

# Hole of the



■ No. 3

**The Straits Course at Whistling Straits  
Haven, Wis.**

# Month

## A Touch of Ireland

Is this the British Isles? No, it's Wisconsin. But thanks to Pete Dye, there's a little bit of Ireland and Scotland on the shores of Lake Michigan in Haven, Wis. – and it's hard to tell the difference.

Welcome to Whistling Straits, home of the Straits Course and the Irish Course. The Straits Course, which opened in 1998, is already garnering legendary-like attention. It has made several best-course lists. More impressive, the Straits Course has already been picked to host a Major – the 2004 PGA Championship. Dye says the project was a “once in a lifetime thing.”

The Straits Course, including the No. 3 hole, features rolling dunes, pot bunkers, fescue grass fairways and a lot of water. Superintendent Dave Swift says the hole is a tough par 3 because of the south-west wind coming in off the lake and the severe undulating green.

The green is 8,300 square feet and one of Swift's toughest maintenance challenges because it's difficult to keep wet. “We're always hand watering it,” he says.

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