

# DiBietto shoots 61 at Twin Hills

The course-record round includes a 28 on the front nine.

By Ben Jacobs  
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(May 13, 2004) — PARMA — Greece Athena senior Andrew DiBietto left himself an eight-foot birdie putt on the 18th hole at Twin Hills Golf Course on Wednesday.

Had he made it, he would have penciled a 60 on his scorecard.

When the putt slid just past the cup on the left side, he had to settle for a course-record 61. It was 10 strokes under par on the 6,000-yard course.

"At that point, it didn't really matter for the record," he said. "I was just trying to get down to 60.

"It was kind of harsh that it lipped out, though."

DiBietto wasn't too annoyed. He didn't expect to even play 18 holes, let alone top a 12-year-old course record. Jim Scorse shot 63 on June 6, 1992, with nine birdies, a bogey and eight pars.

DiBietto, who hit from the men's (white) tees, played the first nine holes as part of a Monroe County league match against Spencerport and Irondequoit. He shot 28 as Athena (5-1-1 league, 5-4-1 overall) beat Irondequoit 10-2 and Spencerport 8-4. It was a day after he shot 32 at Lake Shore Country Club to break his brother Tony's school record by one shot.

"I wasn't expecting anything," he said. "I played well yesterday and I was hoping to continue that, but nothing like this."

DiBietto didn't seem to know how to react to setting his first course record and breaking his own school record by four shots.

"Yesterday, I shot 32 and you think that's good, and then, today,

everything's clicking and 28 pops up," he said.

DiBietto birdied the first two holes and went to 3 under with another birdie on 4. He holed an eagle from 80 yards on 6 to bring really low numbers into view.

David Chong, who shot 34 to lead Spencerport (5-2-1, 8-2-1) to an 8-4 win over Irondequoit (1-8, 5-10), transitioned from opponent to fan during the round.

"It was like playing against a robot, basically," he said. "He was hitting fairways and greens and making a ton of putts."

It was Chong's idea for DiBietto to go after the record.

"I wasn't thinking about the course record until Dave said something on the eighth hole," DiBietto said. "He just said, 'Could you do me a favor and try to break the course record. Play the back nine with me.'"

DiBietto birdied 7 and 9 to close out his 28 and then started the back nine with another birdie to go to 8 under.

"It's definitely hard to describe. You get into a zone and you feel like you can't get out of rhythm," he said. "While you're in the middle of it, it seems pretty easy to do because your ball-striking's really sound."

After a birdie on No. 13, he made his first misstep with a bogey on 15.

"After that three-putt on 15, I kind of got upset at myself and the thought crossed my mind, 'If you make another bogey, you're going to blow it,'" he said.

He recovered with birdies on 16 and 17. "I don't know if you can top this," DiBietto said.

"Not at this point."