



Lenovo Tenerife



bwin



#BASKETBALLCL

FINAL FOUR

FINAL FOUR
BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
BELGRADE 2024

APRIL 26-28, 2024

B E L G R A D E



ROAD TO BELGRADE



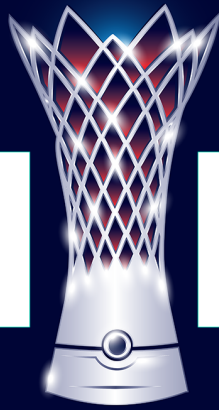
VS.



VS.



VS.



FINAL



VS.



VS.



VS.



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Lenovo Tenerife

LENOVO TENERIFE

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bwin.

PERISTERI BWIN

TEAM PROFILE	21-24
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UCAM MURCIA

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UNICAJA

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BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS LEAGUE // SEASON 8

WELCOME TO BELGRADE ARENA

Belgrade Arena (Serbian Cyrillic: Београдска арена) is the largest indoor arena in Serbia and the second-largest in south-eastern Europe.

The Serbian capital's multipurpose venue for sports, culture, entertainment, exhibitions, and fairs opened its doors in 2004 and receives between 600,000 and 800,000 visitors a year. While Belgrade Arena is renowned as the venue of some of the biggest international basketball tournaments, such as FIBA EuroBasket 2005, FIBA EuroBasket Women 2019 or the FIBA Olympic Qualifying Tournaments in 2016 and 2020, it has also hosted international events in multiple sports beyond basketball. The very long list includes the 2017 European Athletics Indoor Championships, the 2016 European Water Polo Championship, the 2012 EHF Euro Handball Women, the 2010 Davis Cup Final, the Men's European Volleyball Championship in 2005 and the FIVB Volleyball World League Final Four on two occasions.

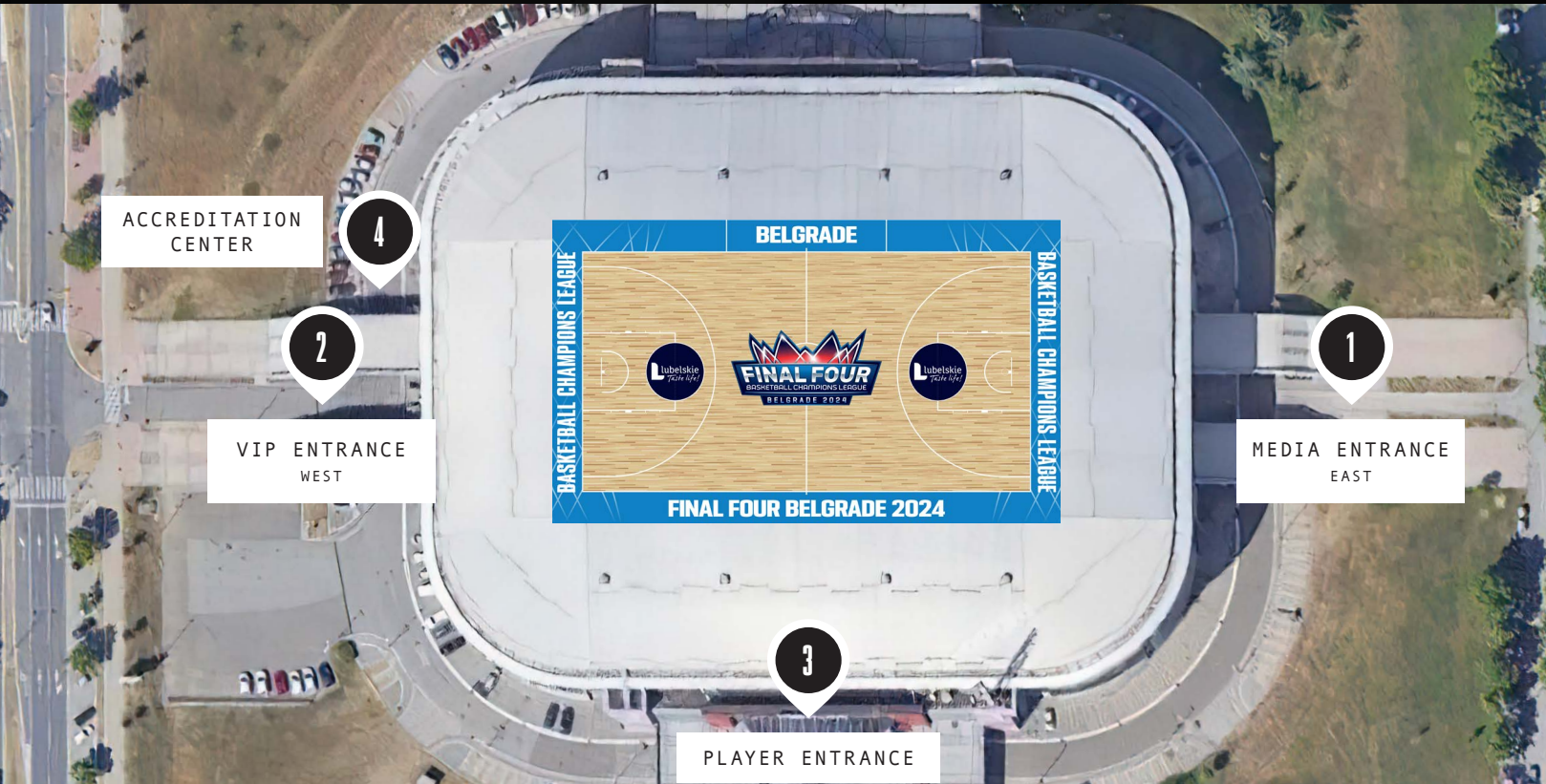
Beyond sports, Belgrade Arena has welcomed the biggest international artists over the years and provided

the stage for a multitude of the most memorable concerts in the Balkans, while also hosting entire music festivals, TV shows and the Eurovision Song Contest. Its official capacity stands at 18,386 seated spectators and it comprises a complex that includes a large hall, small hall, and the parking space. The total floor area stands at 48,000 m² (520,000 sq ft). Belgrade Arena is a member of the European Arenas Association (EAA) and is in fact its only member that has had a water polo setup with two pools. The arena is situated in the Novi Beograd (New Belgrade) area of the capital. It is a 10-minute walk from the Novi Beograd railway station, which offers international train services to and from Austria, Hungary, Slovenia and Croatia, domestic train services to and from Novi Sad, Subotica and Sid as well as urban rail services. Belgrade's international airport, Nikola Tesla, is a 15-minute car drive from the arena while downtown Belgrade is between 15 and 30 minutes by car, depending on traffic conditions.

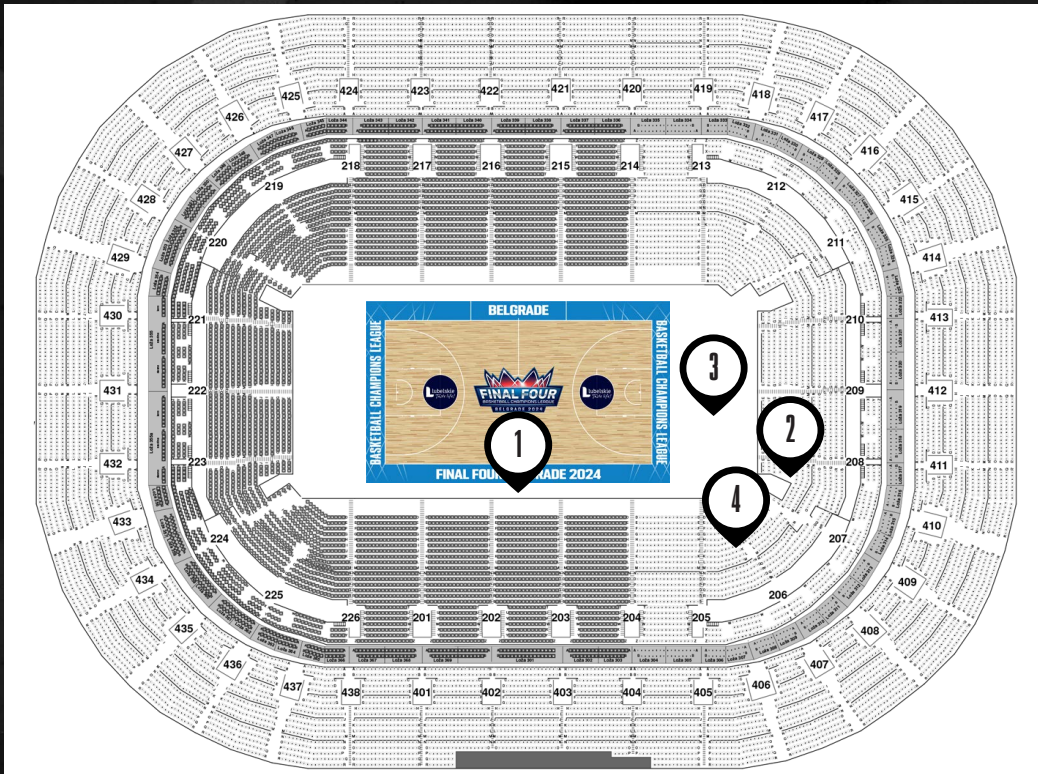


BELGRADE ARENA FROM APRIL 26-28, 2024

BELGRADE ARENA ACCESS MAPS



GROUND LEVEL MAP



LEVEL 1

- 1 COURT SIDE SEATS
- 2 PRESS CONFERENCE AND MEDIA WORKING ROOM *
- 3 MEDIA TRIBUNE
- 4 MIXED ZONE

* LOCATED ON THE GROUND LEVEL THROUGH THE TUNNEL ON THE LEFT, BELOW THE TRIBUNES.




PREVIOUS EDITIONS



2017

IBEROSTAR TENERIFE

MVP: MARIUS GRIGONIS 



2018

AEK

MVP: MIKE GREEN 



2019


SEGAFREDO VIRTUS BOLOGNA

MVP: KEVIN PUNTER 



2020

HEREDA SAN PABLO BURGOS

MVP: THAD MCFADDEN 



BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS LEAGUE // 8 SEASONS

PHOTO: G. BIANCHI / G. BIANCHI

PREVIOUS EDITIONS



2021

HEREDA SAN PABLO BURGOS

MVP: VITOR BENITE



2022

LENOVO TENERIFE

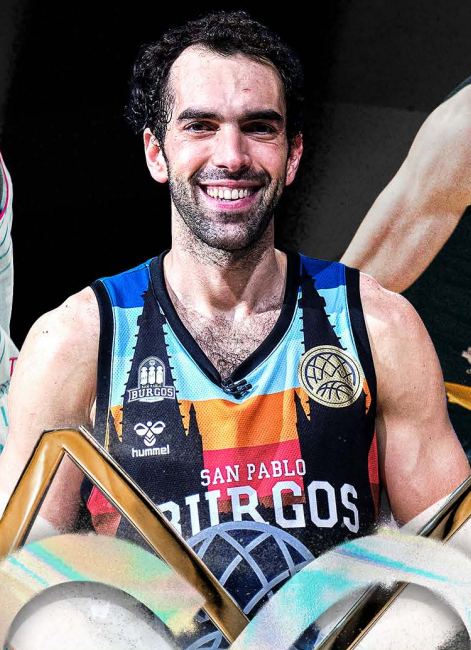
MVP: MARCELINHO HUERTAS



2023

TELEKOM BASKETS BONN

MVP: TJ SHORTS II



BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS LEAGUE // 8 SEASONS





www.basketballchampionsleague.com

REGULAR SEASON STANDINGS

GROUP A	TEAM	P	W	L	%	PTS
1	 UNICAJA *	6	4	2	66.7%	10
2	 LE MANS SARTHE BASKET **	6	3	3	50%	9
3	 PERISTERI BWIN **	6	3	3	50%	9
4	 FALCO VULCANO SZOMBATHELY	6	2	4	33.3%	8

GROUP E	TEAM	P	W	L	%	PTS
1	 SIG STRASBOURG *	6	4	2	66.7%	10
2	 PINAR KARSIYAKA **	6	3	3	50%	9
3	 FILOU OOSTENDE **	6	3	3	50%	9
4	 EWE BASKETS OLDENBURG	6	2	4	33.3%	8

GROUP B	TEAM	P	W	L	%	PTS
1	 JDA BOURGOGNE DIJON *	6	5	1	83.3%	11
2	 RYTAS VILNIUS **	6	4	2	66.7%	10
3	 PROMITHEAS PATRAS **	6	3	3	50%	9
4	 BK OPAVA	6	0	6	0%	0

GROUP F	TEAM	P	W	L	%	PTS
1	 TELEKOM BASKETS BONN *	6	3	3	50%	9
2	 HAPOEL HOLON **	6	3	3	50%	9
3	 RIO BREGAN **	6	3	3	50%	9
4	 BURASPOR INFO YATIRIM	6	3	3	50%	9

GROUP C	TEAM	P	W	L	%	PTS
1	 LENOVO TENERIFE *	6	4	2	66.7%	11
2	 CHOLET BASKET **	6	3	3	50%	9
3	 DARÜSSAFKA LASSA **	6	3	3	50%	9
4	 VEF RIGA	6	2	4	33.3%	8

GROUP G	TEAM	P	W	L	%	PTS
1	 HAPOEL BANK YAHAV JERUSALEM *	6	5	1	83.3%	11
2	 PAOK MATECO **	6	3	3	50%	9
3	 GALATASARAY EKMAS **	6	3	3	50%	9
4	 SL BENFICA	6	1	5	16.7%	7

GROUP D	TEAM	P	W	L	%	PTS
1	 AEK BETSSON BC *	6	5	1	83.3%	11
2	 MHP RIESEN LUDWIGSBURG **	6	3	3	50%	9
3	 BANCO DI SARDEGNA SASSARI **	6	2	4	33.3%	8
4	 KING SZCZECIN	6	2	4	33.3%	8

GROUP H	TEAM	P	W	L	%	PTS
1	 UCAM MURCIA *	6	5	1	83.3%	11
2	 BERTRAM DERTHONA TORTONA **	6	5	1	83.3%	11
3	 TOFAS BURSA **	6	2	4	33.3%	8
4	 IGOKEA M:TEL	6	2	4	0%	6

* QUALIFIED FOR ROUND OF 16





** QUALIFIED FOR PLAY-INS

ROUND OF 16 STANDINGS

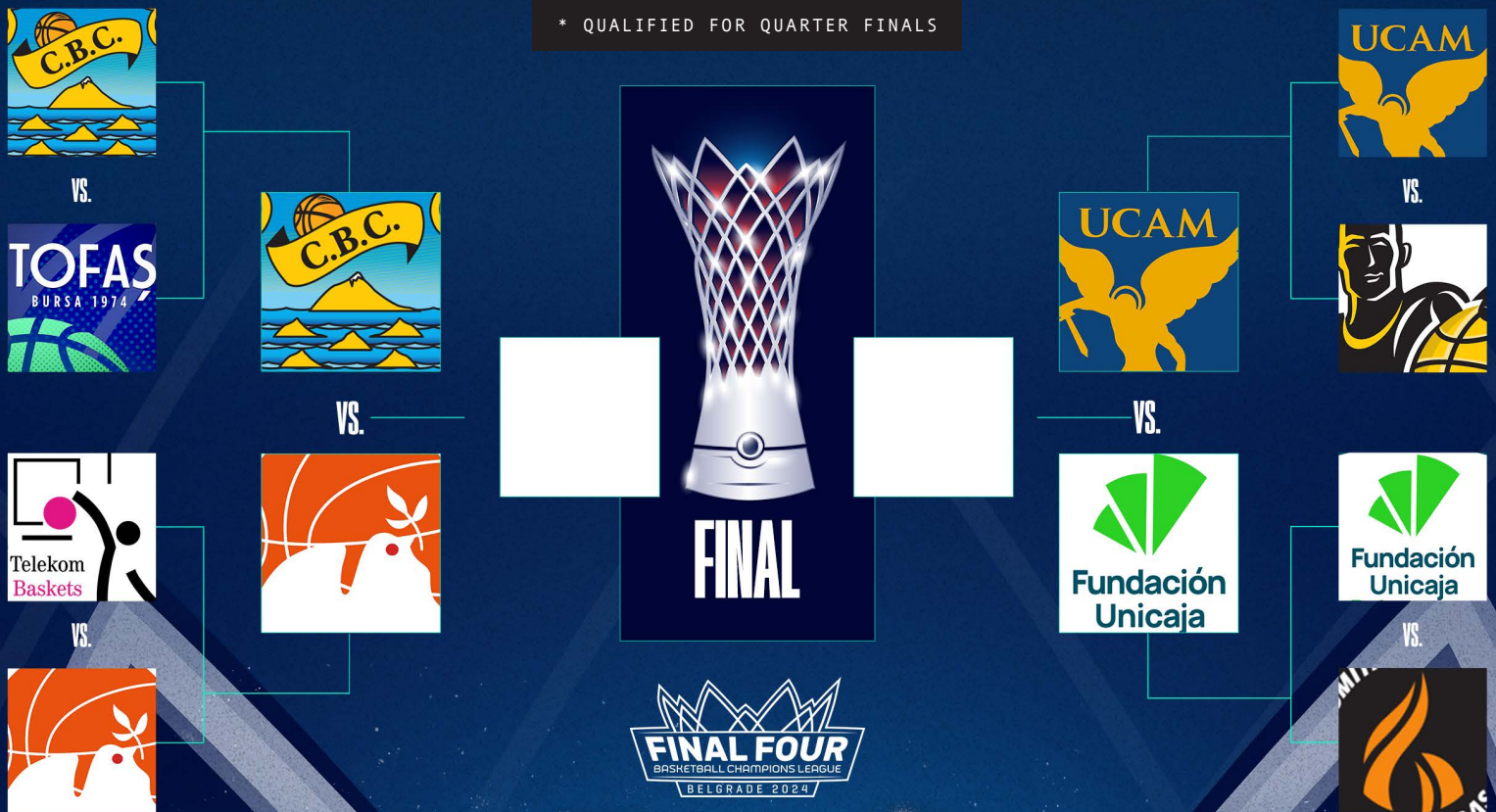
GROUP I	TEAM	P	W	L	%	PTS
1	 UNICAJA *	6	6	0	100%	12
2	 TOFAS BURSA *	6	2	4	33.3%	8
3	 SIG STRASBOURG	6	2	4	33.3%	8
4	 CHOLET BASKET	6	2	4	33.3%	8

GROUP K	TEAM	P	W	L	%	PTS
1	 LENOVO TENERIFE *	6	4	2	66.7%	10
2	 PERISTERI BWIN *	6	3	3	50%	9
3	 HAPOEL BANK YAHAV JERUSALEM	6	3	3	50%	9
4	 PINAR KARSIYAKA	6	2	4	33.3%	8

GROUP J	TEAM	P	W	L	%	PTS
1	 TELEKOM BASKETS BONN *	6	5	1	83.3%	11
2	 MHP RIESEN LUDWIGSBURG *	6	3	3	50%	9
3	 JDA BOURGOGNE DIJON	6	2	4	33.3%	8
4	 GALATASARAY EKMAS	6	2	4	33.3%	8






GROUP L	TEAM	P	W	L	%	PTS
1	 UCAM MURCIA *	6	4	2	66.7%	10
2	 PROMITHEAS PATRAS *	6	3	3	66.7%	10
3	 HAPOEL HOLON	6	3	3	66.7%	10
4	 AEK BESSON BC	6	0	6	0%	6

* QUALIFIED FOR QUARTER FINALS



SEASON AWARDS





TEAM OF THE MONTH

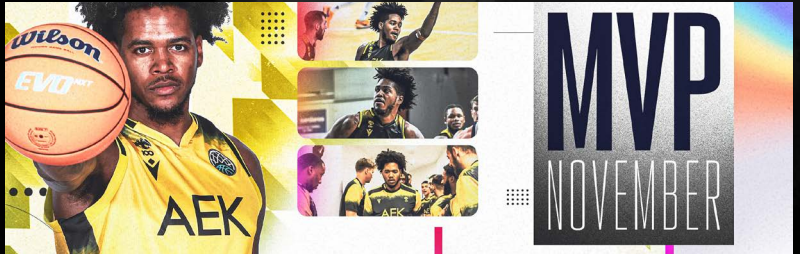
OCTOBER		
CHRIS DOWE		BERTRAM DERTHONA TORTONA
GREGOR HROVAT		JDA BOURGOGNE DIJON
JUSTIN TILLMAN		AEK BETSSON BC
DAVID MCCORMACK		DARUSSAFKA LASSA
VERNON CAREY JR.		PINAR KARSIYAKA



VERNON CAREY JR. 






