

# IEB+ ARGENTINA OPEN – ATP MEDIA NOTES DAY 5 – FRIDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2024

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#### **Tournament** argentinaopentennis.com @ArgentinaOpen #IEBMasArgOpen2024

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# LEXUS ATP HEAD2HEAD: SINGLES QUARTER-FINALS

## COURT GUILLERMO VILAS

### Dusan Lajovic (SRB) vs [WC] Facundo Diaz Acosta (ARG)

First Meeting

**Dusan Lajovic** | Age: 33 | World No. 58 | Career-High No. 23 | 2024: 3-3 (Buenos Aires QF) | Event: 9-7 ('16, '20, '23-'24 QF) > Achieved career-high No. 23 after defeating future World No. 1 Medvedev to reach 1st ATP Tour singles final at 2019 ATP Masters 1000 Monte Carlo.

> Entered Monte Carlo as World No. 48 and became lowest-ranked finalist at that event since No. 53 Arazi in 2001.
> Captured 2nd ATP Tour title at 2023 Banja Luka, defeating World No. 1 Djokovic in QF for biggest win of career and No. 6 Rublev in the final.

> Won 1st ATP Tour singles title at 2019 Umag, doubles title at 2015 Istanbul w/Albot and team title at 2020 ATP Cup as member of Team Serbia.

> Advanced to Grand Slam 4R on 2 occasions: 2014 Roland Garros and 2021 Australian Open.

> Qualified 13 times at ATP Masters 1000 events, including en route to 2018 Madrid QF.

**NOTE**: Lajovic is seeking his 8th ATP Tour SF (3-4), 7th on clay and 1st since claiming the title at 2023 Banja Luka. He is 7-27 in ATP Tour QFs including three losses in Buenos Aires, each time to the eventual champion (Thiem in 2016, Ruud in 2020, Alcaraz in 2023).

**Facundo Diaz Acosta** | Age: 23 | World No. 87 (Career-High) | 2024: 4-3 (2 times in QF) | Event: 3-3 (2024 QF) > Left-handed Argentine climbed to career-high No. 87 in February 2024 after reaching 1st ATP Tour QF at Cordoba. > Made ATP Tour debut at 2020 Buenos Aires as a WC and earned first ATP Tour win at 2023 Buenos Aires, his hometown.

> Owns 82-53 Challenger record (5-3 in finals), earning titles at 2022 Coquimbo, 2023 Savannah, Oeiras-4, Milan and Montevideo, going 44-17 in 2023.

> Captured ITF World Tennis Tour titles at 2019 Santa Cristina, 2020 Hurlingham and 2021 Eupen.

> Former World No. 6 junior ended junior career in Buenos Aires by earning singles silver medal and doubles gold medal with countryman Baez at 2018 Youth Olympics.

**NOTE**: Diaz Acosta is looking for his 1st ATP Tour SF with 3 of his 6 career wins coming at 2023-24 Buenos Aires. He posted the biggest win of his career by beating No. 22 F.Cerundolo in 2R and is guaranteed a new career-high ranking, currently sitting at No. 82 in the <u>Pepperstone ATP Live Rankings</u>.

[5] Sebastian Baez (ARG) vs [SE]	Series Tied 1-1			
23 Cordoba (Argentina)	Clay	F	Sebastian Baez	6-1 3-6 6-3
23 Bastad (Sweden)	Clay	R32	Federico Coria	6-4 4-6 7-6(5)

**Sebastian Baez** | Age: 23 | World No. 30 | Career-High No. 25 | 2024: 7-4 (Cordoba SF) | Event: 3-2 (2024 QF) > Earned personal-best 31 wins in 2023, highlighted by 12-match winning streak, capturing back-to-back ATP Tour titles at Kitzbuhel and Winston-Salem, before achieving career-high No. 25 in January 2024.

> Captured 2nd ATP Tour title on home soil at 2023 Cordoba after entering tournament with 6 straight losses and 17 losses in previous 18 matches.

> Defeated Ramos-Vinolas en route to 1st final at 2022 Santiago and 1st title at 2022 Estoril, as well as for 1st Grand Slam main draw win at 2022 Australian Open.

