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Chicago

For Immediate Release:

CLUB 9 SPORTS AGREES TO PURCHASE THE QUAD CITY MALLARDS OF THE CENTRAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

A subsidiary of the Chicago-based investment banking firm Prometheus Capital Partners, CLUB 9 SPORTS acquired the professional hockey team today from the Mallard's previous owner, Eric Karls.

CLUB 9 SPORTS announced today that it has purchased the Quad City Mallards of the Central Hockey League. CLUB 9 SPORTS, which was formed to focus on the sports, entertainment, media and recreation industries, will immediately take over the operations of the club. The deal is subject to final approval of the CHL and/or IHL board, but the firm intends to assume the existing lease at the i wireless Center.

The company provided a list of protected players to the league office today in order to meet the deadline of the Professional Hockey Players Association. No announcement has been made about who will coach the Mallards in the 2011/12 season, but plans are under way to schedule a press conference for the middle of next week.

"Club 9 SPORTS has a strong background in the sports business and they are well equipped to take the Mallards organization to the next level." says i wireless Center Executive Director, Scott Mullen. "This is a great thing for the Quad City community and I am confident that Mallard fans are going to have a lot to cheer about when they drop the puck this October."

"We're delighted to have been able to work out a deal on extremely short notice to acquire the club," said Jon Pritchett, the firm's CEO and an Operating Partner at Prometheus Capital. "We would like to thank everyone who worked very hard and very cooperatively over the past week to put this deal together. Having looked at this opportunity a year ago, we were comfortable with the market, the arena and the legacy of success. It will not be easy, but we are confident that this organization can once again be a leader in minor league hockey and we look forward to working with the community and staff to make that happen over time," added Pritchett.

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