



PHOTO: AFP

Argentina's midfield maestro Juan Roman Riquelme (R) makes his way through, despite a challenge from Colombia midfielder Jhon Viazara during their Copa America Group C match at the Pachencio Romero Stadium in Maracaibo on Tuesday.

# Argentina roll on

## Paraguay in last eight

INTERNET, undated



Juan Roman Riquelme's first-half double fired Argentina into the quarterfinals of the Copa America with a 4-2 victory against 10-man Colombia on Monday.

At Barinas, Paraguay also moved into the last eight with a 3-1 victory over the United States.

Edison Perea handed Colombia the lead but Hernan Crespo's penalty kick and Riquelme's brace handed Argentina a convincing halftime lead.

Jaime Castrillon pulled a goal back for Colombia with 18 minutes remaining, but following Fabian Vargas' dismissal, Diego Milito sealed the victory in stoppage time.

Paraguay however top Group C by virtue of goal difference ahead of next Thursday's decisive match against Argentina.

"We are happy because we did very well what coach Basile (Alfio) asked us," Riquelme said. "The team showed a lot of coolness in the difficult moments of the match and now we have to think about the

future.

"I think Argentina played very well, as scoring eight times in two games is not an easy task. I'm very satisfied with the squad's performance."

Colombia made a nervous start to the match and Argentina came close to opening the scoring after just five minutes as Crespo's header from Riquelme's corner struck the crossbar and bounced down on the line before being scrambled clear.

Colombia recovered from the close call and Perea handed his side the lead from close range.

Argentina equalised with 20 minutes on the watch as Crespo converted from the spot after Lionel Messi had been awarded a disputed penalty.

Crespo surpassed Diego Maradona's goal-scoring tally of 34 to move into second place on Argentina's list, but was unable to add to the total after being replaced by Milito moments after converting from the spot.

Javier Zanetti crossed from the right for Riquelme to head his side into a 34th-minute lead before the Boca Juniors midfielder curled

home a trademark free-kick from the edge of the area to hand Argentina a comfortable halftime lead.

Colombia goalkeeper Miguel Calero denied Milito before Castrillon reduced the deficit after 72 minutes.

Midfielder Javier Arizala came close to snatching an equaliser with five minutes remaining as his long-range effort beat Roberto Abbondanzieri but struck the post before Vargas picked up his second yellow card.

Milito wasted an opportunity to re-establish the two goals cushion before finally sealing the win in stoppage time.

Despite the victory, Argentina midfielder Javier Mascherano was concerned about several defensive mistakes.

"We won an important match and played well," he said. "But we have

### GROUP C STANDINGS

Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Paraguay	2	2	0	0	8	1	6
Argentina	2	2	0	0	8	3	6
Colombia	2	0	0	2	2	9	0
USA	2	0	0	2	2	7	0

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## Roma accept Real's bid for Chivu

AFP, Rome

Serie A club Roma have accepted a bid from Spanish champions Real Madrid for their Romanian international Christian Chivu, Italian media reported on Tuesday.

Real director Pedrag Mijatovic is said to have had an 18 million euro (24.5 million dollar) offer accepted for the 26-year-old central defender, who can also play at full-back or in midfield.

According to reports, the transfer could be completed later on Tuesday.

Inter Milan, who are also interested in signing Chivu, said they refused to be dragged into a bidding war for the Romanian captain.

"Inter will not get involved in an auction for Chivu," Inter president Massimo Moratti said on Tuesday.

Chivu played for Romanian clubs CSM Resita and FC Universitatea Craiova before joining Dutch side Ajax in 1999.

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## Garcia leaves Anfield

INTERNET, undated

Atletico Madrid have confirmed the signing of Luis Garcia from Liverpool, with Fernando Torres expected to move the other way later on Tuesday.

The attacking midfielder has signed a three-year contract and moves for an estimated 4 million pounds.

Meanwhile, the Spanish side's captain Torres is on the verge of a club record 27m pounds transfer to Liverpool.

