

Wee-bit

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stone. Initially at least there will be ample opportunity for the public to sample the new layout."

Nestled in the woods surrounding the golf course, True North's gated community includes 72 home sites spread around the 320-acre development and a 6,000-square-foot clubhouse, which, when completed in 2005, will overlook the 18th green. Located on the highest point of the property, it will offer breathtaking views of the surrounding countryside.

As testament to the developments green nature and commitment to environmentally responsible growth, it has been accepted into Audubon International's prestigious Silver Signature Program.

For more information on True North, the course and its proposed membership program, call (800) TRUENORTH or click on www.truenorthgolf.com.

The course is slated to open for the season the first weekend of May, but with the great start to spring that northern Michigan has experienced, they may open sooner, according to Mocini.

Comeback

Upgrades at Black Forest

GAYLORD — Golfweek magazine has selected the Black Forest course at Wilderness Valley among the Top 15 courses in Michigan.

Located just outside the Alpine village of Gaylord, Black Forest was listed No. 6 on the Golfweek list.

In recent years the course had fallen off from its earlier days when Golfweek had it ranked among its "Top 100 Modern Classics." When it opened in 1993, Golf Digest ranked it among the Top 10 new resort courses in America, and Golf Magazine named it one of the top four new public courses in the U.S.

Osprey Recreational Properties, which also owns Manistee National in Manistee, purchased Black Forest over a year ago with the intention of returning it to prominence. Over the past year Osprey has made several improvements including upgrading maintenance and better defining the bunkers, which are visually intimidating and hallmarks of the course.

Black Forest was designed by Tom Doak, who has gained fame in recent years for such courses as Pacific Dunes in Oregon, and the recent duo of Cape Kidnappers and Barnboughe Dunes in New Zealand and Australia. Black Forest was Doak's third design, which utilized much of the knowledge he gained from studying over 1,000 of the world's greatest classical courses.

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