

Atlanta – Stadium Court Notes – Friday, Aug. 13, 2021 – Match 2

10:05 am – #1 Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena vs. #16 (Q12) Michael Groselle / David Vander Meer

Head to Head

- This is the first meeting between the teams
- Neither Groselle nor Vander Meer has ever played against either Dalhausser or Lucena previously

Dalhausser / Lucena are playing together for the 55th time on the AVP Tour and for the 107th time overall... The pair has won 14 AVP titles and 9 FIVB titles

- Since reuniting in 2015, they have been in the finals of 18 of the 27 AVP events, winning 13 times in that span... Of the 9 events in which they did not play in the championship, they have forfeited 3 times (Huntington Beach 2016, Manhattan Beach 2016, New York 2017)
- Last season the pair had an 11-1 match record on the AVP, losing only in the championship match of the third Long Beach event to Tri Bourne / Trevor Crabb 17-21, 21-15, 12-15... 9 of their 11 wins were by sweeps
- Dalhausser / Lucena last lost in their first match of an AVP tournament in Honolulu 2018 (lost to Tri Bourne / Trevor Crabb)... the duo then won 4 straight matches to claim the title

Phil Dalhausser – age 41 – 6'9" – hometown Baden, Switzerland – currently Newbury Park, Calif. – Central Florida

- This is Dalhausser's 143rd AVP event, winning 59 titles (plus 38 FIVB wins and 1 NVL victory)... he has 21 seconds, 21 thirds and 1 fourth... he has been in the finals in 80 of his 142 AVP tournaments (56%)
- In 2020 Dalhausser led the Tour in blocks (2.0 per set), aces (1.0 per set) and hitting percentage (.574)
- Since winning in Austin in 2005, Dalhausser has won at least one title (AVP or FIVB) in each of the past 16 seasons
- Dalhausser is playing in Atlanta for the 5th time (first 4 with Todd Rogers, finishing 5th, 3rd, 3rd and 2nd)

Nick Lucena – age 41 – 6'1" – hometown Davie, Fla. – currently Tallahassee, Fla. – Florida State

- Lucena is playing in his 146th AVP Tournament, with 16 wins (plus 9 FIVB wins and 1 NVL victory)
- In 2020 Lucena ranked 3rd on the Tour in digs (5.1 per set)
- Lucena has reached the semifinals of an AVP event at least once each year since 2007
- Lucena is playing for the 5th time in Atlanta with his 5th different partner (best of 3rd with Brad Keenan in 2009)

Groselle / Vander Meer are playing together for the 1st time on the AVP Tour

- Yesterday they swept all three qualifier matches, giving up more than 15 points in 2 of the 6 sets
- Seeded 12th in the qualifier, they were the lowest seeded team to advance

Michael Groselle – age 30 – 6'8" – hometown Plano, Texas – currently Lakewood, Colo. – The Citadel

- This is Groselle's 12th AVP event, and his first time in AVP main draw
- Groselle was a basketball player at The Citadel, leaving the program with the most double-doubles in program history, second in total rebounds, second in career field goal percentage, and seventh in points

David Vander Meer – age 29 – 5'9" – hometown Grand Rapids, Mich. – currently Costa Mesa, Calif. – Ball State

- This is Vander Meer's 25th AVP event and his 16th different partner
- Atlanta marks the 9th time he has played in an AVP main draw and he has won a main draw match in 5 of the previous 8 tournaments he has been in the main draw
- Vander Meer has a career best of 9th in Austin 2018 when he and Troy Field narrowly lost their first round match to #2 Theo Brunner / John Hyden (16-14 in the third), then eliminated #10 Chase Budinger / Sean Rosenthal