

STEVEN ALKER (-16)

Q. Steven, our leader here at Hualalai, what was going well for you today?

STEVEN ALKER: Pretty much everything. I just got off to a nice start. I kind of took my chances when I had them. It kind of seemed like I kept doing that all day. Just I think for me, start of the year, I'm just working on trying to commit to my golf shots. I kind of find that hard to do early season just to get back into the mode and get playing. That's what I focused on and it was working, I was just hitting the shots. When I didn't quite commit, it wasn't there, but my swing's in a good place so it felt good.

Q. From the past, has that been something that as the season has gone on your commitment has gotten better and it's just a start of the season thing?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, it doesn't take long. I mean, it's really only like a couple of rounds, get my swing where I want it and just let it go. But the hardest thing starting out the year is just like -- I find anyway, is my commitment. Yeah, I hit nice iron shots today. Made a couple of 20-, 25-footers today too, which helped out. Very pleased.

Q. On that note, how sweet did that eagle feel on 14?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, that was nice. I kind of hit one up in the wind there and I hit it like 30, 40 yards behind Vijay. I was kind of keeping up with him most of the day. And I had a beautiful 5-wood in there, it was the best shot of the day and rolled that one in.

Yeah, I just kind of struggled -- the only thing today was the speed on the greens, I just struggled with my longer putts, getting them there. We're going to do a bit of work on that later.

Q. New irons in the bag?

STEVEN ALKER: New irons this week, yeah. My club company are just about to release them. I said to my wife, jeez, I was sick of the old stuff, I got new stuff and then she talked me kind of into the new stuff and it's feeling great. I only took a couple rounds to get used to them on the golf course and it was a good test in the wind with the pro-am, too. Yeah, they feel great.

Q. What are they?

STEVEN ALKER: New Level, a company in Scottsdale. I've been with them for like four years now, actually five years now. Yeah, they do really good stuff, superb irons and coming

out with some new wedges as well.

Q. When you looked at the weather for yesterday, today and tomorrow and saw the wind's laid down, it's gone, does that make you think, OK, we've got to put the pedal down a little bit?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, yeah. I shot 63 today, so it's out there, I've just got to keep going. The par 5s are gettable, so try and get some cheap birdies and just keep the pedal down, yeah.