



Fury Weekend Team Reports

WEEK 11

November 17, 2008

Bantam Major 94

The 94's had two contests vs. the #1 rated team in the country, Chicago Mission.

Game one was a back and forth game with each team trading scoring chances. Mission found the net late in the 1st to go up 1-0. That would be it for the remainder of the game final 1-0

Game two was another nail biter with the Fury scoring 1st to go up 1-0. Heading into the third Fury held a 2-1 lead. Mission scored to even it up and then scored again to take the lead 3-2. Fury came right back and tied the game and that was the last of the scoring, final 3-3 tie.

"We played again with a short bench due to injuries but again the boy's found a way to compete. "The team is believing and playing with passion, there is no complacency in their play.

"I'm very proud of them, they could have won both games McClusky concluded.

Fury 94's still hold first place in the Tier I Elite Hockey League with an 8-2-2 record and 23-8-2 overall.

Pee Wee Major 96

This weekend the Chicago Fury 96's squared off with in-state rivals the Chicago Mission. On Saturday the Mission got off to a quick start scoring on their first shift. The Fury answered right away on the next shift but that is as close as they would get as the Mission scored ten unanswered goals. "We were very timid today and when you are playing a team that is as quick and skilled as this Mission team is it is not a good combination" Commented Coach Bannerman.

On Sunday the Mission again jumped out to a quick 2-0 lead but this time the Fury battled back and trade chances with the Mission heading into the third down 4-1. After a slow third period the Fury eventually fell 8-2. "The score was not evident of our level of play. I felt that if we had a couple of key saves this game could have easily been 2-2 or 3-2. Our goaltenders have to find a way to be more consistent" Stated Coach Bannerman.

Up next the Fury has the weekend off before heading up to Detroit for a showcase.

Pee Wee Minor 97

The Fury 97's took on the Chicago Mission this weekend in a one game series in Tier I Elite Hockey League play. The Fury struggled to put the puck in the net and lacked consistent play from the team in an 8-0 loss. "We just have to keep working to develop skills for our kids" says Coach Stan. "It will come, we are improving every week on our skating and our skills."

Squirt Major 98

The Fury 98's took on Team Illinois this weekend after a scheduling error forced their game with the Mission to be re-scheduled from Saturday. The Fury found themselves down early to TI and were unable to recover. After some inconsistent play, the Fury tried to muster up some offense of their own yet TI proved to be too strong as the Fury dropped a lop side game to TI. "Our kids competed well at times but we were unable to get any offense going" said Coach Mark. Coach Mark went on to say, "The teams in our league are among the top teams in the nation. The coaches will keep working to improve each player's skill level and we'll stay positive with the kids as we push them to become better players. Each game is a learning experience for us."

Girls 19U

The Fury girl's 19U team played their first showcase of the season this past weekend.

Game one was a 3-0 loss to a very good New Jersey Rockets team. This was probably their best game of the weekend but couldn't quite match the Rockets. Game two was another strong game for the Fury but they ran out of gas against another excellent team Victory Honda and lost 5-1. Game three they played Belle Tire. With their third great effort in a row the Fury settled for a 2-2 tie after having

a 2-1 lead late. It was great to see the team come back after losing to them 3-0 earlier in the year. Game four was against the Grand Rapids Griffins. They took a two goal lead into the third period after yet another solid performance. The Griffins scored mid-way through the period but the Fury answered with a late empty net goal for a 3-1 victory avenging yet another earlier loss. Game five was against one of the best teams they have seen all year the Ohio Phantom Flames. Once again the Fury played their hearts out but were really outmatched and lost 9-0. Overall the team had an excellent weekend with outstanding goaltending and team play. The team is pretty young and inexperienced but has improved by leaps and bounds from the beginning of the year. This couldn't be much better right now. Next week the Fury takes on Kenosha at home and CYA on the road.

Girls 14U

The girls began a busy week with a NIHL game against the Hawks in Darien on Tuesday night. The girls took to the ice with a good attitude and were prepared to work hard. Even though an early soft goal against could have deflated them, the girls pressed the action. They played most of the game in the opponents end. Supporting and pressuring the puck, they wound up with a 2-1 lead mid way through the third period. A defensive zone lapse cost them, as the Hawks were able to even the score 2-2. The Fury kept pressing the play, but just couldn't put one in the back of the net, ending the game in a 2-2 tie. Coach Harmon noted, "We sustained some good pressure in their end for much of the game, but we're just not prepared for the opportunities in front of their net. We need to be hockey ready and be prepared for the chances we create... we need to learn to finish."

