

PERHAPS ONE OF THE BIGGEST RECENT SHOCKS TO WORLD-FOOTBALL TOOK PLACE EARLIER THIS YEAR, WHEN SAUDI ARABIAN CLUB AL NASSR ANNOUNCED CRISTIANO RONALDO AS THEIR LATEST RECORD SIGNING.

of an **obscure**<sup>62</sup> decision. For others, it's a **match made in heaven**<sup>63</sup>; one last chance for Ronaldo to earn his big pay cheque and the opportunity for Al Nassr to **propel themselves onto**<sup>64</sup> the world stage.

English football **pundit**<sup>65</sup> and former Manchester United defender Gary Neville told Sky Sports that the transfer shows a **shift**<sup>66</sup> in interest from the nation. "We [in the UK] are going to see a lot less of him, obviously," Neville states. "It tells us a couple of things. One, how serious Saudi Arabia are about football. They aren't going away. They've invested GBP 350 mln on one player. They are trying to strengthen the league."

Despite being one of the nation's most successful teams, it's fair to say not many outside of Saudi Arabia will have had much previous knowledge of Al Nassr. Although, following the **bizarre**<sup>67</sup> signing, it's a name which is on the lips of even the most **casual**<sup>68</sup> of footballing fans. Formed in 1955, the team plays in its traditional yellow and blue colours and has nine Premier League **domestic**<sup>69</sup> titles under its belt. It is hoped that their recent signing of Cristiano Ronaldo will help bring in further **revenue**<sup>70</sup> and propel them to **new heights**<sup>71</sup>.

Cristiano Ronaldo

<sup>62</sup> **obscure** əb'skjʊə(r)  
niejasny, trudny do zrozumienia

<sup>63</sup> **match made in heaven** mætʃ meɪd ɪn 'hevn  
idealna para

<sup>64</sup> **to propel oneself into sth** tu prə'pel wən'self 'ɪntə  
'sʌmθɪŋ wɛpchnąć się

gdzieś

<sup>65</sup> **pundit** 'pʌndɪt ekspert

<sup>66</sup> **shift** ʃɪft zmiana

<sup>67</sup> **bizarre** br'zɑ:(r) dziwaczny

<sup>68</sup> **casual** 'kæʒʊəl okazjonalny

<sup>69</sup> **domestic** də'mestɪk krajowy

<sup>70</sup> **revenue** 'revənju: przychód

<sup>71</sup> **new heights** nju: harts wyżyny