



Press Release

UEFA Champions League **Barcelona vs AC Milan** **Wednesday 26 April @ 10.15pm**

Barcelona's players worked hard to control their euphoria after securing a useful 1-0 first-leg win over AC Milan in their Champions League semi-final on Tuesday.

"I can't see the top of the Eiffel Tower yet," captain Carles Puyol told reporters.

"I am well aware of the significance of such a win in the San Siro but we haven't won anything yet, and there are still another 90 minutes to go."

The victory brought to an end Milan's 13-match unbeaten home run in Europe and moved Barca a step nearer to next month's final in Paris. The breakthrough came in the 57th minute when Frenchman Ludovic Giuly slammed a rising shot inside the near post, after racing on to a clever pass from Ronaldinho.

After a difficult season, where he has often been forced to play second fiddle to Argentine youngster Lionel Messi, Giuly said the goal was a big boost, not just for the team.

He said: "Ronaldinho's pass for the goal was fantastic. I am delighted because I hadn't scored for a while and it was a crucial goal for the team and for my confidence.

"The second half was ours. We managed to control the game quite comfortably and we were in better shape physically than our opponents."

Brazilian Kaka, outshone at the San Siro by his compatriot Ronaldinho, saw signs of encouragement in the defeat for last season's beaten finalists.

"They took their chance while we created a lot but didn't find the goal. We hope we have more opportunities at the Nou Camp.

"Barcelona showed they have great players but tonight we also saw their defects. They gave us a lot of space," Kaka said.

Milan's best chance came nine minutes from the end when substitute Massimo Ambrosini screwed a shot wide when clear on goal.

"We created chances, more than we did in the win over Lyon but we lacked precision.

"However, you have to remember the tie lasts 180 minutes," said Milan captain Paolo Maldini.

Will Milan be able to do what none had been able to do this season and beat Barca at home at the Nou Camp? Don't miss Barcelona vs AC Milan, Wednesday 26 April at 10.15pm on e.tv.