

paceman Taskin Ahmed has now become a common spectacle after every victory and it was no exception against India at Mirpur; young sensation from Satkhira Mustafizur Rahman was the toast of his teammates after his six-for in the second ODI; Soumya Sarkar was brilliant with the bat in the three-match series; Nasir Hossian outfoxed India with his off-spinners in the second ODI; Shakib Al Hasan was a symbol of assurance with two fifties; and Tamim Iqbal might have reserved his best for the coming home series against South Africa.

Alexis reveals Uruguayan apology

pastaZARA'

AFP, Santiago

Chile star Alexis Sanchez revealed a Uruguayan player apologized to him after Wednesday's stormy Copa America quarterfinal battle.

Holders Uruguay finished the game with nine men as they tumbled out of the tournament after losing 1-0 to the hosts.

Sanchez was at the centre of one of the game's flashpoints, when he was flattened by a rough challenge from Jorge Fucile in the dying minutes of the game.

Fucile received a second yellow card for the tackle and was dismissed, a decision which triggered a prolonged confrontation between players and officials from both sides.

Arsenal star Sanchez later told reporters one unnamed Uruguayan player had said sorry to him for the rough treatment he had been given during a bruising encounter.

"They like to fight, argue, go forward all out; one player told me in the first half 'Move you wimp' -- but then later he said to me: 'I am sorry'," Sanchez said, without identifying the opponent in question.

Tevez set for Boca return

AFP, Buenos Aires

Carlos Tevez is set to return to his first club, Boca Juniors, after the Argentines reached agreement with Italian champions Juventus, a club official announced.

Boca general secretary Cesar Martucci told the radio station AM1050 the Tevez transfer was a done deal, even though there was no official confirmation either in Buenos Aires or Turin.

BFF's focus on U-19s

SPORTS REPORTER



The Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) has seemingly started to give importance to the agegroup teams to build up a proper pipeline for the national football

team as BFF president Kazi Salahuddin instructed the coaching staff to make a strong U-19 national team for the upcoming SAFF U-19 Championship and AFC U-19 Championship Qualifiers in September and October. National team's assistant coach

Saiful Bari Titu has already been given the responsibility to guide the U-19 national team and national team's head coach Lodewijk de Kruif was appointed as an advisory coach so that the U-19 team could produce good results in championships and also so the future booters could learn the style the national football team follows under the guidance of the Dutch coach.

"There might have a thought of making the players for the national team through the age-group team.

Another factor was that we have a good opportunity to produce good results in our group, where Uzbekistan is the only recognized opponent. That's why we are giving maximum importance to develop the U-19 side," said coach Saiful Bari.

Upon instructions from the BFF president, Saiful Bari has already started to scout players to build a strong team and in the past two days the former national footballer conducted two trials of the players from BKSP and BFF Academy and initially picked 20 from 57 players and is now set to see the players in an open trial to be held on Saturday.

"There are some talented players, though they are not well-trained from their starting level and with that aspect I may face a few problems, but there are hopes because those players are physically well-built, tall and have some skills," evaluated Saiful Bari.

Saiful Bari plans to pick 28 to 32 players for the preliminary squad and choose the remaining 8 to 12 players from professional football league and unregistered players who are practicing with the different clubs.

It is a boost for Saiful Bari that he gets four to five ready players who are taking part in the ongoing professional football league. Those players have even established their names through their performances. They are Mohammad Ibrahim, Shafiqul Islam Biplu and Masuk Mia Jonny of Mohammedan SC, Mannaf Rabbi of Rahmatganj MFS and Tutul Hossain Badsha of Abahani.

Saiful Bari wants to start the preparation camp from next week, soon after completing the group trials as well as individual trials. Titu also has a plan to enrol the U-19 squad in the upcoming Bangladesh Championship League, a second-tier professional football league, gain the experience and game temperament ahead of SAFF and AFC U-19 Championships.

