WORLD CUP CHEAT SHEET

1. The World Cup happens every four years. This year it takes place June 11-July 11.

2. Each team has eleven players, and the game is played in 45-minute halves. Games may go longer due to stoppage or injury time.

3. Thirty-two countries are competing. They're divided into eight groups of four, where the top two teams in each group proceed to the elimination rounds.

4. This is the first time it's been hosted by an African nation. The South African soccer team is called Bafana Bafana, which means the boys, the boys.

5. Brazil has won the World Cup more than any other country with five total victories. A lot of people are placing their bets on them this year, although Spain and Italy are also predicted to do well.

6. The United States is not expected to make the semifinals. However, it scored the most in the qualifying competition with 42 goals.

7. According to our sources, United States vs. England is the most anticipated game in the first round. The Americans will be wearing uniforms resembling the jerseys they wore when they beat England 1-0 in the 1950 World Cup.

8. Standout players include Landon Donovan from the United States, Lionel Messi from Argentina, and, of course, Cristiano Ronaldo from Portugal. Find a good article here.

9. If you wanna sound like you know what you're talking about, focus on which team has greater possession of the ball and say, "Spain is really controlling the tempo of the game." Avoid – at all costs – asking, "How can you tell if someone is offsides?" If all else fails, just sing, "Ole!" when your team scores.

10. The total prize money on offer from the tournament is $420 million, a 61 percent increase from 2006.

11. The official mascot for this year's games is Zakumi, a leopard with green hair who walks on two feet.

12. According to vast studies and surveys, soccer players are the world's best-looking athletes. If you don't believe us, check out the June cover of Vanity Fair.

13. For more information, go to FIFA's official website.