PINAR KARSIYAKA

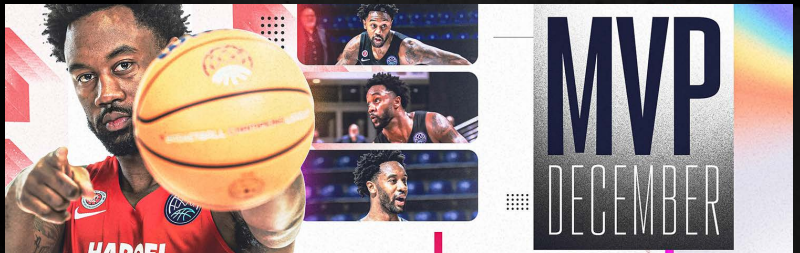
NOVEMBER		
MARCELINHO HUERTAS		LENOVO TENERIFE
KENDALL SMITH		PAOK MATECO
JUSTIN TILLMAN		AEK BETSSON BC
DAVID HOLSTON		JDA BOURGOGNE DIJON
LEVI RANDOLPH		HAPOEL BANK YAHAV JERUSALEM



JUSTIN TILLMAN 

AEK BETSSON BC

DECEMBER		
MUHAMMAD-ALI ABDUR-RAHKMAN		DARUSSAFKA LASSA
LEVI RANDOLPH		HAPOEL BANK YAHAV JERUSALEM
PIERRE-ANTOINE GILLET		FILOU OOSTENDE
GYTIS RADZEVICIUS		RYTAS VILNIUS
DAVID MCCORMACK		GALATASARAY EKMAS



LEVI RANDOLPH 

HAPOEL BANK YAHAV JERUSALEM




SEASON AWARDS


TEAM OF THE MONTH


JANUARY

MARCELINHO HUERTAS  LENOVO TENERIFE

HUNTER HALE  PROMITHEAS PATRAS

CRAIG RANDALL II  CHOLET BASKET

JUSTIN SMITH  HAPOEL HOLON

AUSTIN WILEY  TOFAS BURSA



HUNTER HALE 

PROMITHEAS PATRAS


NO TEAM OF THE MONTH SELECTED FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

MARCH

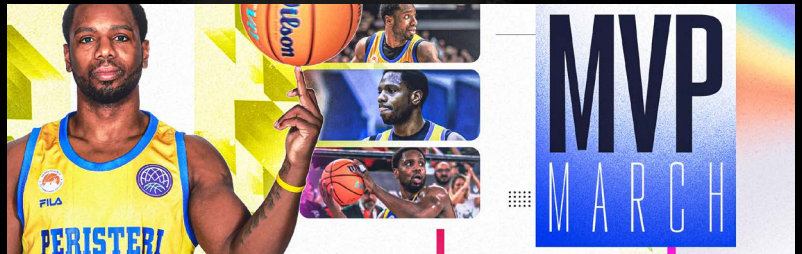
MARCELINHO HUERTAS  LENOVO TENERIFE

JOE RAGLAND  PERISTERI BWIN

JAYVON GRAVES  MHP RIESEN LUDWIGSBURG

DUSTIN SLEVA  UCAM MURCIA

JAIME ECHENIQUE  PROMITHEAS PATRAS



JOE RAGLAND 

PERISTERI BWIN





Lenovo Tenerife



bwin



FINAL FOUR

BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

BELGRADE 2024

April 26-28

BELGRADE ARENA

#RoadtoBelgrade





LENOVO TENERIFE

BCL columnists Igor Curkovic and Diccon Lloyd-Smeath discuss everything you need to know about Lenovo Tenerife.

Igor: This is probably our only chance to hit copy-paste. Lenovo Tenerife are back for their fifth Final Four so, alongside their two Final Eights, they have reached the season-ending BCL tournament in seven of the eight seasons of this competition. But can we really go copy-paste? Did the two-time champions really walk an easy path, as usual?

Diccon: In a word, yes. We saw again the classic, early season road loss in the Regular Season. On this occasion though it happened twice, when they went down 88-84 at Darussafaka Lassa and then lost 77-72 at VEF Riga. However, we also saw them getting routine wins in third gear and taking first place in their group, as is almost customary by now. Tenerife put the record straight against Darussafaka with a 72-64 win at home, with Marcelinho Huertas dropping 21 points and dishing 11 assists for a double-double, and swerved the Play-Ins thanks to a dominant 91-85 road win at Cholet Basket behind Bruno Fitipaldo's 16-point display.

In the Round of 16, Tenerife were drawn in what proved to be the toughest group, together with Hapoel Bank Yahav Jerusalem, Pinar Karsiyaka, and their upcoming Semi-Final opponents, Peristeri bwin. As usual though, when a so-called 'group of death' includes Tenerife, the metaphor turns out to apply only to the other teams.

That's exactly what happened again on this occasion. Txus Vidorreta's team won the first two games of the Round of 16 in style. First, in a battle of the bigs between Giorgi Shermadini and Karsiyaka's Vernon Carey, the Georgian put up 25 points and 9 rebounds as Tenerife picked up a handy 106-97 win in Izmir. Tenerife's new signing Kyle Guy also showed how perfect he was for the Vidorreta system, with 25 points of his own.

They followed up with a 89-68 home romp over Peristeri and everything was going to plan. Tenerife were then humbled somewhat in Belgrade as Hapoel Jerusalem handed them an 85-61 defeat. The setback didn't last long, though.





Unlikely hero Joan Sastre put up 22 points to support Huertas' 24 points as Tenerife completed a 95-92 reversal over Jerusalem on the next gameday and then clinched an 88-79 win to complete the double over Pinar Karsiyaka and secure a spot in the Quarter-Finals. They did lose to Peristeri on the final day of the Round of 16 but, by that point, Vidorreta, Huertas, Shermadini and the gang already had half an eye on things to come.

It took Tenerife three games to get the job done against Tofas Bursa in the Quarter-Finals, but it somehow never felt like a series that was in doubt. Huertas picked up his 11th BCL career double-double in Game 3, with 13 points and 10 assists, as the Canarians notched up their 22nd straight home win in the BCL. Huertas had previously racked up 30 points and 8 assists in Game 1 of the series and is playing some of the best basketball of his life.

Igor: *Coach Vidorreta is the winningest coach in BCL history, already up to 90 career wins in this competition. How has he fine-tuned the 2024 edition of the Tenerife machine?*

Diccon: Adding Kyle Guy has had a major impact on the way this team plays. Everyone knows about the Vidorreta system and we have all been watching it so long that even the less keen observer can recognize familiar set plays and actions. That doesn't make it any easier for the opponents.

Whenever Tenerife fell short in the past, it was on the rare occasions when the system wasn't clicking. Their two championship runs both involved players that could score outside the system and get their own buckets, Marius Grigonis in Season 1 and Kyle Wiltjer in Season 6.

Kyle Guy is more in the Grigonis mould. He can play within the system, but if Vidorreta feels the need to call his number, he knows he has a go-to-Guy, pun intended. When you add in Huertas scoring more prolifically than he ever has before, Fitipaldo being his usual efficient self and Sasu Salin returning at the right time, that Tenerife offensive backcourt is as strong as it's ever been.

Igor: *Tenerife score an incredible 119 points per 100 possessions this season and lead the BCL in offensive rating. Meanwhile, their defense has been questionable, allowing 111 points per 100 possessions and ranks 17th. Does this mean Tenerife are testing*

the 'defense wins championships' adage? Is offense their way to the trophy in 2024?

Diccon: It's very unlikely that one of the consistently best defensive teams in the BCL over the last eight seasons has just forgotten how to play defense. The small sample size of games and mitigating circumstances mean that we shouldn't really read too much into Tenerife's struggles defensively.

Salin was out for long periods and he alone makes a hugely underrated difference defensively. Let's also not forget that Tenerife already held their Semi-Final opponents Peristeri to just 68 points when they met in the Round of 16.

Igor: *Tofas Bursa were effective against Tenerife in the Quarter-Finals, using low post-ups and getting early into their offense. Are those Tenerife's weak points?*

Diccon: It could well be interesting to see if Tenerife's Semi-Final opponents Peristeri look to employ some low post matchups with their guards posting up against Huertas, Fitipaldo, and Guy, because Tofas enjoyed some success doing that in Game 2 of their Quarter-Final series.

Peristeri may also want to turn the game into a shootout and a high volume of early offense actions may well be the way for them to create advantages. The Greek side however have been a halfcourt offensive team this year, so maybe it's not really who they are either. Then again, when you have Joe Ragland running the show, you never know.

Igor: *What's your favorite thing about Tenerife's season? Could be a play, a player, a playcaller, a playlist, a play on words...*

Diccon: The obvious answer here would be Huertas playing like a man in his twenties while he is in his forties but no, I'm going to pick a play. Vidorreta's offensive system has now become one of European basketball's most well-known exports - other than the star players of course - to the NBA.

This year we saw 'NBA twitter' get excited about a new adaptation to the iconic 'Spain pick-and-roll' action but in fact this new twist is known as 'Tenerife' action or 'Sasu's play' and they have been using it for several years now on the Canary island.



SHOOTING %

2 PTS FG

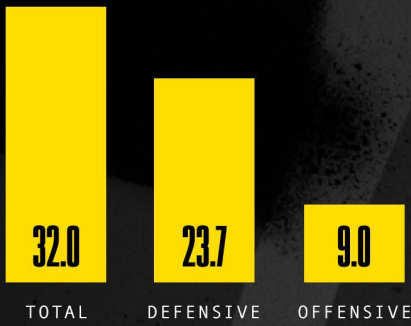
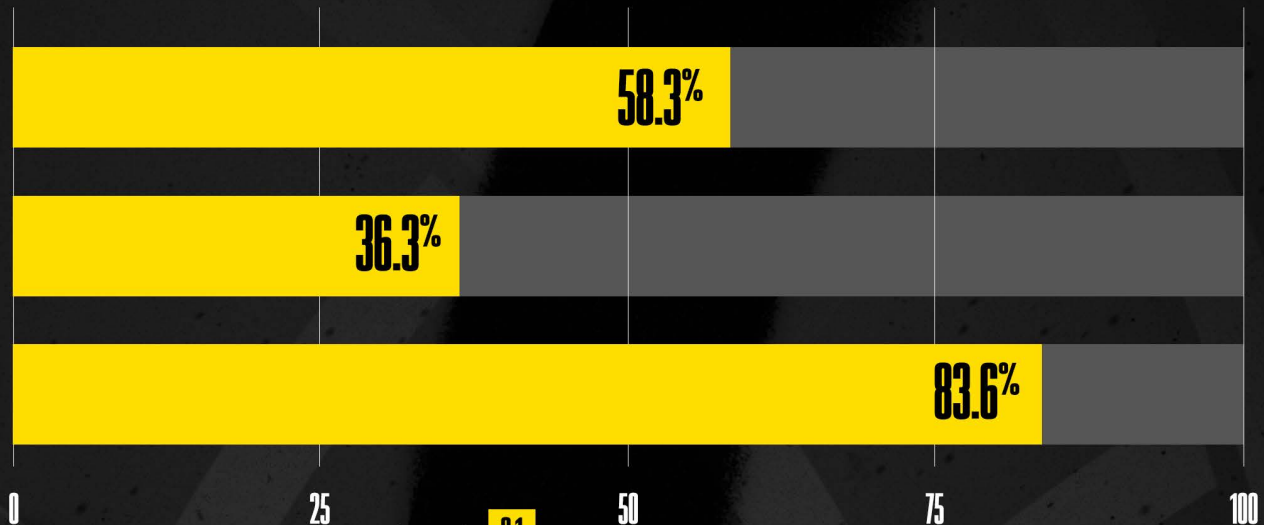
58.3%

3 PTS FG

36.3%

FREE-THROWS

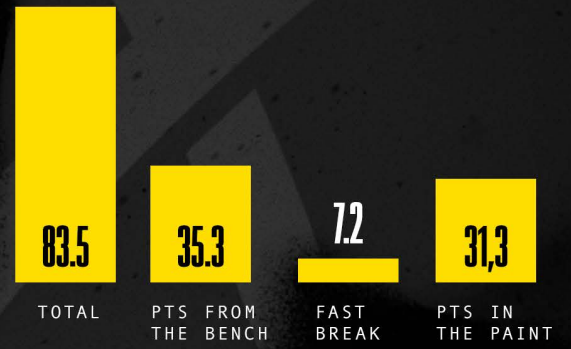
83.6%



REBOUNDS



KEY STATS (PERCENTILE)



SCORING

TXUS VIDORRETA



DATE OF BIRTH	20/06/1966
BCL COACHING RECORD	90-31-1
BCL RANK IN COACHING WINS	#1

COACHING CAREER

Cajabilbao (ESP; 1992-94), Askartza (ESP; 1995-96, 1997-98), Bilbao Patronato (ESP; 1996-97), La Palma (ESP; 1998-2001), Bilbao (ESP; 2001-10), Lucentum Alicante (ESP; 2010-12), Estudiantes (ESP; 2012-15), Tenerife (ESP; 2015-17, 2018-), Valencia (ESP; 2017-18), Tenerife (ESP; 2018-)

He may win the BCL again, he may win the Liga Endesa, he may win any other trophy, but it's hard to imagine Txus Vidorreta celebrating anything the way he celebrated on April 6. The Bilbao-born coach finally witnessed something he hadn't experienced for 40 years, his beloved Athletic Bilbao winning a major trophy, the Spanish Cup in soccer. On the basketball court, he has collected a number of trophies with Tenerife, winning the BCL twice, the FIBA Intercontinental Cup twice, and being named the best coach in Spain in 2017. He is the BCL's all-time leader in wins among coaches, and another season at the helm of the island juggernauts could see him become the first coach to reach 100 wins in the competition. Vidorreta has kept the core of this roster together since 2019, with constant upgrades year after year, picking up valuable pieces such as Kyle Guy, arguably their best mid-season signing of all time. At 57 years of age, he is the most experienced among the four coaches in Belgrade. He was already drawing up plays from the sidelines when his Semi-Finals rival Vasilis Spanoulis hadn't even started his playing career. His offensive schemes need to be studied in coaching clinics, as Tenerife put up an incredible, BCL-leading 119 points per 100 possessions this season.





20.6
PPG

KYLE GUY

POINTS



4.7
RPG

GIORGI SHERMADINI

REBOUNDS



46.5%
3PTS

JOAN SASTRE

3-POINTERS



7.9
APG

MARCELINHO HUERTAS

ASSISTS



Lenovo Tenerife

DUO
TO WATCH



GIORGI SHERMADINI

174

TOTAL
POINTS

78

POINTS

FROM

39

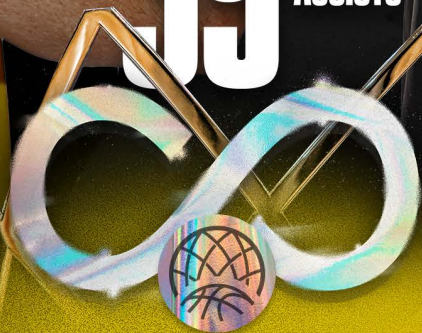
ASSISTS



MARCELINHO HUERTAS

919

TOTAL
ASSISTS





DATE OF BIRTH	25/05/1983
POSITION	POINT GUARD
HEIGHT	191CM/6'3''
BCL SEASON-HIGH:	31 POINTS
@ PERISTERI BWIN; MAR 19, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	31 POINTS
@ PERISTERI BWIN; MAR 19, 2024	

Club career: FMU Sao Paulo (BRA; 2001-02, 2003-04), Pinheiros (BRA; 2002-03), Joventut Badalona (ESP; 2004-07), Bilbao (ESP; 2007-08), Fortitudo Bologna (ITA; 2008-09), Baskonia (ESP; 2009-11), Barcelona (ESP; 2011-15), Los Angeles Lakers (USA; 2015-17), Baskonia (ESP; 2017-19), Tenerife (ESP; 2019-)

Lebron James continues to break records at the age of 39 but, on this side of the pond, Marcelinho Huertas is setting an even more incredible example. Not only is he still contributing on a high level just a month before his 41st birthday, but he is actually going through the highest-scoring season of his entire career and unlocking new levels offensively. Over the first 17 years of his career as a Pro he scored 30 or more points just once, with 32 against Argentina at the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2010. Since 2022 though, he has had four +30-point games, including two in the BCL over the past 40 days! None of this would've been possible without his discipline, as he's been taking care of his body and his diet with enormous dedication since he moved to Tenerife and prolonged his career into his 40s. His higher than ever scoring rate doesn't mean he has forgotten about passing. This season, he overtook Pablo Laso to become the all-time leader in assists in the Liga Endesa, while he also owns the top spot in the same category in the BCL. An incredible career, with no signs of coming to an end any time soon.



