

## Issue May of 2004

### Schedule

19.05 - 22.05.	<b>World Junior Circuit in Noumea/New Caledonia (NCL)</b>
21.05 - 23.05.	<b>International Junior Championships of Slovakia in Senek</b>
11.06. - 13. 06.	<b>RSC Cologne, „Tetra Open“ at the ACR- Sports centre</b>

○ ITTF Global Junior Programme

○ New partner: Borussia

○ World's Ranking List

○ Product of the month

○ Expert-talk:

○ And much more.....!

### Silver in singles and doubles

### Cologne's wheelchair-player Holger Nikelis becomes German Vice-Champion



After three victories at the German Championships Holger Nikelis this year had to hand over his title to his team-mate Walter Kilger from Bavaria. Everything had gone well for the wheelchair player from Cologne up to the final. Against Werner Knaak from Hamburg he had won in three clear games each 11:0. „I would have wondered if things had continued so smoothly after my injury“, Nikelis considered. The No.1 of the World's Ranking List (Competition-Class I) from Cologne had broken his ankle in February and was only able to start his season in April at the Irish Open, while all others had started in March in Hungary.

At the Irish Open the 26-year old had been able to defend his title. „But then I already had overburdened the injured hand“, Nikelis believes. So he was already defeated by World's No.2 Walter Kilger at the next tournament in the Netherlands. In the final of the German Championships the first two games went to Cologne (11:9 and 12:10), but then his opponent was able to take over more and more clearly (9:11, 7:11, 5:11).

Viewed in total the balance is in favour of Nikelis: 23 of 32 matches against Walter Kilger ended with a victory of the Cologne player. „Looking at the scores one can see how close the two of us are together“, the new German Vice-Champion is aware.

For Nikelis it's now time to step back for a while: „According to the doctor's recommendation I can stress my hand fully first in June.“ The he and his RSC Cologne will be host of fist „Tetra Open“ in the ACR Sports Centre from the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup> of June. Raised by the International Paralympics Committee the tournament counts for the World's Ranking List of players of the Competition Classes I and II (men and women). 80 players from 15 nations have already announced their participation, amongst them nine of the top-ten players of the World. Therefore Cologne will be a little preview of the Paralympics in September in Athens – of course with Nikelis at the start.

**[www.butterfly-world.com](http://www.butterfly-world.com)**

„We want to give young player all over the world chance and courage to become World Champion“, Yuki Kamizuru describes the company's philosophy.



## ITTF Global Junior Programme

Butterfly in duty of tomorrow's stars

Butterfly and the promotion of young players have always been a very fruitful combination. In Europe the most spectacular example of Butterfly's important long term tradition of promoting talents is Timo Boll. The German star was supported on his expected way to the absolute World's top from 1992 on, when he was aged eleven.

The engagement of Butterfly at the Global Junior Programme (GJP) as official „ball provider“ is the logic consequence of the company's philosophy. The initiative started 2002 and is a welcome platform for promising talents to gather experience for their further career at a high international level.

„We want to give young players all over the World the chance and courage to become World Champion. This is the goal children and teenagers set themselves when starting Table Tennis. By the GJP they don't have to wait till they're seniors and the motivation is higher“, General Manager Yuki Kamizuru of Tamasu Butterfly Europe explains the very positive attitude of the leading brand towards the GJP.

Almost any ideally participation of companies on large projects goes together with business goals. Kamizuru does not conceal this: „We want the young and promising players to be identified with our brand at an early age, and that they identify themselves with Butterfly as well.“

„Very positive“ is Kamizuru's judgement of the progression of the GJP towards a quite extensive series of events since it's start two years ago. „By the initiative of the ITTF many small Table Tennis countries as well organize tournaments of the World Junior Circuit. In the long run more kids join our sports. The average level of play some remarkable results of the recent World Junior Championships in December 2003 in Chile's capitol Santiago: „A Canadian won Bronze and a Japanese double even the Gold medal“.

The notably high acceptance of youngster-considered as even more important by take the Junior WCC serious and send their best teams.“



tournaments throughout the World is Kamizuru. „All National Federations

In the Olympic year of 2004 „tomorrow's stars“ can't await the autumn, when the highlight of the GJP is scheduled. End of October the final tournament of the World Junior Circuit as well as the World Cadet Challenge are held in Funchal on the Portuguese Atlantic island of Madeira. One month later in Butterfly's home country the World Junior Championships are held.

Butterfly's assignment yet is not limited to ITTF-projects, which the so called World Junior Elite Camps, held just before the tournaments of the World Junior Circuit, or the International Conference of Coaches belong to. At least as important for the „Butterflies“ is the local schooling of talents. For this reason Butterfly and Mario Amizic, one of the World's most successful club coaches of all times, have developed an extensive sighting- and schooling programme for youngsters.

