

# WICHITA JUNIOR THUNDER PRESS RELEASE

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## Junior Thunder Return Risser & Biks, Add 3 Rookies

**(August 19th, 2016)** - The Wichita Junior Thunder organization would like to welcome the return of Alec Risser and Centis Biks, along with rookies Trevor McLain, Trevor Minard and local product Corey Steinbarger.

### **Alec Risser, 1997, 6'2", 165 pound Forward, Wichita KS**

Alec will be entering his second year with the Junior Thunder. (he did play in a single game during the 2014-15 season when the team was short handed). Last season Alec played in 18 games, he started the season off right by assisting on the first goal of the season for the Junior Thunder. The assist by Risser was on his first shift of the game, it was made by a solid effort by Risser to get the puck past the defenseman at the point then sent a perfect pass cross ice to Jesse Clark who put it in for 1-0 Thunder lead. Unfortunately that was Alec's only point on the year as he didn't see as much ice time as he would have liked due to the experience the Junior Thunder had up front last year. "I expect Alec to come in and work for his opportunities this year, he did a great job late in the year keeping things simple and working hard every shift, he needs to continue to work on his skills and putting some weight on in order to be successful this year", commented coach Weingartner.

### **Centis Biks, 1997, 5'8" 165 pounds, Forward/ Defenseman, Plano TX**

Centis came to the Junior Thunder late in the season last year and played in 7 games, earning no points and 2 penalty minutes. "Former Thunder player Ryan McLean, who is coaching and running camps in Dallas, TX got me in touch with Centis last year when things weren't working out for him on his team at the time. I called Centis and was able to bring him in and get him comfortable with his surrounds in hope of him returning this year. I thought he played well in limited action last year at both forward and defense and look forward to see his progress this year." - Weingartner

### **Trevor McLain, 1999, 5'9" 170 pounds, Forward, Prosper TX**

Trevor, like Centis is a former player of Ryan McLean, played last year for the McKinney and the McKinney High School team. "After seeing Trevor play in Las Vegas I sent a message to Ryan, he said he was a good hard working player that any team would be happy to have. Being just a '99 birth year, Trevor still has to work on getting stronger but I feel his work ethic and skill set should fit in well with our team this year and the future." - Weingartner

### **Trevor Minard, 1999, 5'9" 175 pounds, Defenseman, Memphis TN**

Again using resources from former Thunder players coach Weingartner landed Trevor Minard from Matt Summers, Matt who was doing camps in Tennessee was training Trevor and invited him to our annual Riverfest Tournament in Wichita. "Sums let me know he had a younger player coming in to play and wanted me to take a look at him to see if I thought I could use him this year. After seeing Trevor play, you could see he has had some good instruction but definitely has room for improvement, so we decided to give him a chance. With a crowd, older backend, I will work Trevor into the line-up in hopes of him developing him to be a regular guy next year on defense." - Weingartner

### **Corey Steinbarger, 2000, 5'10", 170 pounds, Forward/ Defenseman, Wichita KS**

Corey played for the Wichita Warriors High School hockey team that competed in the MidAmerican High School Hockey League. At the JV level, Cory led all players in scoring on 19 goals, 11 assists for 30 points in just 20 games. At the Varsity level, Corey played mostly defense and scored 5 goals and added 3 assists in 22 games played. "Corey has always been a very good skater, last year he grew and used his size to his advantage at the JV level. I think will fit in well this year and with hard work he will have the opportunity to develop a lot quicker playing with and against the talent in the WSHL". Weingartner

