University of Iowa Athletic Communications – Madison Petersen, Gymnastics Contact

#### WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS WEEKLY RELEASE

#### **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	6 p.m.
2/19	at LSU	2:30 p.m.
2/24	at BYU	8 p.m.
3/4	vs. Iowa State*	11 a.m.
3/11	Big Five Meet*	3 p.m.
3/18	Big Ten Championships	TBA
4/1	NCAA Regional Championships	TBA
4/14-4/17	NCAA Championships	TBA
l		

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

# - Exhibition Event \* - Conference Event

#### 2017 ROSTER

Sr.	Chesapeake, Va.	
So.	Portland, Ore.	
So.	Port Coquitlam, B.C.	
Sr.	Riverview, Fla.	
Sr.	Woodlawn, Tenn.	
Fr.	West Allis, Wis.	
So.	Waterloo, Iowa	
Fr.	Vancouver. Can.	
Fr.	San Antonio, Texas	
Fr.	Glastonbury, Conn.	
Sr.	Swansboro, N.C.	
Sr.	Caseyville, III.	
So.	Fort Myers, Fla.	
So.	Panama City, Fla.	
Jr.	lowa City, Iowa	
Jr.	Omaha, Neb.	
Fr.	Christchurch, N. Z.	
So.	Naperville, III.	
Jr.	Panama City, Fla.	
Jr.	Darien, III.	
	So. So. Sr. Fr. So. Fr. Fr. Sr. Sr. So. Jr. Jr. Fr. So. Jr.	

#### **FOLLOW THE HAWKEYES**

 Live Stats:
 hawkeyesports.com

 Facebook:
 facebook.com/iowagymnastics

 Twitter:
 twitter.com/iowagymnastics

 Instagram:
 instagram.com/iowagymnastics

 YouTube:
 youtube.com/iowagymnastics



vs. George Washington, Pittsburgh,
Maryland, William & Mary\_\_\_\_\_ Feb. 17
Time\_\_\_\_\_ 6 p.m. (CT)
Location\_\_\_\_ Washington, D.C.

vs. LSU, George Washington\_\_\_\_ Feb. 19
Time\_\_\_\_\_ 2:30 p.m. (CT)
Location\_\_\_\_ Baton Rouge, La.

GEORGE WASHINGTON COLONIALS

LSU

LSU Tigers

#### THIS WEEK

**HAWKEYES** 

**IOWA** 

The No. 22 University of Iowa women's gymnastics team hits the road on Friday to compete against No. 20 George Washington, Pittsburgh, Maryland, and William & Mary. The meet is set to begin at 6 p.m. (CT) in Washington, D.C.

On Sunday, the GymHawks travel to Baton Rouge, Louisana, to face No. 2 LSU and No. 20 George Washington. The meet begins at 2:30 p.m. (CT).

#### **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.

#### IN THE RANKINGS

lowa is ranked No. 22 nationally with a 195.489 scoring average. As a team, the GymHawks rank 18th nationally on beam (48.846 scoring average), 19th on bars (48.864), 19th on floor (48.957), and 24th on vault (48.821).

Individually, senior Mollie Drenth ranks 69th nationally in the all-around (38.808), while freshman Charlotte Sullivan ranks 80th (38.750) and senior Angel Metcalf ranks 86th (38.717). For single events, junior Melissa Zurawski ranks 26th on uneven bars (9.857) and 73rd on floor (9.832). Freshman Clair Kaji ranks 56th on floor (9.843) and 94th (9.782) on beam. Senior Lexi Mura ranks 75th (9.800), while Drenth ranks 96th on vault (9.796). There are over 620 gymnasts ranked individually on each event.

#### **LAST TIME OUT**

- lowa took first in their home tri-meet against No. 21 Illinois and UIC on Feb. 11 with a season-high 196.475. Illinois followed in second (196.050), while UIC finished third (192.625).
- Angel Metcalf took first on beam with a career-high 9.925.
- lowa registered a season-high 49.075 on vault. Sophomore Rose Piorkowski won the event title with a score of 9.875 to tie her career high.
- Freshman Charlotte Sullivan earned her second uneven bars title of the season with a score of 9.850.
- Senior Mollie Drenth finished runner-up in the all-around with a 39.225.
- Drenth, junior Lanie Snyder, and freshman Clair Kaji tied for second overall on floor with scores of 9.850.

#### **SCOUTING THE COLONIALS**

- George Washington finished third at the Mizzou Quad Meet with a total of 194.350 on Feb. 10.
- The Colonials are ranked in the top 25 in three events. They are ranked ninth on beam (49.375), No. 18 on floor (48.963), and No. 23 on vault (48.825).
- George Washington is ranked No. 20 nationally with an average score of 195.613.
- The Colonials have a 12-2 overall record.
- Junior Camille Drouin-Allaire ranks No. 46 nationally with an average of 39.071. She also ranks 34th on yault (9.876)
- George Washington is led by head coach Margie Foster-Cunningham, who is in her 33rd season.





