

a name you can't forget

The first time a turf expert sees Fylking and he gently tests the turf, lifts a swatch and examines the root system, and closely scrutinizes the low-growing, 90-degree side angled leaves, please notice the subtle smile that crosses his face. This is the countenance of the wine connoisseur who has wet his lips with classic vintage, the man who recognizes the truly classic beauty of the Venus de Milo, the research agronomist who has spent years seeking the perfect turf and now views Fylking. Once he has, he wants to know more about this obviously elite Kentucky bluegrass. This man will appreciate knowing Fylking has received overall superior disease-resistance ratings from every major university and institution where tested for leaf spot, stripe smut, stem rust and leaf rust. When he examines the technical brochure he will smile again. Fylking is not perfect, but it's the closest of any. Fylking. It's a name you can't forget.



If you would like our full color technical brochure No. 102 on 0217 [®] Fylking Kentucky bluegrass, please ask your Fylking sod or seed distributor or write to Jacklin Seed Co., E. 8803 Sprague Ave., Spokane, WA 99213.

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clubs and the equipment. They go to the Merchandise Mart in Los Angeles about twice a year, but rely upon salesmen who call for fill-ins and re-orders. The salesmen are used as allies by the Wansas, and he suggests that other pro shops might do the same.

"We listen a great deal to what they are saying," he said. "I know a lot of salesmen can run off at times, but we have found that if we play it straight with them, they'll do the same. A salesman only has to overload you once you know."

Wansa gives as an example a new styling in slacks. The salesman brings the news; Wansa likes it. He talks it over with the people right in the shop.

"They're out on the floor doing the selling," he said. "I don't let it be a one-man decision because they know what's going on out there just as I do.'

Once the decision is made to take on the line, Wansa turns to the salesman to learn the color mix which is going over elsewhere. He bases sizes on his own historical data.

"But we have wide range," he adds. "Ours is a big tourist trade as well. We get year-round visitors in San Diego, and the course is wellknown.

Wansa buys in quantity. For example, he handles Ratner slacks, with which he has had success. "We bought 126 pairs on one initial order," he said. "That included sizes and colors. Then every time the salesman comes around, he takes the order for fill-in. As long as that style is selling, we want to keep it in stock."

As might be expected, Wansa keeps a fairly close tab on merchandise turn.

"We don't allow anything to sit and wait around here," he said. "We can't really afford to; there's too much else.

Torrey Pines will carry the item for four months, giving it floor exposure. If the merchandise does not move quickly - at least half of the initial order, but often depending upon the price range - Wansa puts it on sale. The first discount is 20 percent, and then it falls to 25 percent. The shop has had good experience with its sale merchandise, and seldom goes below that markdown. However, Wansa would have no qualms about knocking the price down further if necessary.

"Anything that doesn't sell," he points out, "is taking up the space of

anything that does sell.'

In terms of buying and pricing, he also finds that close outs are a good means of attracting attention. He carries all the top brand name clubs, for instance. And in addition to the top lines, he will also look for their closeouts that are selling 20 percent discounted. Wansa finds that his turn increases ever time these lines go up — not only of the discounted items, but also of the non-markdown merchandise. He places the two right next to each other (or as near as feasible), on the assumption that he can trade up a customer who needs clubs, and a customer who has a full complement might still be interested because of the sale attrac-

Having a well-known driving range helps Wansa in merchandising clubs.

"I think selling a set needs a lot of hand holding," he said. "We have a dual problem. We have to give a person a lot of time to make a decision while at the same time make the sale the first time around because of the nature of our customers.'

Wansa has resolved the question in favor of hand holding. "We take them up to the driving range, and we just work out with them. No club will hit the ball by itself. You have to demonstrate weight and shift and style. They get much more than a demonstration because we watch them while they swing. We can sell them a set that matches what they're doing or what they should be doing. Sometimes they end up getting a fullscale lesson."

But that does not worry Wansa. "Never. The time is well-spent. We're fighting a lot of competition. We could lose almost 75 percent of the traffic because they can go right by us because of the way the shop is located. So we have to make certain they know about us. And word of mouth is important. They have to know about our highly personal service, the time we spend with them, and the merchandise we have available. I think we have more sales people per customer than you find on the private courses."

This is especially evident on the floor. Wansa keeps very little for backup stock. Almost all the merchandise is placed out front upon delivery. When a customer comes in, and seems to be wandering, one of the sales people will go over, and ask to help. If the answer is "just looking," Wansa suggests a ploy that might help other pro shops.

