



# CU senior Bardgett wins U.S. Am qualifier

## Buff finishes 1-under par to win at Boulder Country Club

By Gary Baines  
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BOULDER, Colo. — Justin Bardgett missed qualifying for last year's U.S. Amateur by the slimmest of margins in his hometown of St. Louis, so he thought a change of scenery might do him some good this time around.

Boulder Country Club fit the bill quite nicely, it turns out.

The University of Colorado golfer not only qualified for the U.S. Amateur on Monday, but he earned medalist honors with the only under-par total for 36 holes at BCC.

"I came (back to Colorado in mid-summer) for the sole reason of playing Boulder Country Club for the qualifying," said Bardgett, a senior-to-be at CU. "I don't know if there are many courses I like better than this. A lot of that has to do with how well I know it. I'm guessing I've probably played it 30 times."

In shooting 68-71 for a 1-under-par 139 total, Bardgett earned the first of three berths available for the U.S. Amateur, which will be Aug. 24-30 at Southern Hills in Tulsa, Okla. Also advancing from Monday's field of 78 were Arizona State golfer Tristan Bierenbroodspot of The Netherlands and Air Force Academy golfer Tom Whitney.

Bierenbroodspot posted the low round of the day, a bogey-free 4-under-par 66 in the afternoon, to record a 140 total, while Whitney fired back-to-back 71s.

Whitney qualified for his second USGA championship -- he made it to the second round of match play in last month's U.S. Publinks -- while Bardgett and Bierenbroodspot will be making their USGA debuts.

CU golfers put together a double-team of sorts to get Bardgett in. Tom Gempel, a senior last season and the runner-up in the CGA Match Play Championship, caddied for Bardgett on Monday.

"I think he was one of the better caddies out here," Bardgett said of Gempel.

Bardgett, the 2008 Missouri State Amateur champion, finished strong Monday evening to assure himself a national berth. He drained a 20-foot par putt on No. 16, then sank a 4-foot birdie on the 18th.

"I wanted to shoot under par for the day," the 22-year-old said. "I asked Tom as we were walking up 18 if he thought we had to make birdie (to qualify) and he said 'no.' But I said we're going to make one anyway."

On a day that included a 50-minute lightning delay and a period of very strong winds, Bardgett finished

with eight birdies, seven bogeys and 21 pars.

"Coming back here looks like it worked out pretty well," he said, adding that qualifying for the U.S. Amateur "means a lot to me."

Whitney, a 20-year-old senior-to-be at the Academy, has been battling a neck injury he sustained last month when a car he was traveling in rolled over while going 70 mph on I-40 in Texas. But some pain killers allowed him to play well enough Monday to qualify for his second USGA championship this summer.

"This is probably my last summer as an amateur, so I'm making it all count," he said.

## **U.S. Am Qualifying**

At Par-70 Boulder Country Club

### **Qualifiers**

Justin Bardgett, St. Louis, Mo., 68-71--139 Tristan Bierenbroodspot, The Netherlands, 74-66--140 Tom Whitney, La Quinta, Calif., 71-71--142

### **Alternates (In Order)**

Kyle Huus, Sidney, Neb., 70-73--143 Brian Dorfman, Greenwood Village, 70-74--144

### **Failed to qualify**

James Doidge, Pueblo, 71-73--144; Klinton Krieger, Cheyenne, Wyo., 69-76--145; Adam Joiner, Carbondale, 73-73--146; Cody Kent, Castle Rock, 75-71--146; Luke Symons, Lone Tree, 69-77--146; Mark Hubbard, Denver, 72-74--146; Michael Tilghman, Castle Rock, 71-75--146;

Brian Morfeld, Boulder, 69-78--147; Derek Fribbs, Castle Rock, 78-69--147;

### **Others failed to qualify**

Michael Larson, Longmont, 75-75--150; Oliver Grabb, Boulder, 75-75--150; Danny Riskam, Broomfield, 74-77--151; Bryan Pieper, Louisville, 76-76--152; Jay Tymkovich, Broomfield, 74-80--154; William Roth, Niwot, 77-77--154; Randy Miller, Boulder, 76-80--156; Neil Metz, Boulder, 78-79--157; Brennan Dolan, Boulder, 81-77--158; Gary Borgese, Niwot, 77-82--159; Scott Schultz, Superior, 81-78--159; Jon Winegardner, Lafayette, 83-80--163.



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