

WORLD CUP 2026

Digital Trading Card Album



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Digital Trading Card Album

The World Cup is fast approaching! In true, playground style, we're creating special digital trading cards for you to celebrate with your class. One new country every school day, ready for an exciting summer ahead.

Each trading card includes stats and info, with clickable links to show location, football highlights and the snazziest kit designs. Perfect for discussion, research and homework, celebrating diversity and unity, reading and learning.

Collect the cards on our social media channels, dropped each day from 5pm. Save and re-use this link, and see your album grow!



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Mexico

FIFA RANKING: 15th



El Tri

Star Player: Santiago Giménez

World Cup Group: Group A RSA, KOR, CZE

World Cup Qualifiers: 18 times (out of 22)

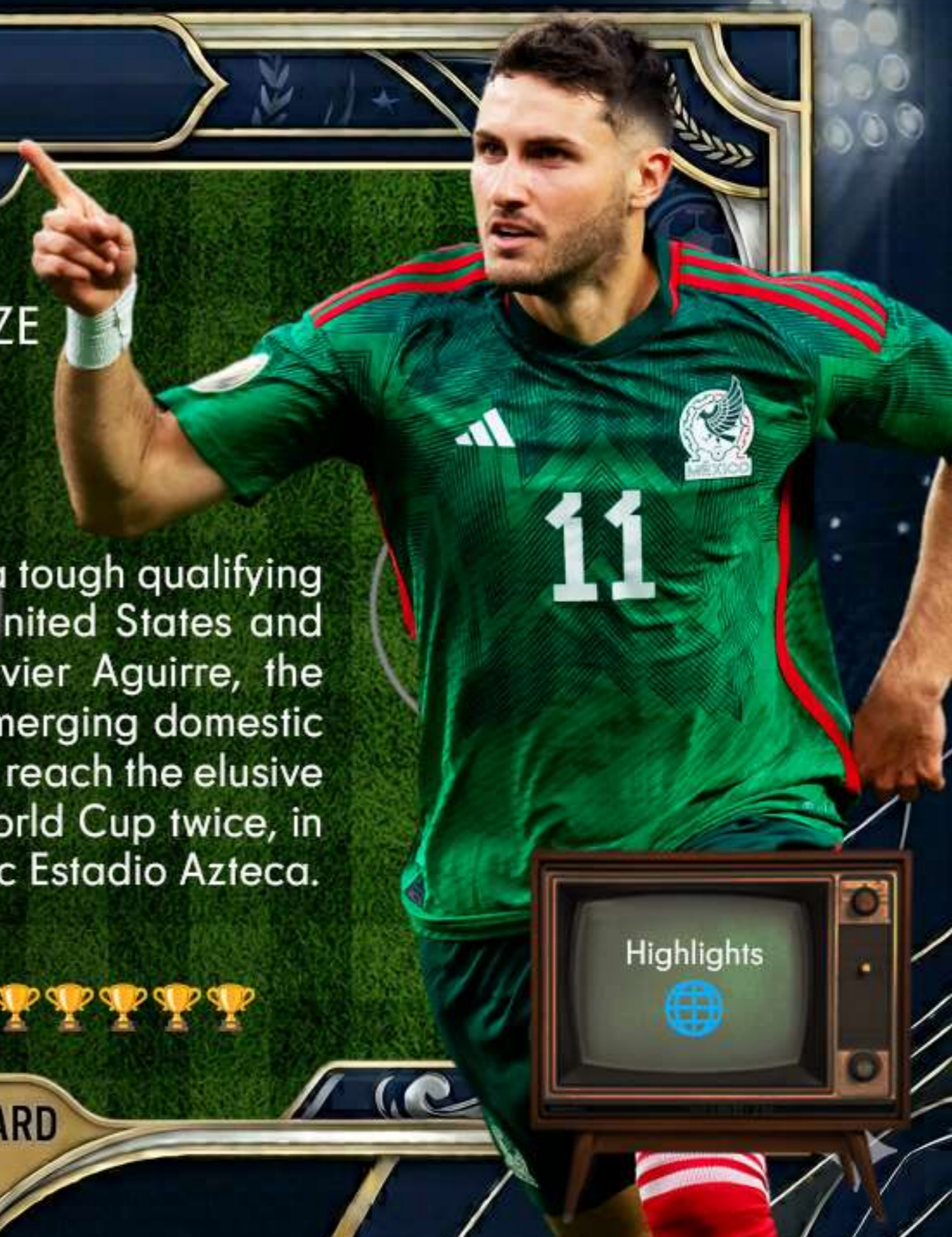
World Cup Winners: 0

🌐 Continent: North America

Mexico enters this year's World Cup having navigated a tough qualifying campaign featuring key victories over rivals like the United States and Costa Rica. Under the leadership of head coach Javier Aguirre, the squad boasts a blend of European-based stars and emerging domestic talents, generating considerable expectation to at least reach the elusive "quinto partido" (fifth game). Mexico has hosted the World Cup twice, in 1970 and 1986, with both finals taking place at the iconic Estadio Azteca.

[Discuss: Is there an advantage playing at home?](#)

🌐 Nautilus Shirt Ranking: A super-symbollic 🏆🏆🏆🏆🏆🏆🏆🏆



South Africa

FIFA RANKING: 61st




Bafana Bafana

Star Player: Lyle Foster

World Cup Group: Group A MEX, KOR, CZE



World Cup Qualifiers: 3 times (out of 22)

World Cup Winners: 0

 Continent: Africa

South Africa have ended a 16-year drought with a historic qualifying campaign under head coach Hugo Broos. After securing their spot with a decisive victory over Rwanda, the "Bafana Bafana" arrive with a squad dominated by Mamelodi Sundowns, bolstered by key European-based talents like Lyle Foster. South Africa remains the only African nation to have ever hosted the FIFA World Cup, a tournament that famously introduced the world to the "vuvuzela" and the iconic "Tshabalala" opening goal.

Discuss: How could South Africa handle the pressure of the first game versus the hosts?

 Nautilus Shirt Ranking: 'A bit too much like Brazil?' 



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COLLECTOR'S EDITION



Czech Republic

FIFA RANKING: 42nd




