

WICHITA JUNIOR THUNDER PRESS RELEASE

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Peter Cicmanec Signs With Mississippi in SPHL

(January 26th, 2018) - The Wichita Junior Thunder would like to congratulate Peter Cicmanec on his signing with the Mississippi Riverkings of the Southern Pro Hockey League (SPHL).

Peter Cicmanec who terrorized the WSHL with his tremendous shot and scoring ability has earned an opportunity to play in the SPHL, he has suited up in 3 games so far recording one assist and has picked up just 2 minutes in penalties. In early September of this year Cicmanec began the season with the Cornwall Nationals of the Federal Hockey League with former Wichita teammates Simon Sefcik, Martin Trudman and Ondrej Misovic. Work visa issues forced Peter to go to Sweden to play with another former teammate and line mate Oskar Gullstrom for the Nynashamns IF in the 2nd Division. He went on to put up 16 points in 13 games playing alongside Gullstrom before heading back to the US for his opportunity to play for the Riverkings.



When asked what the biggest difference between your competition at the Thorne Cup Finals last year compared to the level at the SPHL he had this to say, "I would say the biggest difference is every player is big here, they can all skate and shoot, plus the work ethic is off the chart. The speed of the game and your time to make decisions is also higher in the SPHL." He went on to say this about how the WSHL prepared him for the next level, "The tremendous amount of playing time, especially on the power play, which increased my confidence over the years. The coaching staff did a great job helping me mold my European style with how North Americans play. The Thorne Cup Finals was by far the best hockey I had played in my life until I got to the pro level, those 6 games were very intense and the pressure of scoring and winning definitely helped in my preparation for the next level." Mississippi head coach Landmesser had this to say about Peter and basically most young players that enter the league, "Pete has been good he is still adjusting to the speed, he needs to play with more grit and not rely on his skill alone. Playing with more sandpaper will certainly increase his chances of getting more ice and as a young guy he needs to scratch and claw for everything until he gets more established." Cicmanec has an opportunity to work on his physical play as Mississippi plays at home tonight against Knoxville then travels to Knoxville the following night.

CICMANEC

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Cicmanec who's #88 jersey now hangs in the rafters at the Wichita Ice Center, is the all-time leading goal scorer in the Western States Hockey League with 128 career goals in 141 games played, he also ranks 3rd all-time in points (304) and 4th all-time in assists (176), all of which ranks him 1st all-time for the Junior Thunder Organization. Peter was also name MVP of the Thorne Cup Play-Offs and finished with 18 points on 11 goals and 7 assists, he finished 1st in goals and second in scoring behind line mate Oskar Gullstrom who finished with 24 points.

The aforementioned players Simon Sefick (Cornwall FHL, 4pts in 15 games), Martin Trudman (Cornwall FHL 4 pts in 7 games), Ondrej Misovic (Cornwall FHL, 6pts in 14 games), Oskar Gullstrom (Nynshamns DII Sweden, 26 pts in 18 games) as well as Zach Balodis (Lebanon Valley NCAA III, 9pts in 15 games), David Good (New England College NCAA III, 3pts in 7 games) and Jack McClelland (Acadia University CIS, 2pts in 18 games), have all had a great start to their careers after the WSHL and should be recognized as well.

