

Big plans

Bolder version of The Woods to replace existing course

By **KEN MACLEOD**

The Woods in Coweta will soon be a study in contrasts.

The existing course is known to local golfers as a fun track, 6,192 yards from the tips, that may be a little rough around the edges at times, but offers plenty of challenges, and is a bargain at less than \$30 including cart.

“Our regulars love it, it’s ideal for women and beginners and we have lots of tournaments as well,” said director of golf Allen Messick.

Golfers who play The Woods this summer will notice the construction of additional golf holes adjacent to the existing property. Work has begun on the first five holes of a new upscale course and housing development that will eventually swallow up the existing course.

The development is called Celebration at the Woods and owner Mike Yoacham of Yoacham Trucking is counting on an uptick in the housing market to fuel the completion of his dream course.

There are a total of 438 housing lots, including 224 fairway lots and 114 lake view lots, available in the new project. Lot sales have picked up this year after two down years and thus construction has begun on the course Yoacham has planned for several years.

Plans call for the front nine to be completed while the existing course remains open. Once that is done, the current course will close and that land used for the construction of the second nine on the new course.

The new course is being designed by Bland Pittman’s firm with his son Hunter Pittman the point man on the project. Golfers in the area are likely familiar with the firm’s designs at Battle Creek in Broken Arrow and Bailey Ranch in Owasso, though Bland Pittman has designed courses worldwide.

Construction is being done by Tulsa-based Jones Plan.

“It’s going to be a great project,” said Justin Jones, owner of Jones Plan. “They are not skimping on anything. The irrigation system is going to be first class. The shaping is going to be really nice.”

The Woods was originally built in 1991 and has gone through a couple of renovations since. Rounds peaked at more than



Construction of the front nine of the new course has begun beyond the new entry sign.

40,000 annually between 2003-05 but the glut of Tulsa-area courses combined with the economy has cut into that. The clubhouse has locker rooms and a full scale restaurant that goes unused most days. It will be an ideal facility for the more upscale new course.

Like the present course, Messick expects the new course will draw golfers not only

from Coweta and Tulsa, but from Broken Arrow, Haskell, Wagoner, Muskogee and elsewhere. Located just off Highway 51, the course is just minutes from both the Broken Arrow Expressway and the Creek Turnpike.

For information on the new project, call the course at 918-486-3117 or go to the website www.englishwoodhomesok.com.

With a view like this.
The challenge is keeping
your mind on the game.

Chickasaw Pointe

1209 Chickasaw Pointe Road
Kingston, OK 73439 • (580) 564-2581
Located 4 Miles East of Highway 70

Coming Soon! Pointe Vista will be a major resort complex with grand hotel, convention center, residential communities, marina and more.

WWW.POINTE-VISTA.COM