

And then there were two. Whether the fireworks at the end are in Dutch orange or Spanish red, the result will be a first in the 80-year history of the World Cup: Neither nation has ever won it. **Page 8C**

GOLF

Pines, dunes – and public access

■ Prairie Club southwest of Valentine aims to offer golfers a different experience than Sand Hills or Dismal River Clubs.

By **STU POSPISIL**
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

VALENTINE, Neb. — You don't have to be a member to play at Prairie Club, unlike the other two golf clubs in the Nebraska Sand Hills.

But it's not like plunking down \$40 for 18 holes and a cart on a Sunday morning at Benson Park in Omaha. Try \$240 for that same

round at Prairie Club on either the Dunes or the Pines Courses.

But that's the price to pay for experiencing the unique landscape — stands of pine trees, enormous sand dunes and the rim of the Snake River Canyon — that the state's first golf-destination resort offers to members and non-members alike.

South Dakota-based developer Paul Schock saw Prairie Club's niche as a resort. Not a pri-

vate golf retreat, like Sand Hills, nor a private club with plenty of amenities, like Dismal River Club.

Schock sought to create another golf experience like Bandon Dunes in Oregon or Whistling Straits in Wisconsin — places not easy to reach by car or plane, but without the "fences" of an ultra-private club.

Is it folly trying to do this in an area 20 miles southwest of Valentine, two hours from either Interstate 80 or 90, with no regional airport closer than Rapid City, S.D.?

"Remoteness, it's a good thing," said pro

See *Prairie Club*: Page 2



STU POSPISIL/THE WORLD-HERALD

The Pines Course at Prairie Club's 12th tee shows off nature.

BIG 12 FOOTBALL



KENDALL HUNTER

ROY HELU

DANIEL THOMAS

DEMARCO MURRAY

Plenty of ground cover

NU's Helu in tight competition in a league of running backs

By **RICH KAIPUST**
WORLD-HERALD BUREAU

LINCOLN — Despite Roy Helu's off-and-on health issues at Nebraska last season, it's worth retracing his footsteps and recalling what he did as one of four Big 12 running backs to run for 1,000 yards.

Helu produced seven games of 80 yards or more in his junior season, including a hard-earned 169 at Virginia Tech and 138 vs. Oklahoma. He landed the knockout punch at Missouri with five car-

ries for 56 yards on NU's last scoring drive despite clear pain from an injured shoulder. And he ran through Kansas for 156 yards and three touchdowns, including the go-ahead and clinching scores in the fourth quarter.

So even with mid-season and late-season slowdowns — mostly due to nagging shoulder problems — Helu posted numbers that DeMarco Murray of Oklahoma and Kendall Hunter of Oklahoma State would gladly have taken during their junior years.

But what about this year? Throw together Helu, Murray

See *Big 12*: Page 3

RECAPPING THE 2009 RACE

Player	School	Gs	Att.	Yds.	Avg/G	TD
Daniel Thomas	Kansas St.	12	247	1,265	105.4	11
Alexander Robinson	Iowa State	12	232	1,195	99.6	6
Keith Toston*	Oklahoma St.	13	227	1,218	93.7	11
Roy Helu	Nebraska	14	220	1,147	81.9	9
Rodney Stewart	Colorado	11	198	804	73.1	9
Christine Michael	Texas A&M	12	166	844	70.3	10
Baron Batch	Texas Tech	13	168	884	68.0	14
Derrick Washington	Missouri	13	190	865	66.5	10
DeMarco Murray	Oklahoma	12	171	705	58.8	8
Cyrus Gray	Texas A&M	13	159	757	58.2	5
Chris Brown*	Oklahoma	13	182	749	57.6	7
Toben Opurum	Kansas	11	133	554	50.4	9

*—Seniors in 2009

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ROBERT SAENZ/THE WORLD-HERALD
PHOTOS BY THE WORLD-HERALD AND THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FORMULA ONE RACING

Closer standings lead to more tense relationships on the race track

McLaren Formula One driver Jenson Button of Britain leaves the pit lane during the third practice session for the British Formula One Grand Prix in Silverstone, England, on Saturday. Button is the reigning world champion and is currently in second place in the standings.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

By **BRAD SPURGEON**
THE NEW YORK TIMES

The Formula One season that reaches its halfway point at the British Grand Prix at Silverstone on Sunday has not been similar to recent years in which one or two drivers collect most of the victories and steal the show.

The story of the 2010 championship so far is one of extraordinary tension and competition between teammates, where five drivers from three teams have combined to capture all nine of the season's races.

"I've never known a year like it," said Jenson Button, the reigning

world champion who drives for McLaren Mercedes and who is second in the series with two victories, behind teammate Lewis Hamilton, who also has won twice.

In fact, McLaren's Button and Hamilton are only six points apart, and they will be watched closely by the home crowd this weekend. Hamilton won the race in 2008; Button has not won it. It is the first time two British world champions have raced on the same team since Graham Hill and Jim Clark drove for Lotus in 1968.

McLaren has been on a season-long public relations drive to emphasize how friendly Button and Hamilton are. In a series of videos released to the news media, they have been seen exchanging friendly banter while slot-car racing, manually constructing a Formula One car and searching for a car once used by their illustrious predecessor, Ayrton Senna.

What a contrast to the late 1980s when, at this same McLaren team, there was one of the bitterest rivalries in Formula One history between Senna and Alain Prost, who knocked each other off the

See *Formula One*: Page 2

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