



## **‘Divine intervention’ yields ace**

### **Bridges not playing up to par until fateful hole**

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When Mark Bridges made contact with his 4-iron, he had time to tell his buddies to “keep an eye on that baby, it is tracking.”

By the time it finished tracking the full 180 yards, Bridges was \$10,000 richer.

“In all honesty, with all those bunkers up there and playing into the wind, I was just trying to hit the green,” said the 50-year-old Bridges.

Instead, his high-arching shot bounced once on the green and rolled neatly into the cup for a hole-in-one.

The ace on No. 6 came during the J.H. “Buddy” Raspberry Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament at Battleground at Deer Park.

The firm of Tucker, Vaughan, Gardner and Barnes, PC, presented Bridges with a check last week.

Bridges, who is a longshoremen out of the Port of Beaumont, donated \$1,000 back to the

scholarship fund and plans to spend the other \$9,000 on new floors for his home.

“Hurricane Ike got our home,” Bridges said. “We had about a foot, foot-and-a-half of water in our house. This will sure help with the renovation.”

Bridges, who once made a hole-in-one on a 288-yard par-4, said this ace simply was “divine intervention.”

“If you had seen me hit the previous holes, it had to be,” he added with a chuckle. “I was hitting about one out of every three good.”

Bridges plays to a 12-handicap.

“When I had a hole-in-one on the short par-4 in Los Angeles, it wasn’t nearly as exciting,” Bridges said. “I saw it roll across the green and kind of lost it. I was looking in back of the green in the weeds when one of my buddies said it was in the hole.

“This one hit within inches and rolled in. My partners went crazy. They were in disbelief. We all started to jump up and down and high-fiving. It was a shotgun start so No. 6 was our last hole of the day. I was the last guy to take a swing at it. ”