SPÖRT

Ronaldo on silver screen

AFP, Rio de Janeiro

World Cup hero Ronaldo is to star in a film in his native Brazil in which he plays a hugely successful footballer the website Terra reported Sunday.

The 27-year-old Real Madrid star will appear in the film "A Summer Show" in the company of popular Brazilian youth television presenters Luciano Huck and Angelica.

The opening scenes will be filmed in November in Curitiba where the Brazilian team will play Uruguay in their 2006 South American World Cup qualifiers

Terra said that some action could may be filmed in Madrid, where Ronaldo is based with his home and the Santiago Bernabeu stadium being considered as possible backdrops for the movie which will should be released next January.

Vieira sidelined

AFP, London

Arsenal's Premiership push suffered a setback on Sunday when it was revealed that inspirational skipper Patrick Vieira will be out of action for at least another

The Frenchman returned after a three-week injury absence for Arsenal's midweek Champions League defeat against Dynamo Kiev. But his appearance as a second-half substitute led to the midfielder picking up

a new thigh injury. before Patrick can play again," said Gunners coach Arsene Wenger after the 1-1 draw with Charlton on Sunday.

What about Becks?

Football

AFP, Madrid

Real Madrid will go back to the top of the Spanish first division, at least for 24 hours, if they can win at Real Zaragoza on Tuesday.

However, the big question is, will the reigning Spanish champions take a risk on David Beckham?

A strained right hamstring meant the England captain missed Real's scrappy 3-1 win over Racing Santander on Saturday, when they only salvaged three points thanks to two goals in the last 12 minutes from Raul Gonzalez.

"I feel fit enough to travel, I'm not getting any pain," Beckham said on

FIXTURES Tuesday (kick off 2000 GMT unless stated)

Wednesday Albacete v Villarreal Athletic Bilbao y Malaga Barcelona y Murcia Deportivo La Coruna v Real Mallorca

Real Zaragoza v Real Madrid

Osasuna v Real Betis Racing Santander v Espanyol Sevilla v Valladolid Valencia v Celta Vigo **Thursday**

Atletico Madrid v Real Sociedad (2030)

Sunday, although a final decision will only be made later on Monday.

If Beckham is deemed unfit, at least to start, then his replacement will be either Esteban Cambiasso or Jose Maria 'Guti' Gutierrez

Beckham has become a talismanic figure for second-placed Real in the short space of time he has been in the Spanish capital but Zaragoza's La Romareda stadium has long been a happy hunting ground for them.



DAVID BECKHAM

Real have won on 22 of their 50 league visits and also hold the accolade of inflicting the worst ever home defeat on Zaragoza when they won 7-1 there during the 1987-

One man who believes that Zaragoza will upset the odds is former Real Madrid winger Savio Bortolini, whose five years at Real were punctuated with a series of

"I'm motivated to beat Real and I know the rest of the team are," said Zaragoza's Brazil international.

If Real do go top on Tuesday, it is a fair bet they will only be in pole position overnight as league leaders Deportivo La Coruna play struggling Real Mallorca on Wednesday.

The Galicians have 21 points from eight games, while Real are two points adrift.

Valencia, also on 19 points, are at home to Celta Vigo on Wednesday but lie third on the basis of having scored fewer goals.

Deportivo have won all four home matches this season while Mallorca have lost all four on the After scoring the winner in

Saturday's 2-1 victory over Valencia and extending their best ever start to a season, Deportivo coach Javier Irureta is expected to give a starting role to Diego Tristan. The Spain international striker,

the Spanish first division's leading scorer two seasons ago, is likely to replace Walter Pandiani, who scored in Deportivo's first six games but whose form has fallen away recently. By contrast, veteran coach Luis Aragones, who took over the helm

ted in the wake of their 3-1 home defeat to Barcelona on Sunday there was a lot of work to do. "Against Barcelona, we were second best in almost every posi-

at Mallorca two weeks ago, admit-

tion," admitted the Spanish first SEE PAGE 14 COL 8



Barcelona's Brazilian wizard Ronaldinho (C) tries to control the ball between two Mallorca players during their Spanish league match on October 26

Premiership

Magnificent Henry



REUTERS, London

A superbly struck free kick by Thierry Henry sent unbeaten Arsenal back to the top of the premier league on Sunday after a 1-1 draw at Charlton Athletic.

