

# Lyon retains title, Monaco finishes second

By Jerome Pugmire

The Associated Press

PARIS — Lyon finally retained its first division title Saturday but its fans nevertheless booed the players following a 4-1 home loss to Guingamp, while jubilant Monaco celebrated a 6-0 trouncing of Troyes which clinched second place.

Lyon finished on 68 points, just one ahead of Monaco — whose win sealed automatic qualification for next season's European Champions League.

Meanwhile, Marseille's 1-0 loss at Nantes means the south coast

side takes third place, but will now have to pass through the qualification rounds to participate in the Champions League.

Prior to Saturday's games, Marseille had the slimmest of chances to usurp Lyon's championship crown.

Given Lyon's loss, Marseille would have needed to beat Nantes by 17-0. In the end, the team hardly mustered a shot and slumped meekly to defeat.

In Saturday's relegation battles, Rennes and Ajaccio are both safe, while Le Havre and Sedan will join Troyes in the second division next season.

Rennes gunned down

Montpellier 3-1 at home to finish with 40 points, while a 0-0 draw at home to Strasbourg was enough to secure 39 points and first division soccer for Ajaccio next season.

Therefore, Le Havre's 2-1 home win over Nice proved to be in vain as they finished a point adrift of Corsican side Ajaccio, while Sedan ended on 36 points after a 2-1 away at Sochaux.

The win moved Sochaux into fifth spot, equal on 64 points with fourth-placed Bordeaux — which beat Lille 2-0 thanks to two goals from Portugal's Pauleta in his last appearance for the club.

Bordeaux and Sochaux are now guaranteed a place in next season's UEFA Cup.

Despite a 2-0 home win over Paris Saint-Germain, Auxerre stays in sixth place and will need to beat PSG in next weekend's French Cup final to clinch a UEFA Cup place.

In the scoring charts, Monaco's Shabani Nonda scored a hat-trick in the demolition of Troyes and finished first division top scorer with 26 strikes.

Pauleta waved goodbye to French soccer after another goal-packed season. He scored 24 goals this time to take his total league tally in three sea-

sons with the club to 66.

Didier Drogba scored twice in Guingamp's domination of Lyon, taking him to 17 goals this season.

Lyon's fans booed as the Guingamp goals rained in. However, they reserved a standing ovation for Brazilian striker Sonny Anderson as he left the field.

He told sports daily L'Equipe Saturday that this was likely his last match in French soccer.

In four seasons at Lyon, Anderson scored 94 goals in all competitions, including 71 in the league.

In Saturday's other match, Lens beat Bastia 2-0. ■

# Ronaldo grabs two goals as Madrid beats Valencia 2-1

By Stephen Mackay

The Associated Press

MADRID, Spain — Ronaldo netted a goal in each half Saturday as Real Madrid netted a 2-1 victory at Valencia in 35th-round matches and moved to the top of the Spanish league standings.

The Brazilian star, returning to the team after missing the last two league games, raised his league tally this season to 19 and lifted Madrid over Real Sociedad into first place.

Sociedad will regain top spot,

however, if it wins at Malaga Sunday.

Deportivo de La Coruna looks virtually out of the title race due to a 3-0 defeat at its archrival Celta de Vigo, with Brazilian forward Edu Schmidt netting two second-half goals.

Madrid has 71 points with three games remaining, while Sociedad has 69 points with four games to play. Deportivo has 66 with three left.

Celta's victory lifts it into fourth place with 57 points from 35 and improves its chances of a debut place in the Champions

League next season, while Valencia drops to fifth with 56 from 55.

Also Saturday, Athletic de Bilbao defeated Racing de Santander 2-1, Atletico de Madrid beat Villarreal 3-2 and Rayo Vallecano played a goalless draw with Osasuna.

Ronaldo's two goals against Valencia lifted his total in all competitions to 26 this season, one more than the figure he promised he would score when he arrived at Madrid in September.

The Brazilian put Madrid in the lead with a rare header in the 25th minute from a cross by Portuguese midfielder Luis Figo. Valencia's Brazilian midfielder Fabio Aurelio leveled seven minutes later with a low shot after John Carew and Pablo Aimar exchanged quick passes.

But the Figo-Ronaldo connection worked again to provide the winning goal in the 65th minute when the star striker adeptly controlled the Portuguese's long pass Ronaldo before rounding goalkeeper Santiago Canizares.

