



Fury Weekend Team Reports

WEEK 13

December 1, 2008



Pee Wee Major 96

This past weekend the Chicago Fury 96's headed up to Detroit for the second of Three showcases. On Friday morning the Fury played Little Caesar's and battled hard all game but were unable to generate any offense and fell 4-1. That night the Fury played one of the top teams in the country in Victory Honda. The game was hard fought with both teams trading quality scoring chances through the first period and into the second frame where the game remained deadlocked at one. Although the Fury played well too many defensive mistakes late in the game cost the Fury who eventually fell 7-1. "The two games that we played today was some of the best hockey that we have played back to back. If we learn to play every game and practice all the time at the level we played at we will begin to execute at a level that is needed to beat the top teams" Commented Coach Bannerman.

On Saturday the Fury came out hard against Compuware and controlled the pace of play through the first period but could not capitalize on their scoring chances. The game was close, but a letdown in the final minute cost the Fury and they fell 6-3 with an empty net goal. Saturday night the Fury played Honeybaked. The team looked sluggish and Honeybaked controlled the game from the start winning 8-2.

"The Compuware game was tough because we had our chances to score but failed to capitalize. Against Honeybaked we just had nothing in the tank but we have to learn to fight through the fatigue" Stated Coach Bannerman.

Sunday morning the Fury played Belle Tire and although they did not quit, poor decisions defensively lead to a 5-0 lead for Belle Tire after the first which the Fury could not recover from. "We chased the puck all day long and we cannot do that against a team that moves the puck as well as they do" commented Coach Bannerman.

Pee Wee Minor 97

The Fury 97s skated in a weekend tournament out of town and came home with a strong showing going 2-2-1 as they advanced in the tournament. Coach Stan had this to say to summarize the weekend. "We are getting better and the kids are working hard. We did some good things, we just have to keep working on skills to improve our kids at this level."

Squirt Major 98

The 98's spent the holiday weekend in Detroit competing in the league showcase. Despite a strong team effort and hard work across the board, the 98's dropped all five games.

The kids played well for large portions of the games even though the scoreboard showed other wise. This weekend they competed against some of the best teams in the country. They are getting better at staying in their defensive coverage. The overall play against the first 2 teams was pretty good. A much better effort than the last time they played these 2 teams. In each of the games they cut down on the goals against. The next 2 games were the best of the 5 games. In a very close game against Belle Tire they played very well. They generated the most offensive opportunities of the 5 games against them. It was 3-2 late in the game, but our guys just couldn't score to tie it up and eventually gave up the late 4th goal. Even though they lost, the feeling was that they were capable of defeating that team and they are looking forward to a rematch. The next game that day, they road their confidence from the morning and battled against the #18 ranked team in the country. They played really hard from start to finish. That is becoming their identity. Many positive comments were made about the 98 Fury team. Much of what was said about the team was about how hard the kids played, that they never give up and were an aggressive yet clean

team. Many also said that they noticed how the kids kept their heads up even in defeat.

"I am proud that we as coaches are able to instill that type of work ethic in the players and that it is being recognized through out the league. I am more proud of the kids who have displayed this positive attitude in the games. They might not immediately realize the benefit of the hard work they put in during the week in on-ice and off-ice sessions, but in the in the long run they will. They are closing the gap between other teams and themselves" said Coach Mark.

Girls 14U

The Fury 14-U girls played in a Thanksgiving tournament in Hoffman Estates this weekend, which was composed of 14-U and 16-U teams.

The girls first game on Friday night was against the New Trier silver team. The Fury came out with a purpose and played a solid game in their tournament opener, taking the contest 3-0. Coach Harmon noted that the girls came out ready to play this game and were able to hang on for a solid victory.

Saturday morning matched the girls up with a MWEHL opponent in TI. The girls were outplayed from the start, not putting up much of a fight in this one. TI came away with a victory of 11-0.

Saturday evening saw the girls play another MWEHL team in CYA. The girls came out a bit slow and found themselves down early, and could not catch up. CYA kept the pressure on and took advantage of some sluggish play by the Fury. CYA came away with a win 5-0. The coaches were disappointed in the play of the girls in this one, seeing that there was such a disparity in effort from the previous day.

Sunday morning pitted the girls in a game against a 16-U team from Traverse City, Michigan. It was a tight game of back and forth play marked by turnovers by both teams. Traverse City held a 2-0 lead going into the third, and the Fury tried to mount a comeback, falling just short as the final horn sounded leaving the Fury on the losing end 4-3.

This week the girls have a couple of practices to prepare for their second showcase weekend of the year in Detroit.

Girls 19U

The Fury girl's 19U team played in the Pittsburgh Thanksgiving Tournament this past weekend. Game 1 vs. Nashville saw the Fury score on the first shift of the game and play a pretty solid game to win 3-2. Game 2 they lost 2-0 to Toronto. After getting back to the hotel around midnight and having to be at the rink which was a 1/2 hour away by 7:15am, the team was pretty tired and it showed in a game they should have done much better in. Game 3 was scheduled 1 1/2 hours later vs. Whitby, Ont. After trailing 3-1 late in the game the Fury knew they needed at least a tie to advance to the semi finals. They came on strong scoring twice to get a 3-3 tie. On Sunday in the semi final the Fury battled hard and were tied 0-0 going into the third period. After some sloppy play they found themselves down 2-0 half way through the period. Once again the Fury had their back against the wall but came on strong scoring once and keeping the puck in the opponents zone almost the entire last 6 minutes of the game. With the goalie pulled in the last seconds they scored what seemed to be the tying goal but the referee said the clock had expired before the puck went in the net. They wound up with a disappointing 2-1 loss. Next week the Fury travel to Detroit for a showcase.

Girls 10U Fury-Jags

The Fury-Jags 10U team sat idle this weekend. They remain one point behind the Yellow Jackets in the league. Their next game is Sat Dec 6th against the 2nd place Yellow Jackets at 1:45pm @ Inwood Ice Arena.

Midget Major U18

The U18's enjoyed the Thanksgiving weekend off as they prepare for a two game series vs. the Madison Capitols in Wisconsin this coming weekend. The team practiced Sunday night in preparation for seven games in a 14 day stretch. The following weekend the team will be in Detroit for a five game Tier I Elite Showcase.

Midget Minor U16

The U16 team faced off in a league game against cross-town rival CYA in the season's only outdoor contest!! The Fury prevailed 7-0, but the score was lost amid the fun and excitement of simply playing the game! "It was the way hockey was when I grew up playing here. This was probably the only game all year that nobody really cared who won. I thought everyone from the parents, to the refs, to the

coaches and especially the players, really appreciated being able to experience the feel and sounds of playing outside", said coach Marc after the game.

The Fury team also catered in food for the players and parents after the game and that was almost as good as the game itself.

We hope everyone gets a chance to experience the feeling these teams had playing outside and bringing so much fun back to the game.

Bantam Major 94