### 2017 ROSTER

Savannah Borman	Sr.	Chesapeake, Va.
Misty-Jade Carlson	So.	Portland, Ore.
Nicole Chow	So.	Port Coquitlam, B.C.
Mollie Drenth	Sr.	Riverview, Fla.
Ashleigh Edlin	Sr.	Woodlawn, Tenn.
Breanna Fizke	Fr.	West Allis, Wis.
Sydney Hogan	So.	Waterloo, Iowa
Clair Kaji	Fr.	Vancouver, Can.
Annie Kustoff	Fr.	San Antonio, Texas
Gina Leal	Fr.	Glastonbury, Conn.
Angel Metcalf	Sr.	Swansboro, N.C.
Lexi Mura	Sr.	Caseyville, Ill.
Maria Ortiz	So.	Fort Myers, Fla.
Rose Piorkowski	So.	Panama City, Fla.
Jori Robertson	Jr.	Iowa City, Iowa
Lanie Snyder	Jr.	Omaha, Neb.
Charlotte Sullivan	Fr.	Christchurch, N. Z.
Tessa Walsh	So.	Naperville, Ill.
Nikki Youd	Jr.	Panama City, Fla.
Melissa Zurawski	Jr.	Darien, Ill.

### FOLLOW THE HAWKEYES

Live Stats: [hawkeyesports.com](http://hawkeyesports.com)

Facebook: [facebook.com/iowagymnastics](https://facebook.com/iowagymnastics)

Twitter: [twitter.com/iowagymnastics](https://twitter.com/iowagymnastics)

Instagram: [instagram.com/iowagymnastics](https://instagram.com/iowagymnastics)

YouTube: [youtube.com/iowagymnastics](https://youtube.com/iowagymnastics)



### IOWA HAWKEYES

Big Ten Championships \_\_\_\_\_ March 18  
Time \_\_\_\_\_ 4 p.m. (CT)  
Location \_\_\_\_\_ Picaway, N.J.  
Venue \_\_\_\_\_ RAC

Twitter \_\_\_\_\_ @IowaGymnastics  
Live Stats \_\_\_\_\_ hawkeyesports.com

### BIG TEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

#### THIS WEEK

The No. 16 University of Iowa women's gymnastics team competes in the night session of the Big Ten Championships in Picasway, New Jersey, on Saturday at 4 p.m. (CT). They will compete against Michigan, Penn State, Nebraska, and Ohio State. Minnesota, Rutgers, Maryland, and Michigan State will compete in the morning session at 11 a.m. (CT). To purchase tickets, call the Rutgers ticket office at 1-866-455-4678 or visit [scarletknights.com](http://scarletknights.com).

#### MEET COVERAGE

- Fans can find meet highlights on Twitter @IowaGymnastics.
- Links to live stats are available on the women's gymnastics schedule page at [hawkeyesports.com](http://hawkeyesports.com).
- The meet will be live on Big Ten Network.

#### IN THE RANKINGS

Iowa is ranked 16th nationally with a regional qualifying score (RQS) of 196.400. As a team, the GymHawks rank 17th nationally on beam (49.175), 18th on floor (49.205) and bars (49.125), and 26th on vault (48.955).

Individually, senior Mollie Drenth ranks 26th nationally in the all-around (39.245), while freshman Charlotte Sullivan ranks 74th (38.750). For single events, senior Angel Metcalf ranks 35th on bars (9.875) and 56th on beam (9.860). Drenth ranks 40th on beam (9.875) and 97th on floor (9.845). Junior Melissa Zurawski ranks 40th on floor (9.800) and 42nd on bars (9.870). Freshman Clair Kaji ranks 44th on floor (9.875) and 90th on bars (9.835). Junior Lanie Snyder ranks 60th on floor (9.865).

#### IN THE CONFERENCE

Iowa finished the regular season third in the Big Ten Conference. The Hawkeyes hold an overall record of 15-6 and a conference mark of 7-2. The Hawkeyes rank third in the conference on bars (49.125 RQS) and beam (49.175), fourth on floor (49.205), and fifth on vault (48.955).

Four GymHawks are ranked in the top ten in the conference. Senior Mollie Drenth ranks fourth in the all-around (39.245 RQS) and is tied for third on beam (9.875). Senior Angel Metcalf is tied for fifth on bars (9.875) and ninth on beam (9.860). Junior Melissa Zurawski is tied for seventh on bars (9.870) and ranks eighth on floor (9.880), while freshman Clair Kaji ranks tenth on floor (9.875).