Meanwhile, Deportivo suffered its second successive defeat in the match against its rival from the northwestern region of Galicia.

Striker Jesuli Mora netted Celta's first with a diving header from a low cross in the 58th minute by left back Juanfran Garcia. Five minutes later, Edu nodded home Jesuli's cross.

The Brazilian added a third with 11 minutes remaining after Deportivo goalkeeper Jose Francisco Molina fumbled a header by Argentine midfielder Gustavo Lopez.

Deportivo's ill fortune continued when Dutch striker Roy Makaay, the league's leading scorer with 27 goals, blazed wide from the penalty spot in injury time.

Bilbao striker Ismael Urzaiz netted a last-minute penalty to defeat Santander and boost the Basque team's hopes of gaining a berth in next season's UEFA Cup.

Santander's former Spanish international forward Pedro Munitis netted two minutes after the interval, with Bilbao's central defender Aitor Karanka leveling soon after.

Bilbao midfielder Carlos Gurpegi, who received a two-year ban recently for failing a drug test, returned to action after his punishment was tem-



REAL MADRID'S Brazilian player Ronaldo, right, celebrates beside Valencia's fallen goalkeeper Santiago Canizares after scoring the winning goal in a Spanish league soccer match in Valencia, Spain. Real won 2-1.

porarily suspended this week.

Bilbao stays sixth with 51 points, while Santander is 15th with 41.

Atletico's teenager Fernando Torres, reappearing after a six-week injury absence, hit two spectacular goals within 26 minutes of his reappearance as a substitute to take his tally to 13 this season.

Torres struck in the 70th and 73rd minutes, with Atletico trailing 2-1 through first-half goals by midfielders Javi Calleja and Josico Moreno.

Atletico's other goal came through an own goal by Argentine left back Rodolfo Arruabarrena, following an error by Villarreal goalkeeper

Jose Manuel Reina.

Atletico's flamboyant president Jesus Gil, who announced Wednesday he would step down next week after 16 years in charge, didn't attend the game.

Atletico moves up to seventh with 47, while Villarreal stays 13th with 43.

Rayo, which had Brazilian midfielder Iriney ejected in the 82nd minute, avoided relegation this weekend by gaining a point from a low-quality stalemate with struggling Osasuna although its failed is likely to be sealed next weekend.

Rayo is last with 30 points, eight points behind 17th-place Osasuna. ■

## Aussies notch another comfortable victory over the West Indies

By Craig Courier

The Associated Press

PORT-OF-SPAIN, Trinidad — Australia swept to another comfortable victory over the West Indies on Saturday's fourth one-day cricket international, notching their 21st straight success and a winning 4-0 lead in the seven-match rubber.

Man of the Match Adam Gilchrist's assured 84 and Michael Clarke's blazing, unbeaten 55 off 40 balls launched Australia's formidable 286 for five off 50 overs.

The West Indies lost early wickets and its pursuit never ignited, despite Chris Gayle's top score of 84 and captain Brian Lara's 40. The home team was bowled out for 219 in the 46th over to lose by 67 runs.

The visitors launched their winning platform through their batsmen. All contributed to the large total after captain Ricky Ponting for the toss for the first time in the series.

Powerful Matthew Hayden (44) put on 78 for the first wicket with a more circumspect Gilchrist. The left-hander from Queensland hit five fours off 61 deliveries before he clipped a catch to deep

square leg off Vasbert Drakes, who took two for 62.

Ponting contributed 38 off 47 balls with a six and a four. He and Gilchrist added a further 70 for the second wicket before the Aussie skipper fell to another leg side boundary catch.

Another half century partnership followed between left-hander Gilchrist and Andrew Symonds as the home team's scrappy fielding began to let them down.

Gilchrist, dropped at 37 and 62, was eventually bowled for off-spinner Ryan Hurley's maiden one-day wicket on debut. The left-hander from Western Australia struck nine fours and a six off 103 balls.

Symonds was soon afterward bowled for 24 by Corey Collymore, but the pacer was clouted in his last spell as 83 runs came off the last 10 overs.

Clarke and Michael Bevan (21 off 22 balls) provided the acceleration in adding 63 for the fifth wicket in just 49 balls.

Clarke was bowled off a Collymore no-ball when 41 and dropped by Powell in the deep at 47. But the 22-year-old was in the zone and notched his second successive fifty off just 38 balls.