

virtually all kinds of information pertaining to the 5 primary areas. The water use data alone is voluminous. Within the context of the water recommendations there are several conservation measures that could be a problem for the golf industry. These measures must become law before they become a problem.

There are a great many opportunities within the plan. There are sections on storm water management, and urban forestry in addition to the portions covering open lands and water use. One major section addresses the need for permeable landscapes. As good stewards of the resources entrusted to us, the golf industry is in a unique position to help solve many of the problems presented within GO TO 2040. Perhaps the strongest part of our industry is the educated workforce we provide. It is not always easy to find educated people in an urban area who are well versed in subjects like the ones mentioned here. The golf industry has a large number of these educated professionals who are well prepared to at least participate in the discussion if not help lead it.

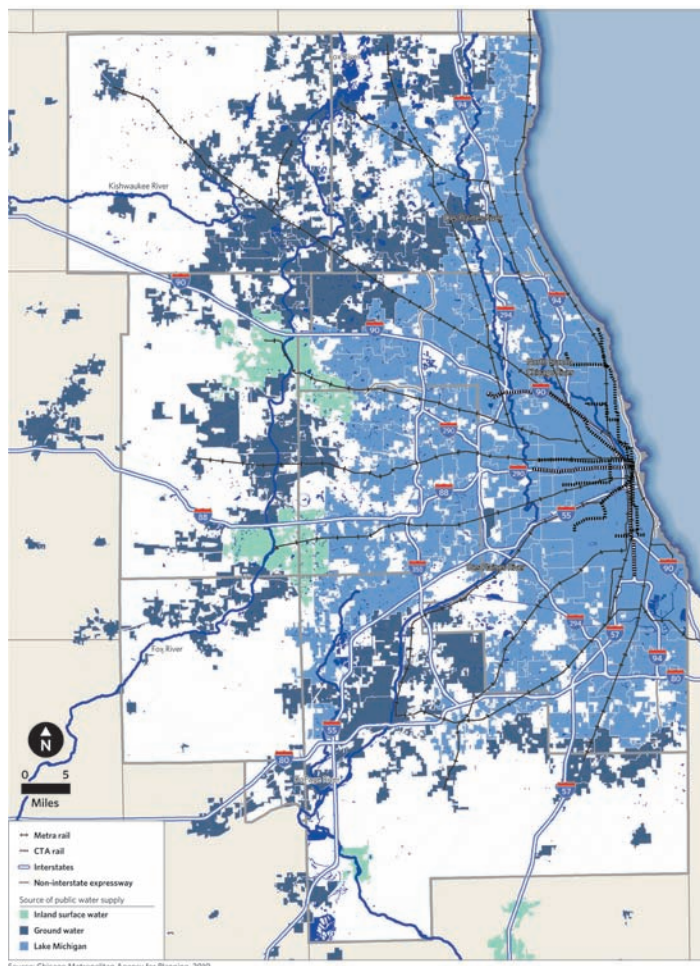
What is Water 2050 Northeastern Illinois Regional Water Demand/Supply Plan?

As a part of the GO TO 2040 plan CMAP, through a Rod Blagojevich executive order, asked a large group of stakeholders to create a regional water plan which incorporates known data, areas of concern, suggested municipal law, and conservation strategies. This plan is 204 pages of very detailed coverage of water supply and use. It incorporates 4 main chapters, A Framework for Water Supply Planning and Management, Land and Water, Demand Management and Other Strategies, and Water Management in the 21st Century. One difference between Water 2050 and GO TO 2040 is that Water 2050 is concerned with and 11 county area as opposed to the 7 county area in GO TO 2040.

(<http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/water-2050>)

What are they trying to achieve with the Water 2050 plan?

- The stated goals of the Northeastern Illinois Regional Water Supply Planning Group (RWSPG) are to:
1. Ensure water demand and supply result in equitable availability through drought and non-drought conditions alike.
 2. Protect the quality of ground- and surface-water supplies.
 3. Provide sufficient water availability to sustain aquatic ecosystems and economic development.
 4. Inform the people of northeastern Illinois about the importance of water-resource stewardship.
 5. Manage withdrawals from water sources to protect long-term productive yields.
 6. Foster intergovernmental communication for water conservation and planning.
 7. Meet data collection needs so as to continue informed and effective water supply planning.
 8. Improve integration of land use and water use planning and management.



