

ROUND 1 QUOTES

October 2, 2026

STEVEN ALKER (-5)



Q. Before we get into the play, how was it to concentrate on what you were doing with a new caddie after nine holes?

STEVEN ALKER: I made birdie-birdie on 8 and 9. I was OK, I was fine.

No, yeah, I was pretty concerned about Troy, first of all. He just stopped, literally just started walking and then stopped and went down. He got checked out, he's doing OK, that's good news.

To answer your question, yeah, I believe I started doing more work, I'm doing the work now, I'm kind of doing the thing and I'm not getting the help that I would from Troy, so that's a difference.

And I hadn't seen any of the golf course, either. I didn't play a pro-am or a practice round, so I'm kind of going a little bit blind. Yeah, it was tricky, but in a way it just kind of like frees you up. You're like not focusing so much on the score in golf, just getting the job done.

Q. So you'll take 5 under and run out of here?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, yeah, I'm out of here. I'm going to go get a beer right now. Yeah, it's been a long day. Had some crazy stuff happen in the group today.

Q. With the elevation changes in this place and the wind that you wouldn't know because you didn't play it the last two days, but the wind that was there today, this can be a tricky place, can't it?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, it was, especially if it dries out a little bit. You can see the ball was bouncing a little bit off the fairway. If the greens firm up, get some wind, yeah, there's some tricky shots.

You've just got to be aware of where you leave it on the green. That's the biggest thing out here, otherwise you're working hard all day just trying to two-putt. Hitting those iron shots in the right places is key.

