

rivalidad total



Soccer in Spain is a force to be reckoned with, and no two teams draw more attention than Real Madrid and the Fútbol Club Barcelona. Whether the venue is Madrid's Santiago Bernabéu or Barcelona's Camp Nou, the two cities shut down for the showdown,

Rivalidades del fútbol

- Argentina:** Boca Juniors vs River Plate

- México:** Águilas del América vs Chivas del Guadalajara

- Chile:** Colo Colo vs Universidad de Chile

- Guatemala:** Comunicaciones vs Municipal

- Uruguay:** Peñarol vs Nacional

- Colombia:** Millonarios vs Independiente Santa Fe

paralyzed by fútbol fever. A ticket to the actual game is always the hottest ticket in town.

The rivalry between Real Madrid and Barça is about more than soccer. As the two biggest, most powerful cities in Spain, Barcelona and Madrid are constantly compared to one another and have a natural rivalry. There is also a political component to the dynamic. Barcelona, with its distinct language and culture, has long struggled for increased autonomy from Madrid's centralized government. Under Francisco Franco's rule (1939–1975), when repression of the Catalan identity was at its height, a game between Real Madrid and FC Barcelona was wrapped up with all the symbolism of the regime versus the resistance, even though both teams suffered casualties in Spain's civil war and the subsequent Franco dictatorship.



Although the dictatorship is long over, the momentum of all those decades of competition still transforms both cities into a frenzied, tense panic leading up to the game. Once the final score is announced, one of those cities is transformed again, this time into the best party in the country.

ACTIVIDAD 1: ¿Cierto o falso? Indicate whether each statement is **cierto** or **falso**. Correct the false statements.

- T F 1. People from Spain don't like soccer. _____
- T F 2. Madrid and Barcelona are the most important cities in Spain. _____
- T F 3. Santiago Bernabéu is a stadium in Barcelona. _____
- T F 4. The rivalry between Real Madrid and FC Barcelona is not only in soccer. _____
- T F 5. Barcelona has resisted Madrid's centralized government. _____
- T F 6. Only the FC Barcelona team was affected by the civil war. _____
- T F 7. During Franco's regime, the Catalan culture thrived. _____
- T F 8. There are many famous rivalries between soccer teams in the Spanish-speaking world. _____
- T F 9. River Plate is a popular team from Argentina. _____
- T F 10. Comunicaciones and Peñarol are famous rivals in Guatemala. _____

Los Deportes

ASÍ SE DICE

Los deportes

el/la árbitro/a	referee
el/la atleta	athlete
la bola; el balón	la pelota
el campeón/ la campeona	champion
la carrera	race
competir	to compete
empatar	to tie
la medalla	medal
el/la mejor	the best
mundial	worldwide
el torneo	tournament

EL MUNDO HISPANO

Atletas importantes

World-renowned Hispanic athletes:

- **Rafael Nadal** (España) has won 14 Grand Slam singles titles and the 2008 Olympic gold medal in singles tennis.
- **Lionel Andrés Messi** (Argentina) is one of the world's top soccer players. He plays for **FC Barcelona** and for the Argentine national team.
- **Mireia Belmonte García** (España) won two silver medals in swimming at the 2012 Olympics.
- **Lorena Ochoa** (México) was the top-ranked female golfer in the world when she retired in 2010 at the age of 28. She still hosts an LPGA golf tournament, the Lorena Ochoa Invitational, every year.

PERFILES

Miguel Cabrera y Paola Espinosa



Miguel Cabrera, considered one of the best hitters in baseball, now plays first base for the Detroit Tigers. Born in Venezuela in 1983, he made his Major League debut at the age of 20. Cabrera has been selected for both the National League and American League All-Star Teams. In 2012, he became the first player since 1967 to win the Triple Crown.

Mexican diver **Paola Milagros Espinosa Sánchez**, born in 1986, has competed in three Olympics (2004, 2008, and 2012). She and her partner Tatiana Ortiz took home a bronze medal in 2008. In 2012, she won a silver medal with partner Alejandra Orozco. She won three gold medals at the Pan American Games in 2007 and again in 2011.



Conexión Internet

¿Qué deportes son populares en los países hispanos?

Go to _____ to find more cultural information related to this _____ section.

ACTIVIDAD 2: Comprensión: Write the name of the athlete described in each sentence.

1. Es un jugador de fútbol de Argentina. _____
2. Es una mujer que practica el golf. _____
3. Es un jugador de béisbol de Venezuela. _____
4. Es una mujer mexicana que practica un deporte en la piscina. _____

ACTIVIDAD 3: ¿Quién es? Write a short paragraph describing an athlete that you like, but do not mention his/her name. What does he/she look like? What sport does he/she play? Where does he/she live? Read your description to the class to see if they can guess who it is.