DATE OF BIRTH	24/08/1994
POSITION	SMALL FORWARD
HEIGHT	204CM/6'8''
BCL SEASON-HIGH:	7 POINTS
V TOFAS BURSA; APR 17, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	12 POINTS
V SIG STRASBOURG; JAN 9, 2018	

Club career: Estudiantes (ESP; 2012-14), Penas Huesca (ESP; 2014-15), Estudiantes (ESP; 2015-21), Unicaja (ESP; 2021), Fuenlabrada (ESP; 2021), Obradoiro (ESP; 2021-23), Tenerife (ESP; 2023-)

It's never easy to be the new guy in an already established system, but Edgar Vicedo's transition to Lenovo Tenerife and into his role was very smooth. That's probably because he was very familiar with Txus Vidorreta's work from their days together at Estudiantes. Vicedo spent nine years of his career at the Madrid club and had his best ever Liga Endesa season there, back in 2017-18. Vicedo's minutes in Tenerife's Final Four rotation will rise significantly if Aaron Doornekamp doesn't make it back from injury on time. Make sure to check his social media accounts after the Final Four, as Vicedo loves taking photos and videos and is spending most of his off-court time with a camera in his hands. That was a note to self, really. We could always use another talented photographer or videographer in our rotation. Especially if he's a successful Pro player, as well.



DATE OF BIRTH	02/08/1991
POSITION	POINT GUARD
HEIGHT	183CM/6'0''
BCL SEASON-HIGH:	16 POINTS
@ CHOLET BASKET; DEC 19, 2023	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	24 POINTS
@ DINAMO BDS SASSARI, NOV 4, 2020	

Club career: Club Malvin (URU; 2006-14), Obras Sanitarias (ARG; 2014-16), Orlandina (ITA; 2016), Galatasaray (TUR; 2016-17), Avellino (ITA; 2017-18), San Pablo Burgos (ESP; 2018-20), Tenerife (ESP; 2020-)

No player on this roster was more eager for another shot at the Final Four than Bruno Fitipaldo. He missed a date with destiny in the Semi-Finals last season, as he misfired on a wide open three-pointer at the end. With his character, he will be 100 percent determined to make all his shots count this time around. Fitipaldo is a perfect fit for a roster revolving around Marcelinho Huertas, offering a different kind of playmaking. At the same time, he is extremely effective and somewhat underappreciated, not getting enough praise for the things he does at an elite level. He was the 2023 FIBA Intercontinental Cup MVP, proving he can be the difference-maker in this kind of tournaments, and he technically has two BCL titles to his name. He was a key component in Burgos's run to the title in 2020, but left the club during the pause due to the Covid pandemic, just before the Final 8 in Athens.



DATE OF BIRTH	11/08/1997
POSITION	SHOOTING GUARD
HEIGHT	185CM/6'1''
BCL SEASON-HIGH:	34 POINTS
@ TOFAS BURSA; APR 10, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	34 POINTS
@ TOFAS BURSA; APR 10, 2024	

Club career: Stockton Kings (USA; 2019-20), Sacramento Kings (USA; 2019-21), Cleveland Charge (USA; 2021, 2022), Miami Heat (USA; 2021-22), Sioux Falls Skyforce (USA; 2022), Joventut Badalona (ESP; 2022-23), Panathinaikos (GRE; 2023-24), Tenerife (ESP; 2024-)

Talk about a mid-season upgrade. Tenerife were in need of something to spice up their offense and help them overcome their early-season scoring troubles, and they found the perfect Guy, quite literally. Kyle is a flamethrower, topping the scoring charts in the Basketball Champions League over his nine games with Tenerife, averaging 20.6 points per game. Guy won the NCAA championship with Virginia in 2019 as the Most Outstanding Player of the Final Four, and showed that same kind of form when he moved to Europe in 2022. If there were any doubts over how he would fit in with the Spanish style of play, they were put to rest when he averaged 19.8 points per game in Joventut Badalona's six play-off games last season. That earned him a trip to Panathinaikos, but as things did not work out there, Tenerife were quick to react; it seems to be a match made in heaven so far.



DATE OF BIRTH	04/04/1995
POSITION	CENTER
HEIGHT	211CM/6'11"
BCL SEASON-HIGH:	18 POINTS
V PERISTERI BWIN; JAN 31, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	18 POINTS
V PERISTERI BWIN; JAN 31, 2024	

Club career: Alava (ESP; 2011-12), Araberri (ESP; 2012-13), Baskonia (ESP; 2011-21), Gran Canaria (ESP; 2021-22), UCAM Murcia (ESP; 2022-23), Unicaja (ESP; 2023), Filou Oostende (BEL; 2023-24), Tenerife (ESP; 2024-)

Lenovo Tenerife's front office likes to have a reliable third big guy in the rotation. This is the role that Moussa Diagne filled last season and Dusan Ristic was supposed to take on this season, but it did not work out the way they planned so he was loaned out to San Pablo Burgos. When the spot opened up for a new big, Txus Vidorreta managed to lure Ilimane Diop back to Spain. He had started the season with Filou Oostende in Belgium, where he enjoyed a pair of double-doubles and regained his confidence completely. His best game in black-and-yellow was against none other than Tenerife's next opponent, putting up 18 points, 7 rebounds and 2 blocks against Peristeri bwin in the Round of 16. One more game like that, and that 'third big guy in the rotation' spot could be his for a much longer period than just half a season.



DATE OF BIRTH	02/04/1989
POSITION	CENTER
HEIGHT	217CM/7'1"
BCL SEASON-HIGH:	25 POINTS
@ PINAR KARSIYAKA; JAN 23, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	26 POINTS
V BAKKEN BEARS; OCT 20, 2020	

Club career: Maccabi Tbilisi (GEO; 2005-08), Panathinaikos (GRE; 2008-10), Union Olimpija (SLO; 2010-11), Cantu (ITA; 2011-12, 2014-15), Maccabi Tel Aviv (ISR; 2012), Olympiacos (GRE; 2012-13, 2014), Zaragoza (ESP; 2013, 2014), Andorra (ESP; 2015-17), Unicaja (ESP; 2017-19), Tenerife (ESP; 2019-)

What is there to say about the Georgian giant that has not been told before? Giorgi Shermadini only joined Tenerife at 30 years of age, but he's made it his permanent home, becoming one of the most efficient players in all of Europe since then. This season, Gio's minutes and usage rate have dropped somewhat as Tenerife opted to play through their guards more, but even at a BCL career-low 21.3 minutes per game, he's still averaging 11.6 points and 4.7 rebounds, on 71.9 percent shooting from the field. The Semi-Final in Belgrade might be something of a nostalgic moment for the Tenerife center who just turned 35, as he will have to be foes for a day with his old friend Vasilis Spanoulis. Back in 2008, the current coach of Peristeri welcomed the slim seven-footer from Georgia to Panathinaikos and four years later they had a second spell as teammates, on Olympiacos.



DATE OF BIRTH	10/12/1991
POSITION	SMALL FORWARD
HEIGHT	201CM/6'7"
BCL SEASON-HIGH:	22 POINTS
V HAPOEL BANK YAHAV JERUSALEM; MAR 6, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	22 POINTS
V HAPOEL BANK YAHAV JERUSALEM; MAR 6, 2024	

Club career: Inca (ESP; 2008), Mallorca (ESP; 2008-09), Sevilla (ESP; 2009-14), Zaragoza (ESP; 2014-16), Valencia (ESP; 2016-21), Tenerife (ESP; 2021-)

People always talk about chasing the 50-40-90 shooting splits. Well, how about going 60-50-90!?! Joan Sastre is playing the best of his three seasons with Lenovo Tenerife, shooting 58.9 percent from the field and 50.8 percent from beyond the arc across 28 games in the Liga Endesa, while going 54.5 and 'just' 46.5 from the respective ranges in the Basketball Champions League, and hitting 100 percent of his free-throws. Sastre is the most fluid player out there, moving the ball like it's on a string and always keeping a calm head. His off-ball movement cannot be praised enough, so it's no wonder Marcelinho Huertas loves playing with him so much and hitting him on all sorts of backdoor cuts. Even though he's rarely the leading scorer, Sastre can have his moments, like the 22-point outing against Hapoel Jerusalem earlier this year.



DATE OF BIRTH	17/09/1989
POSITION	POWER FORWARD
HEIGHT	201CM/6'7"
BCL SEASON-HIGH:	16 POINTS
V PINAR KARSIYAKA; MAR 13, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	23 POINTS
V FRIBOURG OLYMPIC; OCT 23, 2018	

Club career: ASVEL (FRA; 2012-13), SIG Strasbourg (FRA; 2013-14), Braunschweig (GER; 2014-15), Tenerife (ESP; 2015-19, 2022-), Zenit (RUS; 2019-20), Unicaja (ESP; 2020-22), Tenerife (ESP; 2020-)

Show of hands, how many of you remember Tim Abromaitis's 2017 heroics? Lenovo Tenerife won the title in the inaugural BCL season and he was a big reason why, putting up a monster 19-point, 9-rebound performance against Umansky Reyer Venezia in the Semi-Finals, which felt like a 30/20 game considering the final score was 67-58. Abromaitis went scoreless in the Final, but still picked up his only BCL title. His best BCL season so far was in 2018-19, albeit Tenerife did not win the trophy that year. He was named to the Star Lineup First Team, after averaging 11.3 points and 5.3 rebounds per game. It remains his only double-digit scoring European season and it was followed by spells at Zenit and Unicaja, before reuniting with coach Vidorreta in 2022. Abromaitis arrives in Belgrade with 70 career wins in the BCL, more than any other player in the competition, and the Semi-Final will be his 100th BCL game.



DATE OF BIRTH	15/01/1993
POSITION	SMALL FORWARD
HEIGHT	196CM/6'5''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	13 POINTS
@ DARUSSAFKA LASSA; OCT 24, 2023	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	26 POINTS
V SIKELIARCHIVI CAPO D'ORLANDO; FEB 6, 2018	

Club career: Santa Cruz Warriors (USA; 2016-17), MHP RIESEN (GER; 2017-18), Cedevita (CRO; 2018-19), Avtodor Saratov (RUS; 2019-20), UNICS (RUS; 2020), Belediyespor (TUR; 2020-21), Tofas Bursa (TUR; 2021-22), Tenerife (ESP; 2022-)

There is no better compliment than your future employer seeing you in action and dialing your number immediately after the matchup. In 2022, Lenovo Tenerife edged out Tofas Bursa in the Quarter-Finals, and the front office was so impressed with Elgin Cook's game, they brought him over in the very next transfer window. He understood the assignment immediately: he's not in Tenerife to put up 20 points like in his MHP RIESEN Ludwigsburg days, with which he played his first Final Four in 2018. He's here to play defense, run the floor, knock down a three-pointer or two, or to detonate his explosive dunks, to become his team's intimidating presence. Cook's family background has been well documented, his father Alvin Robertson was a four-time NBA All-Star, and the NBA Defensive Player of the Year and Most Improved Player in 1986. No wonder Elgin is so athletic and full of defensive tricks.



DATE OF BIRTH	05/12/1985
POSITION	POWER FORWARD
HEIGHT	201CM/6'7''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	15 POINTS
@ CHOLET BASKET; DEC 19, 2023	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	23 POINTS
V FILOU OOSTENDE; JAN 11, 2017	

Club career: Carleton (CAN; 2004-09), Caserta (ITA; 2009-12), Braunschweig (GER; 2013-14), Skyliners Frankfurt (GER; 2014-16), Tenerife (ESP; 2016-17, 2020-), Valencia (ESP; 2017-20), Tenerife (ESP; 2020-)

The Final Four may come too soon for Aaron Doornekamp after his first major injury in the four years since he returned to Tenerife. But even when Doornekamp is questionable to play, his sole presence in the locker room brings a winning charisma to the team like few others can. Aaron has two BCL championships to his name, he has also won the EuroCup and the Spanish Supercup with Valencia, and seeing Germany win the FIBA Basketball World Cup in 2023 must have brought back some sweet memories. That's because he played next to Johannes Voigtmann in coach Gordie Herbert's system, when they won the FIBA Europe Cup with Fraport Skyliners in 2016. A true testament to his longevity is the fact that he is one of the two returning members from the first BCL Star Lineup First Team (2017) at this Final Four, the other one being his compatriot, Unicaja's Melvin Ejim.



DATE OF BIRTH	23/12/1992
POSITION	CENTER
HEIGHT	214CM/7'0''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	10 POINTS
TWICE	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	17 POINTS
V DINAMO SASSARI; OCT 13, 2021	

Club career: Estudiantes (ESP; 2012-14, 2015-16), Forca Lleida (ESP; 2014-15), Ourense (ESP; 2016-17), Melilla (ESP; 2017-18), Palma (ESP; 2018-19), Tenerife (ESP; 2019-)

Call him Mr. Consistency. Fran Guerra averaged 5.9 points and 3.8 rebounds in the Liga Endesa last season, and he came back to get 5.8 points and 3.8 rebounds in 2023-24. His fifth BCL season has been one of his best so far, with 6.9 points on 70 percent shooting from the field, but he only appeared in eight games before the Final Four. The last two were enough to put him in the right shape ahead of the event in Belgrade, as it turned out those back-to-back 10-point games against Tofas Bursa were his only double-digit games in Season 8 of the BCL. He understands his role perfectly, which is understandable since this is his seventh season with coach Txus Vidorreta. He's either pushing bodies around on the defensive end and securing the boards, or playing above the rim once the guards feed him offensively.



DATE OF BIRTH	11/06/1991
POSITION	SHOOTING GUARD
HEIGHT	190CM/6'3''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	25 POINTS
V CHOLET BASKET; OCT 17, 2023	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	34 POINTS
@ GALATASARAY; DEC 15, 2020	

Club career: Espoon Honka (FIN; 2007-10), Union Olimpija (SLO; 2010-15), Gran Canaria (ESP; 2015-17), Unicaja (ESP; 2017-19), Tenerife (ESP; 2019-)

It has been a season full of ups and downs for Sasu Salin. An increased role for Kyle Guy saw him lose his spot in the rotation, but with professionals such as Sasu, coach Txus Vidorreta always trusts him to stay ready, because a chance may open up on any given day. When Doornekamp went down with an injury just days before the crucial Game 3 of the Quarter-Finals, Salin accepted the responsibility, and stepped up with 12 points in just 14 minutes of action to throw off Tofas Bursa's challenge, despite the fact he hadn't played a BCL game in nearly three months. Sasu is the all-time leader in three-pointers made in the Basketball Champions League, and at 32 years of age, he is in his fifth season with Tenerife. Numbers-wise it's his most modest, dropping from around 9 points a game to just 3.7 per contest in the Liga Endesa in 2023-24.



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PERISTERI BWIN

BCL columnists Igor Curkovic and Diccon Lloyd-Smeath discuss everything you need to know about Peristeri bwin.

Igor: *The prominence of Greek basketball is well known, so we shouldn't be surprised there is a Greek club at the Final Four, and yet seeing Peristeri bwin here did not seem like a certainty at any point this season. How did they get to Belgrade?*

Diccon: *It's safe to say it didn't look like a certainty at the start of the Regular Season. Group A couldn't have started much worse for head coach Vasilis Spanoulis and his team as they lost three of their first four games, to Le Mans Sarthe Basket (both home and on the road) and to Unicaja in Malaga.*

Peristeri's only success in that stretch was an 87-70 win over Falco Szombathely at home. The Greek club also claimed a 90-87 road win over Falco immediately after, but their fortunes only really changed when the Spanish giants, Unicaja, arrived at the Andreas Papandreou arena on Gameday 6. Peristeri

pulled off the unexpected, winning 76-73 behind an impressive 22-point, 11-rebound double-double by Trevor Thompson and a 16-point haul from Jermaine Love.

Rytas Vilnius awaited Peristeri in the Play-Ins in what looked from the outset like a tough challenge. In reality, Spanoulis and his team made light work of their first knockout games in the BCL this season. A dominant 110-92 road win was followed by an 83-80 home win and they rolled on into the Round of 16. Ragland stamped his authority with back-to-back double-doubles, of 25 points and 15 assists in Game 1 and of 17 points with 10 assists in the second game.

Just as it had happened in the Regular Season, Peristeri got off to a slow start also in the Round of 16, losing the first three games to Hapoel Bank Yahav Jerusalem, Lenovo Tenerife





and Pinar Karsiyaka. At that point, a lesser team would have accepted their fate and bowed out gracefully in the toughest group in the Round of 16.

Not this team, though. Three wins on the bounce saw Joe Ragland earn monthly MVP honors for March and Spanoulis was also proclaimed as the Coach of the Month to boot. Perhaps the most impressive of the three wins was the 76-61 success over Jerusalem on the road, with the Ragland-Thompson one-two punch again providing a double-double each; 16 points and 10 assists for Ragland, 10 points and 11 rebounds for Thompson.

The Quarter-Final series against the reigning champions, Telekom Baskets Bonn, required all three games for Peristeri to claim a historical ticket to the Final Four. The German side looked strong as they took Game 1 at home but a dominant 90-62 Peristeri win in Greece turned the tide and was followed by an equally impressive 89-77 win in Bonn in Game 3 to decide the series.

