

Butterfly®

December 2004

NEWS

**New advertisement
campaign!**



The material of the Champions!



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Table Tennis Simulation

With a real racket against the computer

Scientists from Chemnitz have developed a Table Tennis simulator, with which top players might be able to train one day. Balls can be given rotation, the proper sounds are provided by a Dolby Surround Sound System. At the virtual Table Tennis a player faces the computer with a standard racket. The rest of the environment like ball, net or table are digital and projected on to a large screen. The player wears 3-d glasses.

„In the background two standard computers with a visualisation- and a tracking software set up a scene for each eye“, Stephan Rusdorf from the Technical University of Chemnitz explains. „These pictures are projected to a four by three metres acrylic glass panel by two beamers and a mirror.“ Onto the racket and the glasses several tracking points are adjusted, which are monitored by four infrared cameras during the match. By this position and adjustment of the player and the racket are determined, computer scientist Rusdorf explains. The computers feed these informations into the setup of the scene.

The Dolby Surround System provides the proper sound and makes the noise of the ball realistic. All rules of physics are simulated, it is said. It should be possible to give the virtual ball rotation just like in a real match. In the future the technicians want to set up two real players against the computer. And they don't even have to be at the same location. Further they plan to integrate captured sequences of real matches into those three

dimensional simulations. This would allow players to train special techniques in real-time.

As well a haptic feedback is planned, which simulates the impact of the virtual ball on the real racket – maybe by vibrations.

„Many players were enthusiastic after they tested our simulation“, Rusdorf reports. Even the German Table Tennis Federation has claimed interest in this solution. Yet before the use in training the reaction times of the complete system - especially of the camera parts – have to be reduced.

New giant ball!

Butterfly once again had a special idea. For the Junior WCC in Kobe 2005 the company produced an oversized commercial Table Tennis ball. The ball has a diameter of 5 metres and a weight of 10 kg. It will be placed in the hall without blocking view of spectators or television. On the picture Butterfly employee Maria Amizic hands over the ball to Mikael Andersson, Junior & Youth Development Manager of the ITTF.



Schedule

9th of January

Pro-Tourtournament in Europe

29th of January

Pro-Tourtournament in Europe

3th to 6th February

Pro-Tourtournament in Middle East

21th to 25th February

Pro-Tourtournament in Middle East

27th of March to 3th of April

European Championships Men and Women, Aarhus (DEN)

30th of April to 6th of May

Volkswagen World Championships in the singles, Shanghai (CHN)

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Deaflympics: Preparation in Düsseldorf

From the 5th to the 16th of January the 20th Deaflympics will be held in the Australian City of Melbourne. Amongst the favourites in Table Tennis once again there's a team, which has allways made one of the first three ranks during the recent 20 years: the German National Team of the Deaf. For a perfect preparation for this event two weekend training camps are scheduled in this month in Düsseldorf's Table Tennis Centre. Coach Peter Bergmann: „Here in Düsseldorf the players find a perfect environment for their sports. All can focus completely on their training“. For several years now the National Team comes to Düsseldorf for their preparation and feels more than at home.

The training camps are not allways easy to set up, for the athletes come from different regions of Germany and much time is wasted for travelling. The weekends of preparation and the tournaments are often the only opportunity for the players to train together. Record National player and multiple World Champion Ivan Rupic: „Test matches are very important for our team for we are hardly able to train together and especially our doubles lack common experience in competition.

After the success at the last European Championships, where four out of seven possible Gold medals were brought home to Germany, the sympathetic team wants to get the best result possible in Australia. Besides Ivan Rupic there are



some other hopeful candidates in the men's team. Especially of the only 22-year old Jan-Erik Baron much is expected. The athletic lefthander is current German Champion in the singles and dreams of a title in Melbourne. Together with Thomas Bähr and Mark Mechau the fight for the title in the teams as well, where they have to expect the usual resistance of the strong Japanese.

For the women's team last year's Vice-European Champion Anke Nestler, Annette Hein and Sybille Franke are at the start. Nestler and Hein are current European Champions in the doubles, Franke was able to achieve a strong second rank in the singles of the same event.

Deaf's sports is still within the shadow of general sports; especially the fact, that it is an independent association and not part of the general handicapped sports is hardly known. Butterfly has been supporting the Deaf's National Team for a few years now and is proud of the many international successes of the team, which was honoured by the German Bundespräsident several times with the Silver Bay Leaf.