> Broke into Top 300, 200 and 100 in 2021, posting 6-3 record in Challenger finals to tie 4 other players for 2nd-most titles in a season behind Griekspoor's 8 in 2021.

> Became World No. 1 junior in March 2018 and went on to reach Roland Garros boys' singles final and win boys' doubles gold medal at Youth Olympics w/Diaz Acosta in his hometown of Buenos Aires.

**NOTE**: Baez aims to make his 9th ATP Tour SF (6-2), 8th on clay and 3rd on home soil (2023-24 Cordoba). He is 11-1 in his last 12 matches on clay, seeking third consecutive semifinal on the surface (Kitzbuhel title, Cordoba SF).



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**Federico Coria** | Age: 31 | World No. 106 | Career-High No. 49 | 2024: 5-2 (Cordoba SF) | Event: 4-3 ('22, '24 QF) > Achieved career-high No. 49 in February 2023 after falling to Baez in All-Argentine final at Cordoba.

> Earned personal-best 16 wins in 2021, highlighted by 1st final at Bastad and 1st SF at Cordoba.

> Rallied from 2 sets down vs. Jung to win Grand Slam main draw debut at 2020 US Open, then beat Jung again en route to 2020 Roland Garros 3R.

> Owns 178-125 Challenger record (6-8 in finals), winning titles at 2019 Savannah, 2021 Prostejov, 2021 Brasilia, 2022 Milan, 2023 Concepcion and 2023 Szczecin.

> Says that his idol is Guillermo Coria, his older brother by 10 years who peaked at No. 3 in 2004.

**NOTE:** Coria aims to reach his 6th ATP Tour SF (2-3, all on clay), 4th on home soil (2021, 2023-24 Cordoba). He is 8-10 against Top 30 opponents on clay, beating No. 20 Norrie in 2R this week. He wants to join his brother Guillermo as Buenos Aires semi-finalist (2003 final, 2004 title).

### [1] Carlos Alcaraz (ESP) vs [Q] Andrea Vavassori (ITA) First Meeting

**Carlos Alcaraz** | Age: 20 | World No. 2 | Career-High No. 1 | 2024: 5-1 (2 times in QF) | Event: 5-0 (2023 Title) > Youngest and first teenage World No. 1 and year-end No. 1 in Pepperstone ATP Rankings history (since 1973), making record rise from No. 32 at end of 2021 to No. 1 at age 19 in September 2022, then remaining atop rankings through end of season and later earning a total of 36 weeks.

> Became third Spanish man in Wimbledon history to win the singles title after Nadal (2008, 2010) and Santana (1966), defeating 7-time champion Djokovic in a 5-set battle for his 2nd Grand Slam title.

> Beat Ruud in 2022 US Open final for No. 1 ranking, becoming youngest men's champion at US Open since Sampras, 19, in 1990 and at any Grand Slam event since Nadal, 19, at 2005 Roland Garros.

> Became youngest ATP 500 champion at 2022 Rio de Janeiro (173 events since 2009) and 3rd-youngest ATP Masters 1000 champion at 2022 Miami (298 events since 1990).

> Youngest player to defeat both Nadal and Djokovic and 1st to do so at same clay-court event, beating them on back-to-back days en route to 2nd ATP Masters 1000 title at 2022 Madrid.

Reached 1st Grand Slam QF at 2021 US Open, becoming youngest men's quarter-finalist at US Open since Koch,
18, in 1963 (Amateur Era) and at any Grand Slam since Chang, 18, at 1990 Roland Garros.

**NOTE**: Alcaraz is 12-1 in clay-court tour-level quarterfinals and 29-1 against players ranked outside the Top 50 since the start of the 2023 season (I. to No. 135 Marozsan at 2023 ATP Masters 1000 Rome).

Andrea Vavassori | Age: 28 | World No. 152 | Career-High No. 128 | 2024: 2-0 (Buenos Aires QF) | Event: 2-0 (2024 QF) > Broke into Top 200 at the age of 26 in August 2022, earning career-high No. 128 in June 2023 after defeating Kecmanovic for 1st Grand Slam win at 2023 Roland Garros as Q.

> Defeated 3-time Grand Slam champion Murray for 1st ATP Masters 1000 win at 2023 Madrid.