As often in many fields the GJP is not as good, that no further improvements would be possible. Kamizuru would welcome support for less wealthy National committees to send their participants especially to the WCC-tournament. „The ITTF should support the development countries in form of travel funds.“

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## Butterfly and Borussia Düsseldorf: Pioneers for the Table Tennis sports

Butterfly and Borussia Düsseldorf – in the Table Tennis scene this future partnership between the World's leading brand and the prestigious German club still provides much talk. An in fact does this – casually spoken – „elephant wedding“ open new perspectives to both sides. The message itself, which Yuki Kamizuru combines with this cooperation, triggers one's fantasy: „The most professional Table Tennis club cooperates with the most professional Table Tennis brand“, the General Manager of Tamasu Butterfly Europe explains the philosophy.

The stadium of brainstorming was left behind during the negotiations for this contract lasting till 2009. Now the planning for the common activities is in work. The most spectacular project is going to be the common performances of the German Record Champion in Japan, the home country of the „Butterflies“. „This sport model with the young Japanese talents in Düsseldorf, which was set up by our former coach Mario Amizic, now Japan's coach, and the new options, offer the possibility to realize some visions. One of them would be a Bundesliga match in Japan or a promotion tour through the country“, Düsseldorf's coach and manager Andreas Preuß explains.

According to Kamizuru a presentation of the club of international repute in his own country with the „Butterfly“ on their shirts is „our wish as well. An internal company team will work out a concept“. Possible are other variations. A growing interest in general and especially of the Japanese community in Germany with its heart in Düsseldorf, will put forward many opportunities in terms of merchandising, television presence and sponsorships.

Regarding marketing Düsseldorf might become for the Asian market what Manchester United is in soccer, Kamizuru stays reserved: „I don't know if such an effect will occur. In any case we want to do our share to bring Borussia's popularity in Japan to its maximum.“ The TBE-chief is more optimistic about the chances for a TV-coverage of Düsseldorf matches in Japan, where the development of Ryusuke Sakamoto, new in Düsseldorf, is viewed with much interest. „Depending on the success of the Japanese players it's likely that the TV-channels in Japan will report more about Düsseldorf.“

And finally Butterfly can offer support to its new partner in the field of sponsors. Kamizuru: „We are willing to utilize the organisation and the contacts of the house of Butterfly for this.“ In summary Butterfly and Borussia seem to be partners made for each other. Butterfly will profit of the titles of the World's most successful Table Tennis club with its absolute positive image as well as Düsseldorf by Butterfly's Know-How on other fields. „B & B“ almost seem as pioneers, which can thread new paths for the Table Tennis sports in many terms.

# Products of the month

At well-assorted dealers!



Link [www.butterfly-world.com](http://www.butterfly-world.com)

## Winter jacket Rabbit

Sizes S – XXL

Warm, water proofed outdoor-jacket of 100 % polyester (PU coated). Sleeves with elastic cuffs with hook and loop fastener to adjust the width. Four outer and one inner pocket, each with zipper. Hood stored in collar.

Colour: anthracite / light blue

**89,90 Euro**



## Short New Basic

Sizes xxs – xxxl

Colours: black, blue

Material: Technical micro 100 % polyester (Toray)

**24,90 Euro**



## Short New Lady Basic

Sizes xxs – xxxl

Colours: black, blue

Material: Technical micro 100 % polyester (Toray)

**24,90 Euro**



## Sweat-Shirt

„Global Junior Programme“

Sizes: s - xxxl,

Material: 80% cotton, 20% polyester

Colour: gray-melange

**44,99 Euro**



## Windbreaker Rain

Sizes S – XXL, wind- and waterproofed jacket made of 100 % polyester (PU coated). Sleeve with elastic cuffs. Two outer pockets with zipper. Hood stored in collar.

Colour: marine / royal / white

**44,90 Euro**

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(Butterfly-players are marked by colour!)



## The new World's Ranking List!

1	<b>ZHANG Yining CHN</b>	16	JIANG Huajun CHN
2	WANG Nan CHN	17	LI Jia Wei SIN
3	NIU Jianfeng CHN	18	<b>TOTH Krisztina HUN</b>
4	GUO Yan CHN	19	ZHANG Rui HKG
5	GUO Yue CHN	20	SONG Ah Sim HKG
6	<b>KIM Kyung Ah KOR</b>	21	<b>LIU Jia AUT</b>
7	TIE Yana HKG	22	<b>GAO Jun USA</b>
8	LI Ju CHN	23	<b>KIM Hyon Hui PRK</b>
9	<b>BOROS Tamara HRV</b>	24	LI Jia CHN
10	LI Nan CHN	25	FUKUHARA Ai JPN
11	<b>UMEMURA Aya JPN</b>	26	<b>STRUSE Nicole GER</b>
12	LIN Ling CHN	27	SCHÖPP Jie GER
13	LAU Sui Fei HKG	28	WANG Chen CHN
14	FAN Ying CHN	29	CAO Zhen CHN
15	STEFF Mihaela ROU	30	BAI Yang CHN

## ITTF World's Ranking List men (Extract May 2004)

(Butterfly-players are marked by colour!)

