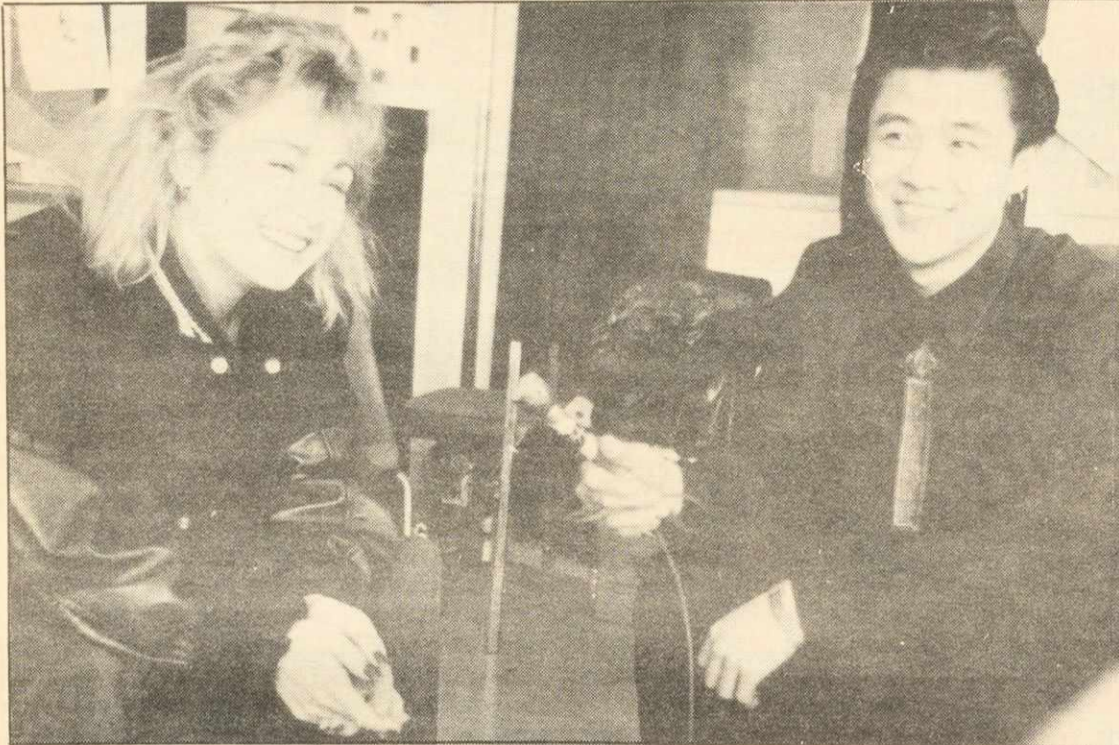


## NEWS

# TV talkumentary helps teen troubles



"Degrassi Talks" to Gazette

DAL PHOTO: B. BUCHANAN

BY JERRY WEST

Two of the stars of *Degrassi Talks* were in Halifax Friday to promote what CBC calls "television at its most honest."

Stacie Mistysn, who played Caitlin on the *Degrassi* series, and Siluck Saysanasy played Yick, were on a promotional tour for their new program.

*Degrassi Talks* is a series of documentaries on the problems of being a teenager. The material for the shows comes from interviews with Canadian teens, conducted by the *Degrassi* stars and their super8 video cams.

"Because it would be pretty intimidating if a huge camera crew were to stop you on the street and start asking questions," said Mistysn.

The show is intended to help teens and the people who deal with teens to confront the reality of the problems in their lives.

"We got a lot of fanmail when *Degrassi* ended," said Saysanasy. "People were saying things like 'teenagers don't really have abortions or smoke drugs and jump off bridges.'"

It is to combat attitudes such as these that *Degrassi Talks* was designed in its frank documentary style.

"We're trying to be as open and gutsy about issues as we can," said Mistysn, "that seems to be the only way to get people thinking."

The shows have accompanying books, available at local bookstores, which examine the subject matter of each episode in greater depth. The cast of *Degrassi Talks* are also making public appearances, selling posters in a fundraising effort for the Kids Help Phone.

The Kids Help Phone is a national toll-free number that anyone under twenty can call to talk about any type of problem. The number is 1-800-668-6868.

## Good ol' Winnipeg policing

TORONTO (CUP) — A University of Windsor athlete has lodged a complaint against the Winnipeg police department following an incident at a recent national track and field championship.

Carl Folkes was arrested when two officers broke up a 3:00 a.m. party in the athletes' hotel that York University athlete Dexter John says was "very subdued."

John said the officers ordered a number of athletes back to their rooms, citing excessive noise and an earlier visit from hotel management. The officers jostled several athletes back into their suites, according to John.

Folkes said he was thrown up against the wall by one officer, while the officer's partner drew his billy club and pointed it to his chest, saying something in a foreign language. A passing athlete, who understood them, later told Folkes the comment was a racial allusion. Folkes is black.

Folkes said he made his way to his girlfriend's room, at which point the officers kicked in the door as he was closing it. They pushed him face-down onto the bed and arrested him for disturbing the peace.

**An officer told him to "go back to Africa"**

Folkes said another black athlete who tried to intervene was told by one of the officers to "go back to Africa."

Folkes was handcuffed by a third officer, before being taken to the police station across the street, he said.

John said one officer told a crowd of athletes gathered at the station to "go back to your country."

As the crowd of athletes formed in front of the station, an officer came to the door and ordered the crowd to leave, pushed an athlete and punched John in the face, according to John. John returned to the hotel and called police headquarters to lodge a complaint.

Folkes was detained for four hours until \$500 bail was posted. He filed a complaint against the Winnipeg police upon his release, and says he is examining further legal recourse.

He blamed the hotel management for the incident.

"This whole thing happened because the hotel management went about it the wrong way," he said. "To say that the hotel blew the whole thing [the athlete's party] out of proportion is an understatement."

Holiday Inn South manager Bert Kitzler refused to comment.

## Biology president

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

and to voice these into the proper channels. This includes supporting the professors of the department."

Scott and Yip are the authors of a highly critical and yet solution — offering report on the state of the first year biology foundation program, which is having over one hundred enrolment spots axed next year and which is presently without a non-session professor and lab instructor available to teach the 1993 half of the course.

The Dalhousie Bookstore

will be

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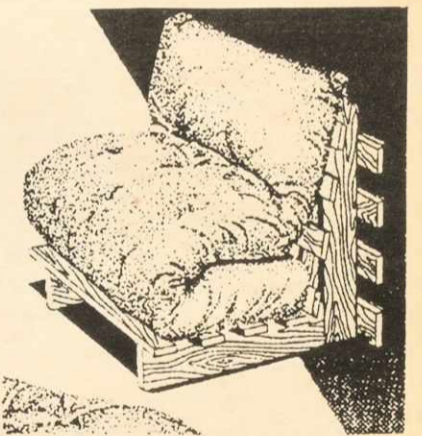
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