

BINGO! Real Madrid superstar Ronaldo (L) scores his team's winning goal as Valencia goalkeeper Santiago Canizares and defender Miroslav Djukic look on in Valencia on May 24

Primera Liga

Real owe Ronaldo two

Football

REUTERS/AFP, Madrid

A classy double from Ronaldo helped Real Madrid to a 2-1 win over Valencia that saw them return to the top of the table on Saturday as title rivals Deportivo Coruna slumped to a 3-0 defeat at Celta

The results mean that Real lead the first division on 71 points, two ahead of Real Sociedad, although the Basque side can reclaim top spot if they win their match at Malaga on Sunday.

Deportivo, who led the table two weeks ago, are now in third place on 66 points, and with just three games left to play Javier Irureta's side have to rely on major slip-ups by their two rivals if they are to have a chance of taking the

Celta's victory means that they gain the edge in the race for the final Champions League berth and move a point ahead of Valencia.

World and European Player of the Year Ronaldo lived up to his billing with a sparkling performance at the Mestalla.

The Brazilian opened the scoring on 26 minutes with a rare headed goal, lurking among the Valencia defence before nodding in a swirling Luis Figo cross.

Valencia struck back six minutes later when midfielder Fabio Aurelio guided in past keeper Iker Casillas after slick work by Pablo Aimar and John Carew.

But Ronaldo sealed a precious away victory for Vicente del Bosque's side with a brilliantly taken winner midway through the second half.

Controlling a long ball from Figo with his toe, the Real striker burst past Valencia defender Miroslav Djukic, rounded keeper Santiago Canizares and clipped home to score his 19th goal of the season.

Deportivo's defeat, their second loss in successive weeks, was the heaviest suffered in first division encounters at their Galician rivals for 47 years, with all of Celta's goals coming in the second half.

"We now have to rely on Real Madrid and Real Sociedad slipping up," said Deportivo coach Javier Irureta, all but admitting that his team's title hopes had been lost aong with the match. Celta's Jesuli Mora opened the

scoring with a header just before the hour and three minutes later turned provider for Edu to nod Celta further in front. Edu then used his quick-fire

wits to pounce after Deportivo alkeeper Juan Francosco Molina had badly fumbled a cross from Alexandr Mostovoi, the Brazilian scoring his 11th goal of the season 11 minutes from time.

The win means that Celta Vigo move up to fourth place with 57 points, one point ahead of Valencia, in the contest for the remaining place in next season's Champions League.

Athletic Bilbao in sixth, whose last minute penalty from Ismael Urzaiz gave them a 2-1 win over Racing santander and kept them ahead of the pack in the race for the last UEFA Cup place.

Athletic have now gone eight games without defeat but they had to come from behind after Racing's Pedro Munitis put the visitors in

front just a minute after the break. Former Spanish international defender Aitor Karanka got the equaliser after 56 minutes, stabbing the ball home with his right foot after a Joseba Etxeberria cor-

Urzaiz then sealed the winner his 13th goal of the season - from the spot as regulation time ran out after Joseba Arriaga had been brought down by Racing's Ismael

Atletico Madrid are right behind Athletic, at least overnight, after Fernando Torres showed just how much the team had missed him during his six-week absence through injury.

Torres scored twice in Atletico's 3-2 win over Villarreal.

"I don't think it is exaggerating to say that Torres gave us this victory. We conceded two first half goals and could have let in others, as we were nervious and committed errors. The second half was a different story after he came on following the interval," said Atletico coach Luis Aragones.

Villarreal were much the better side during the first 45 minutes and held a 2-1 lead at the break thanks to goals from Javier Calleja and Josico Moreno.

Atletico had to rely on an own goal from Villarreal's Reuban Arruabarrena to keep in the game

before the arrival of Torres. The 19-year-old striker, nicknamed El Nino, sent home a tre-mendous shot from the edge of the area to level the score after 69

Five minutes later, he got the winner by latching onto a Luis Garcia cross in front of goal.

Bottom-club Rayo Vallecano staved off relegation for another week by grinding out a dour 0-0 draw with fellow strugglers Osasuna.

Spanish radio station Cadena SER provided appropriate epitaph on the encounter, with its com-mentator saying on the whistle, With two teams of this calibre, it was no surprise that this was a truly

Spanish league standings after Saturday's matches (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against,

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ittui	00	20		-	. 0	10	
Sociedad	34	20	9	5	63	41	69
Deportivo	35	20	6	9	60	41	66
Celta	35	16	9	10	41	31	57
Valencia	35	16	8	11	51	31	56
Bilbao	35	14	9	12	58	55	51

Aldair, who played his last game for the club after 13 years in the capi-

Reggina took the lead in the 13th minute at the Renato Dall'Ara stadium.

