

Chicago – Stadium Court Notes – Friday, Sept. 3, 2021 – Match 7

2:35 pm – #2 Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena vs #7 Billy Allen / Andy Benesh

Head to Head

- Benesh has never played against Dalhausser... his only previous meeting against Lucena came this season when Benesh won 23-25, 21-14, 15-12 in Manhattan Beach
- Allen is 2-12 all time against Dalhausser (wins came in Santa Barbara 2013 and Hermosa Beach 2018)... Allen was 0-22 against Lucena before the win in Manhattan Beach two weeks ago

Dalhausser / Lucena are playing together for the 56th time on the AVP Tour and for the 108th 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 28 AVP events, winning 13 times in that span... Of the 10 events in which they did not play in the championship, they have forfeited 4 times (Huntington Beach 2016, Manhattan Beach 2016, New York 2017, Atlanta 2021)
- 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
- In 10 seasons as partners on the AVP, they are 180-73 (71.1%) in matches, 144-16 (90.0%) when winning the first set, 34-51 (40%) when losing the first set, and 58-28 (67.4%) in three-set matches

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

- This is Dalhausser's 144th 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 143 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 has fared well in Chicago, having won in 2008 with Todd Rogers and in 2016 with Nick Lucena... he has also placed 2nd 4 other times

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

- Lucena is playing in his 147th 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 (through 2020)

Allen / Benesh are playing together for the 3rd time on the AVP Tour and 5th time overall

- The duo lost in the country quota (to Tri Bourne / Trevor Crabb) in their first FIVB event together, then placed 17th in Rwanda last month ... they were 5th in Atlanta before placing 3rd in Manhattan Beach
- This marks their 13th AVP match together, and the 12th against a team seeded 10th or better

Billy Allen – age 39 – 6'2" – hometown Fallbrook, Calif. – currently Redondo Beach, Calif. – Cal State-Northridge

- This is Allen's 114th AVP tournament, with 2 wins, 3 second-place finishes and 9 third-place finishes... both of his victories came in Seattle, in 2016 and in 2017
- He has played with 15 different partners on the AVP Tour... he has advanced to a semifinal with 5 of them
- This year Allen is averaging 4.78 digs per set, good for 2nd on the Tour

Andy Benesh – age 26 – 6'9" – hometown Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif. – currently St. Petersburg, Fla. – Southern Cal

- This is Benesh's 18th AVP event, with his two best finishes coming this season (5th place in Atlanta and then a 3rd in Manhattan Beach)... this is just the 4th time in his AVP career that he has been seeded directly into the main draw
- Entering Chicago he is 3rd in kills (7.67 per set)