Graph of region with municipal water source shown

Who are these stakeholders?

There are 32 members of the group that crafted Water 2050. There are 2 representatives from 7 different categories including, Academia (public interest), Agriculture, Business-Industry-Power, Conservation and Resource Management, Environmental Advocacy, Real Estate and Development, and Wastewater-Non Municipal Water Supplier. The remainders are County government representatives, and Mayoral association representatives. Conspicuously absent is any group that could be considered able or willing to represent the golf industry.

What are the major concerns found by the writers of this plan?

As with all water sources quality and quantity are a concern, with storm water being the third major water concern. The presence of Lake Michigan has always given surrounding communities a sense of complacency about water. There is a legal limit to the amount of water that can be extracted from Lake Michigan, however. The more pressing concerns center around areas that are dependent on deep bedrock aquifers, and the use of surface waters other than Lake Michigan as a supply. One of the major assertions of the plan is that water use surveys have shown that these deep aquifers are presently being depleted at a rate greater than the re-charge rate. The western counties have among the highest population growth rates, and are generally outside of the area

(continued on page 12)

served by Lake Michigan water. There is concern that water supply will eventually begin to stunt growth in these regions. The areas of highest concern according to these authors are three municipalities in the area, first the Algonquin, Carpentersville, East Dundee, Lake in the Hills, Crystal Lake area, secondly the Fox River Corridor including South Elgin, St. Charles, Geneva, Batavia, and Woodstock, and lastly the Plano area.

How does it address water use?

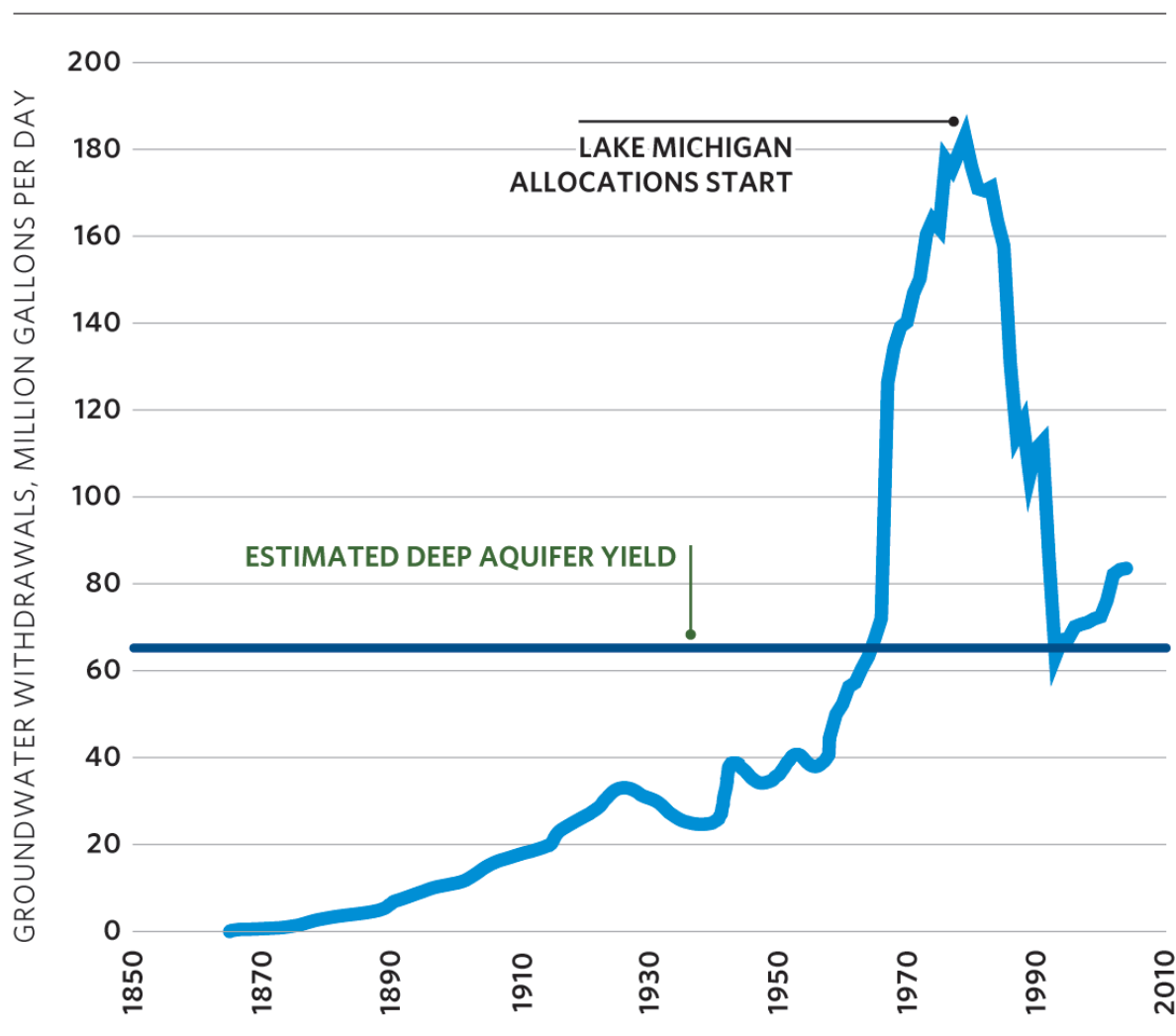
The planners are keenly aware of the interconnectedness of the elements of climate, water use, water conservation, land use, and design. They address plans for water conservation from all angles. For instance if shallow aquifers are pumped down water quality decreases, and in most cases surface water quantities diminish as well because they feed the shallow aquifers. This decrease in stream flow in turn diminishes the environmental quality of the surface water and has an impact on organisms within that environment, as well as human use of the resource. To correct these problems all of the factors must be addressed. The Water 2050 plan attempts to address them all. The planners attack water use primarily by conservation.

