

Miami – Stadium Court Notes – Sunday, March 19, 2023 – Men’s Championship

1:30 pm – #1 Taylor Crabb / Taylor Sander vs #3 Chase Budinger / Miles Evans

NOTE: The notes below do not include events on the Tour Series unless specifically stated

Head to Head

- This is the 1st meeting between the teams
- This will be the 15th meeting between Crabb and Budinger... Crabb leads 11-3... only 2 of the meetings went to a third set (each team won one of those)... once before the players met for a title, in the 2019 Huntington Beach championship match (Crabb /Jake Gibb defeated Budinger / Casey Patterson 27-25, 21-14)
- Crabb is 6-0 all time against Evans, with the first 5 being in sweeps
- Sander has swept Budinger all 3 times they have met
- This is the 1st meeting ever between Sander and Evans

Title Tidbits

- The team winning the first set of AVP title matches has won 34 of the last 40 times
- 9 of the last 16 men’s championships overall (excluding Tour Series) have been three-set matches
- 21 of the last 27 AVP championship matches were won by the higher seeded teams (just 6 upsets in that span)
- The AVP is guaranteed to have a 6th different team winning in its last 6 tournaments played in the state of Florida
- One of the Crabb brothers has won the last 4 AVP titles, and 6 of the last 8

Taylor Crabb / Sander are playing together for the 10th time on the AVP Tour and 15th time overall

- The duo has won twice on the AVP Tour (Phoenix 2022 and Huntington Beach 2022), finished 2nd three times and 3rd twice
- In 2 seasons as partners on the AVP, they are 36-11 in matches, 27-3 when winning the first set, 9-7 when losing the first set... they are 0-1 in one-set matches and 14-6 in three-set matches
- They began the season with an 11-3 match record, but then went 5-5... since that point they have gone 18-3, and have won 12 consecutive matches entering the championship match
- Of their 11 match losses, 9 have come to teams seeded 1st or 2nd

Taylor Crabb – age 31 – 6’0” – hometown Honolulu, Hawai’i – currently Redondo Beach, Calif. – Long Beach State

- This is Taylor Crabb’s 51st AVP event with his 6th different partner
- Taylor Crabb has 11 wins (8 with Jake Gibb, 2 with Taylor Sander, 1 with Phil Dalhausser), 12 seconds (with 4 different partners), and 14 thirds
- Taylor Crabb led the AVP Tour in victories in 2019 with 4, and tied for team lead last year with 3... he has won each of the last 3 AVP tournaments held
- Taylor Crabb has now advanced to the semifinals in 38 of his 51 AVP tournaments (75% of the events)

Taylor Sander – age 31 – 6’5” – hometown Corona, Calif. – currently Huntington Beach, Calif. – Brigham Young

- Sander, who turned 31 on Friday, has now been in the semifinals in 8 of his 10 AVP events including Miami
 - Sander, a two-time indoor Olympian, is 14-10 in AVP matches with at least one Olympian (indoors or beach) on the opposing team... entering the Miami semifinals 24 of his 46 matches have been against teams with at least one Olympian
 - In his short AVP career, Sander has lost 11 matches on the AVP tour (entering the semifinals), and 10 of those were to teams seeded higher than him (has been upset just once, to #13 Timothy Brewster / Kyle Friend in Atlanta)
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Budinger / Evans are playing together for the 1st time ever

- Last year's AVP season opener was won by a team playing for the first time ever... the last event in Florida (Tavares in the 2022 season finale) was also won by a team playing together for the first time
- All 5 of their Miami matches have been sweeps so far, have yet to play a third set

Chase Budinger – age 34 – 6'7" – hometown Encinitas, Calif. – currently Hermosa Beach, Calif. – Arizona

- This is Budinger's 29th AVP event with 6 different partners
- His first 19 events came alongside a beach Olympian (Sean Rosenthal, Casey Patterson and Chaim Schalk)... he has advanced to a championship match with 3 of his 6 partners
- Budinger has won 3 times all with Patterson (in Hermosa Beach 2019, Atlanta 2021 and Chicago 2021), to go with 5 seconds and 7 thirds... in all, he has now advanced to the semifinals in 16 of his 29 events (55%)
- 11 years ago (February 2012) Budinger was competing in Florida but for a whole different reason... he took part in the NBA Slam Dunk Contest in Orlando, starting by dunking over P.Diddy... he followed that with a windmill jam, then a blindfolded reverse jam

Miles Evans – age 33 – 6'4" – hometown Santa Barbara, Calif – currently Santa Barbara, Calif. – Santa Barbara City College

- Evans is playing in his 27th AVP tournament with his 14th different partner... he has never played with a partner more than 4 times in his career
- He has one win (Denver 2022 on the Tour Series with Andy Benesh) and one 2nd place finish (Hermosa Beach 2019 with Ryan Doherty)
- Evans has won on the NVL, NORCECA, FIVB and now AVP Tour (Tour Series)