"We just pick up some merchandise and begin to start talking about it. In that way, we can start finding out what the customer is really about, if there are any needs, or what

have you."

While Wansa encourages browsing, he believes that in a small shop such as Torrey Pines, it could be possible for a customer to make up his or her mind within 15 minutes if there is anything of interest.

Wansa returns to his other theme

about the impulse buyer.

"That's where display comes in. We try to make everything attractive," he said. "But mass is of great

importance to us."



"I'VE NOTICED ON P.G.A. COURSES I'VE PLAYED THAT HARD USE AREAS SEEDED IN MANHATTAN PERENNIAL RYEGRASS HOLD UP BETTER, LOOK BETTER AND PLAY BETTER THAN OTHER GRASSES. . . "



Patule Atypernous Fitzsimons on Manhattan



Pat Fitzsimons, who tied the world record score of 58 on a 6,000 yard course, tees off on the No. 1 Manhattan tee at Salem Golf Club course, Salem, Ore., where he shot his record score.

Certified Manhattan is grown by the MANHATTAN RYEGRASS **GROWERS ASSOCIATION** P.O. Box 415 · Hubbard, Oregon 97032 T'S KID PROOF

TURF-TYPE

PERENNIAL RYEGRASS

- GREAT FOR HARD USE AREAS
- UNIFORM DARK GREEN COLOR
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Manhattan Perennial Ryegrass was selected and developed by Dr. C. Reed Funk, Rutgers University. Manhattan develops a uniform dark green leafy, dense turf with leaf blades finer than most Kentucky bluegrasses. Mowability ratings are excellent.



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FOR SALE

FOR SALE — Nine hole course, watered, pro-shop, maintenance equipment and carts. Eastern Oklahoma, Write Box 4, Golfdom, 9800 Detroit Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44102.

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Empty golf bags are hung from the window, for example, in order to make use of an otherwise "empty" space. In order to display caps and hats, Wansa puts one on top of a headless mannequin that is displaying a shirt. In cases where wall shelves do not come down to the floor, golf clubs, golf carts, and other floor merchandise are placed under the shelves to utilize that space as well.

Wansa does a big trade with caps and hats, and he believes that other pro shops could work this category into a solid add-on sale.

"We have them all over," he said.

"All different styles. The idea is that everyone should have a cap or hat, and that everyone can have something different."

As a result, he has one entire section of valuable wall space given over to caps. He reasons that a woman or man might not come in and want a golf outfit of slacks and shirt or blouse, but that everyone will pick up a hat.

"That's what we mean when we say we have an impulse customer," he said. "But then again — and I think this is important — every customer in every pro shop is really an impulse customer."

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last year, there were 72 youngsters enrolled. The series of lessons are given every Tuesday for an hour, and this is followed up on Friday when the youngsters are teamed up according to ability and then age. The younger ones usually play one or two holes, but some of the older ones will go nine or 18.

Their scores become important as an indication of their ability, obviously, but Limback and Toler do not beat them with it. At the end of the year, however, they run a junior tournament according to ability, and there are trophies and prizes in addition to door prizes for everyone. Another important aspect in the junior tournament is the annual banquet which is held at the club, and is keyed to a younger lever, although formal in its appearance.

Tanglewood is a busy course, and the shop is kept busy with the in-andout traffic. During the summer, there will be seven or eight employes including the pro and assistant pro. Hours usually are from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., six days a week, closed on Monday. Canteen help is separate, but there is a strong walk-through traffic which Limback naturally encourages. In fact, the merchandise in the pro shop can be seen from the canteen so that individuals sitting at the tables can peruse the merchandise, and then afterwards go up to the racks.

How does Limback view it all?

"I think it's a matter of getting to know your people," he said. "It's difficult to set down hard and fast rules. But I think it's important that your customers feel that the pro shop is a friendly place first of all, and then, of course, that you have the merchandise. You can't keep showing the same thing in the same place. Don't forget that we're competing against downtown and shopping center stores that thrive on merchandising techniques. We've got to show the members that we can go one better."

CONVENIENT SHOPPING

For more information about the products advertised in the pages of GOLFDOM—use the postage-paid Reader Service Card in this issue.