Thursday night had the girls in another NIHL opportunity against the Sabres. The girls got out to a good start, leading 2-0 after the first period. They kept playing hard, and held a lead going into the third period. A couple of breakdowns provided the sabers the opportunity they needed to come back on the Fury. Final score, Sabers 4, Fury 3.

Friday afternoon began a long weekend of games against five MWEHL opponents in Darien. First off, the girls played St. Louis. This game saw some back and forth play, with the Fury playing tough and keeping the game tight at 2-2 midway through the contest. Inconsistency in their work ethic proved to be the difference in this game as the St. Louis team came away with a 5-2 victory.

Saturday afternoon, the Fury played Belle Tire from Detroit. The girls played a strong game, passing well and working hard for their opportunities. The Fury was ahead 3-1 with about 5 minutes left in the third when a couple of defensive zone breakdown cost them a victory. Final score 3-3.

Sunday morning matched the Fury against the Ohio Flames. The flames started out strong and had the girls struggling to find any sort of momentum and confidence in their game. Final score Ohio 7 - Fury 0.

The last game of the weekend was against Little Caesars from Detroit. From the start, the Fury were struggling to play good defense in their own zone. Final score Little Caesars 12 - Fury 1.

Coach Harmon noted during the weekend of busy play that the girls need to find some consistency in their overall team work ethic. "It's hard to win games when you only have half of the team really trying to put forth the effort to be successful." "We need to be accountable to each other for our effort and play a complete game as a team."

The week ahead sees a good week of practice in preparation for a couple of NIHL games against the Ice Dogs and Winnetka as well as a MWEHL game against CYA this weekend.

Girls 10U Fury-Jags

The 10U team took on Winnetka once again. Winnetka got off to a quick start and had built a strong lead. But the Fury coaches kept making adjustments and the Fury scored 3 third period goals to close the gap before dropping the game by a score of 6-3. "Winnetka is a strong, well-coached team. The girls are learning that they can't rely on individual talent and must play as a team," explained head coach Erin Malinowski, "Once the girls started passing the puck, the goals came quickly."

Midget Major U18

The Midget Majors enjoyed an weekend off as they prepare for in state rival Chicago Mission this coming weekend at Seven Bridges Saturday night at 7:10pm and Sunday morning at 11:10am.

Midget Minor U16

The U16 team travelled to Detroit this weekend for the 2nd five game set of the year. Game 1 vs. Honey Baked The Fury looked like they just got off the bus. There was not a lot of foot movement or competitiveness, and it showed on the scoreboard with the Fury dropping the game 4-0. "The only positive that came out of this game was that we had films after the game, and the boys saw themselves", said Coach Kap. This set the tone for the rest of the weekend. Game 2 vs Bell Tire

The team played a much better defensive game and competed much harder. Although we dropped the game 5-3, on an open net, I thought we played hard and the boys did their jobs defensively", said the coach after the game.

Game 3 vs Victory Honda

Again the team competed well and played a good defensive game. Final was a 4-3 loss. "We had a chance to tie it at the end, but came just short. I thought we competed and battled, said the coach. "I see improvement in many of our players, and that is what we are here for", concluded the coach.

Game 4 vs. Little Caesars

"The team seemed to really come together in this one. There were some real battles and things got a bit ugly. I was very proud of our boys. They fought and competed and never quit", commented the coach after the game. The final was a 4-3 loss.

Game 5 vs Compuware

"Compuware is clearly the most talented team in the country. They are a team that if you make a mistake, the puck is likely in your net. We were down 3-0 after the 1st period. We fought back and lost the 2nd period 3-2. Heading into the third we were down 6-2 but came out and scored 2 quick goals. Unfortunately, our back end was not able to keep the talented group at bay and we gave up 4 more, losing 10-4. We must get better in our own end if we are going to have a chance to win games. This will be our focus", concluded the coach after the weekend.