#### LAST TIME OUT

- Iowa finished second in the Big Five Meet with a score of 196.400. They fell to Michigan, but defeated Penn State, Minnesota, and Rutgers to qualify for the night session of the Big Ten Championships.
- Senior Angel Metcalf took home the title on bars with a career-high 9.950 and finished runner-up in the all-around with a season-high 39.375.
- Senior Mollie Drenth tied for the win on beam with a score of 9.900.

#### HISTORICALLY AT THE CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

• Since 1982, Iowa has finished runner-up at the Big Ten Championships twice (1991, 2003), third three times (2002, 2004, 2010), fourth once (1992), fifth seven times (1989, 1993, 1998, 2001, 2008, 2015, 2016), sixth eight times (1988, 1994-96, 2005-07, 2011), seventh 10 times (1982, 1986-87, 1990, 1997, 1999, 2000, 2009, 2012, 2014), and eighth four times (1983-85, 2013).



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### BIG TEN STANDINGS

Team	Overall W-L-T	Big Ten W-L-T	Pct.
Nebraska	17-3-0	8-1-0	.889
Michigan	12-3-0	8-1-0	.889
Iowa	15-6-0	7-2-0	.778
Illinois	16-5-1	6-3-0	.677
Ohio State	9-6-0	5-4-0	.556
Minnesota	10-7-0	4-5-0	.444
Penn State	11-8-0	4-5-0	.444
Maryland	15-15-0	1-8-0	.111
Rutgers	10-15-0	1-8-0	.111
Michigan State	7-11-0	1-8-0	.111

- The Hawkeyes recorded their best team score at the Big Ten Championships in 2003 with a score of 196.85, which was good for a runner-up finish. This was the second runner-up finish in program history.
- Iowa has had 13 individual Big Ten champions in program history, including five champions on floor and two on vault, bars, beam, and in the all-around. Houry Gebeshian was the last to win an event title at the championships for the Hawkeyes. She posted a 9.950 to claim the beam title in 2010.
- The Hawkeyes have 30 First Team All-Big Ten selections in program history, including senior Mollie Drenth..

### A LOOK BACK AT THE 2016 BIG TEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

- The GymHawks posted a season high score of 195.875 at the Big Ten Championships in 2016 to finish first in the morning session and tie for fifth overall .
- Mollie Drenth, Alie Glover, and Angel Metcalf were all named to the All-Championships Team, while Melissa Zurawski took home the Sportsmanship Award.
- Angel Metcalf led the GymHawks with a ninth-place finish in the all-around (39.225), 12th on beam (9.825), and 20th on bars (9.825).
- Drenth finished second on vault (9.925) and tied Metcalf for 20th on bars (9.825).

### SCOUTING THE FIGHTING ILLINI

- Illinois took second (196.450) at the Illinois Big Five Meet on March 11.
- The Fighting Illini rank 20th nationally with a RQS of 196.245.
- Illinois is ranked ninth on beam (49.270 RQS), 20th on floor (49.170), 26th on bars (49.090) , and 37th on vault (48.840).
- The Fighting Illini own a 16-5-1 overall record with a 6-3 mark in conference action.
- The Fighting Illini finished eighth at the 2016 Big Ten Championships after posting a 195.175.
- Illinois is led by head coach Kim Landrus, who is in her sixth season.

### ROAD TO NATIONALS RANKINGS

Rank	Team Name	RQS
1	Oklahoma	198.000
2	LSU	197.785
3	UCLA	197.500
4	Florida	197.495
5	Utah	197.355
6	Alabama	197.285
7	Denver	197.040
8	Georgia	197.005
9	Michigan	196.880
10	Oregon State	196.875
11	Boise State	196.835
12	Kentucky	196.750
13	Nebraska	196.640
14	Missouri	196.540
15	Washington	196.480
16(t)	Iowa	196.400
16(t)	California	196.400
18	George Washington	196.305
19	Southern Utah	196.300
20	Illinois-Champaign	196.245
21	Auburn	196.135
22	West Virginia	195.920
23	Utah State	195.830
24	Ohio State	195.815
25	Eastern Michigan	195.805

### SCOUTING THE CORNHUSKERS

- Nebraska took first (196.650) at the Illinois Big Five Meet on March 11 to tie for the regular season Big Ten title.
- The Cornhuskers rank 13th nationally with a RQS of 196.640.
- Nebraska is ranked ninth on bars (49.295), 10th on floor (49.300), 12th on vault (49.170), and 26th on beam (48.925).
- The Cornhuskers own a 17-3 overall record with an 8-1 mark in conference action.
- Nebraska finished second at the 2016 Big Ten Championships after posting a 196.900.
- The Cornhuskers are led by head coach Dan Kendig, who is in his 23rd season.

