



Wednesday, April 23, 2003

Pioneer Food Court to close for construction

By **Jeff Samoray**, OU Web Writer

When students and faculty return to Oakland University for fall semester, they'll find an expanded, state-of-the-art **Oakland Center** with 30,000 more square feet and 330 more seats in the Pioneer Food Court. Because of the extensive remodeling and updates to the OC kitchen, the food court will close Saturday, April 26, and reopen in mid-August. The existing kitchen, which dates back to 1959, will be completely renovated to meet today's catering and food preparation needs.

Food court alternatives during spring and summer semesters include:

- OutTakes in the School of Education and Human Services Building – open 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Friday during spring semester. Closed summer semester.
- Pic-A-Deli in the Recreation and Athletics Center – open 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday.
- Starbucks and Freshens in the Oakland Center – open 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.
- Vandenberg Dining Center – open 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 7:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Friday.

Chartwells, OU's food services provider, will move to Vandenberg Hall during the construction period. **Copy Stop etc.** services will be interrupted May 1-4 and will resume May 5 at its temporary location in Room 125 of the Oakland Center.

Initial demolition of the OC kitchen will begin next week, said Associate Vice President for Facilities Management Rusty Postlewait.

"The kitchen work will be the messiest part of the project," Postlewait said. "We'll be taking old equipment out and work on marrying the new equipment to some existing systems.

"The construction of the OC addition is about 35 percent complete. The roofing is finished and now we're working on the interior masonry. The window frames are up with some glass, and we're starting to do some completion on closing in the northeast portion of the addition. That area is located over a mechanical room in the existing building. Work on this section was delayed while we installed some support columns and removed some heating and cooling equipment."

Removal of the two canopies between North and South Foundation Halls and reconstruction of the South Foundation Hall atrium will begin in June. Because of the heavy concentration of construction in this area of campus, no classes will be held in South Foundation Hall during spring and summer semesters. All work is to be complete by mid-August.

Architectural renderings and floor plans of the **Oakland Center** expansion are on display in the lounge next to the Oakland Center Administration and Reservations Office. OC staff have started taking reservations for fall semester for the new multipurpose room, to be located on the second floor of the OC addition. To make a reservation, contact the Oakland Center Administration and Reservations Office at (248) 370-3230 or email ocadmin@oakland.edu.

SUMMARY

Because of extensive remodeling to the Oakland Center kitchen, the Pioneer Food Court will close Saturday, April 26, and won't reopen until mid-August. The existing kitchen, which dates back to 1959, will be completely renovated to meet today's catering and food preparation needs. Chartwells, OU's food services provider, will move to Vandenberg Hall during the construction period.

Created by CareTech Administrator (webservices@caretechsolutions.com) on Wednesday, April 23, 2003
Modified by CareTech Administrator (webservices@caretechsolutions.com) on Wednesday, April 23, 2003
Article Start Date: Friday, October 24, 2003