

Chicago – Stadium Court Notes – Friday, Sept. 3, 2021 – Match 8

3:40 pm – #1 Chase Budinger / Casey Patterson vs #8 Skylar del Sol / Ed Ratledge

Head to Head

- Budinger defeated del Sol in three sets in 2018 in their only previous meeting... del Sol and Patterson have never played each other
- Budinger is 4-1 all time against Ratledge, but Ratledge's one win was in the finals in San Francisco 2018... Ratledge won 5 of the first 6 against Patterson, but Patterson has won 15 of last 16 (16-6 overall)

Budinger / Patterson are playing together for the 10th time on the AVP Tour and 22nd time overall... they have 2 AVP win (Hermosa Beach 2019 and the 2021 season opener in Atlanta)

- The duo played 7 times on the AVP Tour in 2019, then went with different partners for the three Long Beach events in 2020... they ended up playing each other in all three Long Beach events, with Budinger winning twice and Patterson once
- The pair has been in the semifinals in 8 of their 9 AVP tournaments, with the only exception coming in New York City 2019 (5th place)
- In 2 seasons as partners on the AVP, they are 37-10 (78.7%) in matches, 34-1 (97.1%) when winning the first set, 3-9 (25%) when losing the first set, and 10-2 (83.3%) in three-set matches
- This year they are 11-2 in matches, with both losses coming to Tri Bourne / Trevor Crabb
- In 2021 entering Chicago, Patterson is 6th in hitting percentage (.463) while Budinger is 8th (.441)... Patterson is 2nd in kills (8.37 per set)

Chase Budinger – age 33 – 6'7" – hometown Encinitas, Calif. – currently Manhattan Beach, Calif. – Arizona

- This is Budinger's 19th AVP event... he has won 2 times, placed 2nd 4 times, and placed 3rd 5 times... he has advanced to the semifinals in 11 of those events (61% of the tournaments entered)

Casey Patterson – age 41 – 6'6" – hometown Manhattan Beach – currently Huntington Beach, Calif. – Brigham Young

- Patterson is playing in his 105th AVP Tournament, with 16 wins, 6 2nd-place finishes, and 16 3rds
- Patterson won in Chicago with Ryan Doherty in 2012 on another tour

Del Sol / Ratledge are playing together for the 7th time on the AVP Tour

- The pair has a best of 7th place in the first Long Beach event of 2020, then equaled that in Manhattan Beach 2021
- In Seattle 2018, Ratledge eliminated del Sol in the 13th-place match, which was del Sol's 2nd AVP main draw ever

Skylar del Sol – age 30 – 6'0" – hometown Elizabeth, Colo. – currently Parker, Colo.

- This is del Sol's 28th AVP event... he has a best of 7th place 3 times
- He has played with 10 different partners, and 4 of his best 5 career finishes have come with Ratledge
- In 2018 del Sol played 2 FIVB events with Trevor Crabb

Ed Ratledge – age 44 – 6'8" – hometown Fountain Valley, Calif. – currently Huntington Beach, Calif. – UCLA

- Ratledge is playing in his 162nd AVP Tournament, with 1 win and 4 3rd-place finishes
- Ratledge has played with 28 different partners over the years... this is the 10th different partner that Ratledge has played with in Chicago... this is Ratledge's 15th time playing in Chicago (only Adam Roberts with 17 has more, he is tied with John Hyden, Brian Lewis and Albert Hannemann for second most)
- Ratledge did not reach a semifinal until San Francisco 2017 (with Eric Zaun) in what was his 139th AVP tournament... that marked the 2nd most tournaments any player ever played without reaching a semifinal
- Ratledge's victory came in San Francisco 2018 with Roberto Rodriguez... the duo beat 4 teams seeded #7 or better to win the title