



**INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT: MICHAEL ALLEN**  
**Wednesday, June 6, 2012**

**PHIL STAMBAUGH:** We're joined this morning in the interview room by Michael Allen, the current Charles Schwab Cup leader with 923 points.

Michael, coming off, I know, a high for you there on Monday in the San Francisco area where you went 36 holes and finished tied for 3rd in the Open qualifier, and now you're going to get to be playing in the U.S. Open at a course where you're a member. That's quite an accomplishment.

**MICHAEL ALLEN:** Yeah, it certainly feels phenomenal. I've always wanted to play in an Open there. It's one of the reasons I turned professional and started playing. It certainly means an awful lot to me. The first time I tried for that was '87, and 25, 28 years later, I'm finally getting a chance to do that. But, you know, it's been a whirlwind time, kind of cruising around. I'm looking forward to being here at Shoal Creek and looking forward to this tournament right now.

**PHIL STAMBAUGH:** Maybe talk about the Champions Tour second major of the year. We just had the Senior PGA a few weeks ago, and now the Regions Tradition here at Shoal Creek. Your thoughts about Shoal Creek and how you think it will play since we are a month later in the year with it.

**MICHAEL ALLEN:** Number one, I know last year's the first time I played here and I just thought it was, you know, really a fantastic, fun golf course to be at, so totally been looking forward to coming back here to play.

You know, it's a wonderful championship. It has a long history and I'm certainly proud to be a part of it. I know the golf course from what I hear is supposed to be phenomenal, so I'm looking forward today to getting out there and giving it a go.

**PHIL STAMBAUGH:** Maybe sort of sum up your year to this point. You're having a very solid year on the Champions Tour with two victories, a lot of other high finishes.

**MICHAEL ALLEN:** So far it's been a dream start, you know, getting the lead in the Charles Schwab Cup. I certainly have a long way to go with that. I know I need to one at least one of majors to really have a chance to win that. Getting into Olympic Club is great. Winning two tournaments. So it's been off to a great start for me where I'm certainly enjoying my golf, my time around the golf course a great deal. And it's a long

year, we're not even halfway through, not a third of the way through, so it's going to be a long year, but it's off to a great start and I'm looking forward to every week out here.

**PHIL STAMBAUGH:** John, do you have a question? Please wait for the mic. We're transcribing this.

**Q. Could you maybe talk about what you think the key is to this course, the biggest challenge is?**

**MICHAEL ALLEN:** Out here, number one, you've got to drive the ball well. There's a lot of holes you've got to shape shots a little bit, like 2 and 3. There's so many. You've got to be in play because the greens are pretty treacherous in a lot of places. So unless you're in the fairway, it's hard to get after them and make some birdies.

I think right now the hardest challenge is going to be getting up and down a few of the hills today and tomorrow, being a little fatigued. This is a wonderful facility and you've got to think about every shot out here and you've got to get the ball in the right places out here, especially off the tee.

**Q. What do you think when a guy like Roger Chapman that's been around, maybe a lot of people didn't know who he was until he won the Senior PGA. I assume you know a fair amount about him. I assume he's been around a while.**

**MICHAEL ALLEN:** Yeah, I've known Roger since the late '80s when I played over in Europe. He kind of came on as I was leaving. I played there for three years. He was a very good player. I played with him when I won the Scottish Open and quite a bit. I've known him since he's come over here. He and his wife are wonderful. I know he's a really good player who really hasn't played well over here so far this year until last week. He was certainly the best player that week, and hats off. It's one of the great things about golf, it takes a week or two and you can be in the game and be a big part of it. It's great.

**PHIL STAMBAUGH:** I guess we've got no more questions. Thanks for stopping in. Good luck this week.

**MICHAEL ALLEN:** My pleasure, thank you.