The France striker notched his 10th goal in all competitions this season with a 40th-minute equaliser after Paolo Di Canio had fired Charlton ahead from the penalty spot.

Arsenal, who have 24 points, are one point ahead of Chelsea with Manchester United, surprisingly beaten 3-1 at home by Fulham on Saturday, in third place on 22.

Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger was happy to take home a point after conceding his side had not hit top gear at The Valley, where they had enjoyed 3-0 wins in the last

TOP SIX

English Premiership table after Sunday's matches (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against, points):

10 7 3 0 19 8 24 Arsenal Chelsea 10 7 2 1 20 9 23 Man United 107 1 218 6 22 Birmingham10 5 4 1 9 5 19 Fulham 10 5 3 220 13 18 Southampton1044 210 5 16

"It was a difficult game. Charlton played very tight. They worked very hard and are a tough team to beat," Wenger told Sky Sports television.

'The penalty had one merit. It woke us up and we upped the pace and we had a good period in the final 20 minutes of the first half. But we did not find our second gear to put them under pressure again. We did not create many chances.

"I feel we had great spirit and the players are disappointed that we did not win today."

Arsenal, looking to bounce back after Tuesday's 2-1 Champions League defeat at Dynamo Kiev. made two changes from the side beaten in Ukraine with Fredrik SEE PAGE 14 COL 6

for Leeds AFP, London

More woes

Second-from-bottom English Premiership side Leeds United face more bad news when they announce their annual results on

Reports say the club are set to report losses of between 45 and 50 million pounds on top of debts of 80 million pounds.

fortunes around, Leeds are also expected to appoint former Chelsea chief executive Trevor Birch in a similar role at Elland Road. The Yorkshire club refused to

Tuesday when they issue a statement to the Stock Exchange. Birch, who quit Stamford Bridge after Peter Kenyon's arrival from Manchester United, would be the

day-to-day running of the club while chairman Professor John McKenzie concentrates on resolving the club's long-term finances.

The fall-out from Peter Risdale's six-year spell as club chairman continues to leave its mark on Leeds · last year their losses totalled 33

Jonathan Woodgate, Harry Kewell and Robbie Fowler has failed to stop the club's finances spiralling out of control.

Monaco remain atop

AFP, Paris

league Sunday despite being held to a 1-1 draw at lowly Sochaux. Didier Deschamps' men are

equal on 24 points but ahead on goal difference on Marseille who had been provisional leaders after a 2-0 win against Rennes Saturday, with champions Lyon jumping two spots to third after a 1-0 win at

they looked to bounce back from their Champions League defeat midweek to Deportivo La Coruna, with former Real Madrid striker Fernando Morientes claiming his first league goal after 21 minutes with a header off a centre from Argentine midfielder Lucas Bernardi.

react until a powerful header from Sylvain Monsoreau kept out by Monaco goalie Flavio Roma after 36 minutes, with the hosts unlucky as offside four minutes later.

Monaco's Emmanuel Adebayor suffered the same fate when his goal was disallowed as offside after 56 minutes.

the arrival of substitute Mickakl Pagis after 63 minutes, and finally grabbed the equaliser following a free kick from Mathieu which was headed home by Pierre-Alain Frau five minutes later.

Marseille meanwhile may have buried last week's 4-0 savaging at Strasbourg and Champions League reversal to FC Porto but Alain Perrin's men were roasted by the home crowd at the Velodrome.

A colourless first half was marked by confusion in the midfield before Daniel Van Buyten claimed the first goal just before the half time whistle with substitute Didier Drogba sealing victory with his seventh goal of the season after 77

Primera Liga

Barca win last

Football

AFP, Madrid

Barcelona put all their recent problems behind them to show their true colours and win for the first time in five games, cruising to a 3-1 victory at Real Mallorca on Sunday.

