

**ROUND 3 QUICK QUOTES**  
November 11, 2023

**STEVEN ALKER (-17)**



**Q. Steven, you've got control of your golf game right now. You've got to answer this one question: Why 14 under on the front side and only 3 under on the back? Are those two nines that different?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** I'll get the back nine tomorrow.

No, I've just been lucky to, I don't know what the word is, but to get the putts -- every day I've been 4 or 5 under through seven. I haven't been hanging on, I've still been hitting some super shots on the back and I'm hitting targets, there's just a stretch that you've just got to buckle up and hit some shots and take pars. Par is good.

**Q. Knowing that you have a four-shot lead going into Sunday and the low scores are out there, will the mindset still be aggressive that you're playing right now?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah, it is, because I'm swinging it well. Just pick my targets. Troy and I did great today just picking targets and then go. Again, you know, made a few putts early on and then cruised home.

Yeah, still the mindset there's a 63, 62 out there, who knows, so I've just got to keep pedal to the metal.

**Q. Answer this one, Lanny Wadkins and I had a little issue disagreeing. He thought you should go for it on 18, I thought you might lay up with the big lead there. Was there ever any thought of laying up on that second shot at 18 today?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** No, not at all. Where the pin was, no problem at all. I was just in between 5 and I've got a new rescue in the bag and it goes max 225, 230 and that was kind of the front yardage. So I went with the 5. Bunker's a good play, so easy birdie.

**Q. Billy Ray beat me to the one question, your front nine versus your back nine this week, 14 versus three. Can you talk to us about the front nine versus the back nine?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Well, just got off to a great start on the front just every day, which has been helpful just to get those early birdies. It's not that I've kind of slowed down, I've still hit my targets, I've made some birdies. I made a couple bogeys on the back, but just a few more putts here and there, I think that's the difference, just the old putter.

**Q. You're 17 under and we're picking on your front nine and back nine.**



**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah, yeah, you have to pick at something, don't you, something to talk about.

I looked at the first two rounds, I went, jeez, I played that front nine great and not much on the back. Again, I played the back how I wanted to, just didn't make any putts.

**Q. Are you on cruise control?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** No, the heart's ticking a little bit, especially coming in on those last three, I was just really trying to focus harder than normal just to finish the day off strong. I felt I did that, just hit some good shots. Birdied 14, nice birdie there on 18. So kind of felt like I just had to dig in a little bit deeper and just really focus even harder those last few. I was proud of just finishing the way I did.

**Q. What would a win here mean for you tomorrow?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Well, it's a home game, I've got family and friends here, it would be huge. I can't win the Schwab Cup again, but hey, No. 2's better than No. 3, right?

**Q. I have a silly questions. Are you able to get in and out of Fountain Hills this weekend?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Do you want a silly answer or -- no, no, we're OK, we go up the back road.

