

Iverson Makes Summer League Debut For Celtics

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Colton Iverson got his first taste of the NBA on Sunday, and by all indications, the Yankton native has his work cut out for him.

A second round draft pick from Colorado State who was later acquired by the Boston Celtics, Iverson came off the bench in Sunday morning's first NBA Summer League game against the Orlando Magic in Orlando, Fla.

His stat line: 16 minutes, 0 points, 4 rebounds, 5 fouls in a 95-88 loss.

"Obviously it was a little rough to start; I had some nerves, but I played more of my game later on," Iverson said Sunday night. "It was good to finally get out there."

His NBA career now one exhibition game long, Iverson, 24, has already discovered the whirlwind lifestyle headed his way, he said.

In the 11 days since the draft, Iverson has traveled to Massachusetts for the formal media introduction and later to Florida to prepare for the Summer League in Orlando.

"There's a lot more free time than college," he said. "You play a game, and then you're on your own. A lot of guys go out and do what they want, but I'm trying to rest up and take it as serious as possible."

Not even a week into his Boston career, Iverson — and his teammates — was met with news that the Celtics hired 36-year-old Brad Stevens as their next head coach.

Stevens spent six seasons as But-

ler, winning at least 22 games each season, and guided the Bulldogs to consecutive national championship games in 2010 and 2011.

Iverson got his first chance to meet Stevens before Sunday's game in Orlando, and said he understands the appeal.

"I love the hire. He's a basketball genius," Iverson said. "What he did at Butler was pretty remarkable. Back to back national championship games is pretty stellar, something not a lot of coaches can do."

Could that translate to the NBA level?

"He understands the game as much as anyone does, should I think he will do well," Iverson said.

Another Boston newcomer did exactly that on Sunday.

First round draft pick Kelly Olynyk of Gonzaga led the way with 25 points on 9-of-12 shooting — a performance of which Iverson joked, "Kelly was unconscious today."

With wins and losses not really the focus, the idea of Summer League action is more geared for new players to get a chance to acclimate themselves to the NBA, Iverson said.

"I just want to do what I do best, play defense, get stops, set screens and grab rebounds," he said. "If I can get out there and be more of a threat on offense, that'd be nice."

"I think I was a little hesitant (Sunday), but I'll be more confident the rest of the week."

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Rockets, Celtics Have High Expectations Next Year

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — The Houston Rockets and Boston Celtics tipped off Orlando Summer League play concerned about how major additions will fit into their success next year.

Prized free-agent Dwight Howard is heading to Houston and the Celtics hired former Butler coach Brad Stevens to replace Doc Rivers.

Rockets coach Kevin McHale said Sunday morning that the 27-year-old Howard should be a "seamless fit" with Houston.

"He can run the floor, block shots, he can finish and that's all the stuff we want in our system," McHale said after watching his summer league team defeat the Philadelphia 76ers 88-80. "We're looking forward to developing something special."

The 6-foot-11 Howard played his first eight NBA seasons with Orlando and last season with the Los Angeles Lakers.

Meanwhile, Stevens has noticed one immediate difference between the college game and the NBA.

"Summers are different," he said. "I'm here watching these games, hiring a staff, watching a lot of film. There's a lot to do."

It's been a whirlwind few days for Stevens since he was hired by the Celtics on July 4.

Boston President Danny Ainge, also at the Celtics-Orlando Magic game on Sunday morning, said the expectations for Stevens are realistic.

"First of all, all coaching openings except for Jason Kidd, are for teams not having success," Ainge said. "Organizations are impatient, fans are impatient, sports talk media is impatient. We live in a world of here and now and expectations are so high. We have fair and realistic expectations and we will manage them."

"Brad is humble, hard-working and about the process," Ainge said. "We're not sitting over his shoulder. We know he's going to make some mistakes. ... He'll get better and better, learn the NBA game and be able to lead."

The first inkling Ainge had about Stevens came when he and Celtics owner Steven Pagliuca were watching the 2010 NCAA championship game between Duke and Butler.

Ainge turned to Pagliuca and said "That's the best coach in college basketball." "Yeah, Mike Krzyzewski," responded Pagliuca, a Duke graduate and avid Blue Devil supporter.

"No, the other guy," Ainge replied, half-jokingly as he referred to Stevens.

