University of Iowa Athletic Communications - Madison Petersen, Gymnastics Contact

# **WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS WEEKLY RELEASE**

Feb. 22, 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	8 p.m.
3/4	vs. Iowa State*	11 a.m.
3/11	Bia Five Meet*	3 p.m.

4/14-4/17 NCAA Championships

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

Big Ten Championships

NCAA Regional Championships

# - Exhibition Event \* - Conference Event

3/18

4/1 4/14-4/17

2017	DC	CT	T D
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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, III.
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, III.
Nikki Youd	Jr.	Panama City, Fla.
Melissa Zurawski	Jr.	Darien, III.

# **FOLLOW THE HAWKEYES**

 Live Stats:
 hawkeyesports.com

 Facebook:
 facebook.com/iowagymnastics

 Twitter:
 twitter.com/iowagymnastics

 Instagram:
 instagram.com/iowagymnastics

 YouTube:
 youtube.com/iowagymnastics



vs. BYU	Feb. 24
Time	8 p.m. (CT)
Location	Provo, Utah
Venue	Smith Fieldhouse

Twitter\_\_\_\_\_@lowaGymnastics
Live Stats\_\_\_\_\_hawkeyesports.com

BYU

BYU COUGARS

### THIS WEEK

**HAWKEYES** 

**IOWA** 

TBA

TBA

**TBA** 

The No. 17 University of lowa women's gymnastics team hits the road on Friday to compete against BYU in Provo, Utah. The meet is set to take place at 8 p.m. (CT) inside the Smith Fieldhouse.

### **MEET COVERAGE**

- Fans can find meet highlights on Twitter @lowaGymnastics.
- Links to live stats are available on the women's gymnastics schedule page at **hawkeyesports.com**.
- The meet will be available via Facebook Live at facebook.com/iowagymnastics
- · Live streaming is available on byuty.org.
- The meet will be televised on BYU TV (Direct TV Channel 374).

### IN THE RANKINGS

lowa is ranked No. 17 nationally with a regional qualifying score (RQS) of 195.950. As a team, the GymHawks rank 15th nationally on bars (489.050 RQS), 16th on floor (49.035), 18th on beam (49.010), and 21st on vault (48.910).

Individually, senior Mollie Drenth ranks 21st nationally in the all-around (39.075). For single events, junior Melissa Zurawski ranks 18th on bars (9.865) and 53rd on floor (9.835). Senior Angel Metcalf ranks 32nd on beam (9.855) and 42nd on bars (9.840). Drenth ranks 48th on beam (9.835), 63rd on floor (9.825), 73rd on vault (9.800), and 88th on bars (9.795). Freshman Clair Kaji ranks 36th on floor (9.855), 64th on beam (9.815), and is tied with Drenth for 88th on bars (9.795). Sophomore Rose Piorkowski ranks 57th on vault (9.815), while junior Lanie Snyder follows in 58th on floor (9.830). Freshman Charlotte Sullivan ranks 81st on bars (9.800) and 90th on beam (9.790).

### LAST TIME OUT

- lowa took third in a road meet against No. 2 LSU and No. 20 George Washington on Feb. 19 with score of 194.200.
- Senior Mollie Drenth earned the runner-up title in the all-around with a total of 39.175.
- Sophomore Maria Ortiz led the Hawkeyes on vault with a season-high 9.825.
- Freshman Clair Kaji led the team on floor with a score of 9.850.
- Drenth tied for fourth overall on beam with a score of 9.875.
- Senior Angel Metcalf tied for fourth overall on floor with a 9.875.

### **SCOUTING THE COUGARS**

- BYU fell to No. 13 Southern Utah, 194.825-194.450, at home on Feb. 17.
- The Cougars are ranked No. 34 nationally with an RQS of 194.580.
- BYU has a 3-7 overall record.
- The team is ranked No. 16 nationally on uneven bars with a 48.940 RQS.
- The Cougars have a 3-7 overall record.
- Freshman Shannon Hortman ranks No. 46 nationally with an RQS of 38.825. She also is the team's leader on floor with an RQS of 9.790 and a season-high 9.900 against Southern Utah.
- BYU is led by head coach Gaurd Young, who is his second season.





