

# U.S. Mid-Amateur

Monday, Sept. 23, 2024  
Kinloch Golf Club  
Manakin-Sabot, Va.

## Segundo Oliva Pinto, Argentina

Round of 64  
def. Justin Kaplan, 1 up



### **Q. That was a remarkable match, coming back from 1 down with 2 to play?**

Segundo Oliva Pinto: "It felt like a final. It was a great match. We both played great. He made an eagle on 12, chipped in on me [from 66 yards out]. I felt like that was a real battle."

### **Q. Take me through your birdie on 17 to tie the match?**

Oliva Pinto: "I had 178 [yards] from the first cut. I was telling my caddie (Carlos Ardila from Colombia) that we were both nervous. So we had to play through the nerves and learn how to handle ourselves there. I hit 8-iron. I had a 10-footer slider from right to left...That was a pressure putt. I stayed present and it came out."

### **Q. What did you hit on 18 to set up what became a conceded eagle?**

Oliva Pinto: "I had 244 [yards and I hit a] 7-wood [to 3 feet]...This one will definitely be up there in the top position [of my career shots]...It's hard to describe. It felt really good. It felt like a final."

### **Q. Did it feel different playing as the medalist and top seed?**

Oliva Pinto: "I just reset it. I told myself I am starting again from the bottom and working my way up there. We're all square on the No. 1 tee."

### **Q. Do you like having that kind of pressure-cooker to start match play? Does it get you into a certain mode?**

Oliva Pinto: "I think it could help me out in the long run. I don't know if I will be more nervous than I was today. I was nervous. I was trying to handle myself ... and play with the nerves."

**Note** – Added Carlos Ardila as his caddie. Colombian player who missed the cut. The two play in a lot of South American events against each other. Saw him prior to starting his match and the two decided to hook up. Segundo did not have a caddie during stroke play...Youngest player in the field...Won 2021 Southeastern Conference title while at the University of Arkansas...Also won 2019 CAA title during his two years at UNC-Wilmington before transferring to Fayetteville to play his final 3 seasons (one COVID year).