### SCOUTING THE NITTANY LIONS

- Penn State finished third (195.450) at the Iowa Big Five Meet on March 11.
- The Nittany Lions rank 32nd nationally with a RQS of 195.460.
- Penn State is ranked 26th on beam (48.925), 27th on bars (49.030) and floor (49.090), and 42nd on vault (48.750).
- The Nittany Lions own an 11-8 overall record with a 4-5 mark in conference action.
- Penn State finished fourth at the 2016 Big Ten Championships after posting a 196.150.
- The Cornhuskers are led by interim head coaches Josh Nilson and Kera Molinaro.

### SCOUTING THE BUCKEYES

- Ohio State finished third (195.350) at the Illinois Big Five Meet on March 11.
- The Buckeyes rank 24th nationally with a RQS of 195.815.
- Ohio State is 20th on vault (49.045), 23rd on bars (49.090), 25th on floor (49.115), and 38th on beam (48.810).
- The Buckeyes own a 9-6 overall record with a 5-4 mark in conference action.
- Ohio State finished sixth at the 2016 Big Ten Championships after posting a 195.875.
- The Buckeyes are led by head coach Carey Fagan, who is in her 13th season.



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### SCOUTING THE WOLVERINES

- Michigan took first (197.150) at the Iowa Big Five Meet on March 11 to tie for the regular season Big Ten title.
- The Wolverines rank 10th nationally with a RQS of 196.880.
- Michigan is ranked seventh on beam (49.290) and floor (49.380), eighth on vault (49.245), and 19th on bars (49.160).
- The Wolverines own a 12-3 overall record with an 8-1 mark in conference action.
- Michigan won the 2016 Big Ten Championships with a score of 197.125.
- The Wolverines are led by head coach Bev Plocki, who is in her 28th season.

### 5 GYMNAWKS EARN ALL BIG-TEN HONORS

- A record number of University of Iowa women's gymnasts earned All-Big Ten selections, the conference office announced on March 14. Seniors Mollie Drenth and Angel Metcalf earned first team accolades, while juniors Melissa Zurawski and Lanie Snyder and freshman Clair Kaji were named to the second team.
- The Hawkeyes earned five All-Big Ten honors for the first time in program history, surpassing their previous high of three.
- Drenth, a 2016 All-American, garnered her second straight conference honor. She leads the Hawkeyes in the all-around in 2017. The Riverview, Florida, native ranks fourth in the Big Ten in the all-around with an RQS of 39.245. Drenth's season high of 39.350 came against Iowa State on March 4 and Ohio State on Jan. 21. She claimed the event title both times. She is also tied for the team lead on vault (9.875) and has the third-best score all-time on beam (9.950).
- Metcalf led Iowa on uneven bars (9.950) and in the all-around (39.375) in 2017 on her way to her second All-Big Ten honor. The Swansboro, North Carolina, native is fifth in the Big Ten on uneven bars with an RQS of 9.875. At the Big Five meet on March 11, Metcalf tied for the second-highest score all-time on uneven bars with a mark of 9.950 to take home the event title.
- Zurawski earned her first all-conference selection. She has competed on three events (vault, uneven bars, floor) for the Hawkeyes this season. She is seventh in the conference on floor and uneven bars with RQS scores of 9.880 and 9.870, respectively. Her score of 9.925 on uneven bars against Maryland on Jan. 29 tied for third all-time.
- Snyder has competed on floor in every meet this season for the Hawkeyes. The Omaha, Nebraska, native is 10th in the Big Ten on floor with an RQS of 9.865. Her season high in the event came against Iowa State on March 4. Her score of 9.950 is tied for second all-time.
- Kaji has competed on three events as a freshman this season. She recorded 9.925 on floor against Iowa State on March 4th. That is tied for the third-highest all-time. Her RQS on floor is ninth in the Big Ten.