Francesco Cozza's right wing cross found Emiliano Bonazzoli unmarked in the centre of the penalty area and although his first

Ligue 1

Bundesliga Lyon complete formalities Leverkusen's final Undecided at the end



Reigning champions Lyon became the first French side since Marseille in 1992 to retain their league title despite going down to their worst home defeat of the season on Saturday

Guingamp, looking ambitiously towards qualifying for the UEFA Cup, took only 18 minutes to prove their determination and went on to hand Lyon coach Paul Le Guen a 4-1 end-of-season defeat.

"We're not going to reflect too much on this defeat," said a smiling Le Guen after the match.

"We came up against a very good Guingamp team tonight and the important thing is we've won

Lyon had virtually assured the title last week and Marseille playing to retain their second place to book their return to the Champions League, would have had to score a mountain of goals to overtake them.

Marseille, however, choked away from home against a Nantes side who, having been mediocre in what has been a transitional season, were playing under a barrage of criticism from their The 'Canaries' - stylish league

winners in 2001 when current Real Sociedad coach Raynald Denoueix was at the helm - scored a late goal through Gregory Pujol in the 84th minute to send Marseille down into third place with a 1-0 win. Marseille, France's only

European Cup winners (1993), will now have to contest the third preliminary round of Europe's top club competition next season but will be content to be among Europe's elite after a two-year As Lyon and Marseille slipped

up, Monaco, sitting third before kick-off, jumped up a place thanks to a classy 6-0 win over Troyes which came only a week after they won the French League Cup. Monaco booked their

Champions League slot for next season to hand coach Didier Deschamps, the former France skipper, a reason to invest in the team over the summer.

"We went out to get a result and we've succeeded. It's exceptional," Deschamps said as he poured praise on his players.

Lyon finished top on 68 points, with Monaco second on 67 and Marseille third on 65.

The relegated teams were Le Havre, Sedan and Troyes

Elsewhere, Bordeaux finished fourth thanks to a brace of goals from freescoring Portuguese striker Pauleta in a 2-0 win at home against Lille.

Minnows Sochaux finished fifth after a 2-1 home win over Sedan - which along with Rennes' 3-1 win over Montpellier, helped seal the north-east side's relega-

Sochaux's efforts helped them book a rare place in next season's less lucrative European competition at the expense of Auxerre

who beat Paris St Germain 2-0 at home although that wasn't enough for Guy Roux's talented Burgundy side to claim fifth spot. Auxerre nevertheless will have a chance to join the UEFA Cup fold next season if they manage to overcome Paris St Germain in the French Cup final on May 31.

After almost a decade of the championship trophy being shared among seven clubs, and despite their last day blues, Lyon defended the title they won for the first time last season in style.

Marseille last won the league title in 1993, at the time their fifth title in a row, however it was later rescinded due to a bribes scandal involving another French league side, Valenciennes.

FINAL STANDINGS

French league table after Saturday's matches (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against, points):

П								
	Lyon	38	19	11	8	63	41	68
	Monaco	38	19	10	9	66	33	67
	Marseille	38	19	8	11	41	36	65
	Bordeaux	38	18	10	10	57	36	64
	Sochaux	38	17	13	8	46	31	64
	Auxerre	38	18	10	10	38	29	64
	Guingamp	38	19	5	14	59	46	62
	Lens	38	14	15	9	43	31	57
	Nantes	38	16	8	14	37	39	56
	Nice	38	13	16	9	39	31	55
	Paris SG	38	14	12	12	47	36	54
	Bastia	38	12	11	15	40	48	47
	Strasbourg	38	11	12	15	40	54	45
	Lille	38	10	12	16	29	44	42
	Rennes	38	10	10	18	35	45	40
	Montpellier	38	10	10	18	37	54	40
	Ajaccio	38	9	12	17	29	49	39
	Le Havre	38	10	8	20	27	47	38
	Sedan	38	9	9	20	41	59	36
	Troyes	38	7	10	21	23	48	31
	Champions: Lyon	_	_					
	Qualified for Champi							

Qualified for Champions League: Lyon and Monaco; Marseille (must play qualifying round)
UEFA Cup: Bordeaux, Sochaux and either Auxerre or Paris Saint Germain.