What conservation measures are promoted by Water 2050?

There are a multitude of measures proposed. The majority is consumer oriented and includes more efficient water using appliances, and plumbing fixtures. Most of the water consumed in the area is by consumers, so a strong effort to reach the public makes good sense.

The planners start with public education on water conservation through efficient water using appliances. Full cost pricing of water, and escalating pricing with increased use are two ways pricing can be used to encourage conservation. They also advocate creating “Zero Water Footprint” development, which means designing buildings that either harvest or recycle an amount of water equal to what they use.

From an irrigation standpoint they advocate rain switches for all watering systems, as well as mandated irrigation maintenance to keep water from being wasted through leakage, and/or poor sprinkler adjustment. The goal is to create a system that is sustainable for the long term and will not allow water to become a factor that limits growth, or the quality of living in the area.



Source: Illinois State Water Survey

Graph of aquifer withdrawals vs. recharge

I have a well, nothing for me to worry about. Right?

The Water Use Act of 1983 (WUA) created a system to monitor groundwater withdrawals and anticipate and mitigate shortages. Within this piece of legislation is a provision requiring landowners to notify the local Soil and Water Conservation District if a well is being constructed that is capable of withdrawing more than 100,000 gallons per 24 hour period (a "high capacity well"). Existing wells must register with the same local authorities. Lastly, the water use from such wells is to be reported to the Illinois State Water Survey Water Inventory Program. Users who use wells for Agricultural Irrigation have a 5 year exemption from January 1, 2010.

The Water 2050 plan calls for increased monitoring, and legislation already exists that will mandate such reporting in the near future.

How does the golf industry appear in the plan?

It is encouraging that one of two references to the golf industry is made during the discussion of water reuse. Maple Meadows and Oak Meadows are specifically mentioned as opportunities to utilize waste water for golf course irrigation. The Addison water treatment plant is close to these golf courses and wastewater could be used to irrigate a large turf area with minimal infrastructure investment. A map representing potential irrigation demand for wastewater that is shown in the plan is basically a map of golf courses in the area. The planners clearly see golf courses as a potential opportunity.

What kind of data are they basing these recommendations on?

There is a large amount of data available on water use in the region. Most of that data is collected by the Illinois State Water Survey which also encompasses the center for groundwater science. There are several other agencies involved as well. For a thorough listing of these agencies please reference the article "Water on the Web" in *On Course* August 2010.

How about sharing some other highlights of the study?