1	MA Lin CHN	16	<b>OH Sang Eun KOR</b>
2	WANG Liqin CHN	17	SAIVE Jean-Michel BEL
3	WANG Hao CHN	18	SMIRNOV Alexei RUS
4	CHUAN Chih-Yuan TPE	19	QIU Yike CHN
5	Chen Qi CHN	20	<b>Kim Taek Soo KOR</b>
6	SAMSONOV Vladimir BLR	21	PERSSEN Jorgen SWE
7	<b>BOLL Timo GER</b>	22	CHEN Weixing AUT
8	<b>SCHLAGER Werner AUT</b>	23	<b>KORBEL Petr CZE</b>
9	<b>RYU Seung Min KOR</b>	24	<b>PRIMORAC Zoran CRO</b>
10	<b>KREANGA Kalinikos GRE</b>	25	<b>MAZE Michael DEN</b>
11	<b>KONG Linghui CHN</b>	26	KARLSSON Peter SWE
12	LIU Guozheng CHN	27	WALDNER Jan-Ove SWE
13	HAO Shuai CHN	28	ROSSKOPF Jörg GER
14	<b>CHIANG Peng-Lung TPE</b>	29	BLASZCZYK Lucjan POL
15	<b>JOO Se Hyuk KOR</b>	30	MA Wenge CHN

The material of our players



Name:	Blade:	Forehand	Backhand
BOLL, Timo	Boll spirit straight	Sriver L max red	Sriver L max black
SCHLAGER, Werner	Schlager Carbon flare.	Bryce 2,1 red	Bryce 2,1 black
KREANGA, Kalinkos	Primorac Carbon straight	Bryce 2,1 red	Bryce 2,1 black
KONG, Linghui	Kong Linghui Spez. anat.		Bryce 2,1 black
CHIANG, Peng-Lung	Chiang Peng-Lung (Penh.)	Bryce 2,1 red	
OH, Sang Eun	Special edition	Sriver L max red	Sriver L max black
KORBEL, Petr	P.Korbel flare	Sriver L max red	Sriver L max black
MAZE, Michael	Maze straight	Bryce 2,1 red	Sriver EL max black
PRIMORAC, Zoran	Primorac Carbon flare.	Sriver EL max red	Sriver EL max black
KEEN, Tranko	Jonyer Hinoki anatomic	Ekrips max sch	Bryce 2,1 red
MAZUNOV, Dimitri	A.Mazunov straight	Sriver EL max red	Bryce 2,1 black
LEGOUT, Christophe	Boll Spirit flare	Bryce 2,1 red	Bryce 2,1 black
MATSUSHITA, Koji	Matsushita Pro	Tackifire D 1,9 bl.	Feint Long II Kawa 0,5 red
HIELSCHER, Lars	L.Hielscher flare	Bryce 2,1 red	Bryce 2,1 black
STEGE, Bastian B.	Steger anatomic	Bryce 2,1 red	Bryce 2,1 black
TSIOKAS, Ntaniel	Matsushita Pro	Tackifire Spec. 1,9 red	Feint Long II 1,3 black
SCHLICHTER, Jörg	Boll Spirit flare	Bryce 2,1 black	Bryce 2,1 red
YOO, Seung Min	KimTaek Soo (Penh.)	Bryce 2,1 red	
JOO, Se Hyuk	Diode straight	Tackifire D 1,9 red	Feint Long II 1,3 black
ZHANG, Yining Zhang	Yining flare	Tackifire C max red	Sriver EL max black
KIM, Kyung Ah	Diode straight	Tackifire D 1,7 red	Feint long II 1,3 black
BOROS, Tamara	Viscaria flare	Bryce 2,1 red	Bryce 2,1 black
UMEMURA, Aya	Umemura conic	Ekrips Soft 2,1 red	Ekrips Soft 2,1 black
TOTH, Kiszttina	Special edition	Sriver EL max. black	Sriver EL max red
LIU, Jia	Boll Spirit flare	Bryce 2,1 red	Bryce 2,1 black
GAO, Jun	Matsushita Pro	Challenger Attack	-(Penholder)
KIM, Hyon Hui	Defence straight	Sriver L 2,1 red	Feint long II 1,3 black
STRUSE, Nicole	Power Drive flare	Sriver EL 2,1 red	Sriver EL 2,1 black
BADESCU, Otilia	SK 7 flare	Speedy P.O. 2.1 black	Challenger
BATORFI, Csilla	Special edition	Sriver FX 2,1 red	Sriver FX 2,1 black

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In the new expert talk provided by Butterfly exclusively for it's Newsletter-subscribers we will discuss many different issues with Mario Amizic: Training and competition, development and culture of playing, tactics and psychology, technique and fitness. Of course we would appreciate your questions to Mario. Mail them to us under the label "Mario Amizic". We will then try to consider your questions in one of the upcoming talks.

