



Fury Weekend Team Reports

WEEK 9

November 3, 2008

Midget Major U18

The Fury Major Midgets got back on track with a 4-2 victory over in State rival, CYA this Sunday night at Arctic in the team's only contest of the weekend. The Fury opened up an early lead however CYA answered back with a power play goal and a short-handed goal in the first and second periods. In the second the Fury added a power play goal of their own to regain the lead and they never looked back behind a solid effort from the entire team. The Fury skated without four players this weekend and look get back some injured players back in the lineup next week as the team heads west for Tier I Elite Hockey League Showcase in Colorado Springs against the Western Division. "Our puck management was better tonight and went to the tough areas to score goals, that's what it's about at this level" commented Fury Head Coach Nick Pollos. The Fury have now won 9 out of their last 11 games.

Special mention to Fury forwards Alex Kubiak and Bobby Murphy who were called up to play for the Topeka Roadrunners Junior A, of the NAHL this weekend. "It was great for our kids to get that opportunity at the next level. That's what we are about here, helping kids develop and promoting them to the next level" said Pollos.

Midget Minor U16

The U16 team participated in the Nike-Bauer tournament this past weekend, and finished with a 2-2 record. The team started out against the big, strong and fast Team Wisconsin, ranked #4 nationally. The final was a 4-1 loss. "We didn't have our best game, but they were a better team than we", said coach Kapsalis after the game.

Game 2 pitted the Fury against the TPH Thunder. The Fury won 4-2 and played well. "We did a better job of getting to the net and our goaltending was solid", commented coach Kap after the game.

Game 3 was a combination League game and Tourney game against the Cleveland Barons. The Fury played well and managed a 2-1 victory. "This was a big game for our guys. We wanted the tourney win, but the league game added a lot of meaning to the game. I was happy with our effort and glad for the boys that they earned the victory", said Coach after the contest.

Game 4 was against the #6 ranked Long Island Gulls. Cleveland had beat this team earlier, so the Fury thought they would be able to play them into a close game, but saying it was as close as it got. The final was a 8-0 Fury loss. "They really moved the puck well and really understood and applied the principles of support", said coach Kap after the game. He added, "Overall it was a good weekend for us. We beat the teams we should of beat and lost to two very good teams. We are fortunate to have such a great tourney right here at home."

Next up is a two game weekend with Culver Academy at Arctic.

Bantam Major 94

The 94's Fury took on the best at The Nike/Bauer Tournament this past weekend. The top 32 teams in the country competed for the crown of the Nike division.

The Fury started off against a top ten team in Ontario York Simcoe and skated to a 1-0 win. Next up the highly skilled Dallas stars came knocking and they knocked hard beating Fury 5-0. Saturday morning the boy's faced a fast and speedy team in the Philadelphia Jr Flyers and skated to a 4-2 win. Sunday morning Westchester, NY was the Fury's next opponent. Fury held nothing back beating NY by the score of 6-0.

"The boy's again were very shorthanded on the bench but found way's to win" said McClusky. "We played our worst game against Dallas with too many penalties and 3 goals called back against, and it finally did us in."

The team finished with a 3-1 record in arguably one of the toughest divisions in the Nike Bracket.

The Fury 94's try to hold onto their first place standing in the MWEHL when they travel to CYA this coming weekend.

Bantam Minor 95

The 95's enjoyed a nice weekend of hockey this weekend and did not even have to leave the state to do so. In game one of the Nike Bauer Tournament the Fury fell short late in the game losing 5-4 to the Oakville Rangers. "We had a costly turnover with 2:20 left in regulation and it turned out to be the difference in the game, but it was a mistake our whole team will learn from and will help us down the road," Coach Matt Noga said. In game two the Fury had a tuff time with the Red Army from Russia losing 11-2. "I told my players to keep the tournament program as some of these Russians will be famous someday". In the pivotal 3rd game of the tournament the Fury needed to win by 2 goals to force a coin toss or win by three goals to advance in the tournament. With the Fury up 2-1 with one minute to play in the game the goalie was pulled for the extra attacker but the North Jersey Avalanche netted the empty net tying the game 2-2. "We needed to win by two goals just to force a coin toss so pulling the goalie with an offensive zone face off with my top players rested was something I would do again if I had to" Noga added. In the consolation game the Fury blanked the Markham Majors 2-0. "It's all about getting better as a team at this point in the season and I feel our team did this weekend" Noga concluded. The 95's take on CYA next weekend for two league games at Arctic.