"I really believed he was a great coach," Ainge said. "After we hired him, I was amazed with how so many other people are impressed with him as well."

Stevens, 36, was Ainge's first choice, and keeping as few people involved in the process kept the publicity of the pursuit to a minimum.

"Ownership knew I liked him and it was a long shot," Ainge said. "It was pretty much, Brad, (Stevens' wife) Tracy and me. Tracy is a tough negotiator. She could easily be an agent or a team legal counsel."

Ainge said that Stevens' loyalty to Butler played in the low-key pursuit.

"He was really yes-no-yes-no - he loves Butler and feels it's his family," Ainge said.

"Eventually the dream of being a NBA coach and coaching the Celtics was enticing to happen at this point. I had no idea until the very last day. He made a decision that he'd like to try it."

Stevens, working his way to the Amway Center practice court, saw the opportunity would be a good fit.

"I appreciated that the Celtics not only had a commitment to winning, but to the process as well," said Stevens, who signed a six-year contract.

On the court, several highly touted rookies made their NBA debuts.

Utah's Trey Burke struggled with a bad shooting day, but Philadelphia's Michael Carter-Williams, Orlando Vic-

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Dixon Wins In IndyCar's Return To Pocono

LONG POND, Pa. (AP) — Scott Dixon felt like his losing streak stretched as long as IndyCar's absence from Pocono.

After 24 years, the series returned to the triangle track. And it was a big welcome back to Victory Lane for Dixon.

Dixon enjoyed it so much, he even had two of his teammates tag along on the podium.

Dixon led a monster day for Chip Ganassi Racing, leading a podium sweep for the team with a win Sunday at the IndyCar Series event at Pocono Raceway. He was followed by Ganassi teammates Charlie Kimball and Dario Franchitti in IndyCar's first race at Pocono since 1989.

Ganassi was waiting when Dixon hopped out of the No. 9 Honda.

"I said to him, 'This morning, I didn't think we'd be sitting here,'" Dixon said. "To say the least, it was a little bit of a shock."

Dixon struggled this season to make a serious run at wins and had led only one lap, at the Indianapolis 500. He led the final 27 at Pocono for his 30th career IndyCar victory. He snapped a 13-race winless streak that dated to the Aug. 12, 2012 race at Mid-Ohio.

"It has been a tough year," Dixon said. "We've had some great races and we've had a lot of bad ones. That's motor racing, man."

He caught a big break when Tony Kanaan clipped Dixon's car on a pass for the lead and was forced to pit road. Dixon dominated down the stretch of the 400-mile race and became IndyCar's eighth different winner in 11 races this season.

Kanaan lost his bid at the Triple Crown when he clipped his front wing on Dixon's car. Kanaan connected with Dixon on a pass for the lead on the 107th lap. Kanaan had to pit three laps later and faded to the back.

He lost the lead — and a chance for \$1 million.

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Saturday At The Ballpark



JAMES D. CIMBUREK/P&D

ABOVE: Yankton Reds second baseman Miles Carda makes the turn on a game-ending double-play in the Reds' opening victory in the team's VFW Teener baseball doubleheader with Mitchell White on Saturday at Yankton's Riverside Field. Information on the games was not made available.

BELOW: Yankton Black Sox pitcher Mason Townsend sends the ball home during the opening game of a VFW Teener baseball doubleheader with Vermillion on Saturday at Yankton's Riverside Field. The Black Sox scored seven runs in the eighth to win 15-10.



Baseball: Post 12 Splits Pair; Black Sox Down Vermillion

WATERTOWN — Yankton First Dakota Post 12 split a doubleheader with Watertown in American Legion baseball action on Saturday. Lane Sawatzke went 2-4 with two doubles and three RBI to lead Yankton to a 6-5 victory in the opener. Mitch Gullikson went 2-3 with two runs scored. Brad Ulmer had two hits and three RBI in the win.

Gullikson earned the win on the mound.

In the nightcap, Sawatzke went 2-4 with a RBI to lead Yankton. Dustin Hopper, Kaleb Bromley, Ulmer and Zach Benjamin added hits.

Ben Cameron took the loss.

Yankton, 8-15, plays a doubleheader at Sioux Falls West on Tuesday.

VFW Teener

Black Sox 15, Vermillion 10

The Yankton Black Sox scored seven runs in the eighth to claim a 15-10 victory over Vermillion in VFW Teener baseball action on Saturday at Riverside Field.

