

Austin – Stadium Court Notes – Sunday, May 8, 2022 – Men’s Championship Match

3:00 pm – #2 Andy Benesh / Phil Dalhausser vs. #4 Chase Budinger / Troy Field

Head to Head

- This is the first meeting between the teams
 - Budinger is 3-0 all time against Benesh
 - Benesh is 2-1 all time against Field, and all 3 matches have gone 3 sets
 - Dalhausser leads the head-to-head 2-1 against Budinger, but each player has won one of the AVP meetings
 - Dalhausser has swept Field in both of the previous meetings, including in the finals in New York City 2019

Title Tidbits

- The team winning the first set of AVP title matches has won 27 of the last 31 times
- 14 of the last 18 AVP championship matches were won by the higher seeded teams (just 4 upsets in that span)
- Both teams in the finals are playing together on the AVP for the first time as partners and one will become winners in their first outing... the last 6 teams to do that were Trevor Crabb / Reid Priddy in Manhattan Beach 2019, Ty Trambie / Brad Keenan in Chicago 2015, Phil Dalhausser / Sean Rosenthal in Salt Lake City 2013, Matt Olson / Matt Prosser in Huntington Beach 2011, Jake Gibb / Sean Rosenthal in Ft. Lauderdale 2006 and Jake Gibb / Stein Metzger in Ft. Lauderdale 2005.

Benesh / Dalhausser are playing together for the 1st time ever

- The duo becomes the first domestic team ever with both players at least 6’9” tall
- In terms of combined height, Benesh and Dalhausser are tied for 2nd all time amongst U.S. teams... Ryan Doherty (7’1”) and Casey Patterson (6’6”) were the tallest, while Ryan Doherty (7’1”) / John Hyden (6’5”) and Andrew Fuller (6’10”) / Stafford Slick (6’8”) are tied with Benesh and Dalhausser

Andy Benesh – age 27 – 6’9” – hometown Ranch Palos Verdes, Calif. – currently Palos Verdes Peninsula, Calif. – USC

- Benesh is playing in his 20th career AVP tournament
- Austin marks the 5th time in his career that he has been seeded directly into the main draw
- Benesh has placed 3rd in each of his last two tournaments, the first two semifinals of his career... in both of them, he (and Billy Allen) lost to the top-seeded duo Chase Budinger / Casey Patterson... he has now advanced to the semifinals in 3 straight tournaments
- Austin marks his first ever AVP title match appearance

Phil Dalhausser – age 42 – 6’9” – hometown Baden, Switzerland – currently Newbury Park, Calif. – Central Florida

- This is Dalhausser’s 145th AVP event, winning 59 titles (plus 38 FIVB wins and 1 NVL victory)... he has 21 seconds, 21 thirds and 1 fourth... he has now been in the finals in 81 of his 145 AVP tournaments (56%)
- Since winning in Austin in 2005, Dalhausser won at least one title (AVP or FIVB) in 16 straight seasons before last year
- Dalhausser has won 3 times in Austin, all with Nick Lucena (2005, 2017, 2018)... all time he has a 26-4 match record in Austin, and has won 22 of his last 23 matches played here entering the finals
- Dalhausser has won 59 AVP titles in 16 different states... here are the cities where he has won the most: Manhattan Beach (7), Hermosa Beach (5), Huntington Beach (5), Long Beach (4)... a win today will give him 4 here, the most of any city outside of California
- Dalhausser has a 59-21 (74%) record in AVP championship matches
- Dalhausser, at age 42, is seeking to win his 3rd title since turning 40

Budinger / Field are playing together for the 1st time on the AVP Tour and 6th time overall

- Duo won a silver medal in their inaugural outing last July on the FIVB Tour, and have competed 4 times internationally in total

Chase Budinger – age 33 – 6’7” – hometown Encinitas, Calif. – currently Hermosa Beach, Calif. – Arizona

- This is Budinger’s 20th AVP event... he played 10 times with Casey Patterson, and the other 10 tournaments have been with 3 different partners... this marks his first partner who hasn’t been an Olympian
- Budinger has won 3 times (all with Patterson, including the last AVP event in Chicago last year), to go with 4 seconds and 5 thirds... in all, he has now advanced to the semifinals in 13 of his 20 events (65%)
- This is Budinger’s 8th AVP championship match (3-4), and the 7th different team he has faced (only team he has played twice is Tri Bourne / Trevor Crabb)
- If Budinger wins this match, he will have won 3 of the last 4 AVP titles... the last time a men’s player did that was Jake Gibb in 2019

Troy Field – age 28 – hometown Laguna Beach, Calif. – currently Mission Viejo, Calif. – Saddleback Community College

- Field is playing in his 24th AVP tournament with his 9th different partner
- Each of Field’s 6 best finishes came alongside Tim Bomgren, including a second-place (New York 2019) and 2 thirds before this weekend
- Field has more wins this event (4-0 match record) than he had all of last season (3-6 match record) and tied with his 2020 record (4-3, all in the qualifiers)