

**ROUND 3 QUOTES**  
**January 20, 2024**



**STEVEN ALKER (-25)**

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**Q. All right. Congratulations, Steven. Second two years ago, second last year, you win this year, third time's a charm. What was the key?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah. I mean, obviously today, you know, I got it done on the putting green for sure. I made some nice putts. I knew Stricker and Harrison were going to come at me, so just kept the pedal to the metal.

I knew I had to be aggressive, stayed aggressive and just that mindset, just keep committing to my shots. Yeah, it worked out.

**Q. All right, let's go back to hole No. 7.**

**STEVEN ALKER:** All right.

**Q. Off the clubface, what did you think was going to happen? And then after the bounce --**

**STEVEN ALKER:** First of all, I didn't fly the distance, so maybe that actually helped me. I didn't see where it landed obviously, but someone said it kind of kicked off the path and rolled up and went left. Just a fortunate break.

As I said in my speech, sometimes it goes one way and last year, a couple years ago it goes the other way, so it all kind of works out in the end. It was a good break. Made that putt, which was huge, and then hit a really nice shot on 8 and made that birdie, too. So just gave us the cushion, that three-shot cushion that kind of helped me on the back nine.

**Q. How long would you say the putts were on 7 and 8?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** No. 7 was probably a good, at least 35 or 40, nearly 40 across the green there. On 8 only had probably six, seven feet. Hit a really nice shot in there.

I three-putted 10. I hit a beautiful shot in there. I think the key putt was on No. 12. The guys, Harrison made an amazing par and I made mine and then just kind of felt like that was the crucial putt of the day really.

**Q. Do you believe in momentum?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Totally. I had runs of birdies and just keeps you going. You've got to do that out here as well, you've got to keep pushing. You know the scoring's going to be low

especially on this golf course, so just keep pushing hard and try and get some momentum.

**Q. OK. Last one from me and then we'll kick it to Al. This is your eighth win on the PGA TOUR Champions. Can you just talk about the growth in your game and everything since turning 50?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah, you know, I think it's just all about giving yourself chances to win. I think that's what Langer does so well and Stricker does so well, they're just in the hunt so often and giving themselves chances. Eventually you play well enough and get in the groove and you make a few putts and you're going to get some victories. Yeah, that's been key, just give yourself a chance. No. 8 starting the year, it's a good feeling to win it here at Hualalai.

**Q. No. 7, what did you see on 7?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** I saw nothing, I saw nothing.

**Q. I'll show it to you, OK? Get back over to you were.**

**You want to come in, Bern?**

**BERNHARD LANGER:** No, I just want to congratulate him.

**Q. You mentioned this guy a little bit ago.**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Hey, Bernhard, thank you very much.

**BERNHARD LANGER:** Starting off the way you finished.

**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah, yeah. You've done that how many times, like five or six times?

**BERNHARD LANGER:** Good for you. Pretty special.

**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah, it was good.

**BERNHARD LANGER:** Broke the scoring record, too, right?

**Q. Tied it.**

**STEVEN ALKER:** We've got the rust off anyway, Bernhard.

**BERNHARD LANGER:** Well, I've got work to do, but you got it.

**Q. What happened on No. 7? You almost hit this marshal.**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Hit these rocks here?

**Q. Yeah.**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Coming in straight? Wow. Oh, yeah, I was surprised to see it on the left side of the green. Thought it must have hit either someone or something.

**Q. Here's a different angle.**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Oh, yeah, yeah. Oh, wow. Yeah, it could have gone anywhere.

**Q. When you get the lead like you had going into today, you're becoming a bulldog. Like these guys, they know it's going to be hard to catch you. What's that feel like?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** What's it feel like? It's still hard, it's still hard to go out there and just like stay calm and keep focused.

Obviously the more times you do it, like Bernhard, I mean, and Stricker, these guys have done it so many times, you find your way, you do your thing.

As I said, today I just kind of committed as much as I could. I knew the guys were going to come out and give me some low scores today. The game plan was just stay aggressive, just what I had to do to win. I played good enough and made some nice putts and P it worked out.

**Q. What's it like ending the season on a high, starting the season on a high? Your year --**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah, yeah. I think just the downtime I had, rest time I find for me is as good as like (indiscernible.) So I took some really good downtime, I took a good three weeks off after Champions Cup. I had a nice week before coming out here and then the game just kind of, you know, built as the week went on.

There's things I want to work on, wasn't quite as sharp as I could have been, but the last two days have been phenomenal. Got it done with the flat stick, just my iron play was solid. Put a new set of irons in the bag and boom, those New Levels are amazing.

Yeah, it's just a whole combination. Having the family here and their support, and where we play, it's a great place to start the year.

**Q. Troy tells me as you guys were walking up 18 you said to him, "I really like that trophy."**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah, yeah. It's going to look good on the mantle place, I tell you. As I said in my speech, it's like we have that tiki and all that heritage and it's very Polynesian. It's

one of the favorite trophies out here that I wanted to win so I'm just glad I got it done.

**Q. Twelve months ago Sam was on your bag.**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah, he was.

**Q. Any thoughts on him?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** There was at the start of the week. We got here and then Tanya mentioned just it was 12 months ago, it was here and gone 13 days later, 12 days later after here.

Yeah, this one's for family, his family, Sam, Troy. I've had so much support from everyone and there's emotions, for sure, you can't deny it. Again, maybe just a little bit of that from the end of the season, the Schwab Cup and me winning here, I don't know. I don't know what you call that, I don't know, karma, I don't know. Yeah, it's a special week.

**Q. Is there a message you'd like to send to his sister?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah, the whole Workman family, hi guys, I don't know if you're watching, but amazing week, thinking of Sam, bless him, we know he's around. Yeah, just want to say hi, we'll see you soon.