Pee Wee Major 96

This weekend the Chicago Fury skated in the Nike/Bauer Invitational. On Friday morning the Fury played against the NH Jr. Monarchs and after a slow start found themselves down 2-0. After battling back to even the score the Fury seemed to sit back and the Monarchs stormed back for six unanswered goals to finish off the Fury 8-2. Friday evening the Fury skated against the Anaheim Jr. Ducks and although the Fury controlled the pace of play and clearly had more scoring chances than the Ducks, it was Anaheim who was on top late in the game. The Fury did put up a fight scoring two goals in the final minutes, but they could not get the equalizer and lost 4-3. "I was very disappointed in our play today in both games" commented coach Bannerman, "We did not execute but what really is upsetting is the lack of effort that we displayed today."

On Saturday the Fury played S2 in their final round robin game and it was evident early that the coaching staff's

message the night before was received well by the players because the Fury scored four goals in the first five minutes of the hockey game which sparked a 7-2 victory. As the Fury's margin of victory was large enough they moved on to the playoff portion of the tournament and found themselves playing Team Maryland. The game was a hard fought contest with Maryland winning 8-2. "The score of our second game was not indicative of the game. We made four bad mistakes that led to Maryland goals" Commented Coach Bannerman, "I was much happy with the urgency that we played with in both games today and hopefully we will continue to move forward."

Pee Wee Minor 97

The 97s competed in the Nike / Bauer Tournament this weekend and the coach said "We are getting better and played well overall. The 97s finished with a 1-1-2 record against some of the top teams in the tournament. "We limited our odd man breaks against and our kids played with more confidence" says Coach Stan. With the team's skill level improving every week, the coaches feel better hockey is ahead. "Overall I'm happy with how the weekend went. We will work on skill development and our team play each week to keep getting better." The 97s take on Team Illinois and CYA this weekend at home.

Squirt Major 98

After the weekend Coach Mark had this to say, "We were in the Nike Bauer tournament and unfortunately, lost 4 games to some tough competition. The coaching staff feels that there was improvement this weekend, but the players have been unable to consistently maintain the level of play necessary to be competitive through-out the games. We'll keep encouraging the players to work hard on every shift of the game so that they we'll better understand that is what is necessary to compete."

Coach Mark also commented "Our team defense has really come together and I believe that is why the team was able to generate more offense. We gained control of the puck more often than we had in our games prior to the tournament. We had many more offensive rushes and as a result we had many more scoring chances. We had some players pick up their first goals of the year. I am excited for them. It should boost their confidence."

The 98's are traveling to Kalamazoo this weekend for 2 games.

Girls 14U

The girls entered the weekend with a game vs. the Flames 14-U's on Saturday night in Orland Park. From the start, the tone was set for a very physical and penalty ridden game. There were plenty of opportunities for both teams as the play went end to end. In the end, the Flames were able to outplay the Fury and came out with a 2-1 victory. Coach Harmon observed, "They came out in this game and simply wanted it more than we did".

The girls turned around on a short nights rest and played CYA in a MWEHL match-up in the Heartland rink. The facility had some issues with their equipment and were not able to resurface the ice, so both teams had to push through less than favorable ice conditions. The Fury girls came to play today after a disappointing outing the night before. Backed by some solid goaltending, the girls pressed the play in the CYA end for much of the game, coming away empty handed after some good scoring chances. Final score 0-0. Coach Harmon was pleased with the turn around the girls made from the previous nights effort, and also noted that the girls need to find a consistent approach and effort in their upcoming games.

The week ahead has the girls playing a MWEHL game vs. Mission on Wednesday, followed by NIHL match-ups with the Sabres on Thursday, Ice Dogs on Saturday and Sunday another MWEHL game against the Wild up in Wisconsin.

Girls 19U

The Fury Girls 19U team played at Wilmette this past Saturday and won 7-1. They then played the Flames at Seven Bridges and won 5-0. Over the past few weeks the team has gone undefeated in the NIHL winning most of their games by several goals. Even though the competition in some games hasn't been that good, the team has gained a lot of confidence and has been able to do a lot of things that they work on in practice. Hopefully their confidence, ability and overall great team attitude will carry over into the MWEHL games. Of the next 20 games or so only 1 will be against a weak team. Next week the Fury play home and away vs. TI.