

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
September 9, 2022



STEVEN ALKER (-5)

Q. Steven, 5 under on the day. How ya feeling?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, nice solid start. You know, you never want to get too far away. I saw Bernhard up there, he was tearing it up. Yeah, I just want to stay close to him. Yeah, it was a nice scoring day. Greens are a little soft and not much wind, so kind of felt like I left a little bit out there. Actually, I birdied only one par 5, but otherwise, yeah, solid start.

Q. So two back off the leader right now. What do you think was working for you today?

STEVEN ALKER: I drove the ball well today. I was in the fairway. A couple sloppy iron shots, but then recovered, so recovery play was good. All in all, yeah, pretty solid, as I said. It would be nice to get a couple less, but all around it was pretty solid.

Q. How about the layout and kind of the vibe here in town, what have you seen?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, it's pretty cool. This was like my third event last year, so it was a definite come back to St. Louis. I like the golf course, just the variety of holes and kind of use everything in the bag. Yeah, I just enjoy coming here. The vibe's cool, plenty of fans out. It's a fun week.

Q. So you're off to a good start. How do you approach the weekend now?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, just keep the pedal down, just keep going because you know that it's still a little soft out there, it could firm up a little bit, but yeah, just keep attacking. You know you're going to need, you know, five, six a day, maybe more. Just keep going.

Q. Bernhard's kind of crazy no matter how old he gets. He looks like he's about 40.

STEVEN ALKER: He doesn't go away, he doesn't go away.

Q. You guys talk about that, like he's just a machine?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, he's very disciplined, he just goes about his business. I guess he's getting older and doesn't hit it as far, but I think he's got his courses where he plays -- and he plays pretty well everywhere, but I'm sure he's got courses that he likes and plays well at. This is a good one for him, too.