



Fury Weekend Team Reports

For Immediate Release

September 22, 2008

Midget Major U18

The Fury Major Midgets set their sights on the NAHL Futures Showcase in Blaine, MN this past weekend facing off against some of the top teams in the nation in front of NAHL, USHL, NCAA and NHL scouts. Game one saw the Fury boys skate against the Motor City Machine from Detroit. The Fury took charge right from the start with pressure from the opening faceoff as they skated to a 4-0 win in the opening game. "For the first game of the tournament we were ok, we need to elevate our game as we move on" said Fury Head Coach Nick Pollos.

Game two put the Fury against the Buffalo Regales. Buffalo came out hard as they opened up the early 1-0 lead. As the game progressed the Fury caught fire as they took a 3-2 lead. The Fury never looked back as they skated to the 5-2 win moving them into game three vs. Dallas in a must win game. The Fury took the ice against Dallas needing a victory to be division champions and advance to the quarter finals. Off an early face off the Fury scored to take the lead. Later on the power play the Fury added another goal to go up 2-0. After a letdown midway through the game the Fury found themselves tied 2-2. The team regrouped and went ahead on a good hardworking play in the offensive zone only to find Dallas tie the game again. With the score tied at 3-3, the Fury began to pressure Dallas each and every shift. Late in the game, off a rebound the Fury got the go ahead goal as they skated to a 4-3 win putting them in the quarterfinals with an undefeated 3-0 record. "We created lots of chances, but we just could not blow the game open, we have to learn to finish a bit better" Pollos added as his team now prepared for the quarter finals.

The quarter finals put the Fury against their in-state rival Chicago Young Americans. After a slow start the Fury began to put pressure on CYA only to find themselves down 1-0 as the teams skated into the final half of the game. Both teams traded chances as both the CYA and Fury goalies

stood their ground. The Fury again created quality chances as they scored on the power play to even the score at 1-1. In the final minute it looked as if it would take a shootout to decide the winner of this back and forth contest, however CYA scored with .34 seconds left in regulation to win the game. "What can you say, they were one shot better than us tonight" Fury Coach Nick Pollos said. "We had chances, they had chances. One shot was the difference in the game. We'll learn from it and move on. Our team took a big step this weekend and as a coach that's all you can ask for." With the Fury, CYA, Mission and Team Illinois all advancing to the quarter finals, it will make for some great games to watch this year in Illinois AAA Major Midget Hockey. "All for Illinois teams advanced in the tournament. That shows how strong Illinois hockey is at this level" says Pollos."

Midget Minor U16

The Fury U16 team traveled to Blaine, MN for the NAHL Future Prospects Tournament. After a late night arrival, the team did not play well but managed a 5-2 victory over the Lansing Capitols on Friday morning. That night the Fury boys played a very skilled Minnesota Blades team. The Fury simply outworked and out competed the more skilled Minnesota team and earned a 3-2 victory. The next day, the team faced a highly skilled New Jersey Avalanche and lost 5-1. The team ended in a 3 way tie in their pool but did not make the quarter finals. The next day the team played the Mahoning Valley Phantoms in a consolation game and competed hard again, coming away with a 3-2 win. The team finished 3-1 overall and had a nice weekend. "This early in the season it is still all about learning. I think our team learned a lot on this trip. The tournament was well run, and the competition was good. For the most part I thought we competed hard and was happy with the effort we put forth. In order for us to have more success, we will need to learn to finish our chances, said Coach Kapsalis, after the tourney."

Bantam Major 94

94's travelled to Detroit this weekend with a very tough schedule in tournament play. First opponent was Victory Honda which is always tough especially tough when traveling the distance and late night arrival." My boy's in short were not ready to play and it showed" said McClusky following the 4-1 loss." This effort and lack of passion will not be tolerated by me as the team found out soon enough. Saturday morning the boy's came out

with an 8-2 victory over Cleveland in a game that needed to be won.

Saturday evening the team faced the # 4 rated team in Ontario, London Knights and beat them 5-1. "We beat them on special teams and discipline" said McClusky.

We squared off Sunday against a very scrappy and tough opponent, the Florida Panthers.

The game started back and forth with both teams trading chances but Florida struck first. Florida then came up with 3 more unanswered goals taking a 4 goal lead with half a game left to play. "Florida is a big team and skilled as the night before they gave the Mission all they could handle but came up short a 3-2 loss" McClusky continued, "We knew we were in for a battle".

