

Season 2007 / 8 - Podcast 30

Ronaldo

By Damon Brewster (1st March, 2008)

Pre-Listening

Background Information

AC Milan striker Ronaldo Luis Nazário de Lima was injured playing Livorno in a Serie A game. Many people fear that this will be the end of his career.

Vocabulary

Check the meaning of these words before you start listening. Match them with the meaning on the right.

| Word | Meaning |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| _____ a tie | a. together with |
| _____ to feature | b. a game |
| _____ potential | c. to break, to tear |
| _____ alongside | d. to recover, to get back |
| _____ devastating | e. to appear |
| _____ to storm back | f. to return strongly |
| _____ to rupture | g. very impressive |
| _____ to regain | h. future |

Listening

A. Detail I

Listen and find the **five** mistakes - the first has been done for you.

Sadly, the Champions League second leg ~~game~~^{tie} between Arsenal and AC Milan will not feature Ronaldo Luis Nazário de Lima - or is everyone knows him, Ronaldo. This isn't the Christian Ronaldo at Manchester United, who is being mentioned as a potential great, but THE Ronaldo already recognised as one of the greatest players of the last 15 years, and perhaps in all time. It's the Brazilian Ronaldo of Cruzeiro, PSV, Barca, Inter, Real Madrid and now of AC Milan. It's the Ronaldo who won the Golden Boot with eight goals in the 2002 World Cup and a winners medal along to being voted the best player in the 1998 tournament.

B. Detail II

Listen and fill in the spaces.

It wasn't the first or last time it was _____ that Ronaldo was the best. He's won the FIFA Player of the Year award three times in 1996, '97 and 2002. That puts him _____ Zidane as the only player to win the award three times. But of course it _____ collecting awards and medals that makes him famous, makes many _____ he deserves a mention along with the all time greats such as Pele, Maradona, Best, Crujiff, Puskas. It was scoring goals with _____ pace and power, being able to take on defenders with not just speed but technique and _____ balance.

C. Detail III

Listen carefully to the statistics (facts) and fill in the chart below.

| Team | Played | Scored |
|---------------|--------|--------|
| Cruzerio | | 12 |
| PSV Eindhoven | | 42 |
| | 37 | |
| Inter Milan | | 49 |
| | 127 | |
| AC Milan | | 16 |
| | 97 | |

D. Comprehension

1. What happened in 1998?
2. Why did he miss nearly two years of football?
3. Where did he recover his form?
4. Why do many people think he may not return to the game?
5. Do people think he will be motivated to recover?

Season 2007 / 8 - Podcast 30 Answers

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Pre-Listening

Vocabulary

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| Word | Meaning |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| _b_ a tie | a. together with |
| _e_ to feature | b. a game |
| _h_ potential | c. to break, to tear |
| _a_ alongside | d. to recover, to get back |
| _g_ devastating | e. to appear |
| _f_ to storm back | f. to return strongly |
| _c_ to rupture | g. very impressive |
| _d_ to regain | h. future |

Listening

A. Detail I

Listen and find the **five** mistakes - the first has been done for you.

Sadly, the Champions League second leg ^{tie} ~~game~~ between Arsenal and AC Milan will not feature Ronaldo Luis Nazário de Lima - or ^{as} ~~is~~ everyone knows him, Ronaldo. This isn't the Christian Ronaldo ^{of} ~~at~~ Manchester United, who is being mentioned as a potential great, but THE Ronaldo already recognised as one of the greatest players of the last 15 years, and perhaps ^{of} ~~in~~ all time. It's the Brazilian Ronaldo of Cruzeiro, PSV, Barca, Inter, Real Madrid and now of AC Milan. It's the Ronaldo who won the Golden Boot with eight goals in the 2002 World Cup and a winners medal along ^{with} ~~to~~ being voted the best player in the 1998 tournament.

B. Detail II

Listen and fill in the spaces.

It wasn't the first or last time it was decided that Ronaldo was the best. He's won the FIFA Player of the Year award three times in 1996, '97 and 2002. That puts him alongside Zidane as the only player to win the award three times. But of course it wasn't collecting awards and medals that makes him famous, makes many believe he deserves a mention along with the all time greats such as Pele, Maradonna, Best, Crujiff, Puskas. It was scoring goals with devastating pace and power, being able to take on defenders with not just speed but technique and incredible balance.

C. Detail III

| Team | Played | Scored |
|---------------|--------|--------|
| Cruzerio | 13 | 12 |
| PSV Eindhoven | 46 | 42 |
| Barcelona | 37 | 34 |
| Inter Milan | 69 | 49 |
| Real Madrid | 127 | 83 |
| AC Milan | 9 | 16 |
| Brazil | 97 | 62 |

D. Comprehension

1. What happened in 1998?

Ronaldo performed below par (poorly): he was not mentally ready for the final

2. Why did he miss nearly two years of football?

He injured his right knee badly

3. Where did he recover his form?

At the World Cup in Korea and Japan

4. Why do many people think he may not return to the game?

The ruptured tendon is a very bad injury.

5. Do people think he will be motivated to recover?

Maybe, but he is 31 and been playing at the top since he was 17, so probably not.

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Sadly, the Champions League second leg tie between Arsenal and AC Milan will not feature Ronaldo Luis Nazário de Lima - or as everyone knows him, Ronaldo. This isn't the Christian Ronaldo of Manchester United, who is being mentioned as a potential great, but THE Ronaldo already recognised as one of the greatest players of the last 15 years, and perhaps of all time. It's the Brazilian Ronaldo of Cruzeiro, PSV, Barca, Inter, Real Madrid and now of AC Milan. It's the Ronaldo who won the Golden Boot with eight goals in the 2002 World Cup and a winners medal along with being voted the best player in the 1998 tournament.

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Listen to these statistics.

At Cruzeiro: played 13 scored 12

PSV: played 46 scored 42

Barcelona 34 goals in 37 appearances

At Inter 49 goals in 69 games.

Real Madrid: played 127 scored 83

And nine from 16 at AC Milan

At international level for Brazil, 62 from 97 games.

Amazing! Truly a goal scoring machine

And all that despite a crisis in his career in 1998 when he performed below par at the World Cup and was clearly mentally not ready for the final where he was a huge disappointment. The next year he injured his right knee badly and it was to be nearly two years before he fully recovered. But he did recover and stormed back onto the World stage outshining David Beckham in the World Cup in Korea and Japan. However, this latest injury, a ruptured tendon in his left knee, has many commentators wondering if he can make a come back. he had seemed set to regain some of his past sharpness partnering Pato up front for AC Milan, and at 31, age is on his side, but you have to wonder if the hunger will still be there for a player who was already been on the Brazilian team bench in a world cup at 17.

It would be a sad way to hang up his 9 shirt, but if he doesn't come back, he will be remembered as one of the greatest strikers... ever.