## Computer Data Service Saving Time and Money For Energy Companies

Unlimited use of the Petroleum Data System, an extensive network of energy-related databases developed by the University of Oklahoma's Energy Resources Institute, is being made available to the nation's leading oil companies on their own computers.

For an annual fee, frequent PDS users may have the 10 databases installed in-house, increasing usage while lowering the time and cost per inquiry. Previously, heavy users of the PDS have had to rely on expensive time-sharing retrieval services, a pay-as-you-go system in which the user never knew what his costs were until the bill came.

The PDS databases contain information on more than 100,000 oil and gas fields in North America. In addition to oil and gas production volumes, the files include geological and engineering data such as names and ages of production formations, discovery methods, trap types, depth, acreage, spacing, porosity, permeability and gravity. Other PDS databases focus on enhanced recovery projects, Outer Continental Shelf lease bidding and production, natural gas sample analyses, crude oil sample analyses, carbon dioxide sources and oil field brine analyses.

The sources for the petroleum data include state and federal regulatory agencies, industry associations, petroleum companies and data companies. While information contained in the PDS is available publicly from the original sources, pulling together the data would be costly for an individual or a single company. The OU service is a tedious effort of gathering, editing, verifying and loading the data, enabling user companies to obtain in minutes what would require weeks or months to get on their own.

The new in-house system already has been installed in the Dallas offices of Sun Exploration and Production Company and Sohio Petroleum Company. Several other major oil companies are expected to install the service during the coming year. Following installation, the databases will be



Norman Transcript/Janice Higgins

*Its glory days long forgotten, old Building 92 succumbs to a wrecking crew.*

## Building 92 Goes the Way of the Big Bands

To present-day Sooners, Building 92 was just an old South Base eyesore, and its razing by the City of Norman a few months ago went virtually unnoticed. Grass already covers the site where the veterans and their dates danced to the Big Bands, where OU students entertained servicemen with special performances of Sooner Scandals. Alumni of the '40s and '50s, however, may feel a little nostalgic at the passing of this last visible reminder of the unique partnership between the town, University and U.S. Navy.

Building 92 was used for both training and recreation by the Naval Air Technical Training Center from World War II through the Korean conflict to the closing of the base in 1959. Then a whole new generation of youngsters took over the facility as a city recreation center until 1970 when the gigantic frame structure was condemned as unsafe.

Old 92 finished out its days as an oversized storage shed, the strains of Harry James' trumpet — and Harry himself, for that matter — long forgotten.

updated regularly by OU's Information Systems Programs, which also will conduct training sessions for the subscriber company's employees.

OU has been compiling computerized oil and gas information since 1968 with partial contract funding from the federal government's Energy Information Administration, the Minerals Management Service and the U.S. Geological Survey. With the federal funding gradually being phased out, ISP has been seeking to

make the PDS financially self-sufficient through income from increased usage of the system.

The employees of subscribing firms are being assured that the new service is "user friendly," making use of ISP's own GIPSY (General Information Processing System) for easy data retrieval. PDS customers not subscribing to the in-house service still will have the option of using the system "as needed" through the time-sharing computer network.