PTL preview: 7/3/2014 games

By Brendan Stiles

HawkeyeDrive.com

Here's a rundown of what Iowa basketball fans can expect Thursday evening with the three Prime Time League games taking place at the Cedar Valley SportsPlex in Waterloo:

Westport Touchless Autowash/IAHomesForSale (1-1) vs. Vinton Merchants/Marion Iron Company (1-1), 6 p.m.

Junior center Adam Woodbury will be looking to lead his Autowash/Homes squad to a second consecutive win Thursday when it plays Merchants/Iron. Two weeks in, Woodbury has been the most consistent Hawkeye player in the PTL.

In his team's 111-109 win over Pelling/Comfort Care last week in North Liberty, the 7-1 center finished with 26 points and nine rebounds, and this followed up a game where he had 27 points and nine boards. Junior guard Anthony Clemmons is also expected to be in the Autowash/Homes lineup Thursday after missing the first two games of the summer being back in his home state of Michigan.

As for Merchants/Iron, junior guard Mike Gesell was among the team's bright spots last week in a 105-90 loss to Culver's/McCurry's after finishing with 25 points on 10-of-20 shooting. Incoming freshman forward Dominique Uhl had nine points and six rebounds in defeat.

Jill Armstrong of Skogman Realty (2-0) vs. Culver's/McCurry's (2-0), 6 p.m.

The winner of this contest will have the inside track to the league's top playoff seed as both Armstrong and Culver's/McCurry's enter this game unbeaten.

Armstrong is coming off an 87-78 win over BlendCard where it dominated the glass with a 53-27 rebounding edge. Fourteen of those boards came courtesy of junior forward Jarrod Uthoff, who also had 19 points on 8-of-21 shooting. Armstrong is still expected to be without the services of incoming freshman guard Brady Ellingson on Thursday.

Meanwhile, Culver's/McCurry's had a fortunate surprise last week with senior forward Aaron White suiting up before going to Washington, D.C., for Kevin Durant's Nike Skills Academy. He played little in the second half of its 105-90 win over Merchants/Iron, but White did have 15 points and nine rebounds. Tonight also marks the PTL debut of incoming sophomore guard Trey Dickerson, who will be playing alongside White on Culver's/McCurry's this summer.

L.L. Pelling/Comfort Care Medicare (0-2) vs. BlendCard (0-2), 7:30 p.m.

One team will gets its first win of the summer Thursday while the other falls to dead last at 0-3.

Pelling/Comfort Care is coming off a nail-biting 111-109 defeat to Autowash/Homes last week. In that game, it received a pair of 17-point performances from its senior duo of Gabe Olaseni and Josh Oglesby. Olaseni also finished with six rebounds and shot 8-of-16 from the floor, while Oglesby finished 5-of-12 shooting.

BlendCard will desperately be seeking a big-time performance from sophomore guard Peter Jok, who has had a quiet summer thus far after leading the PTL in scoring last year. In its 87-78 loss to Armstrong last week, Jok finished with 15 points on 5-of-13 shooting.