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#### **BIG TEN STANDINGS**

	<b>Overall</b>	Big Ten	
Team	W-L-T	W-L-T	Pct.
Michigan	4-1-0	6-2-0	.800
lowa	4-1-0	6-3-0	.800
Nebraska	4-1-0	5-3-0	.800
Ohio State	3-2-0	6-2-0	.600
Illinois	3-2-0	6-3-0	.600
Minnesota	3-2-0	5-3-0	.600
Penn State	2-3-0	5-3-0	.400
Rutgers	1-4-0	10-6-0	.200
Maryland	1-4-0	4-6-0	.200
Michigan State	0-5-0	3-5-0	.000

(As of Feb. 15)

#### **ROAD TO NATIONALS RANKINGS**

Rank	Team Name	Average
1	Oklahoma	197.813
2	LSU	197.579
3	Florida	197.521
4	UCLA	197.025
5	Utah	196.879
6	Alabama	196.725
7	Boise State	196.405
8	Michigan	196.338
9	Kentucky	196.257
10	Georgia	196.229
11	Denver	196.161
12	Oregon State	196.075
13	Southern Utah	195.94
14	Washington	195.875
15	Missouri	195.861
16	Nebraska	195.729
17	Auburn	195.718
18	California	195.708
19	Ohio State	195.646
20	<b>George Washington</b>	195.613
21	Illinois-Champaign	195.517
22	lowa	195.489
23	Arkansas	195.467
24	West Virginia	195.108
25	Arizona	195.038

(As of Feb. 15)

- 2017 opponents in bold

#### **SCOUTING THE PANTHERS**

- Pittsburgh finished third in the North Carolina State Quad Meet on Feb. 10 with a score of 194.075.
- The Panthers rank 50th nationally with a scoring average of 193.425. They have a 5-6 overall record so far this season.
- Sophomore Lucy Brett took EAGL Specialist of the Week on Feb. 1 after winning the title on beam with a score of 9.900 against North Carolina.
- The Panthers are led by head coach Debbie Yohman, who is in her 31st season.

#### **SCOUTING THE TERRAPINS**

- Maryland took first in the Rutgers quad meet on Feb. 10 with a score of 195.050.
- The Terrapins are tied for 41st nationally with a scoring average of 194.250 this season.
- Senior Emily Braukmuller leads the Terrapins on floor. The senior is ranked 64th in the nation (9.837 average) and won her first floor title of the season last weekend with a score of 9.875.
- Maryland is led by head coach Brett Nelligan, who is in his 12th season.

#### SCOUTING THE TRIBE

- William & Mary earned a season-high 193.025 to finish fourth in the North Carloina State Quad Meet on Feb. 10.
- The Tribe ranks 63th nationally with a scoring average of 190.117 and own an 1-8 overall record so far this season.
- Senior Olivia O'Connor leads William & Mary in the national all-around rankings at 118th with a 38.406 average.
- The Panthers are led by head coach Mary Lewis, who is in her 23rd season.

#### **SCOUTING THE TIGERS**

- LSU defeated No. 23 Arkansas, 197.700-196.325, on Feb. 10 for the program's 14th straight win.
- The Tigers are ranked in the top four in every event. They rank second on beam (49.400), second on floor (49.483), third on vault (49.363 average), and fourth on uneven bars (49.333)
- LSU is ranked No. 2 nationally with a scoring average of 197.579.
- The Tigers own an 6-0 overall record so far this season.
- Senior Ashleigh Knat has earned All-American honors on vault, floor, beam, and in the all-around. She is ranked fifth in the nation in the all-around (39.500), first on vault (9.933), third on floor (9.937), and 20th on beam (9.860).
- LSU is led by head coach D-D Breaux, who is in her 40th season.

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

Charlotte Sullivan was named the Big Ten Freshman of the Week on Feb. 13. This is Sullivan's second weekly honor. The freshman last received the title 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 beat 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 vault 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.





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#### WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS WEEKLY RELEASE

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- Metcalf finished first overall on beam with a score of 9.825.
- Freshman Clair Kaji earned her third floor title of the season with a 9.900. This tied her season high.

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

Melissa Zurawski was named Big Ten Co-Gymnast of the Week after her performance against Maryland on Jan. 29 inside Carver-Hawkeye Arena. 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.

#### **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 on Dec. 15.

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 tenth-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) at the NCAA Championships and All-American honors.





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#### WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS WEEKLY RELEASE

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#### **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.

#### **SEASON TICKETS**

For more ticket information, please visit hawkeyesports.com or contact the UI Athletics Ticket Office at 1-800 IA-HAWKS. Season tickets are currently on sale for \$42. Fans who purchased season tickets will gain admission to six home competitions inside Carver-Hawkeye Arena, against Michigan State, California-Berkeley, Maryland, Iowa State, Illinois and UIC and the home finale of the Big Five Meet. Youth (18 and younger) and UI students are admitted free to all home matches.

#### **UP NEXT**

The GymHawks travel to BYU on Friday, Feb. 24. The meet is set to begin at 8:00 p.m. (CT) in Provo, Utah.





### 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