

U.S. National Women's Hockey Team to Join Mayor Coleman
Christening City's Newest Ice Rink

"Families invited to kick off skating season at Palace Recreation Center's new refrigerated outdoor rink"

SAINT PAUL - Children and families in Saint Paul's West 7th neighborhood will have a new, free ice rink to enjoy this year, and, with the U.S. National Women's Hockey Team as guests, they'll be some of the first in the region to enjoy the winter outdoor skating season.

On Monday, Nov. 30, Saint Paul will open its third outdoor refrigerated skating rink, three weeks before traditional outdoor rinks will open. Mayor Chris Coleman will host the first free skate of the season with Team USA from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The event will feature an open skate and hockey scrimmage with Mayor Coleman.

"These refrigerated outdoor rinks have become real community assets, giving families a quality, safe place for their children to come and play and skate without having to pay for ice time," Mayor Coleman said. "These rinks are extending the skating season for thousands of children and providing neighbors a place where Minnesota winter memories are made."

Mayor Coleman and members of the U.S. Women's National Hockey Team will be joined by Goldy, the Minnesota Gophers mascot, Councilmember Dave Thune and performers from the Saint Paul Figure Skaters Club. Participants can skate to music and enjoy free refreshments. Additional open skating will follow from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

The Palace refrigerated ice rink will be the third of three to open in Parks and Recreation System. Since opening the first two at Phalen and North Dale recreation centers, attendance at the community ice rinks have increased by nearly 20,000 participants. Saint Paul also features a fourth refrigerated rink in downtown at Landmark Center.

Saint Paul Parks and Recreation has more than 30 free, public outdoor ice rinks. Each year Saint Paul's rinks serve more than 80,000 participants and host a variety of special city-wide events.

For additional information, visit www.stpaul.gov/parks [<http://www.stpaul.gov/parks>]