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### **BIG TEN STANDINGS**

	Overall	Big Ten	
Team	W-L-T	W-L-T	Pct.
Michigan	7-2-0	4-1-0	.800
Nebraska	8-3-0	4-1-0	.800
lowa	10-5-0	4-1-0	.800
Ohio State	7-2-0	3-2-0	.600
Illinois	7-3-0	3-2-0	.600
Minnesota	5-4-0	3-2-0	.600
Penn State	5-6-0	2-3-0	.400
Rutgers	10-7-0	1-4-0	.200
Maryland	8-9-0	1-4-0	.200
Michigan State	3-6-0	0-5-0	.333

(As of Feb. 22)

# **ROAD TO NATIONALS RANKINGS**

Rank	Team Name	Average
1	Oklahoma	197.890
2	LSU	197.655
3	Florida	197.435
4	Alabama	196.965
5	Utah	196.900
6	UCLA	196.735
7	Georgia	196.732
8	Denver	196.550
9	Michigan	196.500
10	Oregon State	196.370
11	Kentucky	196.360
12	Boise State	196.330
13	Missouri	195.020
14	Auburn	196.015
15	Nebraska	195.985
16	George Washington	195.970
17	lowa	195.950
18	Washington	195.875
19	California	195.785
20	Ohio State	195.595
21	Arkansas	195.535
22	Illinois-Champaign	195.495
23	New Hampshire	195.290
24 (t)	Utah State	195.270
24 (t)	Iowa State	195.270

(As of Feb. 22)

- 2017 opponents in bold

### **HAWKEYES DEFEAT NO. 20**

- lowa took first with a total score of 196.400 against No. 20 George Washington (196.050), Maryland (195.275), Pittsburgh (194.725), and William & Mary (192.725) on Feb. 17 in Washington, D.C.
- Senior Mollie Drenth won the all-around with a 39.300 and took first on beam with a career-high 9.950.
- lowa scored a season-high 49.150 on floor. Drenth and junior Lanie Snyder both tied their season high with scores of 9.850 to tie for third.
- Freshman Charlotte Sullivan finished at the top of the podium on uneven bars with a season-high 9.900.
- Sophomore Misty-Jade Carlson, Rose Piorkowski, and Maria Ortiz tied for fourth overall on vault with scores of 9.800.

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

Charlotte Sullivan was named Big Ten Freshman of the Week on Feb. 13. This is 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 season-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 season-best 9.925 on bars tied the third-best score in lowa history.

### **HAWKEYES DEFEAT THE FIGHTING TURTLES**

- lowa defeated Big Ten foe Maryland, 195.975-193.800, inside Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Jan. 29 for its third consecutive conference win.
- Freshman Charlotte Sullivan won the all-around with a score of 38.775.
- Senior Mollie Drenth took the title on yault with a season-best 9.875.
- Sullivan, senior Angel Metcalf, and junior Melissa Zurawski all registered career highs on uneven bars with scores of 9.925 to tie for the win. The trio tied the third highest record on uneven bars in lowa history.
- Freshman Clair Kaji led on floor with a score of 9.850.
- Drenth tied for fourth overall on beam with a score of 9.875.
- Senior Angel Metcalf tied for fourth overall on floor with a 9.875.

### **ZURAWSKI NAMED BIG GYMNAST OF THE WEEK**

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.

Zurawski led the GymHawks in a 195.975-193.800 win over Maryland. The junior earned first or runner-up in every event she competed in. The Darien, Illinois, native won her second event title of the season on uneven bars with a career-high 9.925 to tie the third best score in lowa history. She set another career-high on vault with a 9.850 to place second overall. Zurawski earned an additional runner-up title on floor with a score of 9.875, which tied her career-high in the event for the fourth time this season.

### DOWN GOES NO 18

- lowa defeated No. 18 Ohio State, 196.175-195.525, on Jan. 21 in Columbus, Ohio, for its second conference win.
- The team registered high scores on uneven bars (49.050) and beam (49.375), and tied its season high on floor (49.050).
- Senior Mollie Drenth took first in the all-around with a season-best 39.350.
- Drenth also took the title on beam with a score of 9.925 to tie her career best.
- Freshman Clair Kaji earned her second floor title of the year with a season high score of 9.900. She recieved Big Ten Freshman of the Week honors for her accomplishments.
- Junior Melissa Zurawski received first-place honors on uneven bars with a score of 9.875.
- Freshman Charlotte Sullivan brought home the title on vault with a season best 9.800.