Igor: *Is it fair to say that their biggest star is actually their coach? Vasilis Spanoulis is one of the biggest names in the history of basketball, and it seems like his coaching career is off to a brilliant start. Could we talk about coaching fingerprints already?*

Diccon: We absolutely can talk about a Spanoulis coaching fingerprint. From the way this team has been man-managed to wring out every last drop of effort, to the way his three-guard lineup with Ragland, Elijah Mitrou-Long and Jermaine Love combined for 52 points to win Game 3 against Bonn, his fingerprints have been all over Peristeri's season to date. This team's standout statistic is their blazing-hot offensive rating. They score at a rate of 114 points per 100 possessions, which ranks sixth in the BCL this season, but is quite impressive within the context of their season's journey. That offense needed to be off the charts for them to win five of six games since the start of March against the likes of Tenerife, Bonn, Jerusalem and Karsiyaka.

Igor: *Back in 2018, AEK won the whole thing. They reached one more Final in 2020, as the only Greek team ever in the Final Four until Peristeri showed up this season. What do Spanoulis's men need to do to join AEK on the list of BCL winners?*

Diccon: The path ahead leads to a rematch with Tenerife, with whom they have already split a pair of games. The Canarians' experience heading into their fifth Final Four in eight years might give them an advantage, but when Peristeri shoot the ball well they are a match for anyone, including the other Spanish club they also split two games with this year, Unicaja.

In their losses, Peristeri shot 34.6 percent from the field, whereas in the games they won, that average jumped to 49.9 percent. The same is true for their long-range shooting. In victories they shot 40 percent from deep, compared with 33.3 percent in the games they lost. If Peristeri shoot the ball well, they can beat any team.

Igor: *Every team has a weak spot. What's the Greek team's weakest link and how do they deal with it?*

Diccon: They need physicality and intensity on defense. Offense alone won't be enough in Belgrade. Spanoulis loves to use small-ball lineups and for those - or in fact for any of their lineups - to work, they need to be up for the battle on the defensive end. Players will need to scrap for every rebound and fight to win matchups against bigger opponents.

Igor: *What's your favorite thing about Peristeri's season? Could be a play, a player, a playcaller, a playlist, a play on words...*

Diccon: It has to be Joe Ragland. He not only holds the all-time record for double-doubles in the BCL, with 16, but he is also in four of the top five assist partnerships this season. That means he has dished 49 assists to Trevor Thompson alone, and those assists resulted in 99 of Thompson's 194 total points. All of which make that the most productive assist partnership in the BCL this season. It's a similar story with Ragland and Kenny Williams, Nemanja Dangubic, and Leonidas Kaselakis. Nobody else has made their team tick this season like Ragland has.



SHOOTING %

2 PTS FG

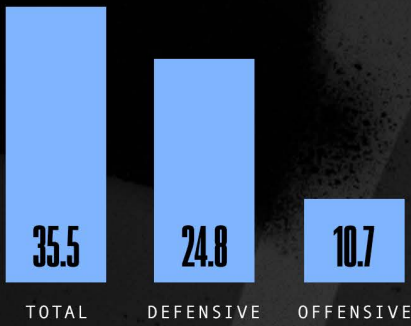
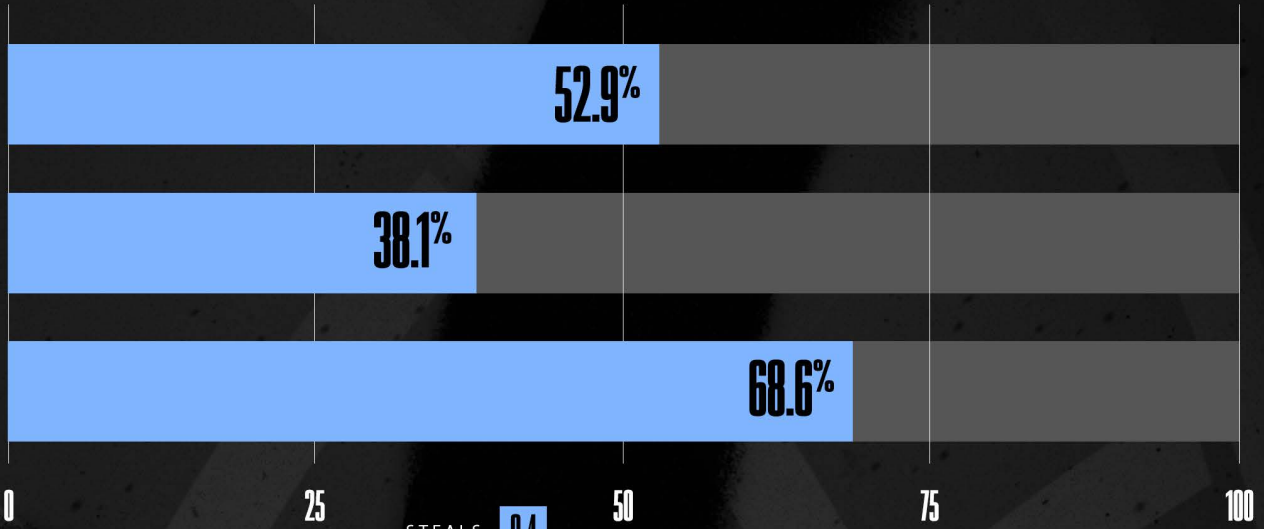
52.9%

3 PTS FG

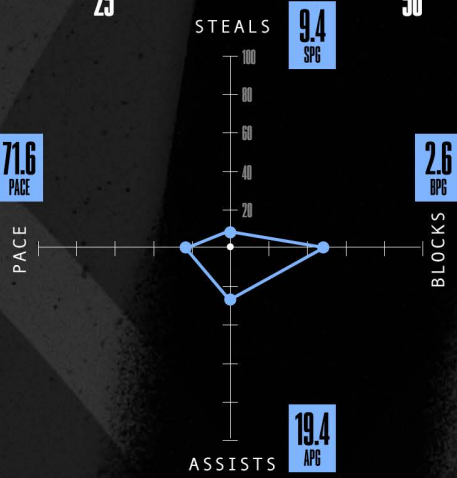
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FREE-THROWS

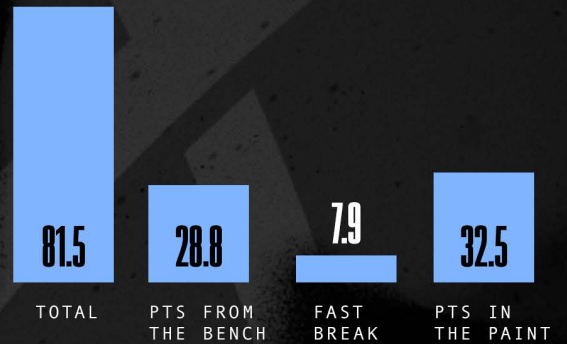
68.6%



REBOUNDS



KEY STATS (PERCENTILE)



SCORING

VASILIS SPANOULIS



DATE OF BIRTH	07/08/1982
BCL COACHING RECORD	14-12
BCL RANK IN COACHING WINS	#40

PLAYING CAREER

GS Larissas (GRE; 1999-2001), Maroussi (GRE; 2001-05), Panathinaikos (GRE; 2005-06), Houston Rockets (USA; 2006-07), Panathinaikos (GRE; 2007-10), Olympiacos (GRE; 2010-21)

COACHING CAREER

Peristeri (GRE; 2022-), Greece (national team; 2023-)

One of the most successful playing careers is having a fascinating sequel. Vasilis Spanoulis is only in his second year as a coach but he's already raised Peristeri bwin to new heights, converting them into only the second-ever Greek club to reach the Final Four, after AEK in 2018 and 2020. When he took over, he stated that his initial goal was to bring the fans back to the arena. It looks like not only he's managed to do that, but has also turned them into a traveling party, judging by the loud support Peristeri had in Game 3 in the Quarter-Finals in Bonn. There is no doubt there are amazing things ahead for coach 'Kill Bill'. Look at him as the basketball version of Bayer Leverkusen's Xabi Alonso. They are around the same age, they won everything there is to win as players, they both got their first real coaching opportunities in 2022, and they both made history for their clubs in 2024. Beyond his basketball knowledge of the Xs and Os, Spanoulis's players also praise the mental aspect of his coaching and his ability to keep every single one of them aggressive and focused on the task at hand. As of last October, he also has the role of the head coach of the Greek national team.





14.8

PPG

JOE RAGLAND

POINTS

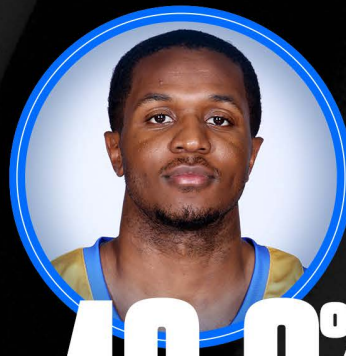


8.4

RPG

TREVOR THOMPSON

REBOUNDS



46.2%

3PTS

KENNY WILLIAMS

3-POINTERS



9.2

APG

JOE RAGLAND

ASSISTS



DUO TO WATCH



TREVOR THOMPSON

194

TOTAL POINTS

99

POINTS

FROM

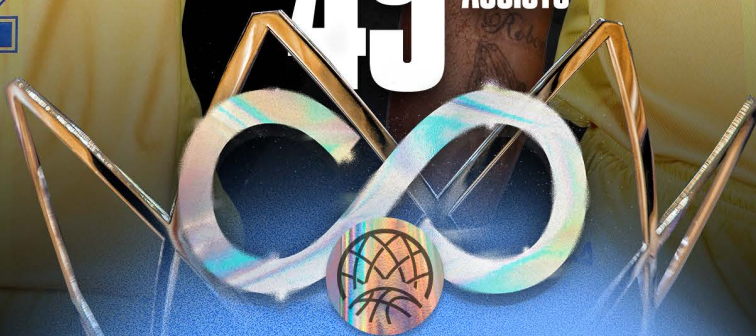
49

ASSISTS

JOE RAGLAND

157

TOTAL ASSISTS





DATE OF BIRTH	28/11/1989
POSITION	POINT GUARD
HEIGHT	182CM/6'0''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	25 POINTS
@ RYTAS VILNIUS; JAN 3, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	31 POINTS
V FILOU OOSTENDE; OCT 11, 2022	

Club career: UCAM Murcia (ESP; 2012-13), Cantu (ITA; 2013-14, 2019-20), Olimpia Milano (ITA; 2014-15), Pinar Karsiyaka (TUR; 2015), Scandone Avellino (ITA; 2015-17), Lokomotiv Kuban (RUS; 2017-18), Crvena zvezda (SRB; 2018-19), Hapoel Eilat (ISR; 2020-21), Hapoel Holon (ISR; 2021-23), Peristeri bwin (GRE; 2023-)

Add another one to the list of players who are not only extending their careers, but continue to be difference-makers deep into their 30s. Joe Ragland is the riddle every single Peristeri opponent is trying to figure out, but it proves to be a hopeless task, more often than not. He's been having an incredible season and he switched into top gear in 2024, kicking it off with 42 points and 25 assists total over two Play-In Games against Rytas Vilnius. He followed up with 50 points and 33 assists over three straight wins for Peristeri to climb back from 0-3 to 3-3 in the Round of 16 and after, a slow first game, he finished off Bonn in the Quarter-Finals with 42 points and 17 assists over the last two games. The common thread connecting all those big games? Ragland plays his best basketball under pressure, saves his top performances for elimination games, becoming the superhero this team needed to succeed. The lefty point guard is playing his second BCL Final Four, after the one with Hapoel Holon in Bilbao, Spain in 2022. He is also coming back 'home,' having spent a season in Belgrade with Crvena Zvezda, in 2018-19.



DATE OF BIRTH	15/12/1996
POSITION	POINT GUARD
HEIGHT	187CM/6'2''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	22 POINTS
@ TELEKOM BASKETS BONN; APR 3, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	22 POINTS
@ TELEKOM BASKETS BONN; APR 3, 2024	

Club career: PAOK (GRE; 2020-21), Levski Sofia (BUL; 2021-22), Apollon Patras (GRE; 2022), Niagara River Lions (CAN; 2022), Aris (GRE; 2022-23), Peristeri bwin (GRE; 2023-)

When you're putting a team together, the goal is to find different solutions at the same positions. So, if you have a pass-first point guard like Joe Ragland, you need to complement him with a player who can create points for himself if the offense becomes too stale. Enter stage, Elijah Mitrou-Long. The younger of the two Mitrou-Long brothers (the eldest, Naz, is playing for Olympiacos this season), Elijah is as crafty as they get, putting his defenders on skates with dribbles that resemble those early 2000s streetball compilations. The math is simple, if Mitrou-Long is efficient, so are his teams. This season, he scored in double digits in 23 games in all competitions and Peristeri went 18-5 in those contests. By comparison, they are 9-11 when he scores in single digits. Picking Greece as his basketball home was no surprise as his mother is Greek-Canadian and Elijah obtained Greek citizenship in October 2023.



DATE OF BIRTH	13/04/1993
POSITION	SMALL FORWARD
HEIGHT	196CM/6'5''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	18 POINTS
@ PINAR KARSIYAKA; FEB 7, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	18 POINTS
@ PINAR KARSIYAKA; FEB 7, 2024	

Club career: Hemofarm (SRB; 2011-12), Mega (SRB; 2012-14), Crvena zvezda (SRB; 2014-18), Bayern (GER; 2018-19), Estudiantes (ESP; 2019-20), Partizan (SRB; 2020-22), Promitheas Patras (GRE; 2022-23), Peristeri bwin (GRE; 2023-)

We should be asking Nemanja to welcome us to Belgrade, instead of the other way around. A nearby Pancevo native, Dangubic started his professional career in Vrsac with Hemofarm, before playing for three Belgrade-based clubs: Mega, Crvena Zvezda and Partizan. Dangubic is an elite athlete and his bounce off of two legs was always impressive to see, even if he's just pulling up for a regular jumper. Speaking of shooting, he is having a career year in Peristeri, with 49-44-83 shooting splits in the Greek League. He is also making 45.1 percent of his threes in the BCL, while registering his career-highs in points (7.6 per game) and rebounds (4.9 per game) in European competitions. Interestingly, even if he wins the BCL, he still won't be the most decorated player in his household. His girlfriend, Katarina Lazovic, is both a European and World champion, with the Serbian national volleyball team.



DATE OF BIRTH	29/04/1984
POSITION	POINT GUARD
HEIGHT	188CM/6'2''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	4 POINTS
V LE MANS SARTHE BASKET; DEC 6, 2023	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	13 POINTS
V ESTUDIANTES; OCT 10, 2017	

Club career: Near East Athens (GRE; 2002-04), Panathinaikos (GRE; 2004-05, 2006-07, 2012-13), PAOK (GRE; 2005-06), Panionios (GRE; 2007-09, 2011-12, 2014-15), Panellinios (GRE; 2009-11), Obradoiro (ESP; 2013-14), Aris (GRE; 2015-17), AEK (GRE; 2017-19, 2022-23), Peristeri bwin (GRE; 2019-20, 2023-), Kolossos Rodou (GRE; 2020-22), Peristeri bwin (GRE; 2022-)

The oldest player on the roster, Vasilis Xanthopoulos is in his second stint with Peristeri bwin, returning over the last summer. He is far from his best scoring days, but his experience and basketball IQ make him a coach on the floor, as not a lot of others can match his resume. Back in 2006-07, he was a part of Panathinaikos' treble-winning team, and in 2018, he held the spiky BCL trophy in his hands, as a vital member of AEK's championship-winning lineup. In the Semi-Final against UCAM Murcia, AEK were a +15 team in his 17 minutes of action, a huge differential in a 2-point win. Xanthopoulos dished out a total of 13 assists at the 2018 Final Four in Athens. He has another historic opportunity in Belgrade, as he could become the first ever player to win the BCL with two different Greek clubs.



DATE OF BIRTH	27/03/1989
POSITION	SHOOTING GUARD
HEIGHT	191CM/6'3''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	20 POINTS
@ PINAR KARSIYAKA; FEB 7, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	20 POINTS
TWICE	

Club career: Palanga (LTU; 2013-14), Perlas (LTU; 2014-15), Lietkabelis (LTU; 2015-16), Nevezis (LTU; 2016-17), Trefl Sopot (POL; 2017-18), Holargos (GRE; 2018-19), Verona (ITA; 2019-20), Kolossos Rodou (GRE; 2020), Hapoel Holon (ISR; 2020), PAOK (GRE; 2020-22), Nizhny Novgorod (RUS; 2022-23), Guaros de Lara (VEN; 2023), Elan Chalon (FRA; 2023), Peristeri bwin (GRE; 2023-)

For somebody named Love, Jermaine has got a lot of tenacity in him, saying he hates every single team except the one he is playing for. Sure, a lot of time has passed since that 2017 interview in Lithuania when he dropped that quote, but Love is still the game-winner, still the clutch shooter and a fan favorite wherever he shows up. He was the team captain at PAOK, the only club where he's spent more than a season. He took the term 'career journeyman' to a whole new level in 2023, changing his address four times as he went from Russia to Venezuela to France to Greece. The Love part of the name is reserved for moments off the court. Jermaine's social media stories make you think he's got a potential career as a motivational speaker once he grows tired of making those pullups and layups in traffic all over the world.



DATE OF BIRTH	03/04/1995
POSITION	SHOOTING GUARD
HEIGHT	185CM/6'1''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	5 POINTS
TWICE	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	9 POINTS
@ LENOVO TENERIFE; DEC 14, 2022	

Club career: Aris (GRE; 2013-15, 2017-18, 2021-22), Koroivos (GRE; 2015-16), Aries Trikala (GRE; 2016-17), Kymis (GRE; 2018-19), Kolossos Rodou (GRE; 2019-20), Apollon Patras (GRE; 2020-21), Peristeri bwin (GRE; 2022-)

Finding a permanent home is one of the toughest tasks for any player. Stelios thought he had that when Aris signed him to a long-term contract as a teenager but he didn't stay with the Thessaloniki yellow-blacks for long, as he went on multiple loan spells before leaving the club for good in 2020-21 and took a step back. That's when he won the Greek Second Division with Apollon and it sparked a move to Peristeri, where he's signed a new contract through 2025. Pouliantitis is a useful rotational player, especially on the defensive end. Offensively, he can be a streaky shooter and had a span of hitting 7-of-8 threes in a couple of games in the Greek League, including a 12-point outburst against Olympiacos. He played 33 minutes in the last two games against Bonn in the Quarter-Finals, signaling a bigger role for him in this part of the season.