ITTF World 's Ranking lists men/women (12/2004)

1	WANG Hao CHN	1	ZHANG Yining CHN
2	WANG Liqin CHN	2	NIU Jianfeng CHN
3	MA Lin CHN	3	WANG Nan CHN
4	RYU Seung Min KOR	4	BOROS Tamara HRV
5	BOLL Timo GER	5	GUO Yan CHN
6	Chen Qi CHN	6	KIM Kyung Ah KOR
7	CHUAN Chih-Yuan TPE	7	GUO Yue CHN
8	SAMSONOV Vladimir BLR	8	LI Jia Wei SIN
9	SCHLAGER Werner AUT	9	TIE Yana HKG
10	KREANGA Kalinikos GRE	10	LAU Sui Fei HKG
11	KONG Linghui CHN	11	LI Ju CHN
12	SAIVE Jean-Michel BEL	12	CAO Zhen CHN
13	CHIANG Peng-Lung TPE	13	LIU Jia AUT
14	MAZE Michael DEN	14	LI Xiaoxia CHN
15	LIU Guozheng CHN	15	GAO Jun USA

(Butterfly-players are marked!)

Grand Finals: Five Medals for Butterfly

Gold in the doubles for Zhang Yining, Bronze and standing ovations for Timo Boll



Timo Boll

Beijing. Even the Table Tennis Nation No.1 suffers from the metropolitan syndrome at presentations of sports events. Surprisingly on none of the three days of the Final of the ITTF ProTour noted 240.000 Dollars the Beijing Sports Institute with 4.000 seats was sold out. Those, that came in spite of the numerous alternatives and the high admissions, didn't regret it. The stars of Butterfly had their large share of this. Five times - once more than in the year before in Guangzhou - the butterflies climbed the pedestal after great performances and collected once Gold, once Silver and three times Bronze. Yet this did not alter the dominance of the

host China: their athletes celebrated their personal end of year party in front of a home audience, were amongst themselves in all finals and won two times Bronze as well. The titles in the singles went to Wang Liqin, and for the first time to the sixteen year old Guo Yue.

Darling of the public at the showdown of the sixteen best single players and the eight most successful doubles of the Tour yet became Timo Boll. Germany's figurehead of Table Tennis was celebrated by the Chinese fans after the semi-final drama against Ma Lin same as the lucky winner. Standing ovations were given to World's No. 5 after a dramatic 12:14 in the crucial game, after he had withstood three match-balls of the penholder-player and wasted his own at 12:11. In the first game he led 5:2, missed out an easy point and unnecessarily fell back by 0:1, just to dominate the games two to four clearly. Boll: „A pity, this was finest Table Tennis by both of us. I can built on such a performance. Now I know I can beat the best Chinese if healthy and fit.“ In the round before the classic semi-final Boll hadn't given European Champion Vladimir Samsonov from White Russia the slightest chance and repeated his form of his titles at the German, Polish and Austrian Open.

Boll's Beijing gala provided the only Butterfly medal in the men's singles, but former Olympic Champion Kong Linghui (with Wang Hao) as well as the Olympic Third from Athens, Danish Michael Maze (with Finn Tugwell) added Silver and Bronze



Werner Schlager

to the loot. Europe Top-12 winner Maze offered spectacular sports in China as well. After a dramatic 4:3 against Austria's defence ace Chen Weixing the Danish-Open winner forced Ma Lin into the sixth game. Two thrillers of extra class were presented by World Champion Werner Schlager, who stayed without a medal, yet similar to Boll and Maze warmed the hearts of the audience in the cold hall by his presentation. After a Butterfly-internal 4:3 triumph in the remake of the WCC semi-final of 2003 against Kong Linghui the Austrian then lost to Wang Hao after leading 3:1. Wang Hao had before beaten Tamasu partner Kalinikos Kreanga. Schlager: „I haven't beaten him for quite a while now. He's unpleasant to play for me. Yet this time I had my chances.“

The women's singles was surprisingly not the show of Butterfly star Zhang Yining. The two-times Olympic Champion of Athens, World Cup winner and two times World Champion of Paris won Gold on the side of her predecessor Wang Nan in the doubles, but was beaten by her partner in the quarter final of the singles. By winning Bronze Liu Jia stepped in for the female Butterflies. The little sympathetic Austrian confirmed her third position in the ProTour year's ranking and, by entering the semi-final, set a clear mark of her so far most successful twelve month within her career, which had started most promising in February with rank three at the Europe Top 12 in Frankfurt. It was defending champion Niu Jianfeng, who was able to stop the march of Liu Jia, after she had beaten the Hong-Kong Chinese Zhang Rui and Lau Siu Fei. Niu Jianfeng was responsible for spoiling the ambitions of Croatian WCC-third Tamara Boros in the quarter-final.