Intertoto Cup: Guingamp, Lens Relegated: Le Havre, Sedan, Troyes



TASTES SO GOOD! Lyons Malian playmaker Mahamadou Diarra kisses the Lique 1 trophy after the season's last match against Guingamp on May 24.

day escape

Football

AFP, Berlin

Bayer Leverkusen held on to their German top flight status by the skin of their teeth Saturday thanks to a single goal at Nuremberg as the curtain came down on this season's Bundesliga. A 36th-minute strike from

Turkish midfield star Yildiray

Basturk ensured Leverkusen, last year's league runner's-up and European Champions League finalists, won 1-0 and finished fourth from bottom to avoid relegation. Basturk saved Leverkusen the

humiliation of becoming the first team to reach the final of Europe's premier competition and be

If Leverkusen had lost it would have been the fastest relegation of any finalist in the Champions League, barring Marseille's ejection from the French first division following a bribery scandal in 1993. The victory was not without

controversy however amid accusations of deal-making following Leverkusen's appointment of former Nuremberg coach Klaus Augenthaler. Following the dismissal of

Klaus Toppmoller and Thomas Horster, Bayer handed the reins to Augenthaler, who was at the helm of Nuremberg earlier this season, with only two matchdays remaining.

Leverkusen were fighting to stay ahead of fellow relegation battlers Arminia Bielefeld and needed to win at Nuremberg, who had already been relegated.

relegated along with Nuremberg and Energie Cottbus, after losing 1-0 at home to Hanover. In other final day action Bayern Munich, who secured a record

18th Bundesliga title a month ago, lost 1-0 at Schalke 04 but finished

the season with an impressive 16-

Bielefeld, meanwhile, were

qualifiers

qualify

this season after scoring a goal in his side's 4-2 win at 1860 Munich.

German league table following final day of the championship on Saturday (played, won, drawn

lost, goals for, against, points)

