



## Fury Weekend Team Reports

WEEK 14

December 8, 2008



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

### Bantam Minor 95

The 95's hosted Cleveland and Honeybaked this weekend at home for some league action. In game #1 the Fury displayed some explosive offense winning 7-2 over Cleveland. In game #2 against Cleveland the Fury fought back hard and won 5-3. "The first game against Cleveland was the best performance our team has displayed all year, we were relentless", Coach Matt Noga Said. In the first game against the high powered Honeybaked team the Fury played well in the game but it was not enough losing 4-0. In game #2 against Honeybaked the Fury was blanked 8-0. "We learned some valuable lessons in our 8-0 loss", Noga added. The 95's are back at it next weekend at home for a few more league games.

### Pee Wee Minor 97

The Fury 97's took on the Cleveland Barons in league action this weekend. In game one the Fury battled to the end coming up with a 2-2 tie. Game two saw the Fury fall 4-2 to Cleveland but a strong effort was given as the Fury continue to improve.

## Squirt Major 98

On Saturday the 98 team traveled to Seven Bridges to play the Mission. The final score was 13-0. The team did well for the first half of the 1st period, battling the Mission to a 0-0 deadlock. They played very well in their own end. "Their defensive coverage keeps improving" The Mission got their first goal around the half way point of the 1st period after keeping the pressure on the Fury. The Fury players responded with hard work; resulting in a good scoring chance to tie it, but couldn't get it past the Mission's goaltender. Later in the period the Mission dented the net for their 2nd goal of the contest. "If the players continue to play like they did in the first period they will be a challenge to their opponents every game." As the game progressed the Mission proved to be too much for the Fury. The score after 2 periods was 8-0. "They just kept moving the puck until they found an opening. Many of their goals came after sustained pressure. We have to get better at winning the battles along the boards. We gave them too many second chances."

Despite the outcome Coach Mark said he was pleased with the progress some of the players have made thus far. Some of the players have really grasped what we are asking them to do. Others still need to become more consistent in their effort and positioning. But we'll keep trying and I am confident that we (the coaching staff) will get everyone on the same page.

The team has 2 weeks of practices before their next contest against TI and then a rematch against the Mission before the Holiday break.

## Girls 14U

The Fury 14's traveled to Detroit this weekend for the second MWEHL of their three showcase weekends of the season.

The first game of the weekend was Saturday afternoon against Little Caesars from Detroit. From the beginning, the girls played some strong defense in their own zone and were able to generate a few quality scoring chances, but in the end, Little Caesars was able to out chance and out score the Fury by a score of 8-0.

The second game of the day was Saturday night against Honey Baked from Detroit. The girls came out strong from the start, doing well to move the puck up ice, but their inability to generate and finish their scoring opportunities made it necessary for them to play strong

defense in their own zone. A few breakdowns in their own end allowed Honey Baked to capitalize and finish the game with a 6-0 win over the Fury.

Sunday morning pitted the Fury against the Ohio Flames for the third time this season. The Fury continue their strong defensive zone play, limiting the chances by the Flames. The Fury were again able to move the puck up ice into the opponents zone, but couldn't capitalize on their scoring chances. The final score, Flame 5- Fury 1.

The final game of the weekend on Sunday afternoon was against Victory Honda from Detroit. From the beginning, both teams had a hard time controlling the puck, which saw the two teams chasing the puck up and down the ice. The Fury opened the scoring for a lead that was short lived as Victory Honda answered immediately. The Fury kept pressing, but were unable to finish their opportunities. The girls found themselves down 3-1, but began a comeback bid in the third. After tying the game 3-3 on a shorthanded tally, the girls had a breakdown to allow a goal to put them down 4-3. The game ended with that final score after some furious activity in the opponents end, Victory Honda 4 - Fury 3. The coaches were pleased on the whole with the improvement the girls showed this weekend. Coach Harmon noted that their will to compete as a team is getting better, but needs to be shared by everyone on a more consistent basis in order to continue to improve. Coach Harmon added, "We need to be able to compete from start to finish, every day, in order to continue to improve as a team".

The upcoming week has NIHL match-ups against the Hawks, Winnetka twice and the Ice Dogs.

