



# MIAMIBEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC # 234-2006

## LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor David Dermer and Members of the City Commission  
FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager  
DATE: October 4, 2006  
SUBJECT: Recreation Update- October 2006

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

2006 OCT -5 PM 12:28

RECEIVED

**Movie in The Park** – The City of Miami Beach Parks and Recreation Department continues with its fall series. The October film “Ice Age 2” will be shown on Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at Muss Park, 4400 Chase Avenue. Hot dogs, chips and soda combos will be sold beginning at 6:30 p.m. with the movie beginning promptly at 7:30 p.m. Free popcorn will also be available.

**Hispanic Heritage Festival**- North Shore Park and Youth Center will present The Hispanic Heritage Festival on Friday, October 13, 2006, from 6 - 8 pm. The event will focus on the contributions of Hispanics from past to present. In addition to the educational experience, children, adults and seniors will be able to enjoy a variety of activities such as a salsa & merengue dance contest, an empanada contest, children’s dance performances, music, rides, authentic cigar rolling and a mini-tasting village.

**Flamingo Park Events at Night**- For the past 6 months Flamingo Park has hosted several weekly events to promote family and community involvement. Now in October, the City is offering 3 events every week. Tuesday is Dominoes/Board Game Night, Thursday is Arts and Crafts Night and Friday is Bingo Night with prizes awarded. The fun begins at 6:00 pm and ends at 7:00 pm at the Flamingo Park Pool Promenade. All events are free of charge. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

**Teens 3 Day Trip**- The North Shore Teen Club members have accrued over 20 community service hour by volunteering in various events since the start of the school year. The teens have been rewarded with field trips to University of Miami Football games, Boomers, the movies, and theatrical performances such as Rent and Annie as a way of re-emphasizing to the members that hard work pays off. The top 50 teens with the highest total volunteer hours will embark on a three day trip to Busch Gardens Theme Park and Adventure Island Water Park in Tampa Bay, Florida from Thursday, October 19, 2006 to Saturday, October 21, 2006 thanks to their own fundraising efforts.

**Hockey for Adults**- Scott Rakow Ice Rink gets a positive write-up in the Neighbors section of The Miami Herald on Sunday, October 1, 2006. Please see attached copy of the front page and story.

**FunPost**-We are proud to present you with a copy of the Parks & Recreation **FunPost** October Edition. This colorful and informative bi-monthly newsletter fills the information gap between issues of the Recreation Review magazine. In this edition you will find a collection of stories showing the latest programs and events that occurred in Parks & Recreation. Through the **FunPost**, we're never more than 60-days away from showing and telling our residents about the broad range of Parks & Recreation programs and past events. The FunPost is distributed free at all Parks & Recreation facilities. Take a peek!

Should you have additional questions, please contact Kevin Smith at (305) 673-7730.

