

## Fine Finish

If you drive a beauty off the tee on the 18th hole at the Hallbrook CC, chances are you'll be sitting in the bar in minutes crowing about your birdie finish.

The 493-yard, par-5 hole is an attainable 4 if you can solidly connect off the tee. If not, you'll still have a chance for par and a satisfying conclusion to your round.

The 18th hole at the Tom Fazio-designed course in Leawood, Kan., a suburb of Kansas City, Mo., is not one of the toughest holes on the course – the previous three holes are – but it's a challenge nonetheless with its narrow, deep green and assortment of hazards.

The course, which celebrated its 10th anniversary in 1999, is distinguished for its undulating fairways and greens, says superintendent Steve Gregory. It features large Penncross greens, averaging about 6,500 square feet.

Hallbrook's history dates back to 1927 when the late Joyce C. Hall, founder of Hallmark Cards, settled his family in the area. The country club and neighboring Hallbrook Farms encompass 712 acres.

Next year, Dennis Wise, a designer who works with Fazio, will update the 18th hole, including the reshaping and recontouring of the green's upper landing area to make it more visible from the fairway's lower end. Gregory says the banks of the creek will also be shored up as part of an erosion control project. But you'll still have to hit a beauty off the tee to finish strong.

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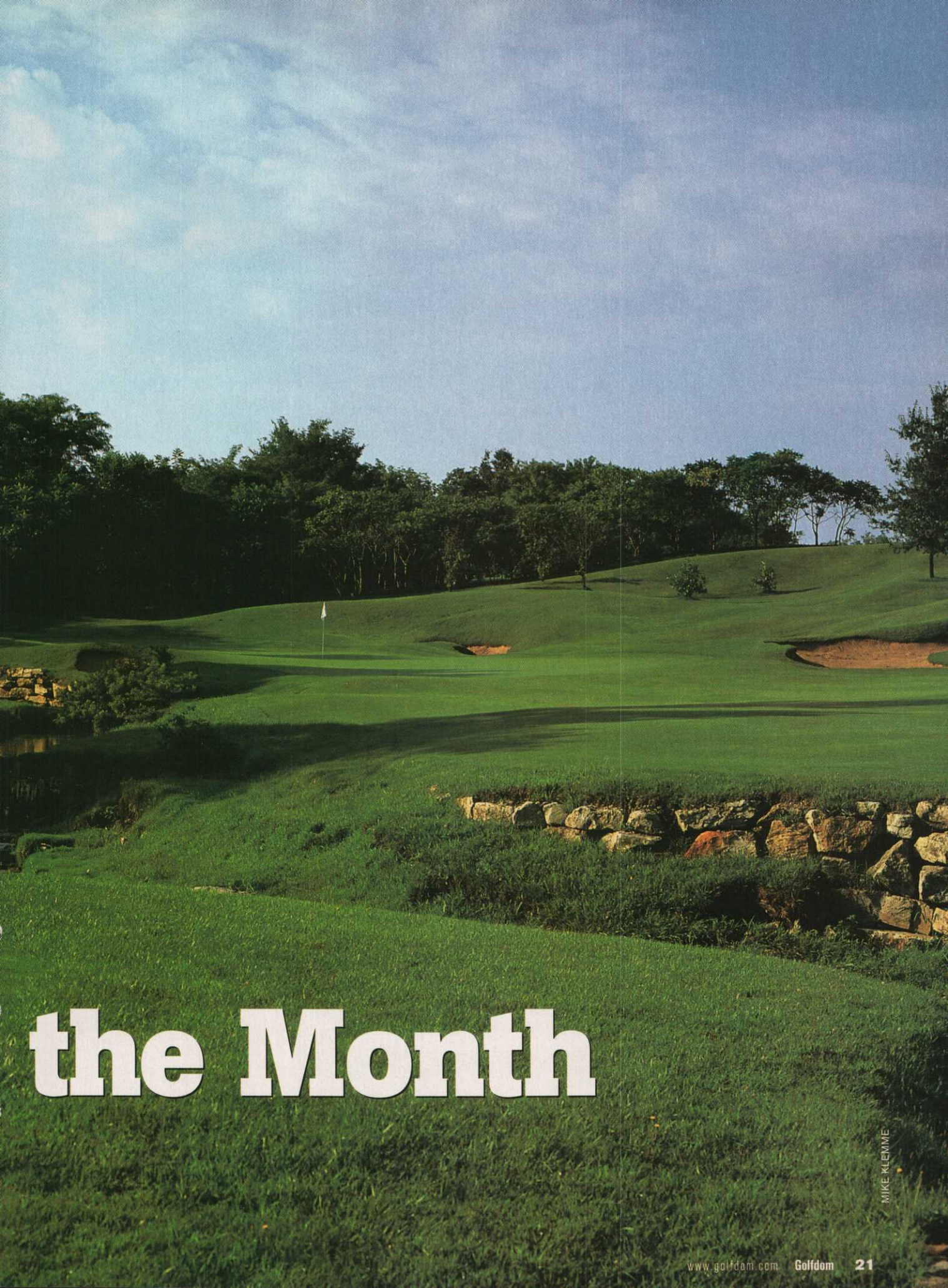
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# Hole of

— Hole No. 18, Hallbrook CC  
Leawood, Kan.







# the Month

MIKE KLEMM