



He shoots, he scores! City Plaza takes on a distinctly Canadian flavour once a week.

bers, and of course the Can-Am Ice Hockey Association.

As much credit as the Can-Am Association would take for the development of hockey in Hong Kong, conflicting versions have arisen as to the sport's local origins. There are some who say it was simply an elaborate ruse concocted by several expatriate Canadian men to disguise their boozing, brawling forays in such colourful but patently obvious locales as Bangkok and Manila; "Did I mention, honey, we have another 'tournament' this weekend?"

Others insist the Can-Am Ice Hockey Association was formed as a desperate alternative by a breakaway group of clear-

headed athletes who were unable to derive satisfaction from running half-naked in large groups up and down hills while screaming and hollering and wearing their caps on backwards (otherwise known as the Hash House Harriers, a well-established running and beer-drinking group in Hong Kong).

Whatever its humble origins, the sport of ice hockey now has a special place in the hearts of a few dozen arena employees in Hong Kong. Perhaps more surprisingly, a small contingent of enthusiastic locals, among them rival "home-

team" player-coach and Shamshuipo sports store entrepreneur, Jimmy Chim, have adopted this elite game and have displayed a remarkable degree of talent.

As is often the case in Hong Kong, the eastern fascination with the western sport comes in the way of suspicion, especially given the fish-out-of-water perception that the team usually garners as it plays in the Tai Koo Shing rink. Although many watch, perhaps few understand the lure of chasing that puck from end to end. For the players, the fascination is the game's simplicity; a man, his

skates, his buddies, his aggressive tendencies and his Schlitz. For passing shoppers, the fascination is equally simple; a comical diversion at the right price. ♦



Fishbowl effect: City Plaza is home to the Can-Am Ice Hockey Association every Monday night.

The Can-Am Ice-Hockey Association Five-A-Side Tournament featuring teams from Bahrain, Beijing and Thailand will be held March 23-25, 1994 at Cityplaza Ice Palace.

Business opportunities abound at the Chamber's Open House and Trade Show

Following the success of last year's Open House and Trade Show, the Entrepreneur's Committee of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong is pleased to announce the second annual programme. The show has been expanded to a two day event on March 25 and 26 at the Century Hong Kong Hotel in Wanchai.

The event is intended as an open forum for Chamber members to display and market their products and services in a relaxed and festive environment. Exhibitors are welcome to display, demonstrate, distribute, sign orders and generally promote their business as they wish.

With the strong promotion, scheduling of two full days over a weekday and a weekend day and with the accessible venue, we are expecting a strong visitor turnout this year from both the Canadian community and the general public interested in Canada.

Extensive food and beverage service, with a particular emphasis on Canadian products, will be provided on a cash basis. A special Canadian food promotion is also planned in cooperation with our venue, The Century Hong Kong Hotel.

As last year, Canadian beer will be featured and we will again be inviting Canada's Rugby 7s team to participate in a T-shirt signing session. Other attractions will include Canadian art exhibits, music and prize draws.

In order to keep the cost to exhibitors affordable, companies have been invited to become involved on a corporate sponsorship basis. ♦

For more information about this year's Open House and Trade Show, contact Greg York at tel: 524-3923, fax: 545-8881 or The Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong at tel: 526-3207, fax: 845-1654.