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people



TALK OF OUR TOWN

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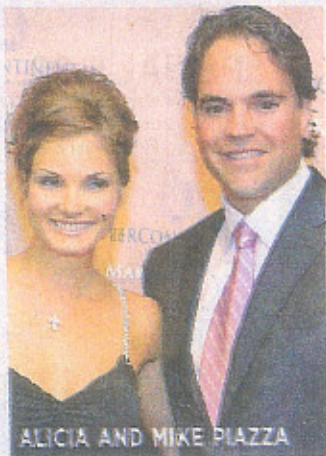
Mike Piazza and his 'Playmate' score Beach house

Major leaguer Mike Piazza and wife Alicia — the former Alicia Rickter of Playboy magazine and Baywatch fame, just bought on Miami Beach's Sunset Island II — an eight-bedroom on the water for \$10 million. They move in this week.

"We really love Miami," Alicia says. "The weather's great and it's a nice sense of community, and it's clean — no smog. And Mike likes that Miami's very diverse. Different cultures, different nationalities. A nice mix of people."

The Mediterranean-style residence, built in '01, has a two-story living room with cypress wood-beamed ceiling and marble fireplace, ele-

vator, plus three-car garage, pool and fountains. Kitchen is state-of-the-art. No wonder. Seller Sophia Marcovitz, 65, is ex-wife of Marshall Marcovitz, 71, who founded Chefs Catalog. He sold the company in '98.



ALICIA AND MIKE PIAZZA

Piazza, 39, an All-Star catcher and longtime Dodger and Met who also did a brief tour with the Marlins, played last season for the Oakland A's. He is now a free agent. He and Alicia, 35, have a daughter Nicoletta, who turns 1 on Feb. 3. Alicia, by the way, was Playboy's 500th Playmate — Miss October 1995.

Piazza also owns a three-bedroom condo at Murano in South Beach. He bought for \$1.75 million in 2002. They plan to keep it, Alicia says. "My husband's attached to it, like a blankie." They have an apartment in Manhattan, too. She plans to enroll at a South Florida grad school to study child psychology. Mike, she says, is figuring out his next move.

The Jills — Jill Eber, Jill Hertzberg — represented Marcovitz. Scarlett Brooks and Elena Bluntzer of The Bluntzer Group represented the Piazzas.