Hawkeyes suffer OT loss in France

By Brendan Stiles

HawkeyeDrive.com

In what was Iowa's fifth exhibition game on its European tour, it managed to force an overtime period following an improbable four-point swing in the fourth quarter's closing seconds. But unlike those first four contests, the Hawkeyes weren't able to remain unblemished Monday in Toulon, France.

Instead, it was Hyéres-Toulon Basket that managed to re-group in overtime and walk off its court with an 84-82 win over the Hawkeyes. Not only that, but according to an article from the site Catch-and-Shoot.com, the game-winning shot made as time expired came from former Iowa basketball player Pierre Pierce, who was charged twice with sexual assault (once in 2002 and again in 2005) during his Hawkeye career. The second set of charges in 2005 led to his dismissal from the team and Pierce later served 11 months in prison.

Iowa found itself on the losing end despite remarkably forcing overtime. Senior forward Zach McCabe scored on a putback to cut the Hawkeyes' deficit to 71-69. Following a Hyéres-Toulon turnover with 0.8 seconds showing on the clock, junior forward Aaron White was able to get a tip-in at the buzzer off an alley-oop inbound pass from senior guard Devyn Marble to tie the game at 71-71.

In overtime, Iowa trailed 82-80 when sophomore forward Jarrod Uthoff made a bucket with 18 seconds left to tie the game at 82-82 before Pierce hit the game-winner.

The Hawkeyes went with a new starting lineup Monday. Sophomore guard Anthony Clemmons started in place of junior Josh Oglesby

(who started all four of Iowa's previous exhibitions), while junior center Gabe Olaseni was inserted in place of sophomore Adam Woodbury, who had started three of the prior exhibitions before Monday's contest.

Marble led the charge by almost putting up a triple-double against Hyéres-Toulon Basket, coming away with 18 points, nine rebounds and eight assists while playing 38 minutes. Fellow senior Melsahn Basabe also was a heavy contributor for Iowa posting 15 points on 7-of-10 shooting and six boards. McCabe played 22 minutes off the bench and ended up providing the Hawkeyes with a double-double of 11 points and 10 rebounds. Other double-figure scorers included Olaseni with 11 points on 5-of-6 shooting and Oglesby with 10 points.

But despite all of that, Iowa was out-rebounded by Hyéres-Toulon Basket 51-49 and gave up 22 points off 20 turnovers and 17 second-chance points to their French opponent. The Hawkeyes also shot just 6-of-25 from behind the 3-point line and just 8-of-14 from the free-throw line.

Now finding themselves at 4-1 on this trip, Iowa plays its final exhibition contest Tuesday against Fos-Ouest Basket in Fos-sur-Mer, France, before returning home. Tip-off for Tuesday's game is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. Central.

BOX SCORE: <u>Iowa vs. Hyéres-Toulon Basket (8/19/2013)</u>