The present rate of use is plus or minus 1480.3 million gallons of water used in the 7 county region. Of that amount the primary use for water is power generation with 74% of that water being used by power plants, 21% for the public supply, 3% to self supplied Industrial and commercial, 1% to self supplied domestic, and 1% to irrigation and agriculture. This emphasizes one overarching point of both GOTO 2040 and Water 2050, that power and water are inextricably linked. To move, clean, apply, and treat water it takes power, and the statistic above certainly shows that to make power takes water, lots of it. Energy conservation efforts automatically save water.

Of that water 69% comes from Lake Michigan, 17% from groundwater, and 14% from surface waters.

Eastern Lake County, Cook County, and much of Dupage County are supplied by Lake Michigan water. Kane County, Will County, McHenry County, and Kendall Counties are heavily reliant on surface waters and aquifers.

26% of the water presently diverted from Lake Michigan is used to create the flow of the Chicago River, and is lost to the Mississippi River. This water counts against the total diversion limit.

There is plenty of water available in Lake Michigan under the legal limit available to the state to supply the outlying counties with water; the problem is getting the water to where it is needed.

Weather is a huge factor in all of this. In 2005 for example the drought caused an increase in water demand of 8% across all sectors excluding thermoelectric power plants.

By improving plumbing fixtures, updating toilets, and employing conservation measures the commission estimates the region could save 20 gallons of water per person per day.

A complete breakdown of water use for golf irrigation is included in the document "Regional Water

Demand Scenarios for Northeastern Illinois: 2005-2050". It can be found at www.cmap.illinois.gov/water-2050. -OC



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Charles Anfield, CGCS, *Heritage Bluffs Golf Course*



The Clip Conundrum

Anyone who grows grass for a living (or has a lawn) knows that eventually you will need to cut it. The better the growth, the more frequent the required cut. People who play golf like their grass cut short so they can find their ball to hit it. Some like it shorter than others. Long grass can be a huge, unpleasant topic of conversation in the Clubhouse. This could be on the tees, greens fairway or rough. Grass growth can depend on a number of factors: fertility, sun light, soil types etc. The formula challenge for grass growers is: the healthier the growth= more grass to cut + the more frequently it needs to be cut = more grass clippings.

Grass clippings can be a huge problem. They are the "waste" product of the mowing process. They can leave a finely cut turf unsightly and messy. "Messiness" on turf can affect the aesthetics and the playability of the turf. Who doesn't hate seeing annoying clumps of clippings left on finely cut fairways or surrounds, or worse, piles dumped in the woods or tall grass areas and just left to fester, rot and stink? So my enquiring little mind starting asking other MAGCS Member Superintendents, "What do you do at your golf course to manage your grass clippings?"

Rob Foster, Lake Bluff Golf Club

- Fairways: "This past year we picked up clippings on the fairways 60% of the time. The rest of the time we just cut it and blow it away".
- Tees: "We pick it up and distribute in the rough".
- Greens: "We pick it up and distribute in the rough".
"During times of extreme clippings we will pile it up in designated areas and pick it up later".

Chad Walk, Old Oak Country Club

- Fairways: "Ideally we cut the fairways dry to minimize the mess. We will cut twice a week. I use Primo to reduce the clipping yield. When do cut them wet, we follow behind with a blower".
- Tees: "On tees I also use Primo. We collect the clip and distribute in the rough areas".
- Greens: "We collect the clip from the walk mowers and store in golf cart. We have a dump site on the property that we recycle the clippings by mixing them with soil".

Craig Lewis, Shepard's Crook Golf Club

- Fairways: "We mow late in the morning and return clip. We use Primo to help reduce the clip".
- Tees: "We use Primo and Cutless. We collect and distribute in the rough and native areas".
- Greens: "Same for greens as tees".
"We have a lull in play between 10 am and 2 pm which we use as a maintenance window to do a lot of our tee and fairway mowing".