JMG/RCM/KS/JM/rm

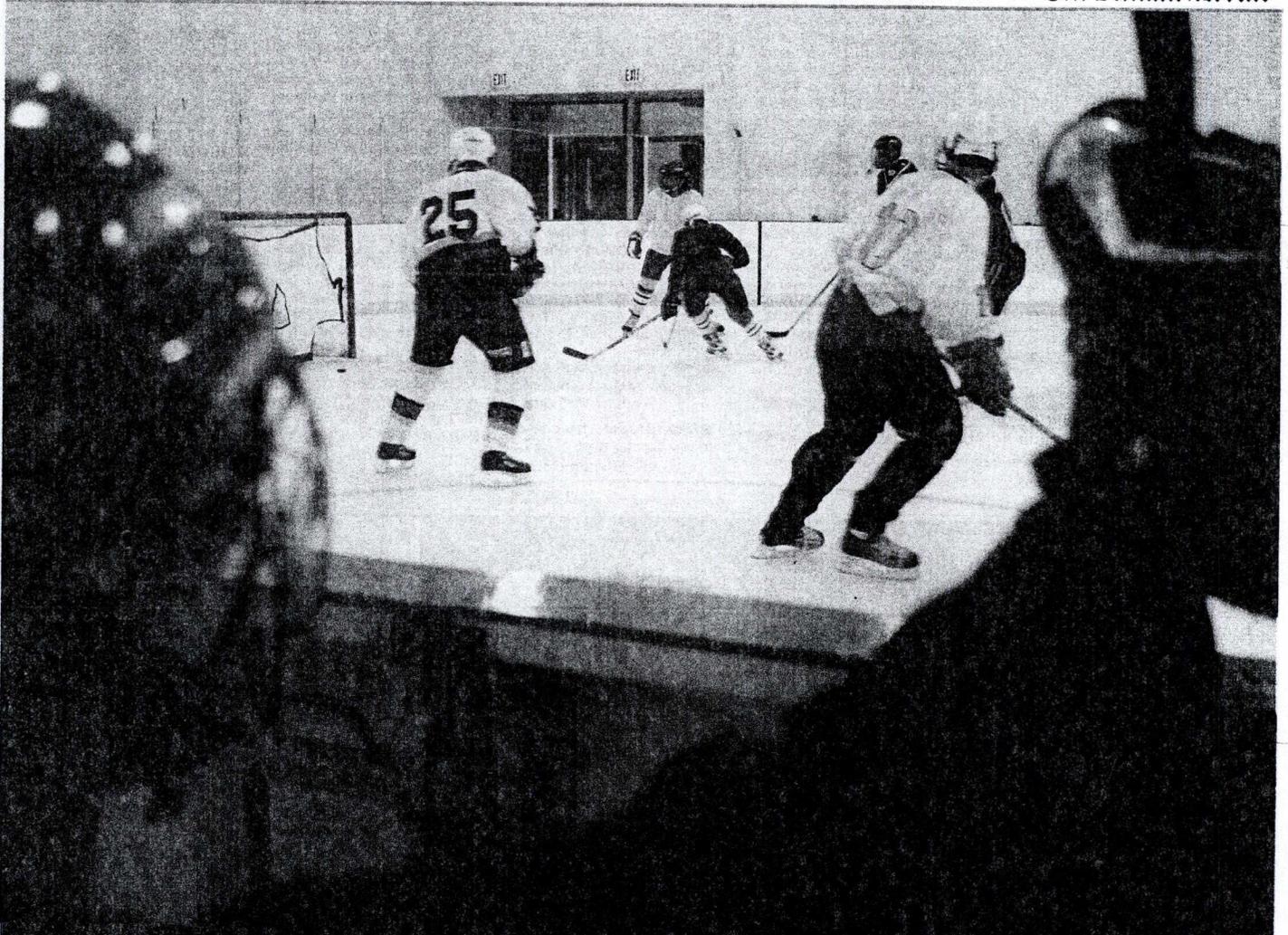
c: Robert C. Middaugh, Assistant City Manager  
Kevin Smith, Parks & Recreation Director  
Julio Magrisso, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director

# NEIGHBORS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2006 | EDITOR: JIM MURPHY | 305-376-2036 | MiamiHerald.com

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The Miami Herald



## ICE PLAY

Adult ice hockey gains a foothold at Miami Beach's Scott Rakow Youth Center, which hosts an adult open league. PAGE 3

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# GOAL-ORIENTED

THE INDOOR ICE RINK AT THE SCOTT RAKOW YOUTH CENTER HAS BECOME A LATE-NIGHT DESTINATION FOR ADULTS WHO SHOW UP TWICE A WEEK FOR AN INFORMAL GAME OF PICKUP HOCKEY

BY LARRY NOLAN  
U/Miami News Service

Scores of young ice hockey enthusiasts gather each week at the Scott Rakow Youth Center in Miami Beach where they learn stick-handling, passing, shooting, skating and strategy. The center even has a youth hockey club for skilled players.

But twice a week, the 12-and-under crowd morphs into a more mature group — young adults to business men — who come for the thrill of the game.

“The center is first and foremost about the kids, but what we’re trying to do is provide a little something for the adults after hours,” said ice rink manager Tony Scallo.

The adult games have been a fixture at the rink since the new ice rink was built three years ago, he said.

