

Welcome to our 2008 annual issue of **GOLF NOW! Chicago**. Wow, it's hard to believe that the golf season is upon us. We all know that the Chicago golf season is way too short and the winters are way too long! So we all need to add "Play More Golf!" to our "Things To Do" list this year. With that said, make it a point to play one or two new courses this year. Many of our featured courses are short trips to the first tee!

I had the opportunity of playing several new ones last year -- Prairie Landing in West Chicago, IL and Yarrow in Augusta, MI. Two challenging, beautifully-manicured layouts, both with very different experiences and well worth the short drives! Now with I-355 open, many courses south and west are easily accessible. Also, with the Dan Ryan completion, courses such as Harborside and Balmoral Woods are all reachable a lot faster now from downtown Chicago.

A must-read is our exclusive interview with comedian, **Tom Dreesen**. Not only is Dreesen a kind and generous man, but he is one of the most sought-after "Masters of Ceremonies" in the golf industry today. A Founder of the Celebrity Players Tour, Dreesen is as funny as he is a great golfer and entertainer!

Turn to our "**Escapes**" section when you feel the need for a speedy exit from the Chicago winter and consider a trip to the fabulous South Florida golf destinations. You won't believe the transformation that is taking place as we speak.

Lastly, make sure you ...

Hit 'Em Straight in 08!

Cheryl Justak, Publisher