

## Kirchdorfer says builders' data base to help developers

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1962, he has worked extensively on golf courses, and now even operates and develops them. He is president of Golf Development Co., which owns 27-hole Quail Chase Golf Course here; Kirchdorfer-Cunningham Inc., which owns 18-hole Hidden Creek in Sellersburg, Ind.; and Golf Development Construction Inc., a builder.

Toward the task of contributing to the industry, Kirchdorfer said the GCBAAs intend to create a database on golf course construction costs. "We want to provide valuable information that steers owners and developers in the right direction, so they can afford to build the course they desire," he said.

He also wants to work closely with architects and other allied associations to make the industry "more professional" — which ultimately provides the consumer "a better product at a cost they can afford."

To improve professionalism, GCBAAs will continue its year-old certification program, educating and testing members to ensure their expertise.

"That is a real strong point of our association," Kirchdorfer said. "We can give architects, owners

and others a list of qualified builders... Builders who become certified are taking pride in what they do and are saying they are willing to continue their education, develop better ways to build golf courses, and turn the wishes of the owners and architects into reality."

He said members are "conscious we need big and little [companies]. We need to involve remodelers, small construction companies in regional areas that

don't build major projects but have big impact on their area.

"We want to educate them. We want them to be doing things right and have the latest techniques."

Responding to the announcement that 1993 marked the third straight year more than 350 courses opened, Kirchdorfer said: "It's a growing, growing business. The real growth is in the nice, affordable public golf courses. They offer a lot to our builders — and the players. That

makes the facilities remodel that aren't quite as good. We keep taking the game of golf to another level in quality."

Involved in the GCBAAs since its inception in 1970, Kirchdorfer said of his presidency: "I'm excited. I think we have a way to go. We'd like a lot of growth. And I look forward to watching and helping direct golf course builders as they grow and work with Phil [Executive Director Phil Arnold]. Phil's our spark plug."

## Barbaron building at Cypress Lake

LAKELAND, Fla. — Barbaron, Inc. of Crystal River has been selected by Cypress Lakes Ventures to construct a new 18-hole additional course at the Cypress Lake Golf and Country Club here. The course has been designed by Powell Golf Design of Bradenton and is scheduled to open in the early fall.

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egy.

GCN: Are you anxious about the effects on your work?

DJ: Initially, I was anxious as to how it might negatively impact our developments, and I was protective of that. But since our conversations with representatives from Clemson and the handicapped, we have gained a comfort level. Most golf course design is incorporating 80 or 90 percent of these issues without even being conscious of it. So when the design community becomes aware of them, it will be very easy to incorporate that last 10 or 20 percent into the design.

GCN: Has this opened your eyes as to how restrictive golf has been in the past to the handicapped?

DJ: Yes, but I think I don't have a full understanding. I think more restrictive than the golf course are the attitudes, unfortunately, in the pro shop or among management when an individual shows up in a wheelchair. I haven't seen that. It's not a big deal to me relative to the golf course. But I can imagine it will be a bigger perception thing in the golfing community, and the impact, or lack of impact, to the golf course. I don't think it will have any impact on speed of play. I've heard stories where a disabled group has let another group play through only to wait for them at every tee.



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