### BIG WINS THIS SEASON

Iowa defeated three top 25 teams in its 11 wins this season. The Hawkeyes topped No. 18 Ohio State, 196.175-195.525, on the road on Jan. 21. On Feb. 11, they defeated No. 21 Illinois with a score of 196.475 in a tri-meet inside Carver-Hawkeye Arena. They then defeated No. 20 George Washington in a field of five teams with a score of 196.400 in Washington, D.C., on Feb. 17.

### KAJI EARNS BIG FRESHMAN OF THE WEEK FOR A SECOND TIME

Freshman Clair Kaji earned Big Ten Freshman of the Week honors on March 6. This was Kaji's second weekly honor. The freshman last received the award on Jan. 23.

Kaji earned her second beam title of the year with a score of 9.850 against Iowa State in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Saturday. She also finished runner-up on floor with a season-high 9.925. This tied the third-best floor routine score in Iowa history.

The Vancouver, Canada, native has earned six titles this season. She took first on floor against California (9.825), Ohio State (9.900), and Maryland (9.900). Kaji also earned titles on bars at Northern Illinois (9.875) and on beam against Michigan State (9.850).

### ZURAWSKI NAMED FEBRUARY STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE MONTH

Junior Melissa Zurawski, a health and human physiology major, was named to student-athlete of the month for February. This honor, voted on by her peers, recognizes a student-athlete who has excelled not only in their sport, but in the classroom as well.

Zurawski earned Big Ten Gymnast of the Week honors on Jan. 30 after Iowa defeated Maryland. Zurawski holds the team's season high on uneven bars with a 9.925, which tied the third-best in program history.

### SULLIVAN EARNS SECOND BIG FRESHMAN OF THE WEEK HONOR

Charlotte Sullivan was named Big Ten Freshman of the Week on Feb. 13. This was Sullivan's second weekly honor. The freshman last received the award on Jan. 9.

Sullivan earned her second uneven bars title of the year with a score of 9.850 against No. 21 Illinois and UIC inside Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Feb. 10. She also finished runner-up on beam with a career-high 9.875.

The Christchurch, New Zealand, native has earned six event titles this season. She took first in the all-around against Michigan State (39.050), California (38.275), and Maryland (38.775). Sullivan also earned titles on vault against Ohio State (9.800) and on uneven bars against Maryland (9.925). Her career-best 9.925 on bars tied the third-best score in Iowa history.



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### ZURAWSKI NAMED BIG GYMNAST OF THE WEEK

Junior Melissa Zurawski was named Big Ten Co-Gymnast of the Week after her performance against Maryland. Zurawski received this honor with Nicole Artz of Michigan. This is Iowa's first Gymnast of the Week honor since Rebecca Simbhudas earned the title on Feb. 1, 2010.

The junior earned first or runner-up in every event she competed in. The Darien, Illinois, native earned her second event title of the season on uneven bars with a career-high 9.925 to tie the third best score in Iowa history. She set another career high on vault with a 9.850 to place second overall. She earned an additional runner-up title on floor with a score of 9.875.

The junior has earned two other event titles so far this season. She took the event title on floor with a score of 9.875 at Iowa's season opener at Northern Illinois. She also won on uneven bars against No. 18 Ohio State on Jan. 21.

### SULLIVAN NAMED JANUARY STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE MONTH

Freshman Charlotte Sullivan was named the student-athlete of the month for January. This honor, voted on by her peers, recognizes a student-athlete who has excelled not only in their sport, but in the classroom as well.

Sullivan earned five event titles through the team's first five meets and was named Big Ten Freshman of the Week for her runner-up finish in the Northern Illinois Quad Meet on Jan. 8. Sullivan also tied the third-best score in Iowa history on uneven bars with a score of 9.925 to win the event against Maryland on Jan. 29.

### DRENTH, METCALF NAMED TO BIG WATCH LIST

Seniors Mollie Drenth and Angel Metcalf were named to the 2017 Big Ten Gymnasts to Watch List for the second consecutive year.

Metcalf, who has been featured on the Big Ten Watch List for three consecutive years, took part in all 14 meets during the 2016 season and competed in the all-around in 13 meets. At the Big Ten Championships, she took 12th on beam (9.825), 20th on uneven bars (9.825), and finished ninth in the all-around (39.225) to be named to the All-Big Ten Championship Team for the second year in a row. She ended the season at her third NCAA Regionals with a fourth-place finish on bars (9.900) and 10th-place result in the all-around (38.650) to be selected to the All-Championship Team.

