7/3/2014: PTL round-up

(*Editor's note: Due to a personal matter, I wasn't able to travel to Waterloo to cover Thursday's PTL games and won't be able to next week either. I have however obtained copies of the stat sheets from Thursday's games and have a compilation of what took place below. My plan right now is to be back in North Liberty on July 17. Thanks for understanding.)

By Brendan Stiles

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Vinton Merchants/Marion Iron Company 108, Westport Touchless Autowash/IAHomesForSale 90

Merchants/Iron picked up its second victory of the summer thanks in large part to the second half performance of junior guard Mike Gesell. The South Sioux City, Neb., native finished with 23 points on 9-of-21 shooting, with 20 of those points coming during the second half. Merchants/Iron also received a 17-point outing from incoming freshman forward Dominique Uhl in the win.

Among the bright spots once again for Autowash/Homes was junior center Adam Woodbury, who posted a double-double Thursday of 24 points on 9-of-13 shooting and 14 rebounds. Through three games this summer, Woodbury is averaging 25.7 points and 10.7 rebounds per contest. One other item of note for Autowash/Homes was the return of junior guard Anthony Clemmons to the lineup Thursday. In his first PTL game of the summer, Clemmons had three points on 1-of-10 shooting, along with seven rebounds and four assists.

Jill Armstrong of Skogman Realty 102, Culver's/McCurry's 78

In the battle of undefeated teams, it was Armstrong remaining unbeaten after a convincing 102-78 win over

Culver's/McCurry's.

Armstrong received a trio of 20-plus point performances Thursday, one of which came from junior Jarrod Uthoff. The 6-8 forward had a game-high 29 points on 13-of-23 shooting and also hauled in 16 boards to lead Armstrong to the win.

On the losing end, senior forward Aaron White had a double-double of 20 points on 8-of-22 shooting and 12 rebounds. The big story for Culver's/McCurry's, however, was the PTL debut of incoming sophomore guard Trey Dickerson. The junior college transfer finished with 16 points on 7-of-18 shooting and also compiled nine assists in defeat.

L.L. Pelling/Comfort Care Medicare 77, BlendCard 75

Pelling/Comfort Care picked up its first win of the summer Thursday in beating BlendCard 77-75.

The story for the victors was senior center Gabe Olaseni. The PTL's top overall pick had 22 points on 10-of-17 shooting Thursday and also pulled down 16 rebounds to lead the charge. Pelling/Comfort Care managed to win despite not having senior guard Josh Oglesby available Thursday.

BlendCard is now the league's only winless squad at 0-3. But it had a bright spot in sophomore guard Peter Jok, who played his best game of the summer Thursday with 30 points on 10-of-18 shooting. In addition, junior walk-on Okey Ukah added 14 points and also hauled down seven rebounds.