## Girls 19U

The Fury Girl's 19U team traveled to Detroit for a showcase this past weekend. First they played Victory Honda in a great game that was tied 1-1 with 2 minutes left in the third. After a terribly week penalty called against the Fury, Victory Honda scored on the power play with 1:23 left. They got an empty net goal to finish the game 3-1. Next they played Honeybaked who at the time were in second place in the MWEHL. The Fury played its second straight great game that was 0-0 until late in the second when Honeybaked took a 1-0 lead. It remained 1-0 until late in the third when they got 2 more to complete the Fury's 3-0 loss. Game three was against Little Ceasars who may be the best team in the country. The Fury started out flat and fell behind 1-0 after one period. Even though they were totally outmatched they worked hard but lost the second period 2-1 and the third period 1-0 to wind up with a 7-1

defeat. Game 4 was against the Ohio Flames. After three hard fought games the Fury looked tired and fell down 4-0 again after one period. Once again they found the strength to allow only three more the rest of the game and ended up with a 7-0 loss against the third place Flames. Next week the Fury get a well deserved break with a day off Saturday and a Game vs. Wilmette on Sunday.

### Midget Major U18

The Fury Major Midgets got back on the ice this weekend as they traveled to Madison Wisconsin for a two game series against the Capitols. In game one the Fury could not recover from a early lead by the Caps as they trailed 3-2 late in the game. The Caps added an empty net goal to win 4-2. "We didn't seem to have any energy tonight" said Fury Head Coach Nick Pollos. "Our leaders need to make sure this team is prepared to play every night." Game two saw the Fury come out ready to play as the team opened up a 2-0 lead after the first period. At the end of the second the Fury were cruising to a 4-0 lead with strong play up and down the line up. The Fury went on to win the game by a score of 5-2. "We came to play today. It's up to the kids to get themselves ready to play day in and day out. They are big boys and it is their responsibility" according to Fury Coach Nick Pollos. The U18's head to Detroit this weekend for the Chicago - Detroit Showcase.

### Midget Minor U16

The Fury went to Ferris State University this past weekend for a showcase with Milwaukee, S2 and TPH. The players also received a locker room tour, met with coaches and watched Ferris play Notre Dame, ranked #1 in the country. The boys were also fortunate to get a few minutes of pre-game motivation by 3 Chicago boys that play for Ferris, Brent Wysopal, Justin Lewandowski and Mike Emback.

#### Saturday morning vs Milwaukee

Fury started strong, netting two goals in the first period. Milwaukee came back with 2 power play goals to tie. Fury went ahead in the 3<sup>rd</sup> period, but Milwaukee managed to tie it with about 2 minutes left. "This is a team ranked in the top 20 in the country and they were lucky to tie us, I thought we played pretty well early but didn't compete for the entire game", said coach Kap after the game.

#### Saturday afternoon vs TPH

The Fury managed a 4-3 win but did not play well at all. "This was possibly our worst effort of the year", commented coach Kap after the game. "We will see some valuable things in the film this afternoon", he added.

### Sunday morning vs. S2

The Fury came out hard and competed well for all but about 7 minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> period. The final was 2-1 for the Fury behind lots of physical play and good goaltending. "In contrast to yesterday afternoon's effort, I thought this was one of our better efforts. We are going to need to play physical and be tough, like we were today, if we are to have a chance against most of the teams in our league", concluded coach Kap after the game.

This was a great experience for the Fury boys, to see top notch Division 1 hockey, hear coaches and players talk about playing at that level and be scouted by the D1 coaches themselves.

### Bantam Major 94

The 94s took on Cleveland and Honeybaked in the four game series this weekend. The Fury showed their strength as they defeated Cleveland 4-2 in game 1 yet pulling even in game 2 by a score of 2-2. The Fury then took on one of the top teams in the nation, Honeybaked in another two-game series. Game one saw the Fury battled back and forth with the Detroit team skating to a 7-7 draw. Game two saw the Detroit boys pull away from the Fury in a hard fought game with Honeybaked winning 6-4.

### Pee Wee Major 96

This weekend the Chicago Fury 96's had a Friday night game against the Huskies CS 95 team. After a sluggish start the quicker and bigger Huskies controlled the pace of play for the entire game and walked away with a 9-0 victory over the Chicago Fury. "When you play a team that is bigger and older it is important to use the skills that you do have to control the puck and we did not do that today. Too many players were standing around looking for someone else to make a play for them and even more did not display the intensity needed to compete" Commented coach Bannerman.

Up next the Fury will be skating in their third league showcase at 7-Bridges.