Národ'ák

Star Player: Patrik Schick

World Cup Group: Group A (RSA, KOR, RSA, CZE)



World Cup Qualifiers: 10 times (8 as Czechoslovakia, 2 as Czech Republic)

World Cup Winners: 0 (Runners-up in 1934 and 1962)

 Continent: Europe

The Czech Republic team is back in the World Cup for the first time in 20 years! They earned their spot with a big win over Moldova and are ready to show what they can do. The team, nicknamed "Národ'ák," features many players who play for famous local clubs like Slavia and Sparta Prague. They also have big stars who play in Europe's top leagues, like goal-scorer Patrik Schick and Tomáš Souček. The country has a great history in football, including two times when they almost won the tournament. Famous for legendary players like Antonín Panenka, inventor of the 'Panenka' penalty.

Discuss: Hardworking team v superstars, which is best?

 Nautilus Shirt Ranking: A solid six! 



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COLLECTOR'S EDITION



South Korea

FIFA RANKING: 26th




Taegeuk Warriors

Star Player: Son Heung-min

World Cup Group: Group A (MEX, RSA, KOR, CZE)



World Cup Qualifiers: 12 times

World Cup Winners: 0 (Best finish: 4th place in 2002)

 Continent: Asia

South Korea cruised through qualification, topping their group undefeated to secure an incredible 11th consecutive World Cup appearance. Fans have high expectations for the Taegeuk Warriors to reach the knockout stages, led by global icon Son Heung-min and defensive wall Kim Min-jae. Their manager Hong Myung-bo has now represented the team at the World Cup as a player, assistant, and head coach. Son is also just five goals away from becoming the all-time leading scorer.

Discuss: Is it a good thing that the best asian footballers play abroad?

 Nautilus Shirt Ranking: 'Son'sational! 



Highlights



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COLLECTOR'S EDITION



Canada

FIFA RANKING: 30th




Les Rouges

Star Player: Alphonso Davies

World Cup Group: Group B (SUI, QAT, BIH)



World Cup Qualifiers: 3 times

World Cup Winners: 0 (Best finish: Group Stage)

 Continent: North America

Canada enters this year's World Cup as a co-host, aiming to build on the momentum of their dominant 2022 qualifying run. Led by Jesse Marsch, the squad features elite speed through stars like Alphonso Davies and Jonathan David, sparking massive home expectations to secure their first-ever tournament win. Interestingly, Canada is the only nation to have won an Olympic Gold in football (1904) before ever scoring a goal in a men's World Cup.