Michael Huestis, Chicago Highlands Golf Club

- Fairways: "We collect the clippings on fairways. We park a Dakota material handler with a tractor in a central location in which the guys empty their baskets into. One guy will move it to next location as needed. We mow three times per week".
- Tees: "We walk mow three times per week. The clip is dumped into the back of carts".
- Greens: "Greens are walk mowed six times per week. The clip is dumped into the back of the carts".
"We chop up the clumps in the rough and blow excessive clumps as needed. We use growth regulators on all the bent turf. We take all the clippings and mix them with the soil that the semi-trucks continue to bring as fill for the site". -OC

THE BULL SHEET

John Gurke, CGCS, Associate Editor



November 2011

Big congrats (and well-deserved) to JT **John Turner** on being awarded Purdue University's 2011 Agronomy Achievement Award on September 17th. Department head Dr. Joe Anderson recognized JT as an alumnus (class of 1980) who has made a significant contribution to his profession and to our industry. John and his wife Pam attended the ceremony, and toured the campus, including a stop at the Daniel Turf Research Center (named after the renowned Dr. Bill Daniel). Past GCSAA president Dave Fearis and Knox Fertilizer president Bob Shaw are former winners of this coveted award. Congratulations JT!



Johnn Turner

(continued on next page)

DATES TO REMEMBER

November 1 – Member registration opens for GCSAA's Education Conference in Las Vegas, NV.

November 2 – Golf Course Superintendents of Asia Summit at the Royal Cliff Beach Resort in Pattaya, Thailand. Or do you still say Siam?

November 15-16 – 2011 Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium at the American Club in Kohler, WI.

November 16 – 59th Midwest Turf Clinic & Annual Meeting at Medinah Country Club, **Curtis Tyrrell, CGCS** host.

November 30 – Deadline for nominations for the 11th Annual TurfNet Superintendent of the Year Award presented by Syngenta.

December 1 – Non-member registration opens for GCSAA's Education Conference in Las Vegas, NV

December 5 – Annual South Side Superintendents Holiday Party at Die Bier Stube in Frankfort, IL, German restaurateurs hosts.

December 5-8 – Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Conference and Show at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus, OH.

December 9 – Annual West Side Superintendents Holiday Party at Seven Bridges Golf Club, **Don Ferreri** and **Dave Gelino** hosts.

December 12-16 – OSHA 30-hour Outreach Training Compliance Course at the Butterfield Office Plaza Building in Oak Brook, IL. Go to www.skillpath.com for info and to enroll.

December 14-15 – ITF 2-Day Winter Education Program at Midwest Golf House in Lemont, IL.

December 15 – Application deadline for the 2012 USGA Green Section Summer Internship Program. More info to follow.



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Congratulations also go out to MAGCS ex-patriot **Tom Lively, CGCS** on the kudos he received from the players in the AT&T Championship held at his TPC San Antonio Canyons Course in October. You might have heard that Tom's neck of the woods has been experiencing a little old drought this year (one of epic proportions), yet the players were effusive in their praise of the conditions he and his staff provided them for the tournament. Phil Blackmar said, "They're absolutely spectacular, as good as Bermuda greens can be." Winner Fred Couples hopped on board as well, offering that "The greens are by far among the top two or three we've putted on all year. They were perfect." High praise indeed for a really nice guy.



Tom Lively

It's November, and that means it's time again for the Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium. This year's rendition is being held on the 15th and 16th in its usual place—the American Club in Kohler, WI—and will feature its usual high-quality education program that it has come to be famous for. As a bonus, any funds in excess of expenses are contributed by the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association to the O. J. Noer Research Foundation, which is nice. For information, contact Shelley Mazurek at (414) 221-6810.

October 21st was a big night for MAGCS, for golf course superintendents, and especially for **Paul Voykin**, as it was the evening of his induction into the Illinois Golf Hall of Fame. The ceremony was held at the Glen Club in Glenview, IL (home of the Illinois Golf Hall of Fame), and honored four very deserving inductees. Joining fellow inductees Steve Benson, Sherm Finger, and Robert Gardner (posthumously), Paul received his plaque with the grace and humor we'd all expect. He started his acceptance speech with a bang—"I'm a little hard of hearing, so if you feel you need to applaud, please do it very loudly"—and never really looked back. Paul mentioned a chance meeting with golf legend Ben Hogan while he was working with his brother Peter in Canada that proved to be a huge influence in their career paths thereafter, as well as a quote by Walter Hagen reminding folks to "stop and smell the flowers," a theme that Paul has espoused ever since. So well-delivered and eloquent (and downright funny) was Paul's speech that the evening's emcee, Tim Cronin remarked afterward that "now we know who SHOULD have been



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emcee tonight!" If you ever find yourself in the neighborhood of the Glen Club, stop in—the names on those plaques are truly legendary. And now WE have our own legend to boast about. Well done, Mr. Voykin.