DATE OF BIRTH	01/06/1990
POSITION	POWER FORWARD
HEIGHT	198CM/6'6''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	18 POINTS
V LENOVO TENERIFE; MAR 19, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	22 POINTS
@ JDA BOURGOGNE DIJON; JAN 18, 2023	

Club career: Ilysiakos (GRE; 2008-12), PAOK (GRE; 2012-14), AEK (GRE; 2014-15), Nea Kifissia (GRE; 2015-16), Astana (KAZ; 2016-18), Promitheas Patras (GRE; 2018-20), Panathinaikos (GRE; 2020-22), Peristeri bwin (GRE; 2022-)

Back at the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023, Greece coach Dimitris Itoudis signaled that missing Leonidas Kaselakis was a big blow for their ambitions. When you consider they were also missing Giannis Antetokounmpo, Nick Calathes, Kostas Sloukas and Tyler Dorsey, it speaks volumes of how much coaches appreciate having Kaselakis on their rosters. He was a part of one of the most talented generations of Greek basketball, picking up four major FIBA Youth Championship medals in three summers along with Sloukas, Nikos Pappas and Kostas Papanikolaou. Kaselakis was statistically better last season, but he is probably enjoying this one more, as he already has played more games than in the entire 2022-23 campaign. Aside from the last two seasons with Peristeri, Leonidas had also played in the BCL in 2018-19, getting his career-highs in scoring (9.1 points per game) and three-point shooting percentage (47.4) in any European competition.



DATE OF BIRTH	11/12/1996
POSITION	POWER FORWARD
HEIGHT	203CM/6'8''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	10 POINTS
@ FALCO VULCANO SZOMBATHELY; NOV 21, 2023	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	12 POINTS
V DINAMO BDS SASSARI; OCT 19, 2022	

Club career: Austin Spurs (USA; 2020-22), PAOK (GRE; 2022-23), Peristeri bwin (GRE; 2023-)

Another point guard on this team, but he is keeping that a secret since he's surrounded by all these ball handlers. Nate Renfro was the 175cm/5'9" backcourt ace for his high school team, then had an unreal growth spurt which made him a power forward or even a center in modern day basketball. His growth is now evident in the mental aspects of the game. The culture shock he went through two years ago, when he first arrived in Europe for PAOK, is now over, or he has the experience to go through what he's described as chaos. The transition to Peristeri was smoother thanks to the fact that he's reunited with Kenny Williams, his former Austin Spurs teammate. While Williams is in charge of shooting, Renfro does none of that - his shot chart spans strictly around the rim, which explains his mind-blowing 79 percent shooting from two-point range for the season.



DATE OF BIRTH	18/11/1996
POSITION	SHOOTING GUARD
HEIGHT	193CM/6'4''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	25 POINTS
@ LENOVO TENERIFE; JAN 31, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	25 POINTS
@ LENOVO TENERIFE; JAN 31, 2024	

Club career: Austin Spurs (USA; 2019-21), Bnei Herzliya (ISR; 2021), Kolossos Rodou (GRE; 2021-22), AEK (GRE; 2022-23), Peristeri bwin (GRE; 2023-)

There are few places and teams that are just iconic in basketball history. Wearing the baby blue and white of North Carolina must be an amazing feeling, and we don't even need to begin to describe what Kenny Williams felt when he was a part of the 2017 NCAA championship-winning team of the Tar Heels. He suffered a serious injury late in that season, but Kenny is never one to be bitter when things don't go his way. A 'believer saved by Grace', as he describes himself, Williams is always trusting in God's plan and having that kind of faith probably explains his calm demeanor on and off the court. His job on the court is pretty simple: just shoot. Williams has attempted a total of 78 three-pointers, compared to just 42 two-pointers, and he's knocking down a whopping 46.2 percent on nearly 5 three-point attempts per game.



DATE OF BIRTH	12/06/1994
POSITION	SHOOTING GUARD
HEIGHT	CENTER
BCL SEASON-HIGH	22 POINTS
V UNICAJA; DEC 19, 2023	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	22 POINTS
V UNICAJA; DEC 19, 2023	

Club career: Santa Cruz Warriors (USA; 2017-18), Antibes Sharks (FRA; 2018-19), Antwerp Giants (BEL; 2019), Pieno Zvaigzdes (LTU; 2019-20), Turi Svitavy (CZE; 2020), Kangoeroes Mechelen (BEL; 2020-21), Polski Cukier Torun (POL; 2021), Zadar (CRO; 2021-22), Scafati (ITA; 2022-23), Peristeri bwin (GRE; 2023-)

There are two sides to every coin. If Joe Ragland was not a part of this story, Trevor Thompson would've been the BCL's season leader in double-doubles, with four. But then again, if Ragland was not a part of this story, Thompson probably would've had trouble getting his double-doubles. He is a perfect fit for Peristeri's offense, capable of torturing opponents from the short roll or around the rim, so the front office really hit a home run by getting him to Greece. Pun intended, since Trevor's father Ryan was a professional baseball player with 52 career home runs in the MLB. Thompson is having a better season in the BCL (11.4 PPG, 8.4 RPG) than in the Greek League (8.2 PPG, 6.0 RPG), and coach Spanoulis would love him to be more consistent on the defensive end. He's had games with 5 blocks, but he also went block-less in eight BCL contests this season.



DATE OF BIRTH	04/10/2000
POSITION	FORWARD
HEIGHT	207CM/6'9''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	13 POINTS
@ FALCO VULCANO SZOMBATHELY; NOV 21, 2023	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	13 POINTS
@ FALCO VULCANO SZOMBATHELY; NOV 21, 2023	

Club career: Panionios (GRE; 2018-19), Ionikos Nikaias (GRE; 2020-22), Panathinaikos (GRE; 2021-), Peristeri bwin (GRE; 2023-)

There's no place like home. Nikos Chougkaz was brought up through Peristeri's academy, and after a short stint with the Northwestern State University, Panionios, Ionikos and Panathinaikos, he returned to Peristeri in February 2023. The big forward is also a big project for the future of Greek basketball, which is quite understandable when you consider his size, skill, attitude and family background. Twin brother Robert also went to Northwestern State, his father Chris played professionally in Greece, Germany and Austria and is currently a coach, while his mom is probably the star of the family. Sonia Dafkou had an amazing career, helping Panathinaikos to their first title in five years back in 2005, one of only five Greek League championships for PAO women's section. Once he finishes this term with Peristeri, Nikos will once again search for his spot in Panathinaikos' rotation, honoring the four-year contract he signed with the Greens in 2021.



DATE OF BIRTH	14/10/2004
POSITION	POWER FORWARD
HEIGHT	202CM/6'8''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	4 POINTS
@ LENOVO TENERIFE; JAN 31, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	4 POINTS
@ LENOVO TENERIFE; JAN 31, 2024	

Club career: Peristeri bwin (GRE; 2021-)

When we used the Coach Spanoulis - Xabi Alonso parallelism earlier, Vangelis Zougris surely understood the reference. The youngest player on the Quarter-Finals roster could have become a center back, on the big green pitch, but instead Sofia Kligkopoulou introduced him to other plans on a smaller, indoor court. The former Greek women's national team player helped Zougris transition to becoming a big guy in basketball, after he played football from the age of six, all the way until he was 15. The Final Four in Belgrade could be another learning experience for Vangelis, who is still a teenager and is eligible for another FIBA U20 European Championship experience. That's where he made the most noise last summer. His great footwork and endless wingspan got him to 14.4 points, 11.1 rebounds and 1.9 steals per game and he earned a spot on the All-Star Five of the event, as Greece finished third.

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UCAM MURCIA

BCL columnists Igor Curkovic and Diccon Lloyd-Smeath discuss everything you need to know about UCAM Murcia.

Igor: Back in May 2018, Real Madrid won their third straight UEFA Champions League with a 3-1 triumph over Liverpool in Kyiv, Ukraine; Drake's 'Nice For What' dominated the Billboard Hot 100; Avengers: Infinity War topped the box office, and UCAM Murcia reached their maiden BCL Final Four. It was somewhat of an upset back then, but surely it's hardly an upset now, six years later, that Murcia are back into the elite four.

Diccon: There will surely be some mixed emotions for Unicaja head coach Ibon Navarro, because six years ago, in Athens, he was the one sitting on the end of the UCAM Murcia bench, where Sito Alonso sits now.

Indeed, back then Murcia were the plucky underdog with a fighting spirit. This time however, they arrive as one of the season's most in-form teams in the Spanish Liga Endesa and have only lost three games all season in the BCL.

They started the BCL Regular Season with an upset loss on the road, at newcomers Bertram Derthona Tortona, but that would be the only loss in Group H for coach Alonso and his stacked team. They motored through four straight wins on the way to the top spot in the group. The highlights of that run included a defensive masterclass against Igokea m:tel en route to a 72-47 victory, and an equally impressive display, this time on the offensive end, in the following game, where they dispatched Tofas Bursa 115-89. Troy Caupain scored 39 points across the two games, with 18 of them in just 16 minutes of action against Tofas.

There was a blow in mid-December as star big man Simon Birgander picked up a long-term injury, but the club dipped back into the market and added Marko Todorovic.

Alonso and his talented roster hardly missed a step and





secured a spot in the Round of 16 by clinching an 87-75 win over Derthona on the penultimate gameday of the Regular Season.

The Round of 16 was not without challenges as Murcia suffered road defeats to Promitheas Patras and Hapoel Holon. They still topped their group though, with the standout result an 84-79 win on the road over AEK in a ding-dong battle in Athens. Todorovic came up big on that occasion, top-scoring with 21 points.

Murcia used the homecourt advantage in the Quarter-Finals to sail through in two games against MHP Riesen Ludwigsburg. Todorovic again stepped up with 33 points across the two games and Rodions Kurucs had his best game of the season in the home leg, dropping 18 points on 8-of-8 shooting from the floor.

Igor: *Players come and go, but coach Alonso has made Murcia his permanent home. The Madrid-born coach arrived in town five years ago and has had enough time to leave the imprint of his coaching style in the south east of Spain. What are the main characteristics of an Alonso-coached team?*

Diccon: Execution and more execution. Coach Alonso's team is characterized by a perfect juxtaposition: on the one hand, they will run through all the options in their halfcourt offense fluidly but, at the same time, they are one of the most clinical teams in transition when they do get out and run.

They have the second-best Net Rating in the BCL, at +16.3 points per 100 possessions. That's mainly thanks to ranking second for both offensive rating, with 116 points scored per 100 possessions, and for defensive rating with 99.7 points allowed per 100 possessions.

This is a roster with a very balanced output across the board. Dylan Ennis and Dustin Sleva take the most shots but only average 8.9 and 8 shot attempts per game, respectively, whilst new arrival Jonah Radebaugh leads the scoring with 14 points per game.

Also, watch out for the way Alonso utilizes his forwards. Dustin Sleva is one of the stories of the season at the power forward spot, but you will also see tall ball lineups with Sleva or Radovic and Kurucs on the floor at the same time as Todorovic or Moussa Diagne at center. This roster is deep and versatile.

Igor: *This club does not have a lot of silverware in its trophy cabinet. Could they turn that into an advantage in Belgrade? Playing with less pressure or expectations, but with a whole lot to potentially win at the Final Four?*

Diccon: Absolutely. Murcia fly into Belgrade light and free, with much less weight of expectation on their shoulders than their Semi-Final opponents, Unicaja. They already lost twice this year to the Andalucians in the Liga Endesa, but even that could help Alonso and his team. It's difficult enough to beat a good team twice in a season, but three times is another level of difficulty. Murcia will like the chances of this tie swinging in their favor this time.

Igor: *If there is one thing Murcia need to improve in do-or-die games with the championship on the line, what would it be? They haven't shown a lot of weaknesses throughout this run to the Semi-Finals.*

Diccon: Murcia have never shown a moment of weakness in clutch moments this season. The only thing they might lack, is experience as a group. They are yet to play in a Semi-Final or Final together, and questions still remain about how they will execute as a team in the biggest games.

Igor: *What's your favorite thing about UCAM Murcia's season? Could be a play, a player, a playcaller, a playlist, a play on words...*

Diccon: It has to be the vibes in this team, and the master of ceremonies when it comes to those has to be Dylan Ennis. He has been here before, with Zaragoza, when they reached the Semi-Finals in 2020 and 2021. He brings a determined positivity in his approach and Murcia are going to need that in Belgrade.



SHOOTING %

2 PTS FG

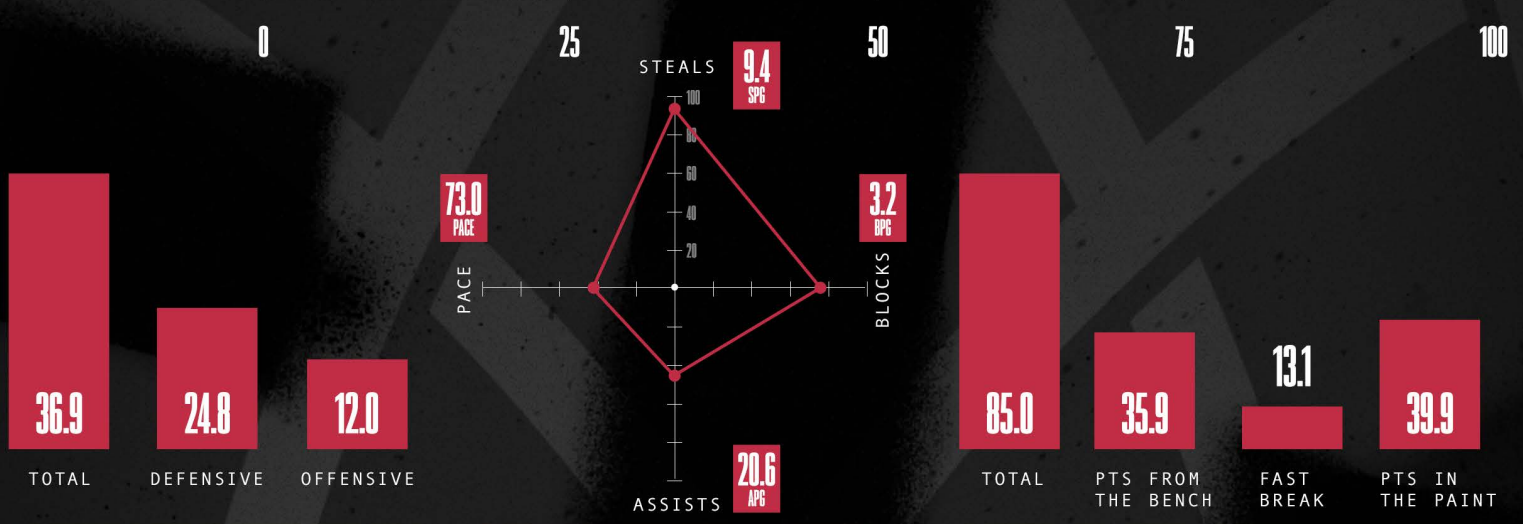
58.6%

3 PTS FG

34.3%

FREE-THROWS

76.6%



REBOUNDS

KEY STATS (PERCENTILE)

SCORING

SITO ALONSO



DATE OF BIRTH	04/12/1975
BCL COACHING RECORD	24-10
BCL RANK IN COACHING WINS	#21

COACHING CAREER

CB Monzon (ESP; 1999-2004), CB Prat (ESP; 2004-05), Joventut Badalona (assistant, ESP; 2005-08), Joventut Badalona (ESP; 2008-10), Gipuzkoa Basket (ESP; 2011-14), Spain (U20; 2013), Bilbao Basket (ESP; 2014-16), Baskonia (ESP; 2016-17), Barcelona (ESP; 2016-17), Cedevita (CRO; 2018), UCAM Murcia (ESP; 2019-)

Has there ever been a wunderkind in coaching? Sure, plenty of coaches started coaching in their teens and got their first major job in their 20s, but Sito Alonso must be a record-holder of some sort, because he started coaching other kids when he was 11 years old! By the time he was 17, his playing career had ended following a horrible Achilles injury and, at 22, he started coaching lower-level leagues in Spain. Alonso had the honor and privilege of getting the call from Badalona early on, and he states that Aito Garcia Reneses is his biggest influence, spending four years together at Joventut. Alonso spent most of his career within Spain's borders, with a brief trip to Croatia in 2018. Things did not work out in Zagreb but the door opened in Murcia, starting the longest stint of his coaching career so far. He watches between 12 and 14 games every week and says that he's still in love with basketball the same way he was as that 11-year-old kid. It's not an illness, more of an addiction for UCAM Murcia's head coach. With so many games every week, with so much coaching already behind him, it's no wonder his favorite hobbies require silence, instead of people shouting around him: reading books and swimming.





13.3

PPG

JONAH RADEBAUGH

POINTS



5.1

RPG

MARKO TODOROVIC

REBOUNDS



50.0%

3PTS

TROY CAUPAIN

3-POINTERS



4.4

APG

DYLAN ENNIS

ASSISTS



DUO
TO WATCH



MARKO TODOROVIC

120

TOTAL
POINTS

ESP
SOLUTIONS

31

POINTS

FROM

14

ASSISTS



DYLAN ENNIS

61

TOTAL
ASSISTS

UCAM
MURCIA
DE LA CRUZ 2024
AÑO JUBILAR





DATE OF BIRTH	26/12/1991
POSITION	SHOOTING GUARD
HEIGHT	188CM/6'2''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	20 POINTS
V PROMITHEAS PATRAS; JAN 30, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	26 POINTS
@ NIZHNY NOVGOROD; MAY 5, 2021	

Club career: Mega (SRB; 2017), Crvena zvezda (SRB; 2017-18), Zaragoza (ESP; 2018, 2019-21), Andorra (ESP; 2018-19), Monaco (FRA; 2019), Gran Canaria (ESP; 2021-22), Galatasaray Nef (TUR; 2022-23), UCAM Murcia (ESP; 2023-)

You think it's possible to describe Dylan Ennis in 200 words? In Belgrade, 'Mr. Worldwide' is back home, because he actually holds Serbian citizenship from his days at Mega and Crvena Zvezda. But that's not all, Ennis is also Canadian, American and Jamaican, and if that wasn't unique enough, there's more to his story. He is one of the rare players with a six-year long college career at Rice, Villanova and Oregon and, at 25, he was one of the oldest players in NCAA history to reach the Final Four. He found a home in Murcia, extended his contract and can't stop talking about how much his family enjoys being a part of the UCAM family, posting hilarious everyday life clips on his social media channels - don't be surprised if the future holds a career in media for him. On the court, he is exactly what you expect when you see him off the court. An energy bolt, a guy equally capable of shooting from 10 meters out as he is to finish around the rim. This is his third BCL Final Four, after reaching the Semi-Finals with Zaragoza in 2020 and 2021, and he's been named on the Star Lineup Second Team twice.



