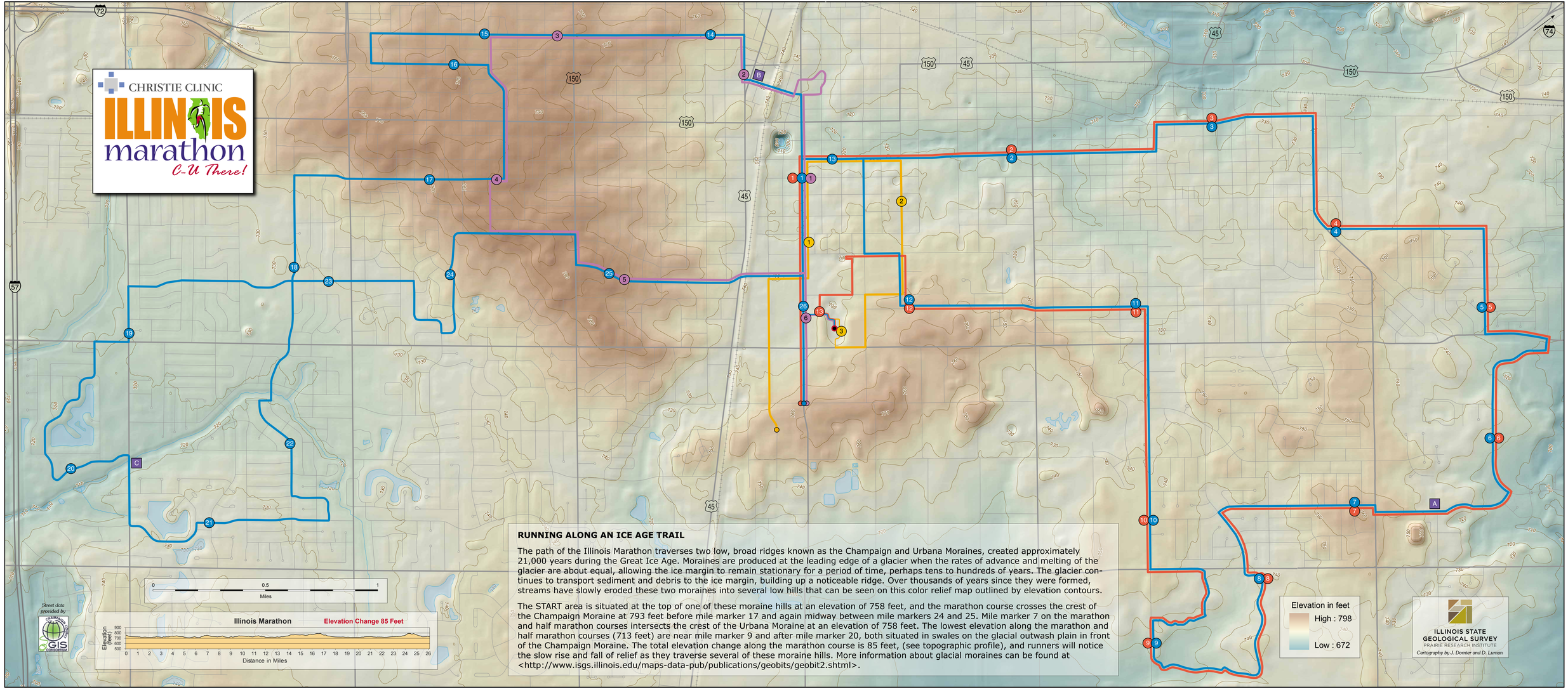
CHRISTIE CLINIC
ILLINOIS
marathon
C-U There!
RUNNING ALONG AN ICE AGE TRAIL
The path of the Illinois Marathon traverses two low, broad ridges known as the Champaign and Urbana Moraines, created approximately 21,000 years during the Great Ice Age. Moraines are produced at the leading edge of a glacier when the rates of advance and melting of the glacier are about equal, allowing the ice margin to remain stationary for a period of time, perhaps tens to hundreds of years. The glacier continues to transport sediment and debris to the ice margin, building up a noticeable ridge. Over thousands of years since they were formed, streams have slowly eroded these two moraines into several low hills that can be seen on this color relief map outlined by elevation contours.
The START area is situated at the top of one of these moraine hills at an elevation of 758 feet, and the marathon course crosses the crest of the Champaign Moraine at 793 feet before mile marker 17 and again midway between mile markers 24 and 25. Mile marker 7 on the marathon and half marathon courses intersects the crest of the Urbana Moraine at an elevation of 758 feet. The lowest elevation along the marathon and half marathon courses (713 feet) are near mile marker 9 and after mile marker 20, both situated in swales on the glacial outwash plain in front of the Champaign Moraine. The total elevation change along the marathon course is 85 feet, (see topographic profile), and runners will notice the slow rise and fall of relief as they traverse several of these moraine hills. More information about glacial moraines can be found at <http://www.isgs.illinois.edu/maps-data-pub/publications/geobits/geobit2.shtml>.
Illinois Marathon
Elevation Change 85 Feet
Elevation (feet)
Distance in Miles
Miles
Elevation in feet
High : 798
Low : 672
Street data provided by
GIS Consortium
ILLINOIS STATE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
PRAIRIE RESEARCH INSTITUTE
Cartography by J. Domier and D. Luman