

# Greeley's Rick Petri wins state Publinks title



CYRUS McCRIMMON / Rocky Mountain News

Rick Petri of Greeley's Highland Hills Golf Course coaxed his putt on the 10th green yesterday. Petri's 213 won the state Public Links title.

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Just when Rick Petri had reason to start worrying about the rest of the field yesterday in the Colorado Public Links Championship, he decided to quit worrying about the rest of the field.

That shift in attitude helped the Greeley golfer hang on for a four-shot victory at The Meadows.

Petri, 32, had a formidable seven-shot advantage when the third and final round began yesterday. But Petri played the front nine at 3-over par, giving a handful of pursuers an opening.

"I got to a point there where I was too much worried about everybody else, instead of worrying about my game," said Petri, who plays out of Highland Hills in Greeley. "I got to No. 10 and just said, 'I've played well on the back, just hit the shots that I'm capable of,' and I did that."

Petri played the back nine at 1 under, giving him a 74 for the day and a four-shot margin over Tony Aguilar, who shot a 71.

Aguilar plays out of Indian Tree, but he attends Scottsdale (Ariz.) Junior College and played on a team that recently won its second straight national junior college championship. Aguilar was medalist in this year's national junior college tournament.

The second and third rounds of this three-round tournament also served as a U.S. Amateur Public Links qualifier. Petri, Tom McGraw of Riverdale Golf

## RESULTS

### CGA Public Links Championship At The Meadows G.C.

Rick Petri	70-69-74	— 213
Tony Aguilar	70-76-71	— 217
Mike Glaesel	69-78-71	— 218
Tom McGraw	76-72-71	— 219
Terry Russell	76-71-73	— 220
Shane Birtsch	72-74-74	— 220
James Milstead	75-71-74	— 220
Steve Murphy	74-72-76	— 222
Ray Makloski	77-75-71	— 223
Rick Dewill	76-74-73	— 223
Harry King	75-76-72	— 223

### USGA Public Links Qualifying At The Meadows G.C.

Qualifiers		
Rick Petri	69-74	— 143
Tom McGraw	72-71	— 143
Terry Russell	71-73	— 144
Alternates		
Chuck Melvin	72-73	— 145
James Milstead	71-74	— 145
Ray Makloski	75-71	— 146

Club and Terry Russell of Meadow Hills earned spots in the the U.S. Publinks Championship, to be held July 17-22 at Cog Hill Golf and Country Club in Lemont, Ill.

And that presents a dilemma for McGraw. The U.S. Amateur Publinks overlaps with the Colorado Open, which will be played July 20-23 at Hiwan.

"I've played 18 times in a row in the Colorado Open," said McGraw, 38, "and I don't want to miss it."

After 36 holes of medal play, the U.S. Publinks switches to match play. "I'll go there," said McGraw, "and if I qualify for the match play, and I keep advancing, I'll stay there and play. I'm sure there will be somebody waiting to play in the Colorado Open — they're not going to miss me."

"But if I don't qualify (for match play) or if I lose (in the first match), I'll come home and play in the Colorado Open."

McGraw won the Colorado Public Links Championship two years ago.