

PTL preview: 7/12/2011 games

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HawkeyeDrive.com

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:

Monica's/L.L. Pelling Company (2-4) vs. Coach's Corner/Two Rivers Bank & Trust (5-1)

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

Although Corner/Rivers has already secured the top seed in next week's PTL playoffs, it will look to avoid a second straight loss Tuesday night when it takes on Monica's/Pelling.

After starting the summer off with a 5-0 record, Corner/Rivers suffered its first loss on July 10, a 107-96 beating from Jill Armstrong of Lepic-Kroeger Realtors. In defeat, junior guard Anthony Hubbard finished with 19 points, 12 rebounds and six assists. As for Monica's/Pelling, it snapped a four-game losing streak last weekend after defeating McCurry's/Mike Gatens Real Estate, 83-76.

The win came despite a poor shooting performance from sophomore guard Devyn Marble, who had 20 points on 9-of-27 shooting. Senior forward Devon Archie also contributed nine points and nine rebounds for Monica's/Pelling in the victory.

This is the second meeting between these two teams. Corner/Rivers took the first contest by a 97-94 score on June 21. In that game, Hubbard had 11 points and nine rebounds, while Marble finished with 27 points and Archie had six points and 11 rebounds.

McCurry's/Mike Gatens Real Estate (2-4) vs. Iowa City Ready

Mix/Vinton Merchants (3-3)

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

A possible first-round bye could be at stake for Ready Mix/Merchants on Tuesday when it takes on McCurry's/Gatens.

Ready Mix/Merchants enters this contest on a two-game winning streak after dismantling Falbo Bros Pizza/Culver's of Coralville on July 10, 84-59. Freshman forward Gabe Olaseni had his best outing of the summer with 11 points and nine rebounds and he shot 4-of-4 from the floor. Senior guard Bryce Cartwright had 15 points and eight assists last weekend.

Both players made their PTL debuts in Ready Mix/Merchants' first meeting this summer with McCurry's/Gatens, with the latter emerging 80-78 after junior guard Eric May hit a pair of free throws with 2.4 seconds left. McCurry's/Gatens comes in off a disappointing 83-76 loss to Monica's/Pelling where it had a 13-point second half lead that eventually slipped away. May, senior forward Andrew Brommer and freshman guard Josh Oglesby all finished with double-figures scoring.

Brommer did not play in the first meeting between these two teams last month.

Falbo Bros Pizza/Culver's of Coralville (3-3) vs. Jill Armstrong of Lepic-Kroeger Realtors (3-3)

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

Should McCurry's/Gatens defeat Ready Mix/Merchants in the earlier contest Tuesday night, then the winner of this game would secure the No. 2 seed in next week's playoffs, and more importantly, a first-round bye.

Falbo/Culver's won the first meeting between these two teams on June 21, 96-89. However, it enters Tuesday's showdown on a two-game losing streak after getting dominated by Ready Mix/Merchants last weekend. Sophomore forward Melsahn Basabe

had a team-high 23 points in Sunday's loss, shooting 9-of-21 in the process. Freshman forward Aaron White recorded his first double-double of the summer with 13 points and 10 rebounds. Senior guard Matt Gatens shot 3-of-16 from the floor and finished with just 10 points.

As for Jill Armstrong, it earned a huge victory last weekend knocking off the previously unbeaten Corner/Rivers squad, 107-96. In the win, sophomore forward Zach McCabe had 26 points and nine rebounds.

Basabe will look to have a better outing against Jill Armstrong after shooting 7-of-24 in the first meeting, a game that also was his first this summer after returning from a Team USA tryout in Colorado.

*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.*