Barcelona trio nominated for FIFA Ballon d'Or

The inaugural FIFA Ballon d'Or awards ceremony takes place in Zurich, merging the Ballon d'Or prize with FIFA's World Player of the Year - and will see Barcelona become only the second club to have all three finalists





one of the best ever

Real Madrid



Pos: Midfield 2009 awards: 4th and 5th The Player: Attacking threat, vision, speed and

Age: 26

Cup final

skill for club and country 2010: Extra time strike to score only goal in World

ARG Age: 23 Pos: Forward 2009: Double winner The Player: Diminutive. quick, skillful, elusive;

2010: Hit his 150th goal for Barcelona, including five hat-tricks WINNERS BY CLUB Clubs providing winners for both awards

Xavi **ESP** Pos: Midfield Age: 30 2009: 3rd place in both The Player: Creative

split defences effortlessly

World Cup final with man

Barcelona

14

11

2010: Helped Spain to

of the match displays

playmaker, able to

Both Ballon d'Or and FIFA World Plaver **Lionel Messi**

Fabio Cannavaro

LAST FIVE WINNERS

Barcelona Cristiano Ronaldo Man Utd AC Milan Kaka

Barcelona Ronaldinho LEGENDS OF THE GAME

Combined wins for both awards 5 Ronaldo 1996, 1997*, 2002*

4 Marco van Basten 1988-89, 92* 4 Zinedine Zidane 1998*, 00, 03

3 Johan Cruyff 1971, 1973-74 3 Michel Platini 1983-85

2004, 2005* 3 Ronaldinho

Dynamo Kiev Hamburg 2 12 other single club winners

5

Bavern 5 Juventus 12 Man Utd 5 Inter AC Milan Real

Madrid 9 Sources: FIFA, Ballon d'Or *Won both in same year Pictures: Getty Images © GRAPHIC NEWS