

# Ace of Clubs

■ Dick Scybert makes a habit of holes-in-one with six to his credit

BY CHARLIE LITTON  
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Ask Dick Scybert to recount his greatest golf shots, and he's a little fuzzy with details like the date, which hole he was playing and which club he was using.

It's not that memory is failing the 59-year-old Atlantic man, rather he finds other details far more compelling. He'd rather tell you about the friends he was with when it happened, and how fun it's been helping some of the younger faces around town.

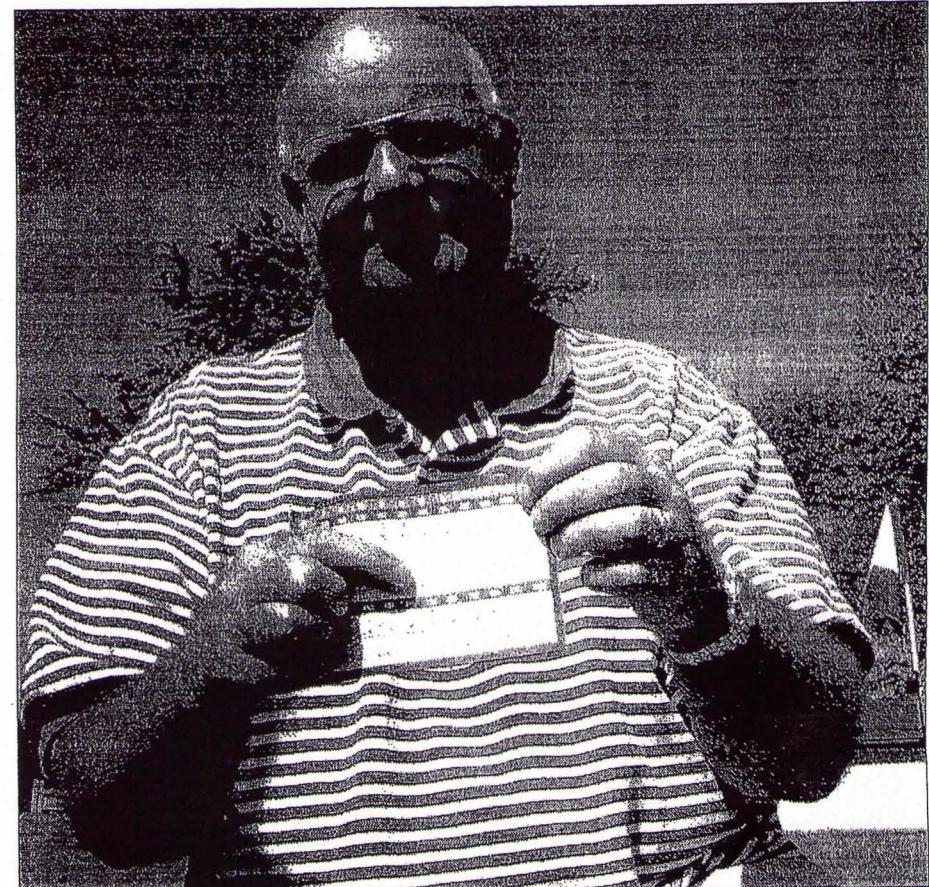
Fortunately, Scybert's latest hole-in-one is too fresh to lose any of the mundane details. Tuesday, he belted out his sixth lifetime ace, this one on Nishna Hills Golf Club's 206-yard par-3 15th which was witnessed by friends Scott Schoenrock, Ryan Richter and Doug Richter. That he hit it with his 3-wood, he says, betrays his age.

"I have to laugh. I'm hitting a 3-wood and the kids are hitting 4- and 5-irons," he said Friday morning.

Although Scybert (pronounced sigh-bert) would call it luck, his penchant for holes-in-one began early. Nearly 50 years ago, all of 13-years-old at the time, he holed out of Atlantic Golf and Country Club's No. 6 with one shot.

"You should have seen it," Scybert says with a laugh. "It was a terrible shot."

He topped the drive, but it



Scybert displays the scorecard he kept when he recorded a sixth hole-in-one Tuesday at Nishna Hills Golf Club.

Photo by Charlie Litton

went straight for the cup. And there the string began.

The late Don Enockson, then manager of the country club, had a reward for the young Scybert hidden inside a large, console TV-sized box. Who knew what treasures lay inside. New clubs? A lifetime supply of golf balls?

Try Wheaties. Boxes and boxes of the stuff.

Scybert laughed at the memory of it.

"It was the biggest box of Wheaties you've ever seen. We ate Wheaties at the Scybert residence for three years," he said. "My gosh, it was awful."

Since then he has gone on to win the country club's prestigious Tournament of Champions in 1987 and countless city titles, including last year. All told, he has won perhaps 10 or more city championships.

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It's difficult to be certain. Who keeps track of these things, anyway?

"It's not that my mind is bad," he said, "it's just something where the things I find important are different (from what someone else would find important). I've always seen the holes-in-one as just lucky."

After his first ace in the mid-50's, Scybert added three more in the 1980's. In about 1994, he connected for what he calls his most memorable ace—Nishna Hills'

No. 9, a 300-yard par-4.

"I'll never ever forget that," Scybert says with another laugh. "I'll tell you, there was a 90-mph wind at my back and the fairways were baked so hard the ball bounced on it like it hit main street."

He added: "I was playing with Marty Mills (Cumberland) and he asked where my ball was. I told him to look in the hole and there it was."

Even through all that, what he views as his great golfing accom-

plishments are less tangible.

"I think the proudest moment (I've had) is seeing a young kid I've helped love the game like I do. When you see the eyes light up and they understand what it takes to propel a golf ball," he

said. "Holes-in-one are fine, but when you see a kid 6-years-old hit a golf ball that goes off the ground for the first time and goes maybe 50 or 60 yards, the expression on his face is better than any hole-in-one."