[Discuss: Is it easier to be an underdog?](#)

 Nautilus Shirt Ranking: Nice maple leaf design! 



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COLLECTOR'S EDITION



Bosnia and Herzegovina

FIFA RANKING: 72nd

Zmajevi (The Dragons)

Star Player: Edin Džeko

World Cup Group: Group B (CAN, SUI, QAT)

World Cup Qualifiers: 2 times

World Cup Winners: 0 (Best finish: Group Stage)

🌐 Continent: Europe

Bosnia and Herzegovina returns to the World Cup for the first time since 2014, securing their spot after a dramatic penalty shootout victory against Italy in the UEFA play-offs. Led by 40-year-old captain and icon Edin Džeko, the team joins Group B alongside Canada, Switzerland, and Qatar. This qualification marks only the second tournament appearance in their history as an independent nation, fulfilling a decade-long wait for their supporters.

Discuss: This team beat Italy to qualify. Do big teams assume they will win?

🌐 Nautilus Shirt Ranking: Nice flag, shame about the kit 🏆🏆



Qatar

FIFA RANKING: 55th


Al-Annabi (The Maroon)

Star Player: Akram Afif

World Cup Group: Group B (CAN, SUI, QAT)







World Cup Qualifiers: 2 times

World Cup Winners: 0 (Best finish: Group Stage)

 Continent: Asia

Qatar enters this year's World Cup having successfully qualified on merit for the first time, securing their place through a playoff victory over the UAE. Now under the guidance of Spanish manager Julen Lopetegui, the reigning Asian champions are determined to erase the memory of their 2022 campaign and prove they belong on the global stage. Historically, Qatar is the first nation to have hosted a World Cup before ever qualifying for one through the traditional regional tournament process.

Discuss: Can being an underdog be helpful?

 Nautilus Shirt Ranking: Home, simple - away - NICE!     

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COLLECTOR'S EDITION

Highlights



Switzerland

FIFA RANKING: 12th




Nati

Star Player: Granit Xhaka

World Cup Group: Group B (CAN, SUI, QAT)

World Cup Qualifiers: 12 times

World Cup Winners: 0 (Best finish: Quarter-finals in 1934, 1938, and 1954)

 Continent: Europe

Switzerland enters this year's World Cup having qualified directly from Europe, dominating their group and solidifying their reputation as one of the world's most disciplined and tactically intelligent units. Under the leadership of captain Granit Xhaka, who is having a late-career resurgence, the "Nati" look to improve on their consistent Round of 16 appearances. This qualification is their 12th tournament, fulfilling the expectation of their supporters that this golden generation can finally break their quarter-final curse.

Discuss: [How important is it to be intelligent in sport?](#)

 Nautilus Shirt Ranking: Uninspiring 🏆🏆🏆



NAUTILUS DIGITAL TRADING CARD

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BRAZIL

FIFA RANKING: 5th



A Seleção

Star Player: Vinícius Júnior

World Cup Qualifiers: 22 times (out of 22)

World Cup Winners : 1958, 1962, 1970, 1994, 2002

🌐 Continent: South America

Brazil enters this year's World Cup coming off a strong qualifying campaign featuring victories over rivals Argentina and Uruguay. Under the guidance of manager Dorival Júnior, the Seleção features a dynamic blend of superstars and rising young talent, fueling massive expectation to secure a record-extending sixth title. Brazil is the only nation to have appeared in every single World Cup tournament. Furthermore, with five championships, they are the most successful country in World Cup history.

Discuss: A great history, but are the rest of the world catching up?

