

## College

SIR: I am a student of Capilano College who is concerned with the allegations presented in recent issues of your newspaper. I am also on the staff of the Capilano College student newspaper — the Id. However, this letter does not specifically represent any group or organization at the college.

Personally, I do not use drugs on or off the campus and believe that the majority of students fall into this category.

As to the statement that "some of the staff would look very appropriate selling the 'Georgia Straight'", I take strong exception. I would ask these anonymous parents to perspectivevely judge people on more than appearance. Have they talked to any of these, quote, "far out" staff members? What first hand information have they got? It is very easy to criticize but criticism should be of a constructive nature.

I am not ignoring the possibility of pot smoking at the college for that would be foolish. But to infer that our community college should be disbanded is ridiculous. Must we give up all our efforts without being given the chance and some COOPERATION from citizens in the community. After all this college is our (the community's) college — no one else's.

D. L. Burrowes

## Image

SIR: Re. the letter concerning pot smoking at Capilano College. (The Citizen Dec. 9.)

I admit that it must be alarming to fear that one's children are flirting with criminal charges by using drugs, especially when the true facts about marijuana and the "soft" drugs are still such a cloudy issue.

However, I fail to see how the dress and appearance of teachers at Capilano College can be condemned as an encouragement to drug abuse. Dependence upon drugs is a sign of rebellion and insecurity. The young generation has been brought up to be skeptical of authority, perhaps with good reason. Most good teachers realize that to reach their students they need to sympathize with their views, not act as the condemning voice of authority. Their youth ful outlook and willingness to meet the student on his own level are reflected in the mode of dress.

It is unfair to interpret this as an attempt to lure the students into drug abuse. If the teacher meets the student half-way, the student is bound to be more receptive to good counselling and guidance.

The law against marijuana has proven to be ineffectual. This points to the fact that the benefits derived from pot outweigh the fear of discovery. I suggest that more be done to examine why the students use it, rather than how to put them in jail for it.

Surely this is more important than the "image" of Capilano College.

(Miss) J. Bickford