Bayern 34 23 6 5 70 25 Stuttgart 34 17 8 9 53 39 Dortmund 34 15 13 6 51 27 Hamburg 34 15 11 8 46 36 Hertha 34 16 6 12 52 43 Bremen 34 16 4 14 51 50 Schalke 34 12 13 9 46 40 Wolfsburg 34 13 7 14 39 42 Bochum 34 12 9 13 55 56 1860 Munich 34 12 9 13 44 52 Hanover 34 12 7 15 47 57 M'gladbach 34 11 9 14 43 45 Rostock 34 11								
Dortmund	Bayern	34	23	6	5	70	25	
Hamburg 34 15 11 8 46 36 Hertha 34 16 6 12 52 43 Bremen 34 16 4 14 51 50 Schalke 34 12 13 9 46 40 Wolfsburg 34 13 7 14 39 42 Bochum 34 12 9 13 55 56 1860 Munich 34 12 9 13 44 52 Hanover 34 12 7 15 47 57 M'gladbach 34 11 9 14 43 45 Rostock 34 11 8 15 35 41 Kaiserslautern 34 10 10 14 40 42 Leverkusen 34 11 7 16 47 56 Bielefeld 34 8 12 14 35 46 Nuremberg 34 8 6 20 33 60	Stuttgart	34	17	8	9	53	39	
Hertha 34 16 6 12 52 43 Bremen 34 16 4 14 51 50 Schalke 34 12 13 9 46 40 Wolfsburg 34 13 7 14 39 42 Bochum 34 12 9 13 55 56 1860 Munich 34 12 9 13 44 52 Hanover 34 12 7 15 47 57 M'gladbach 34 11 9 14 43 45 Rostock 34 11 8 15 35 41 Kaiserslautern 34 10 10 14 40 42 Leverkusen 34 11 7 16 47 56 Bielefeld 34 8 12 14 35 46 Nuremberg 34 8 6 20 33 60	Dortmund	34	15	13	6	51	27	
Bremen 34 16 4 14 51 50 Schalke 34 12 13 9 46 40 Wolfsburg 34 13 7 14 39 42 Bochum 34 12 9 13 55 56 1860 Munich 34 12 9 13 44 52 Hanover 34 12 7 15 47 57 M'gladbach 34 11 9 14 43 45 Rostock 34 11 8 15 35 41 Kaiserslautern 34 10 10 14 40 42 Leverkusen 34 11 7 16 47 56 Bielefeld 34 8 12 14 35 46 Nuremberg 34 8 6 20 33 60	Hamburg	34	15	11	8	46	36	
Schalke 34 12 13 9 46 40 Wolfsburg 34 13 7 14 39 42 Bochum 34 12 9 13 55 56 1860 Munich 34 12 9 13 44 52 Hanover 34 12 7 15 47 57 M'gladbach 34 11 9 14 43 45 Rostock 34 11 8 15 35 41 Kaiserslautern 34 10 10 14 40 42 Leverkusen 34 11 7 16 47 56 Bielefeld 34 8 12 14 35 46 Nuremberg 34 8 6 20 33 60	Hertha	34	16	6	12	52	43	
Wolfsburg 34 13 7 14 39 42 Bochum 34 12 9 13 55 56 1860 Munich 34 12 9 13 44 52 Hanover 34 12 7 15 47 57 M'gladbach 34 11 9 14 43 45 Rostock 34 11 8 15 35 41 Kaiserslautern 34 10 10 14 40 42 Leverkusen 34 11 7 16 47 56 Bielefeld 34 8 12 14 35 46 Nuremberg 34 8 6 20 33 60	Bremen	34	16	4	14	51	50	
Bochum 34 12 9 13 55 56 1860 Munich 34 12 9 13 44 52 Hanover 34 12 7 15 47 57 M'gladbach 34 11 9 14 43 45 Rostock 34 11 8 15 35 41 Kaiserslautern 34 10 10 14 40 42 Leverkusen 34 11 7 16 47 56 Bielefeld 34 8 12 14 35 46 Nuremberg 34 8 6 20 33 60	Schalke	34	12	13	9	46	40	
1860 Munich 34 12 9 13 44 52 Hanover 34 12 7 15 47 57 M'gladbach 34 11 9 14 43 45 Rostock 34 11 8 15 35 41 Kaiserslautern 34 10 10 14 40 42 Leverkusen 34 11 7 16 47 56 Bielefeld 34 8 12 14 35 46 Nuremberg 34 8 6 20 33 60	Wolfsburg	34	13	7	14	39	42	
Hanover 34 12 7 15 47 57 M'gladbach 34 11 9 14 43 45 Rostock 34 11 8 15 35 41 Kaiserslautern 34 10 10 14 40 42 Leverkusen 34 11 7 16 47 56 Bielefeld 34 8 12 14 35 46 Nuremberg 34 8 6 20 33 60	Bochum	34	12	9	13	55	56	
M'gladbach 34 11 9 14 43 45 Rostock 34 11 8 15 35 41 Kaiserslautern 34 10 10 14 40 42 Leverkusen 34 11 7 16 47 56 Bielefeld 34 8 12 14 35 46 Nuremberg 34 8 6 20 33 60	1860 Munich	34	12	9	13	44	52	
Rostock 34 11 8 15 35 41 Kaiserslautern 34 10 10 14 40 42 Leverkusen 34 11 7 16 47 56 Bielefeld 34 8 12 14 35 46 Nuremberg 34 8 6 20 33 60	Hanover	34	12	7	15	47	57	
Kaiserslautern 34 10 10 14 40 42 Leverkusen 34 11 7 16 47 56 Bielefeld 34 8 12 14 35 46 Nuremberg 34 8 6 20 33 60	M'gladbach	34	11	9	14	43	45	
Leverkusen 34 11 7 16 47 56 Bielefeld 34 8 12 14 35 46 Nuremberg 34 8 6 20 33 60	Rostock	34	11	8	15	35	41	
Bielefeld 34 8 12 14 35 46 Nuremberg 34 8 6 20 33 60	Kaiserslautern	34	10	10	14	40	42	
Nuremberg 34 8 6 20 33 60	Leverkusen	34	11	7	16	47	56	
	Bielefeld	34	8	12	14	35	46	
Cottbus 34 7 8 18 34 64	Nuremberg	34	8	6	20	33	60	
	Cottbus	34	7	8	18	34	64	

Intertoto Cup: Werder Bremen, Schalke 04 Relegated: Arminia Bielefeld, Nuremberg, Energie Cottbus Promoted: FC Cologne, SC Freiburg. Final spot following Sunday's matches between Eintracht

point winning margin.

Surpise package VfB Stuttgart secured automatic qualification for the Champions League after finishing runners-up with a 2-0 win at home against VfL Wolfsburg.

