

PTL preview: 7/5/2011 games

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Here's a rundown of what Iowa basketball fans can expect Tuesday evening with the Prime Time League, which takes place at the North Liberty Community Center:

Jill Armstrong of Lepic-Kroeger Realtors (2-2) vs. McCurry's/Mike Gatens Real Estate (1-3)

6 p.m., Roberts Gym (New Gym)

Jill Armstrong enters this contest having won two straight games after opening the summer with two straight losses, while McCurry's/Gatens looks to avoid a third straight defeat Tuesday night.

In Jill Armstrong's most recent win, a 120-96 victory over Monica's/L.L. Pelling Company on June 28, it received strong performances from Iowa sophomore forward Zach McCabe and former UNI guard Ali Farokhmanesh. The latter led the way in scoring with 26 points, while McCabe had a summer-high of 23 points on 8-of-13 shooting.

As for McCurry's/Gatens, it comes off a bitter 109-106 defeat to Falbo Bros Pizza/Culver's of Coralville, but received strong showings from its Hawkeye duo in the process. Junior guard/forward Eric May had 30 points along with eight assists and seven rebounds in defeat, while freshman guard Josh Oglesby had his best showing this summer with 24 points on 50 percent shooting and seven rebounds.

Iowa City Ready Mix/Vinton Merchants (1-3) vs. Monica's/L.L. Pelling Company (1-3)

6 p.m., Jones Gym (Old Gym)

Both Ready Mix/Merchants and Monica's/Pelling enter Tuesday night with three-game losing streaks and are attempting to avoid remaining in the PTL cellar.

Monica's/Pelling features one of the league's most impressive players this summer in sophomore guard Devyn Marble. In the aforementioned loss to Jill Armstrong last week, Marble had 28 points, eight rebounds and seven assists. Contributions of five points and six rebounds also came from senior forward Devon Archie.

As for Ready Mix/Merchants, senior guard Bryce Cartwright is coming off a performance where he had 22 points and five assists, while freshman forward Gabe Olaseni had his most impressive outing of the summer with four points and nine rebounds.

Coach's Corner/Two Rivers Bank & Trust (4-0) vs. Falbo Bros Pizza/Culver's of Coralville (3-1)

7:30 p.m., Roberts Gym (New Gym)

This match-up could very well be a sneak peek to the PTL Championship Game on July 24, as Corner/Rivers and Falbo/Culver's have both separated themselves from the others.

Corner/Rivers comes in as the PTL's only undefeated team left with a 4-0 record. In a 96-84 win over Ready Mix/Merchants last week, junior guard/forward Anthony Hubbard finished with 21 points and 11 rebounds.

As for Falbo/Culver's, it has won three straight since both senior guard Matt Gatens and sophomore forward Melsahn Basabe returned to the lineup to team up with freshman forward Aaron White. This "Big Three" stepped up big last week in a 109-106 win over McCurry's/Gatens. Basabe led the way with 39 points and 11 rebounds, while Gatens finished with 31 points and White with 19 points.

The winner of this contest will have the inside track to the top seed in this year's PTL playoffs, which start on July 17.

*Be sure to visit *HawkeyeDrive.com* following Tuesday's action at the North Liberty Community Center for ongoing coverage of the Prime Time League this summer.*