Drenth competed in every meet in the all-around during the 2016 season and owns Iowa's individual season best on vault (9.950 at No. 13 Denver, Feb. 27), beam (9.925 at Iowa State, March 4), and in the all-around (39.475 vs. No. 14 Nebraska, Feb. 6). The senior earned a runner-up finish on vault (9.925) and placed 20th on uneven bars (9.825) at the Big Ten Championships to be named to the All-Big Ten Championship Team. At the NCAA Regionals, she finished seventh on vault (9.825), fourth on uneven bars (9.900), 13th on floor (9.825), third in the all-around (39.450), and was the beam champion with a 9.900 to make the All-Championship team and qualify for the NCAA Championships as an individual. She finished the season with a third-place finish (9.9125) on beam at the NCAA Championships and earned All-American honors.

### HAWKEYE NEWCOMERS

The Hawkeyes welcome five new freshmen -- Charlotte Sullivan, Clair Kaji, Breanna Fitzke, Gina Leal, and Annie Kustoff-- to the 2017 squad.

- Sullivan is from Christchurch, New Zealand, and is a five-time New Zealand Nationals champion. She also won a bronze medal on beam at the World Cup in Portugal (2015).
- Kaji is from Vancouver, Canada. She is a four-time Canadian Championship qualifier and a four-time Elite Canada competitor. In 2015, she placed sixth in the all-around at the Canada Winter Games to help her team take home the bronze.
- Fitzke is from West Allis, Wisconsin. She is a three-time regional qualifier and a two-time state qualifier. Fitzke finished fifth in the state on floor in 2014 and fourth in 2015.
- Leal is from Glastonbury, Connecticut. In 2012, she was the state champion on vault and bars and runner-up on floor and in the all-around, was the regional champion on vault and bars, and won vault at the Western National Championship.
- Kustoff is from San Antonio, Texas. In 2014, she placed first on bars and second in the all-around at state competition, won bars at regionals, and was the champion on beam and runner-up on bars at the Western National Championship.

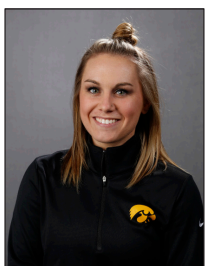
### UP NEXT

NCAA Regional qualifiers will be announced on Monday, March 20. The selection show begins at 3 p.m. (CT) on NCAA.com.



# University of Iowa Women's Gymnastics

## 2017 ROSTER



Savannah Borman  
Sr.  
Chesapeake, Va.



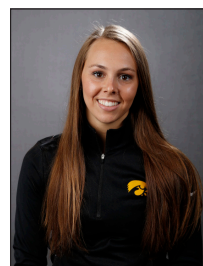
Misty-Jade Carlson  
So.  
Portland, Ore.



Nicole Chow  
So.  
Port Coquitlam,  
B.C.



Mollie Drenth  
Sr.  
Riverview, Fla.



Ashleigh Edlin  
Sr.  
Woodlawn, Tenn.



Breanna Fitzke  
Fr.  
West Allis, Wis.



Sydney Hogan  
Fr.  
Waterloo, Iowa



Clair Kaji  
Fr.  
Vancouver, Can.



Annie Kustoff  
Fr.  
San Antonio, Tex.



Gina Leal  
Fr.  
Glastonbury, Conn.



Angel Metcalf  
Sr.  
Swansboro, N.C.



Lexi Mura  
Sr.  
Caseville, Ill.



Maria Ortiz  
So.  
Fort Myers, Fla.



Rose Piorkowski  
So.  
Panama City, Fla.



Jori Robertson  
Jr.  
Iowa City, Iowa



Lanie Snyder  
Jr.  
Omaha, Neb.



Charlotte Sullivan  
Fr.  
Christchurch, N.Z.



Tessa Walsh  
So.  
Naperville, Ill.



Nikki Youd  
Jr.  
Panama City, Fla.



Melissa Zurawski  
So.  
Darien, Ill.



Larissa Libby  
Head Coach  
13th Season



Vince Smurro  
Assistant Coach  
1st Season



Jennifer Green  
Assistant Coach  
2nd Season