Resume: The Grand Finals of the ITTF ProTour offered remarkable sports combined with pure drama. This is the result of the mostly strong performance of the Europeans. China's dominance does not reflect the balance of the matches. This goes for the men, where the Young Wild Timo Boll and Michael Maze as well as routines Werner Schlager and Kalinikos Kreanga stand for Europe's chances against Asia's aces. At the Women the strong performance of Liu Jia can't disguise the fact, that there's a large gap to the best Chinese female players. Breaking into the Asian phalanx can for a while now only truly be claimed by Tamara Boros. Liu Jia has made another large step in a good direction in Beijing.

Fact is: All of Europe's greatest hopes wear Butterfly.



New! The Butterfly tricots of our players in Athens.



Tricot global

A good idea for a present with an Olympic touch

Our new shirt was specially designed to set some of our top athletes in scene at the Olympics, for example Michael Maze, winner of the only medal for Europe. Now you have the unique opportunity to secure one of those much demanded pieces. The shirt is comfortable on your skin for its mixed functional fabric „Cotton feeling“ (55% polyester / 45% cotton) and its tight and fashionable cut.

The stand-up collar and the fine, light zipper are a welcome alternative to the common tricots and are an appetiser for our new generation of tricots.

Colours (sizes): black/red (XXS-XXL); red/black (XXS-XXXL); dark-blue/magenta (XXS-XXXL); magenta/dark blue (XXS-XL)

29,90 Euro



Toilet bag Laxford

Size: 25x15x6 cm (l/b/h)

Material: Denim 840

Details: many practical inner cases and safe compartments

8,40 Euro



Sport bag Laxford Maxi

Size: 80x40x38 cm (l/b/h)

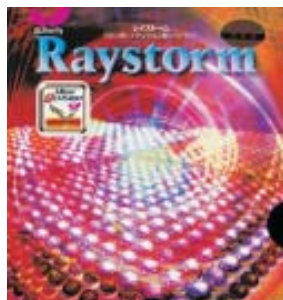
Material: Denim 840

Details: large inner case with optional partitioning, two outer pockets, stable rolls and foldaway handle

59,90 Euro

At well assorted distributors! 

Link www.butterfly-world.com



Raystorm

Playing style: direct attack
Speed: 9,75 Spin 7
Sponge: 1,7/1,9/2,1/max
Medium: ideal for speed-glueing
RAYSTORM offers a high degree of spin and control plus speed by BUTTERFLY „High-Tension“ Technology

38,90 Euro

Relop Attack

Playing style block, counter
Speed: 8,0, Spin: 4,0
Sponge Version b: 1,5/1,7/1,9/2,1/ox
mid-soft Ox (without sponge) speed
gluing possible speciality: the longest
short pimples

29,00 Euro



Challenger Attack

Playing style: offensive speed
9,5 spin: 6,5
Sponge: 1,5/1,7/1,9/2,1
Medium: ideal for speed gluing
Speciality tacky short pimples
with a fast sponge

30,40 Euro



Orthodox

Playing style: defence
speed 6,0 spin 4,25 sponge: none
medium: speed gluing not
recommended speciality: classical
pimple-in rubber for push of
defence, gives extremely high
feeling for the ball

15,40 Euro



Feint soft

Playing style: defence
Speed: 5,5 Spin: 3,5 sponge:
version b: 1,0/1,5/ox soft ox
(without sponge) medium: speed
gluing not recommended
Speciality: suitable for counter
and block as well

26,40 Euro



Feint-Long II

Playing style: defence, speed 6,25, spin 3,25, sponge:
version a (medium), version b (kawa/hard), version c
(ox, without sponge), speed gluing: not recommended
speciality: the longest and most dangerous pimples in our
assortment

31,90 Euro

Super Anti

Playing style: defensive
speed: 4,0 spin 3,0 sponge 1,5/2,0
soft medium: speed gluing not
recommended speciality: block,
counter and push without spin

24,90 Euro





Taisei Imamura (45) works for Butterfly since 1980. As service man he takes care of the Butterfly-contract-players worldwide and works intensively in the development of new products. Players consider him one of the best and experienced experts for materials. They trust his advice and – as every table tennis does – again and again ask the same question: „Which blade and which rubbers are best for my play? “. In conversation with „Butterfly News“ Taisei Imamura gives many tips, informations and ideas about „Shoes“

Butterfly's Olympic Champions count on RADIAL TB

Mr. Imamura, it is a tradition of the house of Butterfly to develop special Table Tennis shoes as well. Which philosophy is behind this?

The shoes are part of the three most important materials of the Table Tennis player: blade, rubbers and shoes. Anything else can be changed from day to day. Not these three materials.