Midfielder Xabi Alonso said of his countryman: "It would be fantastic if Torres signs for Liverpool, because he is a great player. Let's see what happens in the end, but it is clear that we'd be delighted to have him with us."

The 29-year-old Garcia has already played for Atletico, spending the 2002/03 season on loan at the Vicente Calderon, where he scored nine times in 30 Liga appearances.

He spent three seasons at Anfield, establishing himself as a popular squad member and scoring a number of crucial goals, particularly in Europe.

Garcia was a key contributor to

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## Schuster's Real route gets thorny

AFP, Madrid

The arrival of German Bernd Schuster as Real Madrid's new coach is proving more complicated than expected as current club Getafe are demanding 500,000 euros (680,000 dollars) in compensation from the Spanish champions, local media reported Tuesday.

Sports dailies AS and Marca reported that Real, or Schuster himself, could be forced to pay Getafe for breaking his contract.

Getafe president Angel Torres is demanding compensation, but Real are refusing to pay, meaning Schuster is not free to negotiate.

"If Schuster doesn't break his contract (with Getafe), he won't be coming. We don't negotiate with coaches who are not free," said Real president Ramon Calderon.

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# Vaidisova dispatches holder Mauresmo

AGENCIES, London



The wait proved to be worth it for Nicole Vaidisova.

The 14th-seeded Czech pulled a surprise Tuesday with a 7-6 (8-6), 4-6, 6-1

victory over the fourth-seeded Amelie Mauresmo en route to reaching the quarterfinals at Wimbledon.

It was a disappointing result for Mauresmo, the defending champion who never was able to get her game in gear. The Frenchwoman was left frustrated by the 18-year-old Vaidisova, who advanced to the quarterfinals at this grasscourt Grand Slam for the first time in her career.

Mauresmo committed an astounding 37 unforced errors and had 14 double-faults as she was sent packing in a match that was delayed three times by rain.

Vaidisova, who reached the semifinals at the Australian Open and the quarters at the French Open, won despite 31 unforced errors. She had just five double-faults in beating Mauresmo for a third straight time.

A wild backhand from Mauresmo gave Vaidisova a break, allowing her to take a 3-0 lead in the deciding third set. It was the first time more than two games had separated the pair in the match and the gap quickly became insurmountable.

Mauresmo held serve in another closely-contested fourth game with the aid of a 12th ace but she lost it completely in the sixth game, producing two more double faults to taking her total to 14. Mauresmo then produced a poorly executed drop shot on break point and showed her frustration by slamming the ball into the crowd, an act which cost her a code violation.

Mauresmo was quickly put out of her misery, however, with Vaidisova serving out to clinch victory in a match that spanned almost four hours due to the rain. Vaidisova actually won the match in 2 hours, 20 minutes.

In the quarters, Vaidisova will face either sixth-seeded Ana Ivanovic or number 11 Nadia Petrova.

Fifth-seeded Russian Svetlana Kuznetsova coasted into the quarterfinals with a 6-3, 6-2 victory over Tamira Paszek. It marks the third time that Kuznetsova has reached the round of eight at

Wimbledon.

Kuznetsova did have her match against her 16-year-old Austrian opponent halted by rain after the first set. However, it hardly slowed her down as she needed a mere 54 minutes to advance.

"It was pretty comfortable. She started very well, but I felt like during the match like I put in more and more pressure on her," Kuznetsova said. "She was playing worse, worse, worse."

So for me it was better. I was getting more confidence. I was trying to play better. She went a little bit low. Yeah, I expected a very tough match, but I'm happy. Every round my performance grows, so I'm happy about it."

Using some powerful groundstrokes and just looking confident in her overall game, Kuznetsova fired 22 winners, compared to just six for Paszek, who was overmatched from the outset.

Kuznetsova next will face either second-seeded countrywoman Maria Sharapova or American Venus Williams.