DATE OF BIRTH	05/02/1998
POSITION	FORWARD
HEIGHT	203CM/6'8''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	18 POINTS
V MHP RIESEN; APR 3, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	19 POINTS
@ HAPOEL BANK YAHAV JERUSALEM; FEB 7, 2023	

Club career: VEF Riga (LAT; 2012-15), Barcelona (ESP; 2015-18), Brooklyn Nets (USA; 2018-21), Long Island Nets (USA; 2018-20), Houston Rockets (USA; 2021), Milwaukee Bucks (USA; 2021), Partizan (SRB; 2021-22), SIG Strasbourg (FRA; 2022-23), UCAM Murcia (ESP; 2023-)

UCAM Murcia have always felt like a family, and having two Kurucs brothers certainly enhances that feeling. Rodions is the older brother, a player who can do a bit of everything and be the most influential player of the game even if he finishes in single digits in scoring. That's because he uses his big body to get a lot of rebounds, his IQ to dish assists, and his wingspan to defend everybody on the other team from one through five, whilst filling up the boxscore. Kurucs's biggest influence growing up was his grandfather, who introduced him to basketball at the age of five. He is yet another Murcia player who will feel at home in Belgrade, as he spent a season with Partizan when he returned to Europe from the NBA, getting a complete change of basketball philosophy - from the fast-paced American game, to the cerebral style of play under Zeljko Obradovic.



DATE OF BIRTH	13/02/1991
POSITION	SMALL FORWARD
HEIGHT	201CM/6'7''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	12 POINTS
@ TOFAS BURSA; DEC 20, 2023	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	27 POINTS
V FRAPORT SKYLINERS; JAN 3, 2017	

Club career: SG Braunschweig (GER; 2011-12), Phantoms Braunschweig (GER; 2012-13), Novipiu Casale Monferrato (ITA; 2013-14), Assigeco Casalpusterlengo (ITA; 2014-15), ERA Nymburk (CZE; 2015-17), Darussafaka (TUR; 2017-18), AEK (GRE; 2018-20), CSKA Moscow (RUS; 2020), Panathinaikos (GRE; 2020-22), Zaragoza (ESP; 2022-23), UCAM Murcia (ESP; 2023-)

Buyouts aren't that common in European club basketball. Yet, Howard Sant-Roos was so good in 2020 that Russian powerhouse CSKA Moscow paid AEK €500,000 to activate his release clause and secure his services. It was a kind of a crowning moment for the Cuban, who had played in lower Italian and German Leagues until he was 24 before he finally got his big break with Nymburk, in Czechia. He was a much more prolific scorer back then, setting his BCL career-high in Season 1, 2016-2017. It's his defense though that made waves all over the continent, making him one of only two players with 100+ career steals in the BCL. Even though Cuba is not exactly a traditional basketball powerhouse, Sant-Roos isn't the first Cuban in a BCL Final Four. His compatriot Jasiel Rivero was a mainstay in San Pablo Burgos' back-to-back titles in 2020 and 2021.



DATE OF BIRTH	29/11/1995
POSITION	POINT GUARD
HEIGHT	193CM/6'4''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	18 POINTS
V TOFAS BURSA; NOV 14, 2023	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	20 POINTS
V BAXI MANRESA, MAR 16, 2022	

Club career: Lakeland Magic (USA; 2017-18, 2018-19), Udine (ITA; 2018), Orlando Magic (USA; 2018-19), Hapoel Holon (ISR; 2019-20), Filou Oostende (BEL; 2020), ratiopharm Ulm (GER; 2020-21), Darussafaka (TUR; 2021-22), Brescia (ITA; 2022-23), UCAM Murcia (ESP; 2023-)

Imagine being so good that you leave Oscar Robertson behind. Troy Caupain is the all-time leader in assists at the University of Cincinnati, finishing his college career with 90 assists more than the 'Big O' had registered before becoming one of the greatest NBA players of all time. Caupain is a leader, and he admits he's too hard on himself at times, which is probably why he keeps a tough appearance on the court and saves the smiles for moments off the court. A BCL veteran, Caupain will turn 29 later this year, and he had already played in this competition with Hapoel Holon, Filou Oostende and Darussafaka before joining Murcia this season. An elite shooter, he's shooting exactly 50 percent from beyond the arc in the BCL, and if you need a bigger sample, check out his Liga Endesa three-point shooting: 44.7 percent across 29 games in Spain this season!



DATE OF BIRTH	11/11/1991
POSITION	POWER FORWARD
HEIGHT	208CM/6'10''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	15 POINTS
	V TOFAS BURSA; NOV 14, 2023
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	18 POINTS
	@ JDA DIJON; JAN 21, 2020

Club career: Mornar (MNE; 2008-11), Buducnost (MNE; 2011-12), Vrsac (SRB; 2012-13), KAOD (GRE; 2013), Mega (SRB; 2013-14), UCAM Murcia (ESP; 2014-17, 2020-), Obradoiro (ESP; 2017-18), Zaragoza (ESP; 2018-20), UCAM Murcia (ESP; 2020-)

Life works in mysterious ways. Nemanja Radovic was supposed to be the next big thing for Buducnost back home in Montenegro, when they brought him in at the age of 19 and handed him a four-year contract. He barely played however and so he searched for a home away from home. UCAM Murcia came calling, twice, and with a new contract extension, Radovic is set to complete nine seasons at the club once it expires. Nemanja is the captain of the team, learned Spanish immediately upon arrival, and is one of the main reasons why this club is considered a family. He holds numerous career records for Murcia and most notably as the club's all-time leader in points, overtaking Ralph McPherson in February to top the charts. Surprisingly, his best BCL season was not with Murcia. It was in 2019-20, when he put up 10 points and 5 rebounds per game for Zaragoza.



DATE OF BIRTH	23/09/1995
POSITION	POWER FORWARD
HEIGHT	203CM/6'8''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	22 POINTS
	@ TOFAS BURSA; DEC 20, 2023
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	22 POINTS
	@ TOFAS BURSA; DEC 20, 2023

Club career: Paris (FRA; 2018-22), Braunschweig (GER; 2023), UCAM Murcia (ESP; 2023-)

Here is something we should consider once this season ends: hiring Dustin Sleva at BCL headquarters. The 29-year-old power forward has a background in sports marketing and went through an internship with a company back in his Paris days, clearly thinking about life after his playing days were over. Sleva was a Division II player in College and found his way to Paris while they were still in the second division in France. His best season there helped them earn promotion and paved the way to the European success the club is enjoying nowadays. If he wins his own piece of continental silverware in Belgrade, he will do so as one of five UCAM players averaging double digits in scoring in the BCL this season. He lives in the midrange, with a variety of jump-hooks and fadeaways to keep the defense guessing, while he also loves the corner three-pointer.



DATE OF BIRTH	17/06/1997
POSITION	SHOOTING GUARD
HEIGHT	191CM/6'3''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	31 POINTS
	V AEK; MAR 12, 2024
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	31 POINTS
	V AEK; MAR 12, 2024

Club career: Koping Stars (SWE; 2020), MHP RIESEN (GER; 2020-22), Valencia Basket (ESP; 2022-23), Galatasaray EKMAS (TUR; 2023-24), UCAM Murcia (ESP; 2024-)

You never know which Jonah will show up. The one that was a BCL Star Lineup member with Ludwigsburg in 2021-22? Or the one who struggled at Valencia and Galatasaray? Or, the best one to date, the one that put up a career-high 31 points for UCAM Murcia back in the Round of 16 this season? Radebaugh will turn 27 this year, but has already been through a lot in European basketball. His tenacious defense has always been praised, at 191cm/6'3" he is so fast and strong at the same time that he has no issues switching from one through four on the defensive end. Offensively, he does most of the damage with his drives, instead of his outside shooting. His interests do not revolve just around basketball. He majored in Sports and Exercise Science, while also student-teaching at a high school back when he was attending the University of Northern Colorado.



DATE OF BIRTH	19/04/1992
POSITION	CENTER
HEIGHT	210CM/6'11''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	23 POINTS
	@ HAPOEL HOLON; MAR 20, 2024
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	23 POINTS
	@ HAPOEL HOLON; MAR 20, 2024

Club career: Joventut Badalona (ESP; 2010-12, 2018-19), Barcelona (ESP; 2012-14), Bilbao Basket (ESP; 2014-15), Khimki (RUS; 2015-18), Tianjin Ronggang (CHN; 2019-21), Real Betis (ESP; 2021), Beijing Royal Fighters (CHN; 2021-22), Ningbo Rockets (CHN; 2022-23), Shaanxi Wolves (CHN; 2023), UCAM Murcia (ESP; 2024-)

There has been plenty of discussion about the best mid-season signings in the BCL, but Marko Todorovic's name has not been mentioned enough. He came in with a bang, picking up the MVP of the Month award for February in the Liga Endesa while also averaging a career-high 13.3 points and 5.1 rebounds in the BCL, numbers he had never reached in any European competition up until now. The big Montenegrin center spent most of his career between Spain and China, with a solid run in Russia, too. He enjoyed China so much that he said it took him more time to adjust to Real Betis than to any of the Chinese clubs in his career. No wonder he put up crazy numbers there, like his career-high of 48 points in a single game. Todorovic has an elite touch around the rim, but his three-point shooting could also help Murcia in close games.



DATE OF BIRTH	06/03/1994
POSITION	CENTER
HEIGHT	211CM/6'11''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	11 POINTS
	V IGOKEA M:TEL; NOV 11, 2023
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	18 POINTS
	V IGOKEA M:TEL; NOV 11, 2023

Club career: Obila (ESP; 2012), Fuenlabrada (ESP; 2012-15, 2016-17), Barcelona (ESP; 2015-16), Andorra (ESP; 2017-22), Tenerife (ESP; 2022-23), UCAM Murcia (ESP; 2023-)

A man mountain from Guediawaye, Senegal finally got to see the mountains in Europe. Moussa is one of those guys with a contagious smile, making the most of each day, sharing photos from hiking and fishing trips, always finding nice things to say about his teammates and fans, no matter where he plays. It's incredible to see the heights he has reached, considering he is somebody who only started playing organized basketball at the age of 17. He is now back to his second BCL Final Four in a row, after finishing third last time around, with Tenerife. Diagne is a vertical option off the bench, offering a different kind of threat under the rim compared to Montenegrin giants Nemanja Radovic and Marko Todorovic, or the Swedish finisher Simon Birgander. Fun fact: he scored his career-high in all competitions, 21 points, against his current team as an Andorra player back in 2019.



DATE OF BIRTH	23/10/1997
POSITION	CENTER
HEIGHT	209CM/6'10''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	12 POINTS
	V TOFAS BURSA; NOV 14, 2023
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	12 POINTS
	V TOFAS BURSA; NOV 14, 2023

Club career: Rioverde Clavijo (ESP; 2015-17), Joventut Badalona (ESP; 2017-23), UCAM Murcia (ESP; 2023-)

A career-high of 12 points doesn't do Simon Birgander any justice. The Swedish giant was arguably the best player of the entire Liga Endesa to start the season, with an average efficiency rating of 21.1 across the first 12 games, but a horrid injury kept him out of action from December to April. He is now back to full fitness which is perfect news for coach Sito Alonso as the team is getting a late-season boost from a center who was having a career year before going down. Birgander made a bold move to leave Badalona after six years, and earning a starting spot in the rotation made all the difference for him. If there were an award for the most improved player in Spain, he would be the hot favorite to win it - Simon went from 7 points in 17 minutes per game last season, to 13 points in 24 minutes in 2023-24.



DATE OF BIRTH	07/09/1990
POSITION	SMALL FORWARD
HEIGHT	194CM/6'4''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	16 POINTS
	@ IGOKEA M:TEL; NOV 28, 2023
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	31 POINTS
	@ IGOKEA M:TEL; NOV 28, 2023

Club career: Brno (CZE; 2006-07), Joventut Badalona (ESP; 2007-12), CB Prat (ESP; 2007-10), Olin Edirne (TUR; 2012-13), Baskonia (ESP; 2013-14), Krasnye Krylia (RUS; 2014), Usak Sportif (TUR; 2015), Anwil Wloclawek (POL; 2015-16), Andorra (ESP; 2016-22), UCAM Murcia (ESP; 2022-)

David Jelinek was once the future of Czech basketball, and it took him just 24 games with Brno as a teenager to earn a ticket to Spain. He signed with Joventut Badalona and switched back and forth between 'la Penya' and their then affiliate club, CB Prat. Jelinek came in as a sharp shooter, a scorer, and that was the reputation that followed him around wherever he played later on, including his 17.8 points per game stint with Anwil in Poland. This is his second season at UCAM, finding his role in the rotation after setting all sorts of records at Andorra over his six years there. He only played nine games in the BCL this season, and his only double-digit scoring display was against Igokea with 16 points. Jelinek is an Olympian, proudly representing Czechia with 6.7 points per game at the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo.



DATE OF BIRTH	19/01/2000
POSITION	GUARD
HEIGHT	193CM/6'4''
BCL SEASON-HIGH	14 POINTS
	V OPAVA; OCT 18, 2023
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	21 POINTS
	V ERA NYMBURK; OCT 30, 2019

Club career: Fundacion 5+11 (ESP; 2015-17), Baskonia (ESP; 2017-19, 2020-23), VEF Riga (LAT; 2019-20), Promitheas Patras (GRE; 2023); UCAM Murcia (ESP; 2023-)

He was the baby brother for so long, and now, just weeks after the Final Four ends in Belgrade, he'll become a father. Arturs Kurucs grew up so fast, moving to Spain as a 15-year-old to follow in his brother's footsteps, but not at the same club. Fate has finally brought them together this season and they joined forces at club level, after doing so on the national team. Arturs is a completely different player to Rodions, doing the damage with his shooting. He set most of his BCL career-highs back in 2019-20, when he played for VEF Riga, as he averaged 10.6 points as a 20-year-old that season, which remains to date his best scoring campaign in a European competition. Arturs had an impressive run with Latvia at FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 and capped it off with a 20-point performance against Lithuania in the fifth-place game, knocking down 6 three-pointers in the process.

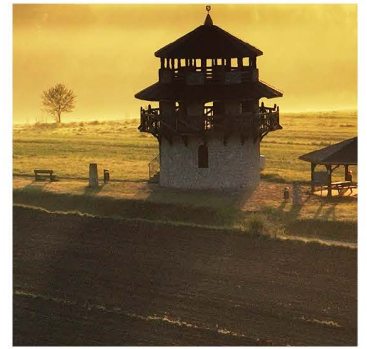
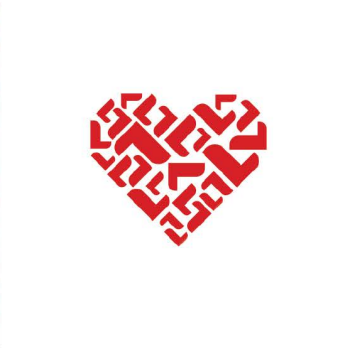
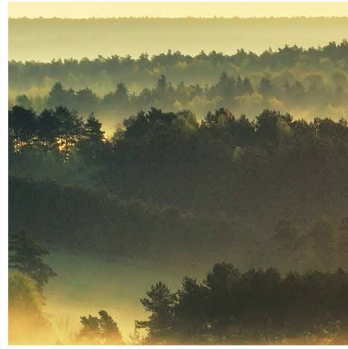
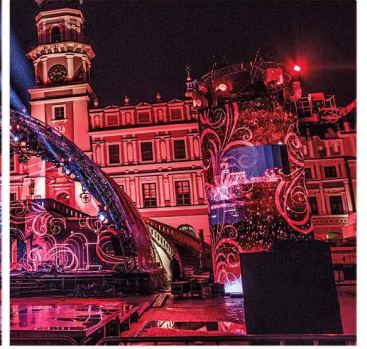
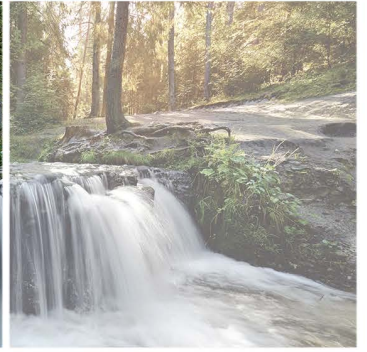
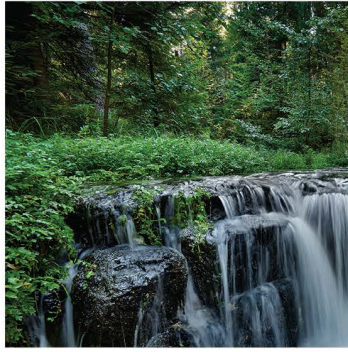


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UNICAJA

BCL columnists Igor Curkovic and Diccon Lloyd-Smeath discuss everything you need to know about Unicaja.

Igor: We've had Unicaja at the top or close to the top of the Power Rankings during this entire season. They are on pace to have back-to-back 40+ win seasons, which usually means winning a major trophy. How did they get to Belgrade?

Diccon: After having in 2022-23 their best campaign since 2017, Unicaja found a way to get even better this season. Continuity is the name of the game for head coach Ibon Navarro as 12 members of last season's team stayed on and even Augusto Lima, a nominal newcomer, is well-known to both the club and Navarro.

