

PRE-TOURNAMENT PRESS CONFERENCE
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STEVEN ALKER



Q. Steven, thanks for joining us for the third Galleri Classic. Two runner-up finishes, so what is it about this course that suits your game, and hopefully third time's a charm?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, third time charm would be nice.

Yeah, I just like visually off the tee you've got to kind of move it around a little bit, got to get it in the fairway to have a shot at the green, have a good approach. So yeah, I like that aspect. Then once you're in the fairway, need good iron play. Yeah, I just like that you've just got to drive it well to score around here, that's a big thing, yeah.

Q. Welcome back. The Galleri Classic is now in its third year. It's not like a new tournament anymore. Where does it rank kind of in the course of your year, this event?

STEVEN ALKER: I think in terms of the golf course it's right up there. It's a shame it's not a little bit later in the year just preparing for some majors because it's that type of golf course. That aspect, they look after us great this week, nice venue facilities, everyone here has always been great. It's nice to come back. Definitely top-5 or 6 for sure.

Q. Congrats on last year winning the overall Cup.

STEVEN ALKER: Thank you.

Q. You didn't have a ton of wins, you've already got a win this year. What does it take to kind of go from finishing second, third, fourth to actually get that win? Is there a little part of your game that --

STEVEN ALKER: There's always a little bit of luck involved, to be honest. I think I was lucky last year in the fact that those last three or four events, no one was really running away with it. Whether it was Ernie, Stephen Ames, three or four of us, we weren't playing our best at the time and no one was running away, so we just kind of hung in there.

Obviously had another good week in Phoenix and kind of close the deal. Yeah, there's always a little bit of luck involved and at the same time you can kind of -- you can make it easy for yourself by playing well and kind of cementing a position. But those last events it can swing so much with double points and everything.

Q. You've been out here a while, you've been Player of the Year a couple times.



STEVEN ALKER: How long's a while? What determines a while? Yeah, long enough.

Q. Always interesting, five years, 10 years.

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah.

Q. But when you look back on what happened now, are you still kind of like surprised that you've had this much success?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, a little bit. I think more so the overall titles. The Schwab Cup and the Player of the Year, that's really nice, that's kind of end-of-year bonus and those things are pretty cool.

In terms of victories, you kind of look back and think, well, gee, I could have won a few more here and there, I've had a lot of second places. But I think we're all on end of our career, we don't know how long we've got to play so there's the attitude of kind of like just go for it, let's see what we can do. (Indiscernible.) So yeah that's kind of my attitude to it, you know what I mean?

But yeah, I'm very proud of what I've achieved so far in just three, four years. And it's gone so quickly, too. That's the thing, I'll be 60 before you know it, so looking back, but yeah, very pleased with what I've achieved so far.

Q. But no plans on slowing down, right?

STEVEN ALKER: No, no, I'll stick to my 20, 21 events, that's a good number for me. Yeah, I want to try and win every week, just get in that -- give myself a chance at least, that's kind of where I'm at, my attitude.

Q. So you won a couple weeks ago. I mean, surely -- and you (inaudible) in this course, 12 under in both years. How do you carry that momentum from the win that you had a couple years ago to here?

STEVEN ALKER: Carry a lot of momentum. You've got to kind of feed off those vibes and draw something from it, you know what I mean, how you felt in the playoff or down the stretch and just kind of get those feelings. I might not have that feel on Friday, but come Sunday maybe down the stretch those things will pop up and hopefully help in some way. But yeah, I'm feeling good. Did a little bit of work with my swing guy this week. He's from Phoenix, Robert Shell (sp?) so that was good. Just need to tidy up a couple things here, just need to sharpen up a little bit, it will be great.

Q. I mean, the last two years I should say you were basically almost at the finish line, you finished in second both years but you were four shots behind in that first year, only one shot behind last year. I mean, do you have a certain kind of feel just to come



out on top this year?

STEVEN ALKER: You mean score-wise, you mean?

Q. Extra kind of motivation, fuel.

STEVEN ALKER: Definitely, yes, motivation-wise, for sure. You know, I think I did this in Hawaii, I had a couple seconds before I won and maybe that's a good omen there, I'm not sure. Just to have those vibes and just feel good on a golf course, I think that's the big thing. You come to a place and you come through the gates and just kind of feels good, just kind of feel at home and then you get on the golf course, you're like yeah, I like this place, so that's always good.

