

Barca too hot for Real



MADRID, Feb 15 (AP/Reuters): Luis Enrique Martinez scored twice in the first half, and Rivaldo added a late goal as FC Barcelona rolled to a 3-0 win over a 10-man Real Madrid in a lopsided matchup between archrivals.

Barcelona's ninth straight win in league and cup play gave them breathing room atop the Spanish First Division with 43 points, ahead of Mallorca with 38 Celta with 37 after 22 weeks of play.

For Real Madrid, whose play has been so spotty the team was booted even as they beat Valladolid last weekend, the loss prolonged a 15-year drought in which they have failed to beat Barcelona at the latter's cavernous Camp Nou stadium.

Real Madrid remained in fourth place with 37 points. Valencia, who lost 1-0 to Villarreal, stayed in fifth.

For all the hoopla leading up to this rematch — the teams tied 2-2 in October in Madrid — the game turned out to be a bit of a dud.

Barcelona dominated throughout, grabbing a 2-0 lead after just 36 minutes thanks to headers by Luis Enrique. Rivaldo added a third goal in the

81st on a left-footed kick as he was falling down with Ivan Campo hanging all over him.

Real Madrid played most of the game with 10 men after Roberto Carlos drew a red card in the 20th minute for a rough tackle against Luis Figo. Madrid had numerous chances to get on the board in the second half and even tie the game at two goals apiece but failed.

In the first half, Barcelona wasted little time in getting on the board, with Luis Enrique scoring on a header in the fifth minute on a centering pass from Patrick Kluivert.

Real Madrid didn't manage to get off a serious shot on goal until the 31st minute, with Predrag Mijatovic trying a slow angled shot from near the right sideline.

Kluivert blew a prime chance to score in the 34th minute as he recovered a loose ball right in front of goalies Pedro Contreras but kicked wide to the left.

Luis Enrique scored again in the 36th, again on a header, this time after a nice arcing pass from team captain Josep Guardiola.

Barcelona's goalkeeper Ruud Hesp showed great form all day, making four saves worthy of highlight films. The first came in the 38th minute as he fell

backward and reached up to stop what looked like a sure goal by Raul Gonzalez.

Real Madrid came out stronger in the second half but squandered several chances to score. The best was one in which Raul practically missed the ball as he tried to kick it in just metres from Hesp.

In other games Sunday, Zaragoza tied Alaves 1-1; Athletico de Bilbao played to a scoreless draw with Extremadura, and Valladolid beat Celta 2-1. Tenerife lost 2-0 to Oviedo and Villarreal scored in the 88th minute to beat Valencia.

The most relieved man of the day, though, was Denilson who netted his first goal for Betis since a 35 million US dollars move from Brazil over the summer, it secured his team a 1-1 draw with Racing Santander.

In games played Saturday, Espanyol beat Atletico de Madrid 2-1, living the latter their fourth straight loss and prompting team management to fire coach Arriaga Sacchi.

Also, Leonardo Biagioni of Argentina converted a penalty in the 64th minute to lead Mallorca to a 1-0 victory over Real Sociedad. And Jose Oscar Flores scored in the 50th minute to lead Deportivo la Coruna to a 1-0 win over Salamanca.

Lazio the new leaders



ROME, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Lazio went top of Serie A for the first time in 24 seasons on Sunday, despite seeing their run of nine successive league wins stopped with a 0-0 draw at Cagliari.

The Rome side benefited from title rivals Fiorentina's 1-0 defeat at Udinese, where Argentine Roberto Sosa scored the only goal of the match in the 70th minute. Lazio, who only had one shot on target in 90 minutes, rarely looked like equaling the Italian record of 10 straight wins, but the point was enough to overtake Fiorentina on goal difference.

Fiorentina and Lazio both have 42 points from 21 matches while resurgent AC Milan, 2-1 winners against Venezia at the San Siro, are a close third on 40.

Parma dropped to fourth on 38 points after needing an injury-time goal from Croat substitute Mario Stanic to salvage a 1-1 draw at home to Bologna.

But Parma's relief quickly turned to disappointment as their Argentine playmaker Juan Veron was sent off for dissent.

Earlier Russian Igor Kolyanov's 23rd minute goal, courtesy of a Fabio Cannavaro error, had given Bologna hope of

their first-ever win at the Tari-

New Juventus manager Carlo Ancelotti celebrated his first match in charge with a 2-0 win at Placenza, while another managerial debutante Vujadin Boskov watched his new club Perugia reduced to 10-men but still beat Inter Milan 2-1 at home.

Lazio's return to the top for the first time since the 1974-75 season owed much to referee Alfredo Trentalange who failed to penalise goalkeeper Luca Marchegiani for pulling down Roberto Muzzi in the area in the 59th minute.

But there was no dispute about Udinese's victory against a Fiorentina side struggling without injured captain Gabriel Batistuta and his strike partner Edmundo — who is absent in Brazil celebrating the Rio carnival.

Superb goalkeeping from Francesco Toldo kept the visitors in the game until the 70th minute, when Sosa made amends for several misses by playing a one-two with Thomas Locatelli and then burying the ball in the net.

AC Milan, unbeaten in 10 league matches, are breathing down both Lazio's and Fiorentina's necks.

Even without the injured George Weah, they looked to be

coasting to victory over Venezia after Andres Guglielminotti turned in a 39th minute corner and Maurizio Ganz headed home straight after the break.

But poor defending allowed Brazilian Tito to bring Venezia back into the game in the 70th minute, forcing Milan to survive an anxious finale.

Juventus clinched their first away win since the opening game of the season through a deflected shot by Zoran Mirkovic in the 45th minute and a second by Alessandro Brindelli in the 90th.

Ecuadorian Ivan Kaviedes' third goal in five matches in the Serie A put Perugia ahead of Inter in the 18th minute.

Without the injured Ronaldo and Roberto Baggio, however, Inter only found the net with a 90th minute goal by Youn Djorkaeff penalty. But, by then, Croat Milan Rapajic's strike in the 70th made sure of a famous Perugia victory.

Sheffield, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Pedros on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The 27-year-old, capped 25 times, will spend a week training at Hillsborough. Parma value Pedros at around two million pounds (\$3.26 million).

Superb on trial

SHEDFIELD, England, Feb 15 (Reuters/Internet): Parma's French midfielders Reynald Pedros has joined Sheffield Wednesday on trial.

The