Are Table Tennis players sensitive regarding shoes?

In any case. The players have very different opinions about a perfect Table Tennis shoe. Not only top players. Therefore it's not enough to offer just one or two Table Tennis shoes.

At the moment Butterfly has five different models of Table Tennis shoes and one Jogging shoe in the programme, more than any other equipment provider. Is this enough?

Worldwide we offer more than twenty models.

Legendary is the Butterfly RADIAL shoe with the green sole, which was available in Germany in the sixties.

This kind of Table Tennis shoe did not have a foot bed and was very thin, light and tacky. He was moulded vulcanised. Those kind of shoes had truly been in fashion. Other brands had those kind of shoes as well.

Those kind of Table Tennis shoes are yet not available anymore today, are they?

They are, but not in Europe. In Asia this kind of shoe is still the most important. This has to do with the fact that in Asia, especially in Japan, the floors are made of wooden parquet. On this kind of floor one does not need such a high damping as on harder sports floors.

Let's take a look at the shoes in the recent Butterfly catalogue. The new model RADIAL TB is the most expensive. Is it in the tradition of the old RADIAL shoes?

No, not at all. This is rather the case at the V7. Upper part and sole of the RADIAL TB are specially glued. The construction was with the newest knowledge of sports-shoe-research. The middle part of the sole has been equipped with a stabilizing connection element which takes care that the shoe can't tilt sideways. This function is included in the CROSSCOURT as well. The RADIAL TB is built wider in the front section of the foot, for it is successfully distributed on the Asian market as well, and Asians tend to have a wider front part of the foot as Europeans do. Yet we still have to

differ between South-Europeans, which normally have even slimmer front feet than North-Europeans.

Now which models are the slimmest?

We don't offer especially slim shoes at all, but the models CLASSIC, OPTIMO and CROSSCOURT are significantly slimmer and more suitable for European feet.

Are there other criterias for building Table Tennis shoes other than the form of the feet?

Of course, the playing style. In Asia a forehand dominant offensive style of playing is preferred. The backhand has to be avoided constantly. For this I need a special footwear. The shoes have to be very light and the edges of the front of the shoe have to be round to get a perfect pressure. The RADIAL TB and the V7 fulfil these criterias, where the V7 stands in the tradition of the RADIAL 808 und is significantly lighter than the RADIAL TB. As mentioned in the beginning the old RADIAL models did not have any damping system and so especially the top players that used it for centuries suffered knee problems. Therefore those kind of shoes can hardly be seen in the top section anymore.

The RADIAL TB is the top model in the Butterfly shoe technology. Is it specially made for the top players?

Of course we want perfect footwear for our top players. I do not give away any secrets if I mention that both Olympic Champions, Ryu Seung Min and Zhang Yining, but of course Timo Boll and many others as well, wear the RADIAL TB. But yet the CROSSCOURT should not be forgotten in these considerations, for it has the same stability system in the middle section. The sole is thicker in total and more compact, the cut is slimmer. A shoe

especially aimed for European needs and worn by a number of Butterfly contract players.

What about the models CLASSIC and OPTIMO?

Both shoes are very solid Table Tennis shoes fulfilling all demands of the game and yet a cheap alternative to our top models. The OPTIMO as well is the slimmest of the models in our assortment.

A word about the new jogging-shoe RADIAL RUN. For whom is this shoe suitable?

It's for Butterfly fans, that want to have a proper shoe for running once or twice a week besides their Table Tennis shoes. It's not thought for professional runners. This is the job of other companies. This one is for Butterfly fans.

Thank you very much, Mr. Imamura



Radial TB, the shoe for winners!

Dear Table Tennis friends,

In cooperation with the Federation of German Table Tennis Coaches (VDTT) Butterfly presents to you practical exercises for your play. Enjoy them!

Part 5 – Long, fast and a surprise!

Last time we have learned to control the length of the service. Short services are placed close to the net on the own half of table, long services bounce off close to the own baseline. While the short service has to be low in any case, the most important thing about a long service is the speed and the element of surprise. To avoid an early announcement the movement has to be similar to the one used for a short service as long as possible. It is in the last moment when the service player goes down deeper into his knees and closer to the baseline to give the ball a hard and fast kick with the wrist. It is important to keep the distance between the racket and the first bounce on the own side of the table as little as possible.

As an exercise we again need a rope, which is placed on the opponents side to control the length. Along the baseline on the far side there are plastic or paper cups lined up, which are to be hit off the table by a long service. In this exercise it's always two short services and then – with identical beginning of the service movement – one long and fast one.

Next month we will deal with the height of the short service



www.vdtt.de