🌐 Nautilus Shirt Ranking: Iconic 🏆🏆🏆🏆🏆🏆🏆



NAUTILUS DIGITAL TRADING CARD

COLLECTOR'S EDITION



Morocco

FIFA RANKING: 11th




Atlas Lions

Star Player: Achraf Hakimi

World Cup Group: Group B (CAN, SUI, QAT)*



World Cup Qualifiers: 6 times

World Cup Winners: 0 (Best finish: 4th Place in 2022)

 Continent: Africa

Morocco enters this year's World Cup having qualified directly from Africa, capping a flawless defensive qualifying campaign that re-established their dominance on the continent. Under the leadership of coach Walid Regragui, the "Atlas Lions" look to build on their monumental 2022 performance, where they became the first African and Arab nation to reach a World Cup semi-final. This qualification is their 6th tournament, fulfilling the massive expectation of their supporters that this golden generation, led by the flying full-back Achraf Hakimi.

Discuss: Could it be an advantage to be a surprise team that no one expects to win, or to be the superstar team?

 Nautilus Shirt Ranking: Interesting and traditional 



NAUTILUS DIGITAL TRADING CARD

COLLECTOR'S EDITION



Haiti

FIFA RANKING: 83rd



Les Grenadiers

Star Player: Jean-Ricner Bellegarde

World Cup Group: Group H (BRA, SCO, MAR, HAI)*

World Cup Qualifiers: 2 times

World Cup Winners: 0 (Best finish: Group Stage in 1974)

🌐 Continent: North America (CONCACAF)

Haiti returns to the World Cup for the first time in 52 years, securing their spot after a resilient qualifying campaign where they never actually played a match on home soil due to regional instability. Led by French manager Sébastien Migné and a new generation of dual-nationality stars like Wolves' Jean-Ricner Bellegarde, "Les Grenadiers" join a daunting Group H. Historically, Haiti provided one of the World Cup's most iconic "underdog" moments when Emmanuel Sanon scored against Italy in 1974, ending Dino Zoff's legendary 1,142-minute clean sheet streak.

Discuss: This is a very tough group, can you predict their scores in each game?

🌐 Nautilus Shirt Ranking: Unusual, we quite like it! 🏆🏆🏆🏆🏆🏆



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COLLECTOR'S EDITION



Scotland

FIFA RANKING: 43rd




The Tartan Army

Star Player: Scott McTominay

World Cup Group: Group H (BRA, SCO, MAR, HAI)


World Cup Qualifiers: 9 times

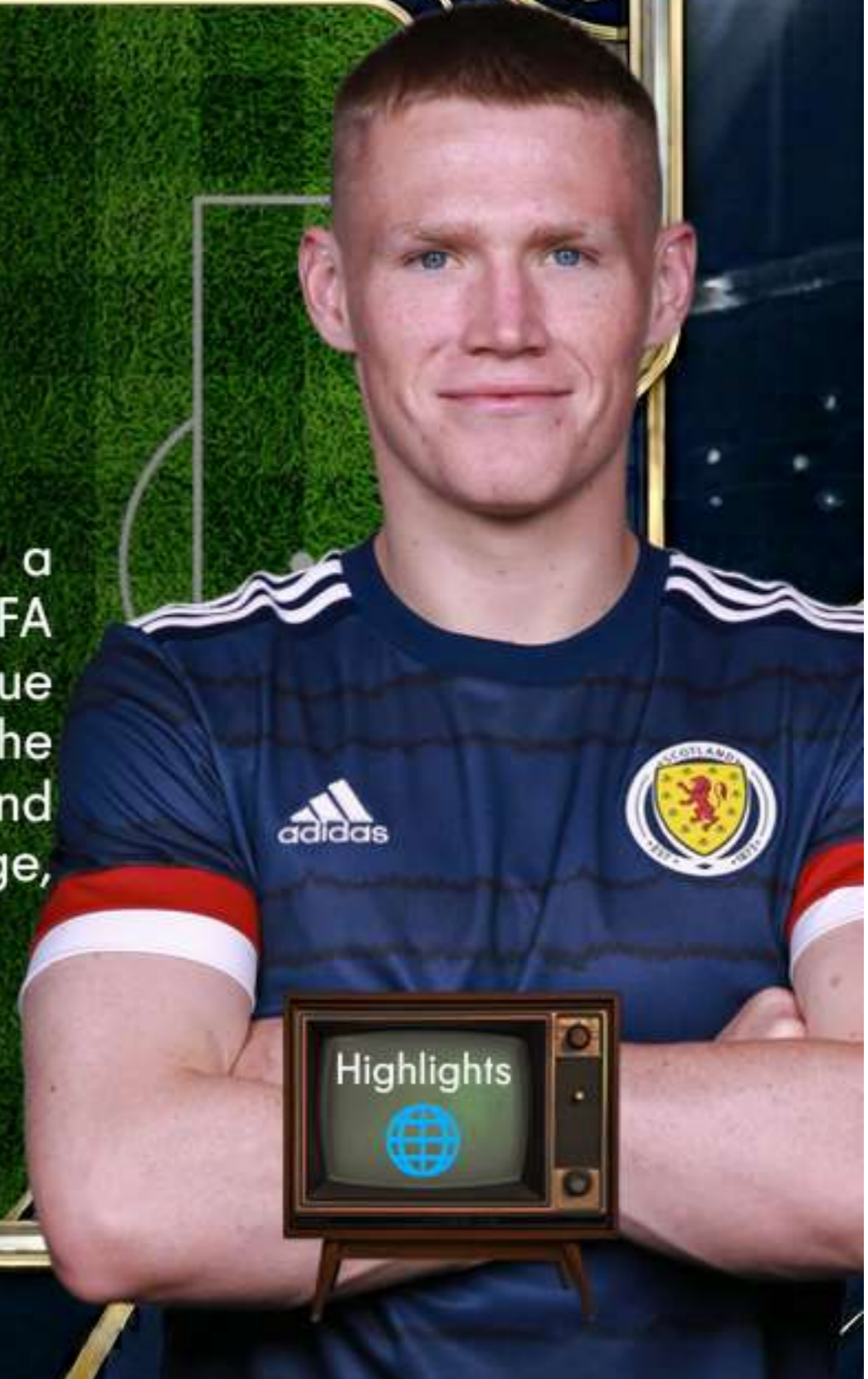
World Cup Winners: 0 (Best finish: Group Stage)