## Defenders are an enrichment for Table Tennis!

*With the South-Korean Butterfly-contract player Joo Se Hyuk the last World Singles Championships in Paris had their great sensation. Though Joo was no foreigner he still was ranked at a humble position 40 to 50 and is not one of the youngest at the age of 26. But this was not the sensation of Paris. Extraordinary was and is rather the fact, that Joo is of the exotic species of „defender“. How do you judge Joo's success and which perspectives do you offer the defence play in the future?*

On the one side the result of Joo in Paris was a surprise. Then again it wasn't. There are fewer and fewer defence players at top level. The young generation of players reaching the top one day will have problems with defenders over and over again. The reason lies in the fact that in daily training and even at international tournaments they seldom, sometimes not at all, have the opportunity to play against defence systems.

*Was this different in the past?*

I don't want to look back too long, but in the seventies there were far more defenders than today. But then the topspin play improved quickly and with it the material: rubbers and blades became faster and faster. Gluing came up at the end of the seventies. This led to a decrease of defenders and they became rare in the middle of the eighties. Those left over were high class specialists. I'm thinking of Chen Xinhua or Wang Hao, later Koji Matsushita, Ding Song and Mathew Syed. All of them exceptional players. And therefore surprises like in Paris will be possible in five years time as well, providing there are defenders of top level.

*Let's stick to the example of Joo. Will he have another chance of becoming World Champion?*

I doubt it, for all nations will have watched him in detail and scrutinized his play; their players will be prepared. (After the WCC Joo hasn't won a major title – Remark of the Editor)

*But then does it make sense to school defenders? If asked would you recommend such a system to a young talented player with a clear feeling and disposition towards defence?*

Not an easy question! On the one hand it's clear: Does a player show a passive tendency in the game – he likes pushing, draws back and does not like to take over the aggressive part, rather waits – then of course I would recommend such a system. On the other hand it's a question of level. If I have a player of defence affinity at school-level or maybe lower or medium level of skill, then I would say: Okay, let him play the game he enjoys. But if you work with players aiming for international level you have to think twice. In spite of the surprise effect today's defence has a tough standing against the athletic offence play with perfect materials. Only returning the ball in a passive manner is clearly not enough. Joo has proved this, for of course he has defended excellently, but his victories were achieved by his aggressive counter spins. If you compare his aggressiveness with Matsushita – it's a different world. Passive defence systems don't have a chance on top level, aggressive ones more.

**One of the World's  
best defenders:  
Joo Se Hyuk**



*Is a defender in the World's Top-10 still possible?*

**In any case. Let me remind you of Ding Song, who was the last one in this region for a longer period of time. But let me say: these are special players! It's extraordinary to play such a system in this manner: Safe in the distance, aggressive close to the table, good overview and in control of two different materials. Much respect for this. The modern defence is much more complicated than the offence play. Pimple outwards, short or long, sandwich and twisting the blade, all this is extremely complicated. The defender has to be athletic, take over the initiative in the right moment and safe in distance. He has to be able to attack from both sides. A true all-rounder with the right answer in any situation. Such players are an enrichment for Table Tennis and the spectators.**

*What can an offensive player do against a defender?*

**This is a question of practice. In clubs with one or the other defender the offence player normally are better capable of playing against defence, other than in clubs without ones. In China or Korea there are defenders in any training group, in Europe not anymore. Therefore the Europeans have more problems against defence than the Asians do.**

*What's the reason for defenders being so rare in Europe?*

**I can only speculate. Maybe the coaches don't want this, maybe the children don't want this. It's of course a question of role models as well. All kids in Germany want to play like Timo Boll. This goes for Sweden, France and anywhere else in Europe. There is no defensive role model in Europe!**

*Still a defence play is likely to be successful on lower or medium level regarding Joo's surprise effect.*

**That's true. But the higher the players get the more difficult it becomes and then training once or twice a week becomes not enough for a proper defence play.**

*Finally an aesthetic question about defence. Especially the final of Paris between Joo and the later winner Werner Schlager has exalted the audience. How have you experienced the final?*

**This final was truly a dream for the spectators, for both actors fit to each other and were able to play each other. There were long and spectacular rallies. But meetings of defence and offence can end in a catastrophe, if one of them does not understand the play and gets declassified.**

*Thank you very much, Mr.Amizic.*