

2006 World Cup Power Rankings

Brazil – Still top of the class until they are dethroned. Victory over Japan was statement to the world.

Argentina – The Albiceleste attack was best of group play, making short work of draw C's 'Group of Death.'

Spain – Cruised through Group H with an offensive explosion. Could '06 be the year?

Germany – Host's up-tempo style of play may worry some, but it has been extremely effective thus far.

Italy – The alleged Serie A scandal proved not be an issue. The Azzurri are a serious threat behind stellar defense.

Netherlands – The Dutch survived Group C. Portugal is waiting in what looks like the best round of 16 match-up.

England – Struggled to score in first couple of matches. With Rooney back, the English should regain top form.

Portugal – Never challenged in weak group D. The Portuguese's loaded attack will challenge stingy Dutch defense.

2006 World Cup Leading Scorers

- **Miroslav Klose | Germany** A double in two of three group matches for the hosts' surging attack.
- **Fernando Torres | Spain** Top young gun of a deadly trio that will carry its nation deep into the elimination round.
- Hernan Crespo | Argentina Two impressive strikes despite resting in the group finale. His play dictates the offense.
- **Ronaldo | Brazil** Tied for the all-time World Cup scoring record with 14 scores, critics should cease with Brazil rolling.
- Andriy Shevchenko | Ukraine Carrying the load offensively, his team will go so as he does.