Unicaja started off Season 8 on a three-game win streak, against Falco Szombathely, Le Mans Sarthe Basket and Peristeri. Their 81-64 home rout of Peristeri saw all 12 players log more than 10 minutes but fewer than 11 points. This roster

depth and balance have been the story of the season. They went on to top Regular Season Group A and marched into the Round of 16.

Their flawless Round of 16 run was punctuated by a dominant 91-62 victory over SIG Strasbourg at home and an 80-76 road win at Tofas Bursa. Jonathan Barreiro and Tyson Carter had 17 points apiece in the Strasbourg game, whilst Kendrick Perry put up 19 points and dished 3 assists in Türkiye. That game in Bursa also featured Unicaja's most memorable moment of the season to-date, as they reversed a 5-point deficit and won the game thanks to Kameron Taylor and Tyson Carter combining for 9 points in the final 100 seconds.

The Andalusian side secured homecourt advantage in the Quarter-Finals as Round of 16 group winners, and matched



up with Promitheas Patras. Unicaja made short work of the series, winning the first game 67-54 at home and wrapping it up with a 90-83 road win, their 12th of the season in the BCL, to become the first team to punch their ticket to the Final Four in Belgrade. Dylan Osetkowski put up an impressive 12-point, 12-rebound double-double in Game 1, while Tyler Kalinoski dropped a season-high 23 points in just 20 minutes of work in Game 2. No other team has more than 10 wins this BCL season, and Unicaja have also had the best or second-best win-loss record in the Spanish Liga Endesa all year.

Igor: *Could we say this team has the Ibon Navarro seal? He has been at the helm for over two years and it seems like they have played the same way since day one of his tenure: Team depth, defense that drives the offense, and control throughout 40 minutes, day in, day out.*

Diccon: Unicaja play assertive basketball. They dictate the game on defense and then use that to dictate the tempo on offense. Teams know they won't cross halfcourt without suffering and whilst Unicaja's on-ball pressure and intensity at the point of contact in screening actions never let up, their organization away from the ball is disciplined and machine-like.

Their roster depth means that intensity levels don't drop when personnel changes. Consequently, they have a BCL-leading Net Rating of 16.5 points per 100 possessions and a similarly BCL-best defense that allows just 98.5 points per 100 possessions. Unicaja only allow a miserly 58.6 field goal attempts per game, the second-lowest in the entire BCL and the lowest among Final Four teams.

Their fifth-ranked offense is nothing to be sniffed at either. Unicaja score 115 points per 100 possessions, averaging 14.9 fast-break points and 43.8 points bench points, both by far the best among Final Four teams. The formula is simple: mean defense to create stops, run the ball back at teams and do it relentlessly with all 12 players.

Igor: *Last season we said Unicaja could win this whole thing because they had already tasted champagne earlier in the year, winning the Copa del Rey. Could we say the exact opposite this season? Could they win the BCL because they failed to win both the BCL last year, and the Copa del Rey title this season?*

Diccon: If the emotional stamina to win both Copa de Rey and BCL at home proved to be too much to ask last season, there is certainly no such respite for their opponents this time around. The hunger from missing out on the BCL title has been transformed into fuel and the Final Four presents a chance to claim their first silverware this season. Unicaja are in great shape to achieve big things in the Liga Endesa, but they certainly have a point to prove in Belgrade. We can expect them to come in with the mentality of a poked bear.

Igor: *This question has barely been answered this whole season, both in the Liga Endesa and the BCL: Is there a way to stop them?*

Diccon: A single formula to beat Unicaja doesn't exist. They shot an anaemic 35.3 percent on the road at Peristeri and gave up 29 free-throws at home against Le Mans, but in both those losses it was more about what they did badly, as opposed to what their opponents did right. The biggest threat to Unicaja is familiarity, because their path to the title is paved with Spanish opposition. An opponent who's had more chances to play against them has had more chances to solve the puzzle.

Igor: *What's your favorite thing about the 2023-24 Unicaja? Could be a play, a player, a playcaller, a playlist, a play on words...*

Diccon: Their unpredictability. You never know which player might explode and score 20 points and you never know if they are really and truly beaten, as Tofas learned the hard way. They also have multiple ways to beat you. If the game needs Kalinoski shooting off screens and Barreiro spacing the floor, they have it. If the game requires Will Thomas scoring in the post or David Kravish and his frontcourt mates dominating the paint, they have that too.



SHOOTING %

2 PTS FG

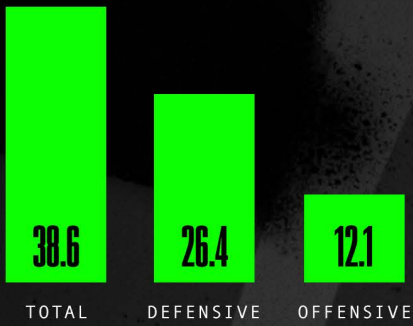
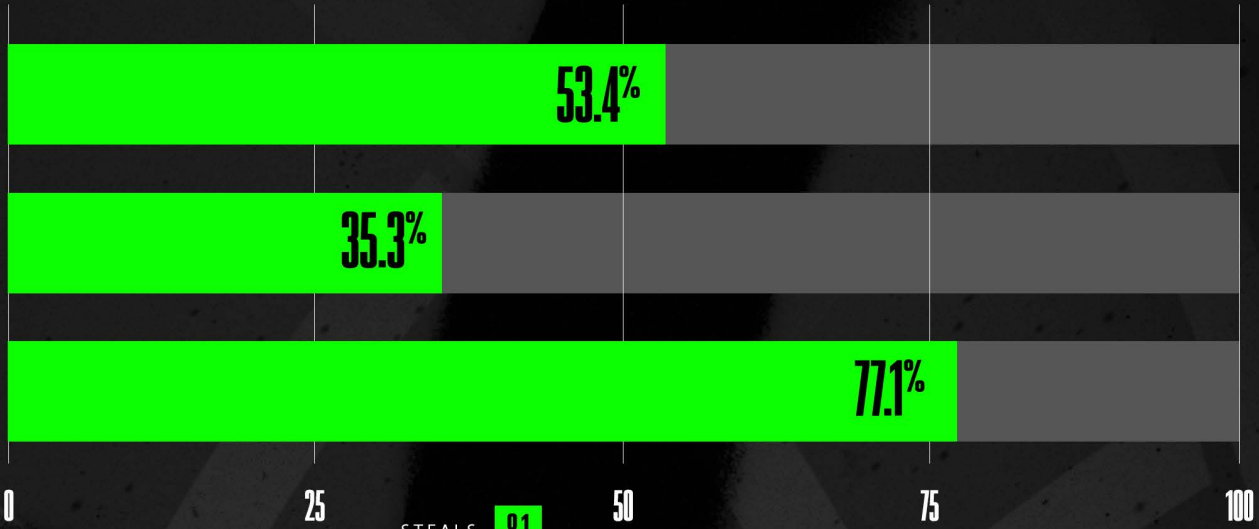
53.4%

3 PTS FG

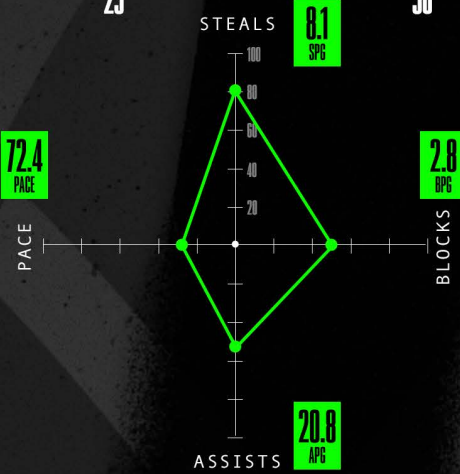
35.3%

FREE-THROWS

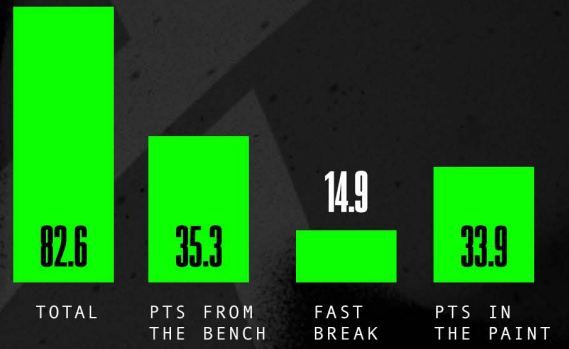
77.1%



REBOUNDS



KEY STATS (PERCENTILE)



SCORING

IBON NAVARRO



DATE OF BIRTH	30/04/1976
BCL COACHING RECORD	36-18
BCL RANK IN COACHING WINS	#9

COACHING CAREER

Baskonia (assistant, ESP; 2000-05, 2007-10, 2013-14), Alava (ESP; 2005-06), Tenerife (assistant, ESP; 2006-07), Menorca (ESP; 2010-11), Valencia (ESP; 2011-12), Puerto Rico (assistant, national team; 2014), Baskonia (ESP; 2014-15), Manresa (ESP; 2015-17), UCAM Murcia (ESP; 2017-18), Andorra (ESP; 2018-22), Unicaja (ESP; 2022-)

There is a running theme in Malaga, with Unicaja fans chanting 'Ibon has a plan' ever since the playcaller led the club to glory in the Copa del Rey, in February 2023. About 14 months later, the plan remains the same: keep winning big games, keep improving, and keep finding new ways of challenging for all major trophies. Coach Navarro doesn't have a simple plan per se, his method resembles more the plan of an alchemist, which is really fitting since he has a degree in chemical sciences. It's a three-fold experiment, because he needs to refresh a team that's been together for a long time, while simultaneously trying to erase the disappointments of the 2023 BCL Final Four and the 2024 Copa del Rey, both of which tournaments Unicaja hosted - and he's trying to do both those things without complicating the already established flow of play over the past two years. Navarro is now in his third Final Four in the Basketball Champions League. He is most definitely hoping for a case of third-time-lucky, since he was heartbroken in 2018 with UCAM Murcia, and in 2023 with Unicaja. Winning the trophy in Belgrade would be a perfect birthday present. Unicaja's head coach is turning 48 two days after the event in Serbia's capital.





11.4

PPG

KENDRICK PERRY

POINTS



4.4

RPG

DYLAN OSETKOWSKI

REBOUNDS



46.7%

3PTS

KENDRICK PERRY

3-POINTERS



4.1

APG

KENDRICK PERRY

ASSISTS



DUO TO WATCH

24

POINTS

FROM

11

ASSISTS

DAVID KRAVISH

111

TOTAL POINTS

KENDRICK PERRY

55

TOTAL ASSISTS





DATE OF BIRTH	23/12/1992
POSITION	POINT GUARD
HEIGHT	183CM/6'0''
BCL SEASON-HIGH:	19 POINTS
V TOFAS BURSA; MAR 13, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	34 POINTS
V UMANA REYER VENEZIA; MAR 5, 2019	

Club career: Sydney Kings (AUS; 2014-15), Iowa Energy (USA; 2015), Kormend (HUN; 2015-16), Karpos Sokoli (MKD; 2016-17), Szolnoki Olaj (HUN; 2017-18), Nizhny Novgorod (RUS; 2018-19), Metropolitans 92 (FRA; 2019), Mega (SRB; 2019-20), Cedevita Olimpija (SLO; 2020-21), Panathinaikos (GRE; 2021-22), Buducnost (MNE; 2022), Unicaja (ESP; 2022-)

How do you know somebody has star power? It's impossible to tell in advance. But if you see somebody missing a season-defining three-pointer at the 2023 Final Four, only to bounce back and have an even better season the following year, then yes, he definitely has it. Kendrick Perry was heartbroken at the Final Four in Malaga last season, but his demeanor this current season has been that of a leader. He kept his splits at around 11 points, 4 assists and 2 rebounds per game, but the biggest jump is in his shooting, going from 44 percent last season to 49 percent from the field this year, and from 34.3 percent from beyond the arc in Season 7 to a whopping 46.7 percent in Season 8. Improving in year 10 as a Pro speaks volumes of his dedication to the game. This time around, we will see an emotional Kendrick as soon as Unicaja arrive in Belgrade. He spent the 2019-20 season with Mega, and this is his first time back in the city since coach Dejan Milojevic passed away. The two of them were extremely close, and Perry still has 'Deki' as the profile picture on his Instagram account.



DATE OF BIRTH	19/12/1992
POSITION	GUARD
HEIGHT	193CM/6'4''
BCL SEASON-HIGH:	23 POINTS
@ PROMITHEAS PATRAS; APR 9, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	23 POINTS
@ PROMITHEAS PATRAS; APR 9, 2024	

Club career: Elan Chalon (FRA; 2015-16), Apollon Patras (GRE; 2016-17), Antwerp Giants (BEL; 2017-19), Bandirma (TUR; 2019-20), Brescia (ITA; 2020-21), Rio Breogan (ESP; 2021-22), Unicaja (ESP; 2022-)

Having a sporting background surely helps if you're an athlete, therefore Tyler Kalinoski was bound to have a successful career thanks to his roots: His grandad, Ron Ward, played ice hockey; his father, Scott, practiced three different sports in high school before opting for football at Purdue University; his uncle, Dave Ford, played baseball; his aunt Pamela helped North Carolina become a force in college soccer; while the other grandfather, Ken, was on Ohio State's track and field team. With so much talent in the family, Tyler opted for basketball and became one of the most respected shooters in all of Europe over the past decade. Kalinoski once had a 51.1 percent three-point shooting season in the FIBA Europe Cup. He hit 45.6 percent from deep in the 2018-19 BCL, winning third spot at the Final Four with Antwerp Giants. Fun fact: Kalinoski is yet to miss a free-throw this season, in any competition.



DATE OF BIRTH	12/09/1992
POSITION	CENTER
HEIGHT	208CM/6'10''
BCL SEASON-HIGH:	16 POINTS
@ CHOLET BASKET; JAN 31, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	22 POINTS
V AEK; JAN 25, 2023	

Club career: Nokia (FIN; 2015-16), Czarni Slupsk (POL; 2016-17), Tsmoki-Minsk (BLR; 2017-18), Avtodor Saratov (RUS; 2018-19), BAXI Manresa (ESP; 2019-20), Brose Bamberg (GER; 2020-21), Galatasaray Nef (TUR; 2021-22), Unicaja (ESP; 2022-)

What goes around, comes around. David Kravish did not take any shortcuts in his career. From watching it getting dark outside at 2:30 in the afternoon in Finland, through not receiving a paycheck during half the season in Poland, all the way to freezing journeys in Minsk and Saratov, Kravish stayed level-headed and knew his strengths would eventually lead him to greatness. He's achieved it with Unicaja. He isn't the most athletic guy out there, he isn't an unstoppable shooter, but his consistency is unmatched. Just like his role model growing up, Tim Duncan, you know David is always going to do his part of the job, and that's what makes him elite. He has seen the world and made a living out of playing basketball, but once he decides his playing days are done, he can finally focus on his other dream: Finishing med school and becoming a doctor.



DATE OF BIRTH	14/01/1998
POSITION	GUARD
HEIGHT	193CM/6'4''
BCL SEASON-HIGH:	21 POINTS
V TOFAS BURSA; JAN 23, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	35 POINTS
V NIZHNY NOVGOROD, NOV 2, 2021	

Club career: Lavrio (GRE; 2020-21), Zenit (RUS; 2021-22), Unicaja (ESP; 2022-)

It's incredible to believe Tyson Carter is still just 26 years old, with everything he has already achieved in his international career. He was another great recruit by Lavrio in Greece, as that club has a nose in finding guys capable of reaching the highest heights in European basketball, and his 35-point explosion against Nizhny Novgorod back in 2021 made the rest of the continent take notice. Tyson eventually made his way back to the BCL and is the man who wants the ball in clutch moments for Unicaja, picking up the Copa del Rey MVP award last season. Look for him to add more accolades to his collection, because winning and being a hero is ingrained in the Carter family. His father Greg was inducted to the MSU Sports Hall of Fame in 2016, thanks to a playing style very similar to the one Tyson has nowadays.



DATE OF BIRTH	01/07/1986
POSITION	POWER FORWARD
HEIGHT	203CM/6'8''
BCL SEASON-HIGH:	15 POINTS
@ FALCO VULCANO SZOMBATHELY; OCT 18, 2023	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	15 POINTS
@ FALCO VULCANO SZOMBATHELY; OCT 18, 2023	

Club career: Liege (BEL; 2008-10), Filou Oostende (BEL; 2010-11), Mgzavrebi (GEO; 2011-12), Pinar Karsiyaka (TUR; 2012-13), Avellino (ITA; 2013-14), Unicaja (ESP; 2014-16, 2022-), Valencia (ESP; 2016-19), Zenit (RUS; 2019-21), Monaco (FRA; 2021-22), Unicaja (ESP; 2022-)

The man they call 'Tio Will', the oldest, most experienced player on this roster, a true Uncle Will to the younger guys, teaching them the ins and outs of European basketball, Will Thomas is a reliable rock inside for coach Ibon Navarro. His professional path started way back in 2008 in Belgium, and even though he made his way through Georgia, Turkey, Italy, Russia and France, in Malaga he found a perfect home. He is not playing as many minutes as he used to, but when he's on the court you expect Unicaja to play through him, providing a gravitational pull in the low post that opens up the floor for everybody else to do the damage. Off the court, Will is a father, son and brother, proudly representing his native Baltimore all over the world. Don't expect him to retire from basketball any time soon, he's got plenty left in the tank.



DATE OF BIRTH	04/03/1991
POSITION	FORWARD
HEIGHT	201CM/6'7''
BCL SEASON-HIGH:	11 POINTS
V TOFAS BURSA; JAN 24, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	23 POINTS
V KATAJA; JAN 10, 2017	

Club career: Virtus Roma (ITA; 2014-15), Erie BayHawks (USA; 2015-16), Umana Reyer Venezia (ITA; 2016-17), UNICS (RUS; 2017-19), Unicaja (ESP; 2019-20, 2022-), Buducnost (MNE; 2020-21), Cedevita Olimpija (SLO; 2021-22)

Not a lot of players from Season 1 of the Basketball Champions League are still around, but Melvin Ejim is one of them. Not only was he a part of the 2016-17 campaign, he actually made the Final Four with Reyer Venezia, and his performances that season earned him a spot on the Star Lineup First Team at the end. Melvin is in his 30s now but he is enjoying some of his proudest moments as a team player, helping Canada to a historic bronze at the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023, while also picking up the Copa del Rey with Unicaja last year. There were question marks about the busy schedule and not taking a single day off last summer, but Ejim has actually improved his numbers this season. He already had three games in double digits in the BCL, going from 2.9 PPG in Season 7 to 5.6 PPG this time around.