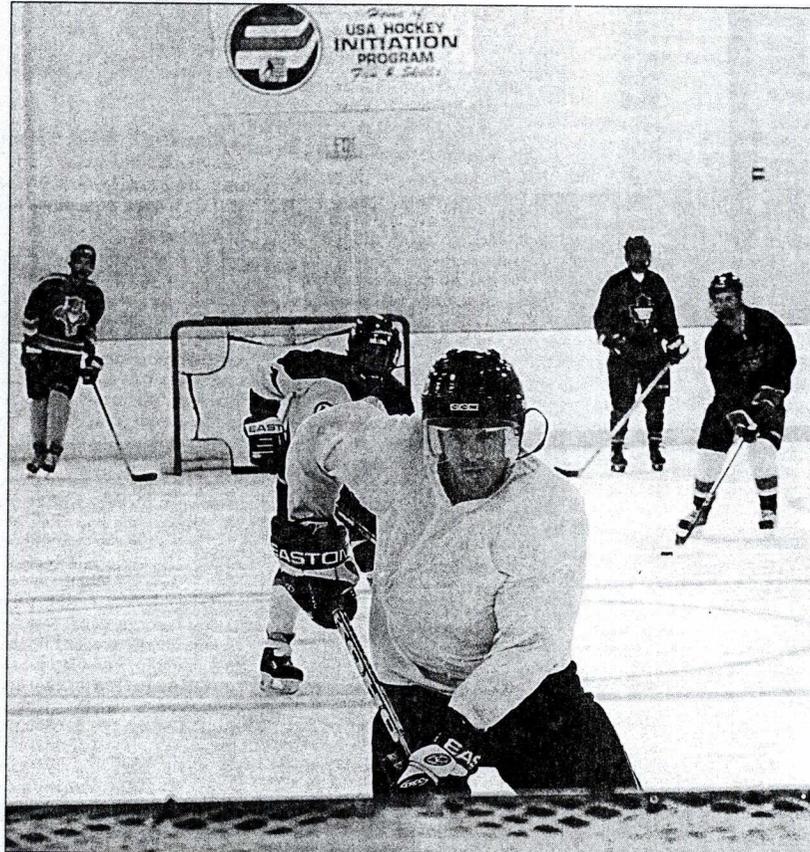
On any given Monday or Wednesday, the men arrive after work and after dinner to smack the puck as they slice the ice with their blades. About 10 to 15 men show up each night for the four-on-four pickup games at the center, 2700 Sheridan Ave. Games begin at 9 p.m. on Mondays and 20 minutes earlier on Wednesdays.

“Keeps my skills up, whatever skills I have,” Kevin Murphy laughed following a recent game. A Miami Beach resident, Murphy, 43, has been playing hockey since the late ‘60s and has been coming to evening hockey at the center for the past year.

“What I love most about hockey is the camaraderie. I mean, you really look forward to that whenever you play hockey,” Murphy said.

The center limits the number of players to 18 skaters and four goalies. Participants are required to provide their own equipment, which might run as much as \$2,000-\$3,000. But goalies play free, Scallo said, because of their importance to the game.

“It’s not fun playing hockey



ALEXIA FODERE/FOR THE MIAMI HERALD

**ON THE ATTACK:** Richard Moses, skating toward the goal, said the Scott Rakow Youth Center rink ‘is a nice place for people as old as I am; it keeps the blood pressure down.’

with no goalies. Everybody wants to skate, and nobody wants to just stand there in the net,” Scallo said. “It’s like football, I mean, you’re not going to have a game without a quarterback, right?”

The age minimum, with some exceptions, is 18, but many players are much older, Scallo said.

“This is a nice place for people as old as I am; it keeps the blood pressure down,”

said Richard Moses, 42, an FPL operator who lives in Miami Beach.

“With a puck and a stick, there’s no better cardio exercise,” Scallo said.

The hockey enthusiasts represent a range of careers — from boat pilots to doctors and lawyers, Scallo said.

“I grew up playing hockey,” said Danny LaPlante, 32, a logistics coordinator at Miami International Airport. “Where

I’m from, you walk and then you skate — in that order.”

A Haitian native, LaPlante lives in Miramar. Ice hockey, he said, has taken him all over the globe from Canada to several countries in Europe.

“I never played professionally, but I did play in many tournaments,” said LaPlante, who has been playing at the center since 2004.

Miami Beach resident Mordechai Birnbaum, 17, one of

## IF YOU GO

- **What:** Adult Open Hockey
- **Where:** Scott Rakow Youth Center ice rink, 2700 Sheridan Ave., Miami Beach
- **When:** 9 p.m.-10:30 p.m. Mondays; 8:40 p.m.-10:10 p.m. Wednesdays; through May
- **Who can play:** Adults 18 and older
- **Requirements:** Full hockey equipment. A limit of 18 players and four goalies allowed per session.
- **Costs:** \$10 for residents; \$15 for nonresidents; no fee for goalies
- **For more information:** Call ice rink manager Tony Scallo or ice rink technician Albert Santoya at 305-673-7767, or visit [www.miamibeachparks.com](http://www.miamibeachparks.com).

the youngest participants, said he enjoys playing with the more seasoned players.

“I know being a little younger than some of the players allows me to react quicker to the puck. A lot of them are much better than I am, but I love the challenge,” he said.

Although the players say they enjoy having the opportunity to play ice hockey in Miami Beach, one concern is the size of the rink, which is only half as large as a professional rink.

The size is an improvement over an earlier rink that was about one-fifth the current rink’s 200-foot length, Scallo said.

A bigger rink was not feasible, he said, because of the size of the center’s property. The rink fits the needs of the community perfectly, he said.

“The dimensions are just right. It’s never going to be too crowded, and it’s always going to be here for the residents,” Scallo said.