



**Q. Steven, final week, everything's laid out in front of you.**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah, Vince told me the other day. I think I need to know where I stand. That's advantageous, especially coming down the stretch if I can't win the golf tournament and Padraig does. So yeah, I think it's a good spot to be in. I'd rather be that way than the other way.

**Q. The mindset's the same?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah, exactly. Still going and just try and put myself in a position to win the golf tournament. Yeah, that would get it done.

**Q. When you mentioned that given however many years (inaudible) crazy to think still you've got a shot to win this thing? Has that hit you yet?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Well, I mean, when I look back to where I was 15 months ago, go that far back, yeah, this is pretty cool, and to have the opportunity is pretty special.

But it's all business. Once you get out there and get going, it's all business. I know what I've got to do, got a job to do. So we're after the same thing, to try to win it.

**Q. Have you thought about what it would mean to you to win it or do you let those thoughts --**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Not so much. My wife would like another trophy on the cabinet, but yeah, I haven't really kind of thought that far ahead, just kind of how we're going to do this week. I like the golf course, I like being on the grounds here, so I've got a good feel.

**Q. You mentioned your wife. Would you say your family and friends are pretty stoked for you then?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah, for sure. We've got a lot of friends out this week and a little bit of family. It will be fun. Good support this week, too, which will help.

**Q. Bernhard can also do something pretty cool this week, too. Do you just marvel watching him as long as he's been able to do it?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** It's amazing. Like last week, I mean, beat his age again twice, didn't he, last week or something? Yeah, he just keeps going like an energizer, it's just amazing. And

there's lots to learn from that, too. Just the perseverance, he just keeps going. It was impressive, it really was.

**Q. A year ago here it kind of (inaudible) and no offense, but you get up there in age and things don't work like they used to. How do you guys like learn how to fight through those things?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah, sometimes just got to take a few more Advil in the morning, that's kind of it. Yeah, obviously Bernhard, he was on a mission last year to win another one. I think nothing was going to stop him. Sounds like he just did great to finish the tournament and get it done.

**Q. You talk about where you were a couple months ago. Where were you 10 years ago? Where did you envision your career 10 years ago?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah, 10 years, that was hard to look that far ahead. Obviously --

**Q. Ten years ago.**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Ten years ago, yeah, kind of where I was at?

**Q. Yeah. What were you envisioning for yourself then?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah. Well, it's kind of hard to say that far ahead. I don't know, to be honest, I really don't. I was -- I think 10 years ago, where was I? Playing Korn Ferry? I can't remember. Just trying to survive, basically. That's kind of where I was at.

So to look 10 years ahead and see this position, it's kind of hard to see that. It's a little bit foggy.

**Q. Is that just kind of the game of golf?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah, the ebbs and flows, yeah, exactly. And I've been a little bit that way, I've always seemed to play very well during the summer for some reason and not get off to the best of starts at times. So I've got kind of patterns there and like patches where it's been great for a year or so.

But that's what I've been most proud of this year is to have that consistency throughout the year and the scoring and just almost every second week at least had a chance to win the golf tournament. So it's been great.

**Q. Is there a popular question that you get asked?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Like what's the secret sauce, what happened? I can't -- there is no secret sauce, it's just a whole combination of a lot of things.



**Q. Do you see some similarities with yourself and Bernhard in terms of you guys really kind of made your mark on this tour?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah, I guess so. I guess games are kind of similar in the way that we're not super long, kind of down the middle and play percentages and good wedge players. Obviously he's had a different career to me.

Yeah, I guess so. For me, it was just like looking forward to coming out and playing here on the Champions and having another opportunity. It's another career for me, that's the huge thing.

**Q. A rare rainy day in Phoenix, how did the course feel out there?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** No, it was good. It's a little bit softer than last year. Some of the overseed hasn't quite come through as well as last year, but the course is in great shape. There's some rough out there to keep you honest, greens are rolling as pure as ever. You're going to see birdies. If it's not the wind, you're going to see birdies, so it's just a matter of keeping the pedal to the metal.

