

Chicago – Stadium Court Notes – Sunday, Sept. 4, 2021 – Match 4

12:20 pm – #1 Chase Budinger / Casey Patterson vs #7 Billy Allen / Andy Benesh

Head to Head

- These two teams met last event in Manhattan Beach, with Budinger / Patterson winning 21-17, 22-20

Budinger / Patterson are playing together for the 10th time on the AVP Tour and 22nd time overall... they have 2 AVP wins (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 now been in the semifinals in 9 of their 10 AVP tournaments, with the only exception coming in New York City 2019 (5th place)... they join Tri Bourne / Trevor Crabb as the only 2 teams to make the semifinals in all 3 AVP events this season
- In 2 seasons as partners on the AVP, they are 39-11 (78%) in matches, 35-2 (94.6%) when winning the first set, 4-9 (30.8%) when losing the first set, and 12-3 (80%) in three-set matches
- This year they are 13-3 in matches, with all 3 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 now advanced to the semifinals in 11 of those events (63% of the tournaments entered)
- Budinger has advanced to the semifinals in 11 of his last 12 AVP events (exception was a 5th-place finish with Casey Patterson in New York City in June 2019)

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
- Patterson is the last player remaining who is over 40 years old... In the last 38 AVP tournaments, at least one player on the men's championship team has been at least 40 years old in 20 of those

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 15th AVP match together, and the 13th against a team seeded 10th or better
- As partners on the AVP, they are 10-4 (71.4%) in matches, 5-0 (100%) when winning the first set, 5-4 (55.6%) when losing the first set, and 7-1 (87.5%) in three-set matches
- The duo went 3-0 in three-set matches in Manhattan Beach, and all 3 of their matches in Chicago have gone three sets (3-0 in those)

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 entering Chicago Allen is averaging 4.78 digs per set, good for 2nd on the Tour

- This marks the 11th time Allen has played in Chicago, and his second semifinal appearance (placed 3rd with Stafford Slick in 2017)

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)
- Benesh is 4th in Chicago in blocks per set (1.67)