DATE OF BIRTH	08/08/1996
POSITION	CENTER
HEIGHT	206CM/6'9''
BCL SEASON-HIGH:	20 POINTS
V LE MANS SARTHE BASKET; OCT 24, 2023	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	20 POINTS
V LE MANS SARTHE BASKET; OCT 24, 2023	

Club career: Gottingen (GER; 2019-20), ratiopharm Ulm (GER; 2020-21), ASVEL (FRA; 2021-22), Unicaja (ESP; 2022-)

The best evidence that Unicaja have a really serious project? The fact that Dylan Osetkowski is still in town. The front office managed to turn down all interested clubs, handing instead a new contract to their long-haired big sniper, and it's safe to say the move has already paid off. Osetkowski is not only scoring 12.5 points per game in the Liga Endesa, but is doing that on an almost 50-40-90 shooting split, knocking down 42.5 percent of three-pointers in the Spanish League. His BCL scoring average went from 7.9 points last year to 10.8 this year, proving once again that the contract extension was a good idea. The fans love him, and the feeling is mutual. Just look up Gran Fiesta de Dylan, a huge party he threw for the fans in September in front of the Martin Carpena arena, fulfilling a promise he made when they won the Copa del Rey.



DATE OF BIRTH	16/01/1997
POSITION	SMALL FORWARD
HEIGHT	203CM/6'8''
BCL SEASON-HIGH:	17 POINTS
V SIG STRASBOURG; MAR 5, 2024	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	26 POINTS
@ DINAMO BDS SASSARI; MAR 2, 2021	

Club career: Real Madrid (ESP; 2014-15), Ourense (ESP; 2015-16), Zaragoza (ESP; 2016-21), Unicaja (ESP; 2021-)

When Jonathan Barreiro left Zaragoza for Unicaja, he left behind a familiar setting to embrace uncertainty, since Zaragoza were coming off of back-to-back Basketball Champions League Semi-Final appearances while Unicaja were in a transition period, not even close to where they are today. That leap of faith was an amazing career decision by the 27-year-old forward. Barreiro is now recognized as one of the senators in this Unicaja locker room, and his love for the orange Wilson basketball is pretty evident in his three-point shooting figures. Last season, Barreiro made 60.9 percent of his shots from deep in the BCL, and backed it up with 56.3 in 2023-24. He held the record for most threes without a miss when he connected on 6-of-6 against Sassari in 2020-21, only to be overtaken by Sek Henry's 7-of-7 display at the Final 8 later that season.



DATE OF BIRTH	23/04/1994
POSITION	POINT GUARD
HEIGHT	190CM/6'3''
BCL SEASON-HIGH:	10 POINTS
V FALCO VULCANO SZOMBATHELY; DEC 6, 2023	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	10 POINTS
TWICE	

Club career: Clinicas Rincon (ESP; 2011-14), Surne Bilbao (ESP; 2014), Fuenlabrada (ESP; 2014-15), Unicaja (ESP; 2015-)

Death, taxes and Alberto Diaz in an Unicaja jersey. These are three certainties in life, as the 30-year-old guard is nearing a full decade of wearing his hometown club's jersey. Diaz is the glue guy, the real leader of this team, and the reigning BCL Defender of the Year, usually defending the opponent's biggest scoring threat. His defensive-minded approach and never-say-die attitude took him all the way to winning the FIBA EuroBasket 2022 with Spain, when his tears of joy went viral, showing how much it meant to him. This season did bring something new to him though, as he tried to figure out life after Dario Brizuela left the city, and it seems that he's doing better than ever. Diaz is averaging career-highs in rebounds and assists in Spain, while also playing more than 20 minutes per game in a European club competition for the first time in four seasons.



DATE OF BIRTH	12/01/1990
POSITION	SHOOTING GUARD
HEIGHT	198CM/6'6''
BCL SEASON-HIGH:	14 POINTS
V FALCO VULCANO SZOMBATHELY; DEC 6, 2023	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	14 POINTS
V FALCO VULCANO SZOMBATHELY; DEC 6, 2023	

Club career: Bosna (BIH; 2005-07), Cornellà (ESP; 2007-09), Obradoiro (ESP; 2009-10), Virtus Roma (ITA; 2010-12), Galatasaray Nef (TUR; 2012), Alba Berlin (GER; 2012-13), Bayern Munich (GER; 2013-22), Unicaja (ESP; 2022-)

Remember that all-round kid from Bosna Sarajevo? Well, he's still not Zlatan Ibrahimovic, as his Instagram bio says, but he's approaching his 20th year as a professional basketball player, even though he only turned 34 three months ago. Nihad Dedovic was looking for something to revive his career after ten seasons in Germany, something to take him out of his comfort zone, which is why a move to Malaga made complete sense. When you talk to him, there is only one description that comes to mind - easy going. In today's basketball, when everybody is running the fastest and jumping the highest, every team could use a Nihad, a player who thinks the quickest, makes the best decisions under pressure, and just refuses to shift gears. Consider him a coach on the court, as you ponder the fact he's turned the ball over just 10 times in 191 minutes of BCL action this season.



DATE OF BIRTH	28/07/1996
POSITION	CENTER
HEIGHT	211CM/6'11''
BCL SEASON-HIGH:	16 POINTS
V FALCO VULCANO SZOMBATHELY; DEC 6, 2023	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	16 POINTS
V FALCO VULCANO SZOMBATHELY; DEC 6, 2023	

Club career: BAXI Manresa (ESP; 2018-20, 2020-22), Ourense (ESP; 2019-20), Umana Reyer Venezia (ITA; 2022-23), Unicaja (ESP; 2023-)

Slowly but surely, Yankuba Sima is climbing the ladder of BCL Final Four appearances. He reached the Final with BAXI Manresa in 2022, and extended his run to three consecutive Final Fours with a further two trips to the event with Unicaja. Sima is a different kind of option compared to the other bigs on this team, a vertical threat, a player who has always shot above 50 percent from the field throughout his career, sticking to finishing around the rim and only taking a total of eight three-pointers in his five years as a Pro, making just one. While Kravish's midrange and Osetkowski's three-point shooting may space the floor, and Thomas's low post play provides a different look, Sima is the kind of guy who gives Unicaja an option above the rim on both ends. One of the scariest guys on the court, but always wearing a smile off the court.



DATE OF BIRTH	05/10/1994
POSITION	SHOOTING GUARD
HEIGHT	198CM/6'6''
BCL SEASON-HIGH:	13 POINTS
THREE TIMES	
BCL CAREER-HIGH:	19 POINTS
@ PERISTERI BWIN; JAN 28, 2020	

Club career: Erdgas Ehingen (GER; 2016-17), Dragons Rhondorf (GER; 2017-18), s.Oliver Wurzburg (GER; 2018), PVSK-Panthers (HUN; 2018-19), Brose Bamberg (GER; 2019-20), Hamburg Towers (GER; 2020-21), Maccabi Tel Aviv (ISR; 2021-22), SIG Strasbourg (FRA; 2022), Girona (ESP; 2022-23), Unicaja (ESP; 2023-)

When Dario Brizuela left in the summer, the main question was how would Unicaja manage to find somebody who could create points in a hurry for both himself and the team. That question was answered, decisively, pretty fast. Kameron Taylor came in after a stellar season with Girona in 2022-23, when he averaged 14.5 points per game in the Liga Endesa, and in Malaga he's become a more efficient scorer, flirting with 50-40-90 shooting splits for the season. He is in his third BCL season, after stints with Brose Bamberg and SIG Strasbourg, and is yet to reach the 20-point mark in a single game in this competition. However, coach Ibon Navarro doesn't need him to be the superhero, he just needs him to be a consistent scorer. Don't believe us? Here's a fact for you: Unicaja are 18-0 this season, in all competitions, in games in which Kameron scored in double digits.

FINAL FOUR OFFICIALS

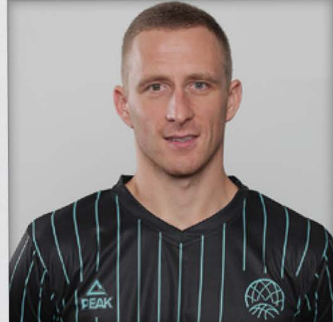
REFEREES



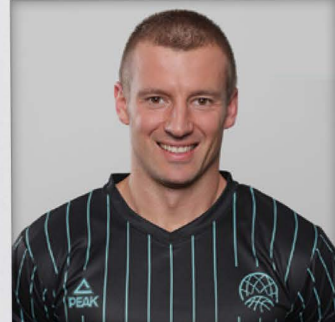
 **KEREM BAKI**



 **BORIS KREJIC**



 **MARTINS KOZLOVSKIS**



 **WOJCIECH LISZKA**



 **MANUEL MAZZONI**



 **JOHAN ROSSO**



 **GATIS SALINS**



 **ADEMIR ZURAOVIC**

OFFICIAL DELEGATES



 **NINA BASOVIC**



 **WINFRIED GINTSCHEL**



OFFICIAL PRACTICES

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

THURSDAY

APRIL 25

START	END	TEAM
09:00	10:00	LENOVO TENERIFE
10:10	11:10	PERISTERI BWIN
11:20	12:20	UCAM MURCIA
12:30	13:30	UNICAJA

START	END	TEAM
17:00	18:20	LENOVO TENERIFE
18:30	19:50	PERISTERI BWIN
20:00	21:20	UCAM MURCIA
21:30	22:50	UNICAJA

FRIDAY

APRIL 26

START	END	TEAM
09:30	10:30	PERISTERI BWIN
10:40	11:40	LENOVO TENERIFE
11:50	12:50	UNICAJA
13:00	14:00	UCAM MURCIA

SATURDAY

APRIL 27

START	END	TEAM
16:30	17:50	LOSER SEMI-FINAL 1
18:00	19:20	LOSER SEMI-FINAL 2
19:30	20:50	WINNER SEMI-FINAL 1
21:00	22:20	WINNER SEMI-FINAL 2

SUNDAY

APRIL 28

START	END	TEAM
09:00	10:00	LOSER SEMI-FINAL 2
10:10	11:10	LOSER SEMI-FINAL 1
11:20	12:20	WINNER SEMI-FINAL 2
12:30	13:30	WINNER SEMI-FINAL 1

MEDIA ACTIVITIES

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2024



ALL ACCREDITED MEDIA ARE INVITED

15:30-16:30

OFFICIAL PRESS CONFERENCE WITH THE HEAD COACHES AND CAPTAINS OF THE FOUR PARTICIPATING TEAMS

LOCATION: BELGRADE ARENA, BULEVAR ARSENIJA ČARNOJEVICA 58, BELGRADE 11070

FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2024

MEDIA WORKING ROOM & MEDIA TRIBUNE

MIXED ZONE

POST-GAME PRESS CONFERENCES

LOCATION: BELGRADE ARENA, BULEVAR ARSENIJA ČARNOJEVICA 58, BELGRADE 11070

SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2024

11:30-12:30

BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS LEAGUE SEASON AWARDS CEREMONY

LOCATION: BELGRADE ARENA, BULEVAR ARSENIJA ČARNOJEVICA 58, BELGRADE 11070

12:30-13:00

MEDIA AVAILABILITY WITH FINALISTS' COACHES/CAPTAINS AND AWARD WINNERS

LOCATION: BELGRADE ARENA, BULEVAR ARSENIJA ČARNOJEVICA 58, BELGRADE 11070

13:00-14:00

MEDIA ROUND TABLE WITH BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CEO PATRICK COMNINOS

LOCATION: BELGRADE ARENA, BULEVAR ARSENIJA ČARNOJEVICA 58, BELGRADE 11070

SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024



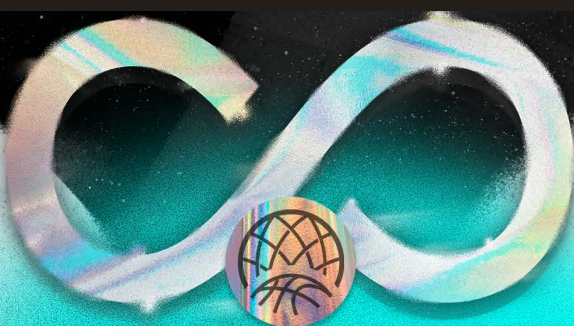
ALL ACCREDITED MEDIA WILL BE ABLE TO ATTEND THE AFOREMENTIONED ACTIVITIES

MEDIA WORKING ROOM & MEDIA TRIBUNE

MIXED ZONE

POST-GAME PRESS CONFERENCES

LOCATION: BELGRADE ARENA, BULEVAR ARSENIJA ČARNOJEVICA 58, BELGRADE 11070



GAME SCHEDULE



Lenovo Tenerife

LENOVO TENERIFE

FRIDAY

APRIL 26

SEMI-FINAL 1

18:00 (GMT +2)



bwin

PERISTERI BWIN



UCAM MURCIA

FRIDAY

APRIL 26

SEMI-FINAL 2

21:00 (GMT +2)



UNICAJA



TBA

SUNDAY

APRIL 28

THIRD PLACE GAME

17:00 (GMT +2)



TBA



TBA

SUNDAY

APRIL 28

FINAL










20:00 (GMT +2)



TBA

BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS LEAGUE // SEASON 8

INDIVIDUAL RECORDS

PLAYER	RECORD	TEAM	OPPONENT	DATE
 TJ SHORTS II	29 POINTS	TELEKOM BASKETS BONN	HAPOEL JERUSALEM	14/05/2023 (FINAL)
 GEDIMINAS ORELIK	13 REBOUNDS	BANDIRMA	LENOVO TENERIFE	30/04/2017 (FINAL)
 CHIMA MONEKE		BAXI MANRESA	MHP RIESEN	06/05/2022 (SF)
 MARCELINHO HUERTAS	14 ASSISTS	LENOVO TENERIFE	BAXI MANRESA	08/05/2022 (FINAL)
 FRAN VAZQUEZ	3 BLOCKS	LENOVO TENERIFE	BANDIRMA	30/04/2017 (FINAL)
 KEVIN TUMBA		UCAM MURCIA	AEK	04/05/2018 (SF)
 VINCE HUNTER		AEK	MONACO	06/05/2018 (FINAL)
 JACOB WILEY		CASADEMONT ZARAGOZA	PINAR KARSIYAKA	07/05/2021 (SF)
 DEE BOST	5 STEALS	MONACO	UMANA REYER VENEZIA	30/04/2017 (3RD PLACE)
 SASU SALIN		TENERIFE	UNET HOLON	06/05/2022 (SF)
 SEK HENRY	7 3PM	PINAR KARSIYAKA	CASADEMONT ZARAGOZA	07/05/2021 (SF)
 KEVIN PUNTER	29 EFF	VIRTUS BOLOGNA	LENOVO TENERIFE	05/05/2019 (FINAL)
 GEDIMINAS ORELIK	40 MINUTES PLAYED	BANDIRMA	MONACO	28/04/2017 (SF)


TEAM RECORDS

TEAM	RECORD	OPPONENT	DATE
AEK	100 POINTS SCORED	MONACO	06/05/2018 (FINAL)
VIRTUS BOLOGNA	50 POINTS ALLOWED	BROSE BAMBERG	03/05/2019 (SF)
SAN PABLO BURGOS	17 MADE 3-POINTERS	AEK	4/10/2020 (FINAL)
BAXI MANRESA	55 REBOUNDS	MHP RIESEN	06/05/2022 (SF)
BAXI MANRESA	35 DEFENSIVE REBOUNDS	MHP RIESEN	06/05/2022 (SF)
LENOVO TENERIFE	24 OFFENSIVE REBOUNDS	VIRTUS BOLOGNA	05/05/2019 (FINAL)
MONACO	27 ASSISTS	MHP RIESEN	04/05/2018 (SF)
AEK	LARGEST WIN: +24 POINTS	CASADEMONT ZARAGOZA	02/10/2020 (SF)
HAPOEL JERUSALEM	SMALLER WIN: +1 POINT	LENOVO TENERIFE	12/05/2023 (SF)
AEK	LARGEST HT LEAD: +21 POINTS	CASADEMONT ZARAGOZA	02/10/2020 (SF)
TEKSUT BANDIRMA	BIGGEST COMEBACK WIN: 13 POINTS	MONACO	28/04/2017 (SF)
MHP RIESEN	MOST PLAYERS USED: 13		2022 FINAL FOUR
JDA DIJON	FEWEST PLAYERS USED: 9		2022 FINAL FOUR

BCL FACTS AND FIGURES




FINAL FOUR ALL-TIME LEADERS

	POINTS
 VÍTOR BENITE	94
 KEVIN PUNTER	79
 NICOLAS BRUSSINO	76




	REBOUNDS
 DEJAN KRAVIC	41
 TIM ABROMAITIS	36
 NICOLAS BRUSSINO	32




	ASSISTS
 RODRIGO SAN MIGUEL	34
 MARCELINHO HUERTAS	34
 TONY TAYLOR	20
 ALEX RENFROE	20

	BLOCKS
 KEVIN TUMBA	5
 AMARA SY	5
 ELGIN COOK	5

	STEALS
 RODRIGO SAN MIGUEL	8
 TIM ABROMAITIS	8
 SERGII GLADYR	7
 KEVIN PUNTER	7
 CLEVIN HANNAH	7

	EFF (AVG)
 CHIMA MONEKE	22,5
 MARCELINHO HUERTAS	21,5
 JUSTIN SIMON	20
 SADIEL ROJAS	20
 TJ SHORTS II	20


	3PM
 KEVIN PUNTER	16
 VÍTOR BENITE	15
 AARON DOORNEKAMP	14

	MINUTES
 RODRIGO SAN MIGUEL	202
 AARON DOORNEKAMP	178
 NICOLAS BRUSSINO	161





FINAL FOUR
BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
BELGRADE 2024



BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS LEAGUE // SEASON 8

BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
5 ROUTE SUISSE • P.O. BOX 29, 1295 SWITZERLAND