 Continent: Europe

Scotland returns to the World Cup for the first time in 28 years, ending a generation of heartbreak by securing their spot through a gritty UEFA qualifying campaign. Led by Steve Clarke and a core of Premier League talent like captain Andy Robertson and goal-machine Scott McTominay, the "Tartan Army" joins a formidable Group H alongside Brazil, Morocco, and Haiti. This qualification marks their 9th appearance on the world stage, fulfilling a nearly three-decade-long wait for their passionate supporters.

[Discuss: How many points will Scotland get and will they progress?](#)

 Nautilus Shirt Ranking: OK, nothing too special 🏆🏆🏆🏆



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USA

FIFA RANKING: 14th

The Stars and Stripes

Star Player: Christian Pulisic

World Cup Group: Group D (USA, PAR, AUS, TUR)

World Cup Qualifiers: 12 times

World Cup Winners: 0 (Best finish: 3rd Place in 1930)

🌐 Continent: North America

The United States enters the 2026 World Cup as co-hosts, automatically securing their 12th tournament appearance. Now led by head coach Mauricio Pochettino and anchored by star winger Christian Pulisic, the "Stars and Stripes" aim to capitalize on home field advantage to improve upon their Round of 16 exit in 2022. This appearance marks their 12th qualification in history, with their best result still being a third-place finish in the inaugural 1930 tournament. Historically, the U.S. has a legacy of major upsets, most notably their 1-0 victory over England in 1950.

Discuss: 'Soccer' is not their big sport. Will the USA back their team on home turf?

🌐 Nautilus Shirt Ranking: Recycled materials - Cool! 🏆🏆🏆🏆🏆

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Paraguay

FIFA RANKING: 40th




La Albirroja

Star Player: Miguel Almirón

World Cup Group: Group D (USA, PAR, AUS, TUR)