TOP SCORERS

Leading scorers in the German First Division after Saturday's final round of matches of the 2002-03 season:

21 - Giovane Elber (Bayern Munich), Thomas Christiansen (VfL Bochum)

16 - Ailton (Werder Bremen) 15 - Claudio Pizarro (Bayern Munich), Kevin Kuranyi (VfB Stuttgart)

14 - Fredi Bobic (Hanover), Markus Schroth (1860 Munich), Marcelinno (Hertna Berlin), Bernardo Romeo (SV Hamburg) - Benjamin Lauth (1860 Munich), Jan Koller (Borussia

Dortmund) 12 - Sasa Ciric (Nuremberg), Artur Wichniarek (Arminia Bielefeld), Tomislav Maric (VfL Wolfsburg)

Borussia Dortmund, the 2001-2002 champions, missed out on automatic qualification for the second automatic Champions League slot, following their 1-1 draw Cottbus, which leaves them third overall, meaning they must fight it through the European

UEFA Cup places were secured by SV Hamburg, who finished fourth after a 2-0 win against Hansa Rostock, Hertha Berlin, fifth with a 2-0 victory against visiting Kaiserslautern, the German cup finalists, who also

VfL Bochum's Hispano-Danish striker Thomas Christiansen meanwhile joined Bayern Munich's Brazilian marksman Giovane Elber as the top scorer

FINAL STANDINGS

вауетп	34	23	b	Э	70	23	- 1			
Stuttgart	34	17	8	9	53	39	5			
Dortmund	34	15	13	6	51	27	5			
Hamburg	34	15	11	8	46	36	5			
Hertha	34	16	6	12	52	43	5			
Bremen	34	16	4	14	51	50	5			
Schalke	34	12	13	9	46	40	4			
Wolfsburg	34	13	7	14	39	42	4			
Bochum	34	12	9	13	55	56	4			
1860 Munich	34	12	9	13	44	52	4			
Hanover	34	12	7	15	47	57	4			
M'gladbach	34	11	9	14	43	45	4			
Rostock	34	11	8	15	35	41	4			
Kaiserslautern	34	10	10	14	40	42	4			
Leverkusen	34	11	7	16	47	56	4			
Bielefeld	34	8	12	14	35	46	3			
Nuremberg	34	8	6	20	33	60	3			
Cottbus	34	7	8	18	34	64	2			
Champions: Bayern Munich										

Qualified for Champions League: Bayern Munich and Vfb Stuttgart; Borussia Dortmund (must **UEFA Cup:** SV Hamburg, Hertha Berlin, Kaiserslauterr

Frankfurt, FSV Mayence 05 and Gruther Furth

Serie A

Football

AFP, Rome

Atalanta and Reggina will face each other in a nail-biting two leg relegation play-off after both teams finished level on points on Saturday, the final day of the 2002-03 Serie A season 03 Serie A season.

Atalanta won 2-1 at AS Roma

Additional Work 2-1 at AS Roma while Reggina triumphed 2-0 at Bologna, but rare away victories were still not enough to guarantee survival. Modena and Empoli also ended up with 38 points but retain their

top flight status because they have better head-to-head records against their fellow strugglers. Reggina coach Gigi De Canio was upbeat about his team's chances of avoiding the drop after only their second win away from

"Today's win at Bologna gives

me great confidence for the play-off against Atalanta," he said. "I'd say there is little to choose between the two teams. The side with the greater motivation will

Atalanta midfielder Alex Pinardi insisted his side were braced for a relegation scrap.

"We're ready and charged up for a battle and we hope things go our way," he said. "We need to recharge our bat-teries and prepare ourselves well."

At the top end of the table Parma and Udinese qualified for next season's UEFA Cup competi-tion thanks to wins against Empoli and Lazio respectively, while Chievo miss out after losing 4-3 at league champions Juventus.

Inter Milan, beaten by city rivals AC Milan in the semi-finals of the Champions League, finished second despite throwing away a two goal lead in a 2-2 home draw against Perugia.

Milan took third spot despite a crushing 4-2 defeat at relegated Piacenza, while Lazio, 2-1 losers at Udinese, finished fourth.

Both Milan and Lazio must take part in a two leg qualifying round in August to advance to the group stages of the Champions League, although Milan may not have to if they beat Juventus in this year's final which takes place next week.

Udinese striker Roberto Muzzi said the form of goalkeeper Morgan De Sanctis played a huge part in the club's European qualifi-

"He has made some incredible

"I've lost count of the amount of points he's saved us."

