BU News becomes independent

By Reid Aube

The traditionally radical BU News this year faces its greatest challenge as it stages a coup of campus and changes its name to The News. The News Chairman Barry Rhodes explained Tuesday that his paper is no longer allowed to use the name of Boston University, and that the paper must now become self-sufficient in order to reestablish the $3,000 per year which it formerly received from BU.

It was first decided that the News should disaffiliat itself from the University about two years ago when Ray Mango, then editor, brought his paper radical fame through articulate challenge for the impeachment of President Lyndon Johnson. The Boston University administration then immediately sent telegram dispatching to the President and many members of Congress, and set in operation the machineries which would eventually lead to the independence of the News from the University.

Rhodes told The Tech that at the time the editorial was published, it was intended less as a serious proposition than as a bit of a joke which might shake many of the students from the political apathy which Mango felt prevailed at the time.

The interim solution which the University chose for the newspaper problem was to replace the old governing board with a new one consisting of students elected by the Student Government, plus a few faculty members. Rhodes explained that this solution was of little value, since the Student Government is one of BU's strongest radical strongholds.

Last year the News again gained national notoriety when a local realtor offered a very large contribution towards a new building for the University. The News took a leading part in a student protest against accepting money from the "sharply." (The objection was to the quality of the low-cost housing provided by the retailer in question.) The result of the situation was that very shortly before the new building was to be dedicated the realtor announced that his gift would be withdrawn because he had been offended by the student protest.

Again the governing board of the News was replaced, this time to be elected directly from the student body (by the various colleges, or divisions, of the University). The elected board was to be charged with the task of organizing the new independent version of the News, and of serving as a temporary governing structure until the paper could become formally incorporated under the laws of Massachusetts.

Again the News has preserved its radical identity through a restructuring, this time in the form of "machinations" more towards the bureaucratic inroads than toward national and world affairs. Rhodes said that this would be done in an attempt to divorce the two-processes of organizing the News with the BU News.

The financial support which the News formerly received from the University is being gradually eliminated over a two-year period which ends June 30, 1969. Rhodes feels that his paper can be financially independent while continuing to publish weekly at a non-profit charge as before. The normal press run will continue to be 10,000 copies.

The News has negotiated a lease of one of its old facilities on University property which will be in force this fall. It is Rhodes' belief, however, that this will be the last year in which such a lease will be possible. Formerly the News had used those facilities free of charge.

Institute announces plan for Cambridge housing

A low-rent, non-profit apartment development for some 150 Cambridge families is being initiated by MIT. The development is being undertaken to meet the urgent housing needs and is not for profit. The undertaking represents another step in the broad program on which the Institute has been working for several years to stimulate housing in Cambridge.

Construction of the $3,500,000 complex is expected to be completed through the Federal Housing Administration program, but MIT is providing the risk capital and personnel at the present time to get it under way. MIT will have absolute control of the property which will make no profit whatsoever. The completed apartments will be turned over to a cooperative, which will then rent the property. The occupants, who will be MIT students sharing the co-op, will enjoy all the benefits of ownership and will participate in the management.

When announcing the project, Dr. James R. Killian, Jr., cautioned that this is a program in which we must have the full support of the community and of our government agencies if it is to succeed. We will consult widely with neighborhood groups when the planning begins, and we have invited the Cambridge Corporation to work with our own MIT people in helping to develop the plan.

The apartments will be located near Massachusetts Avenue in north Cambridge at the present site of the Beckwith-Arden plant. Eben cleared of its old factory structures, the site will provide attractive space for the apartments and for parking space as well as for a new playground open to the neighborhood.

Occupancy will be limited to families of low and moderate incomes. The FHA has indicated that the site has been approved and funds will be allocated. However, approval from the city of Cambridge will be necessary, and the site will, if necessary, make available the Shibboleth points of view and recognize individual cases.

More announcements

Two new courses not in the Catalog for further information contact Prof. Wertz, a.e. 1950, 1969

21.791 (350) Seminar on Responsibility. What is the nature of individual responsibility? Discussion of philosophical points of view and current historical cases.

21.967 (305) Seminar on Urban Education. Examination of social and political implications of education in the light of the "Tutoring Plus" program.

THING '68, a week-long gathering of students and personnel will be held on October 11, 1968. This outdoor program, held by the Scout and Sail and Green Building will feature a buffet supper, a light show designed and built by the Mechanical Engineering Department, and entertainment by Wellesley and MIT faculty and students. Anyone is invited in helping with any phase of THING '68, they should call Philip Beekman Chairmam. Room 4-234, Ext. 234.

October 21 is the deadline for submitting Football, Marshall and Chestrell fellowship applications for undergraduate study abroad in 1969-1970. Rhodes applications are due October 11. If you are interested, you should see the Foreign Study Advisor, Dean Harold L. Hazen, immediately in room 5-108, MIT Ext. 5243 or 5244. For Rhodes, see Professor W. Gilbert Strang, Room 2-275, MIT Ext. 2663.