

Q. When you won you pointed to the sky and to the fans up here. Your longtime caddie Sam Workman passed away earlier this year. He's from Houston, a lot of his family and friends following you around this week. What did this win mean to you?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, it's huge. Obviously you see the emotion at 18 there. But I just saw a sea of orange today, and just reminded me of Sam. I had my son on the bag. It doesn't get any better than that.

Q. Talking to some of your supporters here and Sam's family and friends, they watched you on the first tee take a deep breath. Were you feeling something extra on the first tee as you got ready to play today?

STEVEN ALKER: No, I've been doing that the last couple of days, just one extra deep breath. That's all I needed to settle myself.

Today I hit it great off the tee and hit some nice iron shots, and I got it done on the back. The back nine has been nice to me.

I haven't defended a championship. I had a whole bunch of reasons today to try and win this golf tournament, and it worked out.

Q. Speaking of defending the championship, you are the reigning Charles Schwab Cup champion as well. This is the first win now that gets you back in that hunt. How important was that?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, it was huge. I wasn't really thinking about that, to be honest, just to try and get the W and notch up another one. I know Stricks is playing great and so is Dave, so I've got a lot of chasing to do, but just pleased to get it done.

Q. The par on 10, you came up way short in the bunker, tough lie from the rough. How big was that putt at that moment?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, it was huge. It just kind of settled me down. Rolled in a beautiful one there, and then I just striped it for the next three or four holes, five holes. I just gave myself some good chances. That's all I can do, just give myself chances and try and win this golf tournament.

Q. A lot of things as you mentioned with Sam and here in Houston, your son Ben on the bag. Last year you beat Steve Stricker by four shots; you beat him by four shots today. Last year you shot 31 for a 66 final round, and you did the same



today. Do you feel like there's some connection spiritually or something there for you, a special week?

STEVEN ALKER: Quite possibly. As I said, this nine obviously has been great to me. Just the whole week has been amazing, the support from everybody, and especially the orange brigade out there. Yeah, I couldn't ask for more. It's been fantastic.