> Qualified to reach his 1st ATP Tour QF at 2023 Marrakech after making his ATP Tour singles main draw debut at 2021 Stockholm as a qualifier and notching first ATP Tour win in 1R over Kotov.

> Owns a 79-69 Challenger record reaching back-to-back finals on home soil at 2022 San Benedetto Del Tronto (I. to Brancaccio) and 2022 Cordenons (I. to Zhang).

> In doubles, earned a career-high of No. 27 after reaching 2024 Australian Open final w/Bolelli.

**NOTE**: Vavassori is aiming to reach his 1st ATP Tour SF, losing to Evans at 2023 Marrakech in only previous QF. He posted the biggest win of his career against No. 35 Djere in 2R and is facing a Top 10 player for the 2nd time (I. to No. 3 Medvedev at 2023 ATP Masters 1000 Madrid).

[3] Nicolas Jarry (CHI) vs [6] Toma	as Mar	tin Etc	heverry (ARG)	Series Tied 1-1
22 Cordoba (Argentina)	Clay	R32	Tomas Martin Etcheverry	/ 2-6 6-3 6-4
23 Santiago (Chile)	Clay	F	Nicolas Jarry	6-7(5) 7-6(5) 6-2
Other Meetings				
21 Campinas CH (Brazil)	Clay	QF	Nicolas Jarry	6-4 6-1
22 Mexico City CH (Mexico)	Clay	SF	Tomas Martin Etcheverry	/ 3-6 7-5 7-6(4)

**Nicolas Jarry** | Age: 28 | World No. 21 | Career-High No. 18 | 2024: 5-3 (2 times in QF) | Event: 1-2 (2024 QF) > Unranked to begin 2021, he earned a career-high No. 18 in January 2024 becoming the 7th Chilean to reach Top 20 since the start of Pepperstone ATP Rankings (since 1973).

In 2023, came from a set down three times in five matches to win 2nd ATP Tour title in Santiago, his hometown, and upset double defending champion Ruud in QF and 2019 champion Zverev in SF to en route to 3rd title in Geneva.
Won 1st ATP Tour title at 2019 Bastad without losing a set to reach No. 38, the mark that stood as his career-high until May 2023.



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> Saved 1 MP vs. No. 3 A. Zverev in 2019 Barcelona 2R for biggest win of career, but squandered 2 MPs vs. A. Zverev in Geneva final one month later.

> Peaked at No. 8 in junior rankings after advancing to 2013 Roland Garros boys' doubles final with countryman Garin.

> Parents, Allan and Cecilia, are former pro volleyball players; grandfather, Jaime Fillol, great-uncle, Alvaro Fillol, and uncle, Martin Rodriguez, are former ATP players.

**NOTE**: Jarry is seeking his 10th ATP Tour SF (5-4, all on clay), 5th in South America. He's on a 10-match winning streak against Argentines across all levels, dating back to June 2022 and including a win over Etcheverry in 2023 Santiago final to claim his 2nd ATP Tour title in front of home crowd.

**Tomas Martin Etcheverry** | Age: 24 | World No. 27 (Career-High) | 2024: 5-5 (2 times in QF) | Event: 4-2 ('23-'24 QF) > Former World No. 12 junior broke into Top 200 in June 2021 and Top 100 in April 2022 before achieving career-high No. 27 in February 2024 after earning personal-best 30 wins in 2023.

> At 2023 Roland Garros, earned 1st two Top 20 wins of career over No. 19 de Minaur in 2R and No. 16 Coric in 3R and reached the quarter-finals without losing a set.

> Defeated clay-court champions Fognini, F. Cerundolo, Lajovic and Baez en route to 1st ATP Tour final at Santiago a month before reaching 2nd ATP Tour final at 2023 Houston.

> Qualified at 2022 Australian Open and earned 1st Grand Slam main draw win at 2023 Australian Open (d. Barrere).
> Posted Challenger records of 49-19 in 2021 and 41-16 in 2022, highlighted by clay-court titles at 2021 Perugia, 2021 Trieste and 2022 Concepcion-2.

**NOTE**: Etcheverry aims to post his 4th ATP Tour SF (2-1), all on clay and all within the last 12 months. He is 4-13 against Top 30 opponents across all levels, but 3-5 on clay courts.