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PHOTO: INTERNET

Nicole Vaidisova of the Czech Republic celebrates her shock victory over defending champion Amelie Mauresmo of France at the Wimbledon in London yesterday.



PHOTO: AFP

Bayern Munich's (L-R) Daniel van Buyten, Marcell Jansen, Franck Ribery, Sandro Wagner and Luca Toni jog during a training session in Munich on Tuesday.

# A Bayern 'dream team'

AFP, Munich



You know you are dealing with footballing aristocrats when German giants Bayern Munich simply remedied last season's poor performance by buying their own

"dream team". At the start of last season, Bayern's general manager Uli Hoeness was confident he had a team which would challenge for the Champions League and set the pace in Germany's Bundesliga.

German captain Michael Ballack, Bayern's midfield general, had left to join English giants Chelsea with Owen Hargreaves expected to step into his shoes alongside Dutch hard man midfielder Mark Van Bommel.

But a year on, Bayern had endured their worst season for 11 years, finished fourth in the Bundesliga, missed out on a place in next year's Champions League and Hargreaves was sold to Manchester United.

"It's obvious that this team will be completely rebuilt," admitted a

glum Hoeness just last month.

So the biggest spending spree in Bayern's history was launched and coach Ottmar Hitzfeld has been handed a squad of glittering stars as the Bayern board opened their cheque book, spending a reported 69 million euros (93 million dollars).

German striker Miroslav Klose, the top scorer at last year's World Cup, was tempted from Werder Bremen for a reported 15 million euros -- the fee for one of Europe's top marksmen was relatively low because he would have been able to join on a free transfer at the end of the 2007-2008 season.

Klose enjoyed an impressive start to his Bayern career finding the net in a 2-1 friendly win over Sao Paulo in Hong Kong on Sunday.

"Most people know about him, he has a lot of possibilities and a lot of skill. He's also an integral part of the German national squad," enthused Hitzfeld.

"He's very quick, he's very mobile, so I'm pretty sure you can expect a lot from him next season."

Italian World Cup winner Luca Toni, bought from Fiorentina, will partner Klose up front in the coming campaign.

"If we stay healthy and fit there won't be many who can contain us,"

the German said.

One of the biggest surprises has been the capture of French midfield maestro Franck Ribery from Marseille. Ribery had looked set for a move to the English Premiership when Bayern won the day with an offer of 25 million euros.

The Frenchman suddenly signed for Bayern on June 7, the same day as Toni's arrival was heralded and less than 24 hours after the 24-year-old had almost single-handedly terrorised Georgia at the Stade de France in a Euro 2008 qualifier.

German defender Marcell Jansen joined from relegated Borussia Moenchengladbach to strengthen last season's leaky rearguard and Brazilian midfielder Ze Roberto is back after a year at Santos.

Also among the new arrivals is Alemannia Aachen's young German striker Jan Schlaudraff, Schalke 04's midfielder Hamit Altintop and Argentinian midfielder Jose Ernesto Sosa.

That left no room for Dutch striker Roy Makaay, the club's top scorer with 16 goals in 33 games last season.

Makaay managed to bag an average of a goal every two games with the modest possession sup-

plied from midfield, while Klose struggled for form at Bremen towards the end of last season, and is the second-best Bayern goal scorer of all time.

But he was sent back home, to Feyenoord.

Bayern showed how much they needed a new approach when they were found wanting in their defeat by eventual Bundesliga champions VfB Stuttgart last April with four games remaining.

Bayern were chasing a top-three finish to qualify for the Champions League, but two goals in two minutes from Stuttgart's Brazilian striker Cacau left the 20-times German champions down and out of the title race.

With no one in midfield to take the game by the scruff of the neck, Bayern never looked like reducing the deficit, leaving their skipper Oliver Kahn raging.

"The players could have been hungrier," Kahn fumed to German magazine Sport-Bild.

"We have a bad situation which we must be careful about -- it can start with one season and last for longer, becomes harder to deal with."

"We need to bounce back immediately by triumphing next season."