"It was an important result for us and I am happy about that. We can still improve but I have to congratulate the players, at least for the way they played in the first half," said a relieved Barca coach Frank Riikaard.

The defeat leaves the struggling island side just one place off the bottom, while Barcelona edge up to seventh.

Two early goals from Javier Saviola and Ronaldinho ended the game as a contest and Phillip Cocu added to the Catalans' tally five minutes after the break, before Fernando Correa got a late consolation goal for Mallorca.

"With a little more determination we could have really gone to town," added Rijkaard, admitting that his players had taken their foot off the celerator in the final half hour. However, Barca's joy at ending

Gabri Garcia being sent off after the wing-back hacked down Mallorca's Jovan Stankovic in injury time. Rijkaard also left his disgruntled compatriot Patrick Kluivert on the

their barren streak was marred by

Kluivert, who has been linked

with a move to the English Premiership with Arsenal and Newcastle United as the main candidates, came on for the final 15 minutes but being dropped may hasten his departure. Time is also running out for

Espanyol coach Javier Clemente after his side went down 4-0 at home to Celta Vigo earlier on Sunday. Espanyol remain rooted to the

bottom of the Spanish first division. without a win in eight games this season, and just two points to their Ten days ago the former Spanish

national coach, who led Spain at the 1994 and 1998 World Cups, was given four games to turn matters around and Espanyol president Daniel Sanchez Llibre continued to gave Clemente his backing.

"These are difficult times and everything is very complicated but nothing is impossible. This is not the time to talk about changing

ΓOP SIX

Spanish league table after Sunday's matches (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against, points): Deportivo 8 7 0 1 19 6 21

Real Madrid 8 6 1 1 20 9 19 Valencia 8 6 1 1 14 3 19 8 4 2 2 10 7 14 Osasuna Real Betis 8 3 4 1 12 9 13 Real Sociedad8 3 3 2 9 7 12

goat for the the latest debacle, rned on the referee. "Every referee is entitled to have

Clemente, trying to find a scape-

coaches," said Sanchez Llibre.

a bad day but there were things going on that even I couldn't understand. I can only congratulate the players for keeping their enthusi-

asm," said Clemente. The misery started early for Espanyol with Celta's French midfielder Peter Luccin scoring from the spot on 15 minutes after Antonio

Lopo had brought down Celta's Alexander Mostovoi. Five minutes before the break Espanyol were reduced to 10 men, after Pierre Wome got sent off for a

brutal challenge on Juanfran Garcia, before things went really downhill in the second half. Savo Milosevic, who moved to

Celta from Espanyol in the summer, showed little respect for his former SEE PAGE 14 COL 6

Serie A

Starring Shevchenko



European champions AC Milan brushed aside their injury worries on Sunday as a double second-half blast from Andrei Shevchenko took

them to a 3-0 win at Sampdoria and top place in the Italian champion-

Milan are top on goal difference from previous leaders Juventus who also celebrated a victory beating Brescia 2-0 at home with Pavel Nedved and David Trezeguet scoring in the first half.

Both Milan and Juventus have 19 points from seven matches while AS Roma are now four points behind in third spot after a dour 0-0 draw with struggling Inter Milan in Sunday's late game

Milan coach Carlo Ancelotti praised his team's performance coming as it did after their 1-0 home

defeat to Bruges in the Champions League in midweek "It was a great performance, both individually and as a collective,

> after the Champions League defeat," said Ancelotti. Milan went into their match without the injured Pippo Inzaghi and Brazilian ace Rivaldo, while coach Carlo Ancelotti decided to rest teenage sensation Kaka with

Clarence Seedorf and Jon Dahl

Tomasson recalled to the starting

which enabled us to lift our heads

line-up. For Sampdoria, Japanese import Atsushi Yanagisawa made a rare start and he had a chance to make a name for himself after 15 minutes but he fired a shot straight