Colin Muth went 5-5 with two doubles and four RBI to lead Yankton. Sheldon Gant

went 3-4 with three RBI. Mason Townsend had two hits, driving in three runs. Tyler Guthmiller and Hunter Ryan had hits in the victory.

Johnson Benson doubled and singled, and Tyler Madsen had two hits to lead Vermillion. Ethan James had a triple. Travis Weber had a double and two RBI. Jacob Odens, Jack Brown, Regan Bye and Blake Gilkyson each had a hit and a RBI. Brandon Mockler added a hit in the effort.

Levi Schmidt picked up the victory in relief.

The Black Sox host Brandon on Tuesday. Start time for the twinbill is 5:30 p.m.

Vermillion travels to Beresford today (Monday).

Lakers 10-13, Bon Homme 4-2

TABOR — The Yankton Lakers pounded out 23 runs in sweeping a VFW Teener baseball doubleheader with Bon Homme on Saturday in Tabor.

In the opener, Justin Leader had two hits and a run scored to lead Yankton. Michael Heine had a hit and two runs scored. Jordan Kathol, Nathan Hein, Kade

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Tennis: Murray Ends Britain's Wimbledon Drought

LONDON (AP) — Andy Murray needed one more point, one solitary point, to win Wimbledon — a title he yearned to earn for himself, of course, and also for his country.

Britain had endured 77 years since one of its own claimed the men's trophy at the revered tournament referred to around here simply as The Championships, and now here was Murray, on the brink of triumph after 3 hours of grueling tennis against top-seeded Novak Djokovic under a vibrant sun at Centre Court.

Up 40-love, Murray failed to convert his first match point. And his second. And then, yes, his third, too. On and on the contest, and accompanying tension, stretched, Murray unable to close it, Djokovic unwilling to yield, the minutes certainly feeling like hours to those playing and those watching. Along came three break points for Djokovic, all erased. Finally, on Murray's fourth chance to end it, Djokovic



ZUMA PRESS/MCT

Andy Murray of Great Britain celebrates winning the men's singles Wimbledon Championships in London, England, Sunday

dumped a backhand into the net.

The final was over. The wait was over.

A year after coming oh-so-close by losing in the title match at the All England Club, the No. 2-ranked Murray beat No. 1 Djokovic of Serbia 6-4, 7-5, 6-4 Sunday to become Wimbledon's champion in a test of will and skill between a

pair of men with mirror-image defensive styles that created lengthy points brimming with superb shot making.

"That last game will be the toughest game I'll play in my career. Ever," said Murray, who was born in Dunblane, Scotland, and is the first British man to win the grass-court Grand Slam tournament since Fred Perry in

1936. "Winning Wimbledon — I still can't believe it. Can't get my head around that. I can't believe it."

For several seasons, Murray was the outsider looking in, while Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal and Djokovic collected 30 out of 31 Grand Slam titles. But now Murray has clearly and completely turned the Big 3 into a Big 4, having reached the finals at the last four major tournaments he entered (he withdrew from the French Open in May because of a bad back). And he's now a two-time Slam champion, having defeated Djokovic in five sets at the U.S. Open in September.

All this from a guy who lost his first four major finals, including against Federer at Wimbledon in 2012. After that defeat, Murray's voice cracked and tears rolled as he told the crowd, "I'm getting closer."

How prescient. Four weeks later, on the same court, he beat Federer for a gold medal at the London Olympics, a transformative

victory if ever there was one.

"You need that self-belief in the important moments," observed Djokovic, a six-time major champion, "and he's got it now."

Murray's mother, Judy, who is Britain's Fed Cup captain, agreed that the setback 12 months ago "was a turning point in some ways."

"Every time you have a really tough loss, a loss that really hurts you," she said, "I think you learn a lot about how to handle the occasions better going forward."

Murray trailed 4-1 in the second set Sunday, and 4-2 in the third, before wiggling his way back in front each time.

He won the last four games, breaking for a 5-4 lead when Djokovic flubbed a forehand, setting off a standing ovation and sustained applause from the 15,000 spectators that lasted more than a full minute. When he got out of his changeover chair, preparing to serve for the championship, an earsplitting roar accompanied his trek to the baseline.