World Cup Qualifiers: 9 times

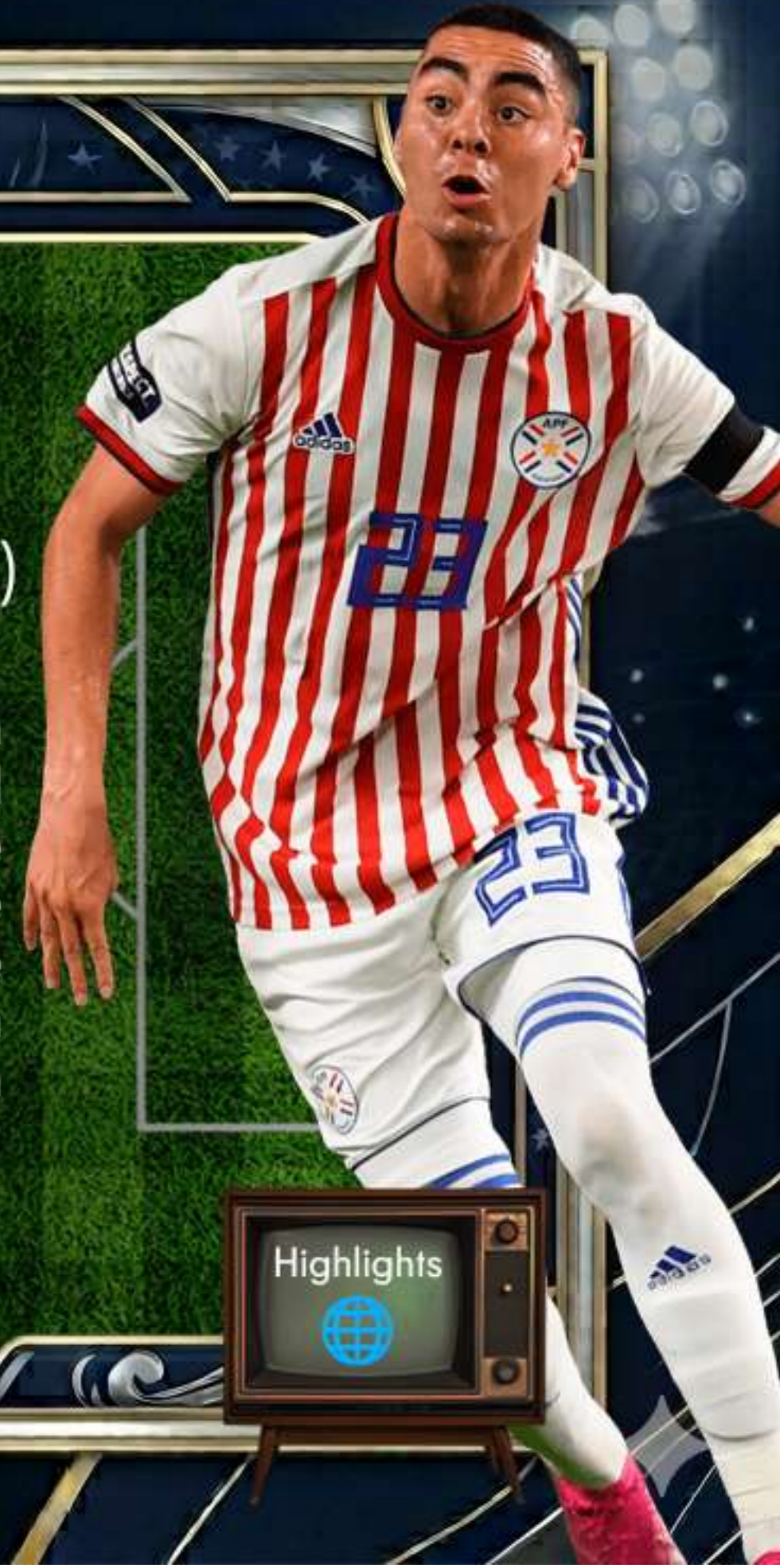
World Cup Winners: 0 (Best finish: Quarter-finals in 2010)

 Continent: South America

Paraguay secure their 9th tournament appearance. Now led by head coach Gustavo Alfaro and featuring Premier League talent like Miguel Almirón and Julio Enciso, "La Albirroja" finds itself in a competitive Group D alongside co-hosts the United States. Historically known for their disciplined defensive style, Paraguay's most legendary run came in 2010 when they reached the quarter-finals, only narrowly losing to eventual champions Spain. They return to the world stage looking to recapture the "giant-killer" reputation established by past legends like José Luis Chilavert.

[Discuss: Does reputation inform how the team plays?](#)

 Nautilus Shirt Ranking: One of the worst?   



Highlights



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