

Hole of the

■ No. 17
Old North State Club
New London, N.C.

Month

The Natural Look

You want scenic? You've come to the right place. Old North State Club in rural New London, N.C., is hailed as one of the most panoramic golf courses in the state. Here's how *North Carolina* magazine describes the Tom Fazio design, which opened in 1992. "Immaculate grounds and 18 memorable holes highlight Fazio's best work in the state, a gem set on Badin Lake in Montgomery County." The 17th hole, a par 3, does nothing to dispute the description.

Chris Chapman, superintendent of the course, says he adores the wildlife on the course. Chapman says the 5,300-acre lake, which borders the 17th green, helps define the wonderful views on the course, certified by Audubon International. The 17th hole plays straightforward, but the wind can play havoc with golfers on the tee. "The hole plays a number of ways depending on the wind," Chapman says.

There are no special maintenance challenges on the private course, Chapman says. But keeping the course looking natural is *always* at the top of his mind. After all, nature and a good view go hand in hand.

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