The Fury team came fighting back to make it 4-3 with many great scoring chances but fell a goal short. The Fury finished the tournament 2-2 and now get ready to host the Fury Fall Classic Tournament at Arctic this week.

Bantam Minor 95

The 95's headed to Detroit for the Honeybaked/Compuware Invitational Tournament this weekend for their 1st trip of the year. In game one the Fury lost a close one to Don Mills 6-4 in a back and forth type style of game. "Don Mills has already played 12 games this year and it certainly showed in this well fought battle my guys displayed" said Coach Matt Noga. In game two the Fury also had another close game with Victory Honda; the final score was 3-2 in favor of VH. "Victory Honda is supposed to be one of the better teams this year in our league so I was very thrilled to see my team once again skate with another good hockey team and almost win this early in the year" Noga added. Games 3 & 4 for the Fury were right along the path of consistency for the weekend with the 95's losing another tight game to the KV Rebels 4-3, and winning the only game of the weekend 2-1 over Columbus. "I saw a lot of good things this weekend!" Noga added as his team prepares for the Fury Fall Classic this weekend at Arctic.

Pee Wee Major 96

This weekend the Fury 96 team had a busy weekend with a league game against Team Illinois on Friday night and two exhibition games in Green Bay over the weekend. On Friday the Fury battled hard all game but came up short 7-2. "We harp in practice about competing and executing at a high level so that we can carry that over into games. Although we skated with TI tonight we did not execute when we needed to" commented Coach Bannerman after the game.

On Saturday and Sunday the Fury played two games against the Green Bay Jr. Gamblers. "We are struggling to see the plays develop in front of us and look a step behind at times" stated Coach Bannerman after Sunday's game. "The coaching staff is going to change the approach in practice this week, hopefully next week's results will reflect the work that we put in this week at practice." The 96's also will play in the Fury Fall Classic this coming weekend at Arctic.

Pee Wee Minor 97

The Fury 97s hosted the Chicago Mission this weekend in a one game showdown. Special teams seemed to be the difference as the Mission scored four power play goals as they skated to a 6-0. "Our kids played ok at even strength, but you can't put a team like that on the power play as much as we did" said Fury Coach Stan Luberda. "We worked hard and will keep working hard to improve" coach Stan added. The Fury 97s will compete in the Fury Fall Classic this weekend at Arctic.

Squirt Major 98

The Fury 98s opened the season this weekend as they took on the Chicago Mission. The Fury worked hard and seemed to progress as a team as the game went on. Although outmatched by the Mission, Fury Coach Mark Cmunt was encouraged by his team's play and work ethic. "This was the first game that the team played this year, and even though we lost (to the Mission), I am encouraged by how much progress they made in this game. They performed better in their own end as the game went on. That indicates to me that they gained a better understanding of the team defensive system. Each player, each line showed improvement throughout the game. Everyone played hard every shift. There are no quitters on this team!" Coach Mark also noted, "The goalies split the game and faced many shots. Both played very well despite the outcome of the game." The Fury 98s get set to compete in the 2008 Chicago Fury Fall Classic this weekend at Arctic.

Fury Girls 19U

The Chicago Fury girls 19U team hosted the Madison Capitals this past Saturday and Sunday. The Fury dropped game one 6-0 and game two 8-0. Game one saw the Fury down 4-0 in the first period after some sloppy play. They then tightened up to allow only 2 more goals the rest of the game while

failing to capitalize on a couple of breakaways of their own. Game two saw the Fury played a much better game but didn't seem to get any breaks at all. It was a good test for the Fury to see what some of the best teams will be like. The girls will keep working hard as next week the Fury travels to Cleveland for the Ignite the Ice tournament. Good luck girls.

Fury Girls 14U

The Fury Girls 14U team skated in a pair of games this weekend as they took on Team Illinois and the Wisconsin Wild. Despite a hard working effort the Fury came up short both nights as they dropped a pair of games by 3-0 scores. Although the team struggled, Fury Coach Shawn Harmon added this, "We showed great improvement in game two with a solid effort. We will work hard in practice this week as we prepare for the Ignite the Ice tournament in Cleveland this weekend." Good luck girls.