Cristiano Doni's deflected shot wrong-footed Ivan Pelizzoli to give Atalanta an early lead at the Olympic stadium, only for Daniele De Rossi to level the scores for Roma on the half hour with a firm

Carmine Gautieri netted

Leading scorers in the Italian league

after Saturday's final round of matches

of the 2002-03 season:

18 - Adrian Mutu (Parma)

Francesco Totti (AS Roma)

Roberto Baggio (Brescia)

13 - Antonio Di Natale (Empoli)

24 - Christian Vieri (Inter Milan)

17 - Filippo Inzaghi (AC Milan)

16 - Alessandro Del Piero (Juventus)

15 - Claudio Lopez (Lazio), Adriano

14 - Dario Hubner (Piacenza),

12 - Giuseppe Signori (Bologna)

10 - Cristiano Doni (Atalanta), Julio

Cruz (Bologna), David Trezeguet

(Iuventus), Bernardo Corradi (Lazio),

Emilian Bonazzoli (Parma/Reggina)

Atalanta's winner with a low shot in the 55th minute after Roma had failed to clear their lines following a effort was saved by Gianluca Pagliuca, the 23-year-old striker made no mistake from the rebound. frantic goalmouth scramble.

The day was an emotional one for Roma's Brazilian defender **TOP SCORERS**

The visiting Calabrians doubled their lead when David Di Michele capitalised on Pagliuca's misjudgement of a looping corner to head into an unguarded net. Chievo's journeyman striker Oliver Bierhoff said farewell in style

by scoring a second-half hat-trick in a seven goal thriller in Turin, but still ended up on the losing side.

Bierhoff, a league winner with Milan in 1999, is leaving Italy after 10 years in Serie A.

"We threw away a great chance to qualify for the UEFA Cup," said the former Germany international.

we seemed to go to sleep. We gave Juventus far too much space. "It's nice to score a hat-trick but

great shame to miss out on Europe.'

Modena survived relegation after snatching a 2-2 draw at Brescia, as did Empoli despite going down 2-0 at home to Parma.

FINAL STANDINGS

Italian football league table after the final round of Serie A matches on Saturday (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against, points):

Juventus	34	21	9	4	64	29	7
Inter	34	19	8	7	64	38	6
Milan	34	18	7	9	55	30	6
Lazio	34	15	15	4	57	32	6
Parma	34	15	11	8	55	36	5
Udinese	34	16	8	10	38	35	5
Chievo	34	16	7	11	51	39	5
Roma	34	13	10	11	55	46	4
Brescia	34	9	15	10	36	38	4
Perugia	34	10	12	12	40	48	4
Bologna	34	10	11	13	39	47	4
Empoli	34	9	11	14	36	46	3
Modena	34	9	11	14	30	48	3
Atalanta	34	8	14	12	35	47	3
Reggina	34	10	8	16	38	53	3
Piacenza	34	8	6	20	44	62	3
Como	34	4	12	18	29	57	2
Torino	34	4	9	21	23	58	2

Qualified for Champions League: Juventus, Inter Milan, AC Milan and Lazio

Qualified for UEFA Cup: AS Roma, Parma and Udinese Relegated: Torino, Como, Piacenza and Reggina or Atalanta (play-off)

Ronaldinho dreams MU

that English football isn't one of my

"And the way things are looking right now, playing in the Premiership, at Manchester

United in particular, is more than

It would be a tremendous honour to be the first Brazilian to

Ronaldinho still has three years



INTERNET, Paris

Ronaldinho has fuelled rumours that he is on his way to Manchester United by admitting it would be a 'tremendous honour" to move to Old Trafford.

The unsettled Brazilian's club-Paris St Germain, have already claimed United have requested a meeting to discuss the player.

And Ronaldinho said that a remaining on his current contract but Paris St Germain are said to be move to the Premiership club was a "concrete possibility" willing to part with the player for "When I think what it would be

like to work with and learn from a He added: "If PSG and United master like [United boss Sir Alex]

ambitions.

iust a dream.

play for United

Ferguson, I get goose bumps," he told the Sunday Herald newspaper. reach an agreement and everyone is happy with it, I'll be very proud to "Right now it's just speculation, right? But I would be lying if I said come "What more can I say about Manchester United? Everyone

knows how powerful and espected they are in every corner of the globe. It would be a tremendous honour to be the first Brazilian in history to play for Ronaldinho has endured a

troubled season in the French capital after a public fall-out with boss Luis Fernandez.

The Brazilian originally cost £4.2m from Gremio Porto Alegre two years ago but PSG also paid an additional £12.8m to the player and a company called Sportfive, which owns his image rights.