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384 Vending machines 385 Water coolers	458 ☐ Pull carts 459 ☐ Graphite shafts		ings, lamps, decorative accessories, interior design consultants) 587 □ Lockers 588 □ Locks for lockers	
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II. Size of course: 1. 9 holes 2. 18 holes 3. III. Acreage of Golf Course	27 holes 4. □ 36 + holes	Club		
A. □ under 100 B. □ 101-200 C. □ 201-350 D. □ 351-500 E. □ 501 + over		Address		
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PEOPLE N THE NEWS

LYNE A. PRICE, vice president for sales at AMF Ben Hogan, Fort Worth, Tex., is retiring on October 1, having been associated with the company since 1962. Price, however, will continue to represent the company on their pro tour programs as director of customer and trade relations. TIMOTHY L. SCOTT, merchandising manager. moves up to vice president marketing, replacing Price. His responsibilities include domestic sales and marketing. MALCOLM K. HUNTER III becomes product manager-golf equipment, advancing from manager of accounting. Other promotions are: GEORGE R. NELSON from controller to vice president-controller; TIMOTHY L. GUZZLE from director of engineering to vice president-engineering; and CHARLES C. MALITZ III, from manager of sales planning to the newly-created position of product manager-golf apparel.

PAUL ALEXANDER of Akron, Ohio, has been appointed staff vice president of agronomy for the Sea Pines Company, Hilton Head Island, S.C., builders of resorts and recreational communities. Prior to joining the company, Dr. Alexander was director of education for the Golf Course Superintendents' Assn. of America; a former United States Golf Assn. agronomist; an associate professor in the departments of botany, bacteriology and horticulture at Clemson University and a research fellow at Ohio State University. He is a member of the Agronomy Society of America; the American Forestry Society; the GCSAA; Phi Epsilon Phi, a botanical fraternity; the Soil Science Society of America and the Southern Turfgrass Assn.

LAURA BAUGH has signed a five-year contract as directress of golf for the Canyon Hotel Racquet and Golf Resort in Palm Springs. Baugh, the 1973 Ladies Professional Golf Assn.'s Rookie of the Year, first came to national attention in 1971, when she won the U.S. Amateur at the age of 16

carl Horn has resigned as executive vice president with Simmons International Corp., Torrance, Calif., in order to spend more time with his personal business interests according to company president and chief executive officer, S.P. Simmons. Simmons, who served as national sales manager for a major golf equipment manufacturer prior to forming his own firm, will assume Horn's sales and marketing responsibilities. He will be assisted by Ron Pope, who continues as marketing director.

PAT FITZSIMONS, a Salem, Ore., professional golfer, will be sponsored jointly on the pro tour circuit by the Tee-2-Green Corp., marketers of Penncross bentgrass, and the Manhattan Ryegrass Growers Assn. Fitzsimons recently tied the world record by shooting a 58 on the Salem GC's 6,000 yard course.

JOE C. DIBRELL has been appointed a territory manager for the Sports Div. of Dunlop Tire and Rubber Corp. of Buffalo, N.Y. Dibrell, who is a former assistant golf professional and has worked in accounting, will be responsible for the sales and marketing of Dunlop sporting goods in Oklahoma and Arkansas.



This hulking thing can pick up a mere cigarette butt.

Rubber Finger Pick Up.

That's the pick-up system that's so good they got a patent for it. And every Jacobsen Sweeper in the line has it.

Wes Wilson of Big Bear Equipment, Inc., Omaha, Nebraska, can tell you all about it. So can any Jacobsen Distributor, for that matter. Or better yet, show you how it works on your own turf.

You'll be able to sweep up virtually any kind of debris, wet or dry. Rocks. Bottle caps. Broken twigs and branches. Cans, bottles, leaves, grass clippings, matchsticks. And cigarette butts.

No matter how large or small your turf area is, there's a Jacobsen Sweeper to do the

job. After all, it's the biggest line in the whole industry.

It includes power take off sweepers. Selfpropelled units. And two of the models offer hydraulic lift dumping.

There are also several sensible accessories you'll want to seriously think about, too. Like the special Thatch/Thinner attachment that dethatches, sweeps it up, and picks up other debris all at the same time. Or the Curb Broom and the Bag Attachment.

This would be a good time to ask your nearby Jacobsen Distributor to give you a demonstration. But please refrain from asking him if things have been picking up lately.

That's one of his best lines.

Your Jacobsen Distributors.

Before we sell it, we buy it.