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### KAJI TAKES BIG TEN FRESHMAN OF THE WEEK HONORS

Freshman Clair Kaji earned Big Ten Freshman of the Week honors after winning her second floor title of the year with a season-best 9.900 against Ohio State in Columbus, Ohio, on Jan. 21.

The Vancouver, Canada, native placed fourth overall on beam with a season best score of 9.875. She also recorded a 9.750 on uneven bars in the competition.

Kaji comes to lowa from a successful career on the Canadian national team. She took first on beam and in the all-around at the B.C. Provincial Championships in 2014, and then returned in 2015 to take first in the all-around again. In 2014, Kaji also won on vault and placed second on beam at the Western Canadian Championships. She highlighted her career by taking sixth in the all-around at the 2015 Canada Winter Games to help her team take home the bronze medal.

#### **SPARTANS FALL TO HAWKEYES**

- lowa notched its first conference win of the season against Michigan State, 195.475-193.875, on Jan. 13 inside Carver-Hawkeye Arena.
- In the all-around, freshman Charlotte Sullivan finished at the top of the podium with a 39.050 for the first all-around win of her collegiate career.
- Senior Mollie Drenth and sophomore Rose Piorkowski tied for first on vault with scores of 9.850.
- Senior Angel Metcalf and freshman Clair Kaji tied for the win on beam, as both tallied scores of 9.850.

# SULLIVAN EARNS BIG TEN FRESHMAN OF THE WEEK

Freshman Charlotte Sullivan earned Big Ten Freshman of the Week honors after taking home second in the all-around (38.900) in her Hawkeye debut in the quad meet against Northern Illinois, Western Michigan, and Lindenwood in Dekalb, Illinois, on Jan. 8.

The New Zealand native placed third on vault with a score of 9.750. She went on to record a 9.775 on beam, a 9.700 on uneven bars, and a 9.675 on floor.

The freshman comes to lowa after a successful career on the New Zealand national team. Sullivan won the New Zealand Nationals in 2014, 2013, 2012, 2010, and 2007. She also won a bronze medal on beam at the World Cup Event in Portugal in 2015.

### 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 lowa's individual season best on vault (9.950 at No. 13 Denver, Feb. 27), beam (9.925 at lowa 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.

# **BIG TEN CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The 2017 Big Ten Women's Gymnastics Championships will be hosted by Rutgers in Piscataway, New Jersey, on March 18. The event will consist of two meets that day, with the first four teams competing at 11 a.m. (CT) and remaining six taking the stage at 4 p.m. (CT). To purchase tickets, call the Rutgers ticket office at 1-866-455-4678 or visit scarletknights.com. The meet will be availabe on BTN.





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#### TICKETS

For more ticket information, please visit hawkeyesports.com or contact the UI Athletics Ticket Office at 1-800 IA-HAWKS. Single game tickets are on sale for \$6. Fans can purchase tickets for the Cy-Hawk Corn Series match against lowa State on March 4 and the home finale Big Five Meet on March 11. Youth (18 and younger) and UI students are admitted free to all home matches.

#### UP NEXT

The GymHawks host lowa State for the lowa Cy-Hawk Corn Series on March 4 at 11 a.m. (CT) inside Carver-Hawkeye Arena. The meet will be featured on Big Ten Network (BTN). Doors open at 10 a.m. The meet marks Senior Night and is a blackout. The first 250 fans will recieve free t-shirts. It is also Girl Scout Day with activities available for troops. Lastly, University of lowa students recieve free admission, and there will be free food available for students.





# 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, lowa



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. Caseyville, III.



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, III.



Nikki Youd Jr. Panama City, Fla.



Melissa Zurawski So. Darien, III.



Larissa Libby Head Coach 13th Season



Vince Smurro Assistant Coach 1st Season



Jennifer Green Assistant Coach 2nd Season