Bangladesh were pitted with Uzbekistan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bhutan in Group A of the AFC U-19 Championship Qualifiers, where the 10 group champions and five best runners-up will advance to the 2016 finals to be held in Bahrain.

Chile KO Uruguay

AFP, Santiago



Chile sent nine-man Uruguay crashing out of the Copa America on Wednesday, winning a bruising quarterfinal 1-0 as controversy over lurid provocation tactics rocked the tournament.

An 81st-minute strike from Juventus defender Mauricio Isla settled a pulsating encounter at Santiago's Estadio Nacional as holders Uruguay saw striker Edinson Cavani and defender Jorge Fucile sent off. Fucile's dismissal for a second yellow card in the closing

minutes triggered a mass confrontation involving players and officials from both sides, with even Uruguay's veteran coach Oscar Tabarez coming onto the pitch. But the post-match commotion focused around the

Chile defender Gonzalo Jara after a clash midway through the second half. Camera footage of the moments leading up to the flashpoint, however, appeared to show Jara attempting to

insert his finger into Cavani's anus, prompting the Uruguay player's reaction. Tabarez later defended the actions of the Paris Saint-Germain striker, arguing he had been provoked.

"For the expulsion of Cavani, you can see what happened and what the challenge was. I refer you to the television and photos of it, it is all there," said Tabarez as images of Jara's actions swiftly went viral on social media.

"I can see that the referee has not seen it, but the linesman had to be able to see it from his position."

It is not the first time Jara has been involved in controversy involving a Uruguayan opponent.

In 2013, Luis Suarez punched the defender after the Chilean reportedly grabbed the Uruguay striker's genitals during a World Cup qualifier.

Tabarez said the dismissal of Cavani, when the match was at 0-0, turned the tide against his team.

"We had the game under control but when we were left with 10 men it became a little more difficult because it limited our opportunities to attack," said Tabarez.

Uruguay reacted to Cavani's dismissal doggedly, and had appeared to be on their way to taking the game to a penalty shoot-out with a superb defensive performance led by centre-half Diego Godin.

But as the match entered the final 10 minutes, Chile pounced on Uruguay goalkeeper Fernando Muslera's fail-

ure to clear a cross. Chile playmaker Jorge Valdivia slipped a pass to Isla, who

It got worse for Uruguay a few minutes from time when



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Ramos wants to leave

AFP, Madrid

Real Madrid defender Sergio Ramos has told the club he wants to leave after falling out with president Florentino Perez, media reported Thursday, saying Manchester United were interested in buying the player.

Spain's major sporting and general dailies reported that Ramos met top club officials on Wednesday and asked them to listen to offers from other clubs.

Real have yet to renew Ramos's current contract, which expires in 2017.

that claim the

AFP, Milan

Andrea Pirlo's move to Major League Soccer is imminent,

Pirlo joining New York

Juventus and Italy star will sign an 18month deal with New York City FC.

Midfield legend Pirlo was a linchpin for the Turin giants on their way to a first league and Cup double in 20 years last season.

But reports in La Gazzetta dello Sport insist the 36-yearold former World Cup win-

ner will leave Italy behind and end his career in the United States.

Pirlo, whose contract expires in June 2016, was distraught at the final whistle of

when Juventus were beaten 3-1 by Barcelona. That may have represented Pirlo's last

last month's Champions League final

according to reports in Italy chance to add a third Champions League winner's medal to his collection having triumphed with

> Gazzetta's report said Pirlo will sign an 18-month contract in August with Jason Kreis's side after deciding whether to include a clause that would allow him to opt out of another year, if he desired.

AC Milan in 2003 and 2007.

Former Juventus teammate Sebastian Giovinco quit the Bianconeri during last season to sign for Toronto FC, who meet New York City FC in an Eastern Conference clash on July 12.

drilled in a low finish to spark wild celebrations.

Fucile clattered into Chile star Alexis Sanchez.