Society gives stamp of approval to Ross layout

BY PETER BLAIR

The keepers of the faith — The Donald Ross Society — have given high marks to developers of Donald Ross Memorial Golf Courses in Boyne Highlands, Mich., for their re-creation of 18 of the famed architect's best-known holes.

"They did one heckuva job," said W. Pete Jones, the society's historical chairman and author of an upcoming book on the life and works of the most revered name in golf course architecture.

"The whole effort was one of total reverence," agreed society president and Founder Barry Palm. "They're to be complimented.

Ross Memorial in Harbor Springs was the brainchild of Boyne Highlands owner Everett Kircher, according to son, Steve.

"He came up with the idea around 1980," said the younger Kircher. "There were several high-tech courses being built at the time in northern Michigan. But he felt architects were just getting too far away from the classical work of architects like Ross.

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