

Welcoming a new era in Rivermen hockey

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The SCP Worldwide era has started for the Peoria Rivermen. When longtime Peoria owner Bruce Saur put the Rivermen in play last spring, SCP acted quickly. The deal closed in July for a reported \$3.5 million.

"Our reason was a mix," said Mike McCarthy, vice chairman of the St. Louis Blues. "We probably had to do it because we couldn't let the team go into someone's else's hands. And we saw a great opportunity to build a brand with the Rivermen and Blues in Peoria.

"We've created a unique blend of the past with Bruce Saur, and the franchise's traditions, and an influx of new blood from St. Louis.

"We examined the operation, and felt it was a situation we couldn't pass up."

SCP owns the St. Louis Blues - parent club of the Rivermen - plus MLS pro soccer team Real Salt Lake. The partners are building a soccer stadium - RLS Stadium - in Salt Lake.

They also own Scottrade Center and Kiel Opera House in St. Louis. Plus Salt Lake City sports talk radio station KALL-AM 700, media production company Tupelo-Honey and a controlling interest in entertainment production company Running Subway.

SCP also has a partnership with Spain's historic soccer club, Real Madrid, spearheading its brand rollout into North America.

You can find information about SCP, its partners and their holdings at www.scpworldwide.net. McCarthy says the Rivermen will be added to the site in a week or so.

- Dave Eminian

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