While on the subject of Halls of Fame, the Western Golf Association has formally taken over administration of the Caddie Hall of Fame, an exhibit that highlights the tradition and importance of caddying by recognizing notable junior caddies, caddie administrators, and career caddies. The exhibit will be housed at WGA headquarters in Golf, IL.

This just in—a company called Play With Trust LLC has just launched its new product called Swing Trust Oil, an aromatherapy product targeted at avid golfers looking to improve their game. Now I may not be the sharpest tool in the shed, but hasn't this been done already? I think it's called Budweiser.

Jake Gyllenhaal plays a cowboy in Brokeback Mountain. **Thom Irvin** is at Indian Hill Club and breaks his back for his evil boss every day. Cowboy. Indian. Hill. Mountain. Back. It all makes sense—they're the same guy.



Jake Gyllenhaal and Thom Irvin

If you are looking for a way to justify your attendance at the Golf Industry Show in February in Las Vegas, GCSAA has just the ticket. Their cleverly-named "Attendee Justification Kit" is a tool that walks you through the process, and is available at gcsaa.org. Good luck with that.

If you DO happen to attend, whether justified or otherwise, the list of education seminars that will be offered is now online at the conference website (golfindustryshow.org). The site is pretty much your one-stop go-to guide for all things Conference. Good frost-morning surfing.

In case you were wondering, actually, this was just booked: The **Midwest Hospitality Reception** is planned for **Wednesday, February 29, 2012** at the Hard Rock Café on Paradise Road in Las Vegas. We are taking the place over from 7 to 10 pm, buying out the venue for the timeframe. Don't miss it.

October 15th was a big day for the University of Illinois Turf Alumni, as they gathered in Champaign to witness history with their beloved (and e-mascot-ulated) Fighting Illini looking to go 7 and 0 against the hated Ohio State Buckeyes. The atmosphere at the pre-game tailgate was festive, and the stadium was striped in Illini orange and blue. But this is Illinois, and as such, they laid a big ol' egg and lost in ugly fashion. Thanks to **Bruce Branham** for arranging a great day despite the outcome of the game, and to all the alums who attended and contributed. Editor's note—at press time, the Illini had not yet won another game.



Nice seats, huh buddy?

(continued on page 20)

Reinders, Inc. recently announced the addition of Jerry Kershasky as Territory Manager for their Soft Goods Business Group in the Chicago market. Jerry will be responsible for sales and product support. Welcome to Chicago, Jerry.

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Monday, October 3rd found MAGCS members converging on the Merit Club for the October meeting and Annual College Championship. **John Nelson** and **Arne Nordenson** and their crew had the course in just crazy good shape. Greens confounded even the savviest of savvy putters, and the fairway lies were so tight and perfect I found myself topping everything just so I wouldn't make a divot. Kudos to John and Arne on a terrific product, and to the staff at Merit Club for their great service. Oh yes, about the golf part. There was a LOT of orange and blue on that golf course, and perhaps due to sheer numbers alone (or possibly talent had a part in it), the team from the University of Illinois with **Jeff Pozen** and **Craig Shepherd** (72) and **Greg Rounds** and **Justin VanLanduit** (73) took the first place honors with a scorching 145, besting the 153 turned in by the team from Michigan State University of **Jeff Frentz** and **Scott Vincent** (77) and **Mike Mumper** and **Dave Radaj** (76). In the Independent Division, Arne Nordenson and **Pete Kiraly** won with a net 51, followed by **Brett Ziegler** and **Darin Douglas** with 54, and **Scott Witte** and **Mark Karczewski** with a 55. Congratulations to the Illini who found something they CAN win at, and thanks to everyone at the Merit Club and to our most benevolent sponsors, who were: **Arthur Clesen, Inc., JW Turf, Inc., Nels J. Johnson Tree Experts, Burris Equipment Company, Syngenta, Chicagoland Turf, Harris Golf Cars, Reinders, Inc., Lemont Paving and Nadler Golf Car Sales, Inc.**

