

U.S. Amateur Championship

Quick Quotes

Wednesday August 17, 2016

Alex Smalley

Q. He pressed you all the way. You really had to bring something to the table on the last nine.

ALEX SMALLEY: Yeah, yeah, we struggled a little bit today. It was a grind all the way around. I think we both struggled a little bit. Yeah, I mean, it was a hard day. It was a long day. I'm glad I got through.

Q. You made the six-footer at 11 to get it all square after he took the lead. Tell me what you hit in there.

ALEX SMALLEY: I hit pitching wedge in there. It was a little bit uphill. I think I had 132 yards, hit pitching wedge. I thought it was going to come up short, but ended up being good, flew over the bunker and I guess took the hill down to the hole and made the putt.

Q. Good two-putt at 14; you had about 24 feet up that hill?

ALEX SMALLEY: Yeah, that was -- hit it in the trees, I was kind of under the tree, and I had to play a hook around the tree. That's just what I did, and it hit on the green, rolled out a little bit, and then just had an uphill putt.

Q. 15 was huge because you put the birdie on top of his?

ALEX SMALLEY: I did, yeah. I knew he was going to make it, so I knew I had to make mine, so when I made mine, that was pretty big.

Q. And then obviously he got into trouble at 16, but 17 the tee shot, what did you hit?

ALEX SMALLEY: It was around 245 I think, 243. I hit hybrid. I hit hybrid yesterday. It was a little long because it was a little downwind. It was a little into the wind today. I was just aiming for the middle of the green and it just happened to come down on the pin. I knew I just needed to hit it on the green.

Q. What were you thinking when he hit the bunker shot on 17?

ALEX SMALLEY: Well, they always say you expect people to make it. That was a great shot, and then I knew I just had to two-putt. Glad I got out of there with a par.

Q. You knew you were all even after getting out of



stroke play and you were starting at zero again. Was what happened today what you expected to happen?

ALEX SMALLEY: Yeah, I mean, it's basically another tournament, brand-new tournament. It's a new day. You know, seeds don't really matter in match play. It was nice getting medalist. It was an honor, but I just had to start right all over again.

Q. Being a USGA champion, does that give you a little more confidence now as you move forward?

ALEX SMALLEY: A little bit, yeah. I played with Scott earlier this summer at the North Carolina Am, so I'm familiar with him. So I knew it was going to be a tough day, and it was. Like I said, I'm just glad I got out of there with the win. I'm pretty blessed.