TOP SIX

at Dida in the Milan goal

Italian league table after Sunday's matches (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals

against, points): AC Milan 7 6 1 0 15 3 19 Juventus 7 6 1 0 18 7 19 AS Roma 7 4 3 0 14 3 15 7 4 2 1 13 7 14 7 4 1 2 13 9 13 7 3 2 2 10 7 11

Milan eventually settled into their stride and Danish striker Tomasson made the most of Inzaghi's absence by opening the scoring seven minutes before the interval converting a

Tomasson was involved in the second goal when he combined with Serginho to set up Shevchenko just before the hour mark.

again in injury time heading in substitute Kaka's cross. Juventus, the only Italian side to

midweek with a 4-2 crushing of Real Sociedad, were too good for Brescia for whom former Juve star Roberto Baggio missed a first half penalty. His chance to score came early

on in the fourth minute when Andrea Caracciolo was fouled by SEE PAGE 14 COL 8

PHOTO: REUTERS

THERE SHE GOES: Arsenal's Thierry Henry scores a spectacular curling free-kick against Charlton Athletic on Sunday

Souness in thick soup

AFP, London

Blackburn manager Graeme Souness is facing a three-match touchline ban after his bust-up with Southampton No.2 Dennis Rofe in Sunday's Premiership defeat.

Souness could also be fined

50,000 pounds by the Football Association after it studies the referee's report into the fracas which saw police, stewards and staff intervene.

Blackburn's board will study the video although the club insisted his job was not under threat. The board is well aware of the fact that Souness is missing three

Lorenzo Amoruso and Markus Babbel Rovers have lost a large part of their quality after selling Damien Duff to Chelsea and David Dunn to

Birmingham

centre-halves in Craig Short,

Duff's 17.5 million pound let-out clause gave the club no choice but to release him. But Dunn was sold because Souness did not get on with him. And now, while Chelsea are pushing

at the top and a Dunn-inspired

SEE PAGE 14 COL 8

Bundesliga

AFP, Berlin

Bayer Leverkusen further underlined their title credentials with a 1-0 home win over Borussia Monchengladbach of the German league at the expense Saturday

important goal as Bayer notched an eighth win in ten matches this season meaning coach Klaus Augenthaler has now won 11 out of his 13 matches in charge of Leverkusen

Incessant pressure from the hosts saw Robson Ponte hit the post and Juan go close at the BayArena

However, four minutes into the second half Schneider shot Leverkusen into a deserved lead and they should have added more

Bayer regain lead

Football

Sunday which puts them back on top of VfB Stuttgart who defeated VfL Wolfsburg by the same scoreline

Bernd Schneider scored the all-

but Bayer could not find a breakthrough in the first period.

but for some poor finishing. "Up until the 1-0 lead everything was great, but then we got a bit stuck in our ways," said

Augenthaler.

'As for leading the table that is just a temporary thing. VfB Stuttgart made it two wins in week with Greek front-man Ioannis Amanatidis netting on 74

minutes to inflict a 1-0 defeat on Wolfsburg. Once again Stuttgart's defensive qualities were highlighted with last season's runners-up making it a remarkable nine clean sheets in ten matches as they remain the only

admitted Felix Magath. "We were fortunate to finish the week with another three points."

unbeaten team in the Bundesliga.

"A draw would have been fair,"

Borussia Dortmund were trounced 3-0 in Sunday's Ruhr derby with VfL Bochum after playing the match with ten men for almost SEE PAGE 14 COL 4

In a bid to help turn the club's

comment on Birch's arrival but are likely to confirm his position on

first chief executive to take the reins at Leed since 1999. He was expected to take over the

million pounds. And the sale of Rio Ferdinand.

Ligue 1

Monaco stayed top of the French

Monaco had started strongly as

The Sochaux attack was slow to when a Santos goal was disallowed

The home side rallied late with

cross from Dario Simic.

The Ukrainian was on target

win in the Champions League in