

# The Record

By Tom Caprood  
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Steve Miller is the CEO of the Albany Legends, a professional basketball team which will soon begin playing out of the Washington Avenue Armory in Albany, with their first game expected to be held on April 9.



**Q:** What is this team going to bring to Albany?

**A:** We felt that if we could find a league that could bring affordable, quality, stable professional basketball, there's a niche for that and a tremendous need for it here — not only from an entertainment perspective and a pro-basketball perspective, but also from a community perspective. We're working hard to not only put an affordable, quality product on the floor, but we're also working to directly benefit the community.

**Q:** How did it come about?

**A:** I was a former Patroons season ticket holder, as were my partners Bob Hord, and Derrick Rowland. We shared in the disappointment of the league instability last year and what we decided to do was to begin searching for a minor league team that was the right fit for Albany from a quality and stability perspective, but also from a business model perspective that was efficient enough to make this successful financially. It doesn't compete with UAlbany and Siena, or with the River Rats and Tri-City Valleycats since we're done before the summer teams start. It fits a nice niche.

**Q:** How did you get involved?

**A:** We did this because we love the game and because we're local guys who want to try to do something for the community. The objective here is to put a good product on the floor and, if we make a few bucks, to turn it back to the community or into the team to make it stronger and more helpful next year.

**Q:** What is your favorite thing about basketball?

**A:** From a fan's perspective, I just love the pace. I love the opportunity to see young kids come out and have a chance at their dream. This league has some different rules, a 22-second shot clock, one time out per quarter and an immediate inbound rule, so it's going to have a very fast-paced, high-scoring entertainment value for those reasons.

**Q:** Do you have any other hobbies or interests?

**A:** My day job is working as an executive for the local IBM sales organization in Albany. Right now, between my day job and the Legends, that's about all I have time for.