

Butterfly®

August 2005

NEWS

Butterfly and Table Tennis World moan for Andrzej Grubba

With Andrzej Grubba the Table Tennis sports loses one of the greatest players of the past twenty years. His name was strongly connected with the rise of the TTC Zugbrücke Grenzau from a small-town-club to the World's elite. More about this in an obituary on page 6.



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Table Tennis euphoria in Bremen

Sascha Greber, head of the team of Bundesliga newcomer Werder Bremen in talk with Butterfly News:



Photo from the left: Marketing Wolfgang Froese, Coach Cristian Tamas, Allan Bentsen, Constantin Cioti, Magnus Molin, Mads Sörensen, Hong Yang und team-leader Sascha Greber

We are pleased to welcome you in our Butterfly family as a partner. Your team has been in the 2. League for 17 years. Now you had only little time to set up a team for the first league. How did you manage?

Because of the to and fro with Plüderhausen we had only 4 weeks for planning. I think we have made the best out of it. The Danish European Team Champion Allan Bentsen had already been contracted before the ECC. He would have played second league as well. Left from the old team are Mads Sörensen, Frank Sternal and former U-21 World Champion Hong Yang; yet all three of them are only for position four. We are proud to have contracted two Bundesliga-experienced players, Constantin Cioti, Rumania's No.2 from TTF Ochsenhausen, and Magnus Molin, Swedish National Player. They not only fit into the team in terms of sport, but socially as well.

Schedule

8th of September to 11th of September 2005

Pro Tour: Panasonic China Open

18th of September to 22nd of September 2005

Pro Tour: Volkswagen Open in China

22th of September to 25th of September 2005

Pro Tour: Japan Open in Yokohama

23rd of October to 28th of October 2005

Men's World Cup in Liege (BEL)



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What are the goals of Werder Bremen?

The first years will be a tough struggle to stay in the league. But we are very optimistic, that we can collect the necessary points with our euphoric audience backing us up. In the long prospect we want to play a stronger role in the league, especially when talking about Play-Offs. With our engaged Cristian Tamas we were able to win not only a coach for the professionals, but someone, who wants to move things with young players from Bremen as well. At the moment the team only trains together in the week before the matches, but we want to hurry to set up a good training group in Bremen as quickly as possible.

How great is the public interest?

There is a Table Tennis euphoria in and around Bremen. The people are electrified and look ahead to the seasons start. The sales of season's tickets exceeded our best expectations. For many, many years first league Table Tennis is offered again in Bremen. From the whole North of Germany, for example Hanover, Hamburg or even Osnabrück requests come in. We have moved from the Werder hall to the University hall, which homes the maximum of 1400 spectators. There we not only want to offer spectacular Table Tennis, but a proper surrounding as well, for example autograph sessions with the soccer stars and further Table Tennis activities.

A TV-team has already filmed your team in the Werder stadium. How is the media interest in general?

After soccer Table Tennis is clearly No.2 in Bremen. The TV-team from Radio Bremen wants to cover every home match. The NDR will show clips in their sport shows. The Weserkurier, the only daily paper in Bremen, has widely announced our Bundesliga-sextet and will publish pre- and reviews of all matches. We have the great advantage, that Werder Bremen has a worldwide popularity due to soccer, which we can utilize for Table Tennis as well. We have a very good relationship to the leaders of the main club. For this during the soccer matches in front of 40.000 spectators Table Tennis will be announced: „Butterfly presents the Table Tennis Bundesliga“ will light up in large letters!

Thank you for this interview.



The newcomer in the first league is good for any fun – here in the soccer stadium of Werder Bremen.

Great offer for Bangkok travellers

Who has not experienced this: one packs up for the next holiday and of course the Table Tennis racket shouldn't be left out. Arrived on site the next question is, where to play „just for fun“? Who travels to Thailand in the future, can be helped. Mr. Tiruk Sanguansin, head of the Butterfly Table Tennis Centre in Bangkok, offers all travellers to swing the racket in the hall of the „Butterfly Table Tennis Dohjo Bangkok“ during their stay. Either in company or alone. In this case it is possible to even use a Table Tennis robot. One premise: one has to play with Butterfly materials (blade, rubbers, clothing). Infos: sbty@ksc.th.com

DTTB honourable President Hans-Wilhelm Gäb becomes new chairman of the German Sports Aid Foundation.

The board of directors of the German Sports Aid Foundation has in unison elected DTTB honourable President as the new chairman on their meeting on the 30th of July 2005, after the predecessor Hans-Ludwig Grüşchow has receded the day before. Deputy chairmen are still NOK-President Dr. Klaus Steinbach, DSB-Vice-President Ulrich Feldhoff and the Munich Architect and Engineer Bernd Rauch. DTTB honourable President Hans-Wilhelm Gäb (69), former head of the supervisory board of the Adam Opel AG, has been deputy chairman of the foundation in the beginning of the nineties. Gäb accepted the election under the condition, that he and his colleagues can put the task into younger hands after the period in 2006.

Champions League: king's class without the German Champion

The European Table Tennis Champions league of the Men will be finally held without the current German Champion in 2005/2006. The European Table Tennis Union (ETTU) ultimately dismissed the last application of Müller Würzburger Hofbräu to start as an additional 17th team in the king's class.

ITTF World 's Ranking lists, mens (08/2005)

1	WANG Liqin CHN	16	SAIVE Jean-Michel BEL
2	MA Lin CHN	17	LIU Guozheng CHN
3	BOLL Timo GER	18	SMIRNOV Alexei RUS
4	WANG Hao CHN	19	KORBEL Petr CZE
5	SAMSONOV Vladimir BLR	20	KARLSSON Peter SWE
6	OH Sang Eun KOR	21	LEUNG Chu Yan HKG
7	Chen Qi CHN	22	HAO Shuai CHN
8	RYU Seung Min KOR	23	WALDNER Jan-Ove SWE
9	KREANGA Kalinikos GRE	24	KO Lai Chak HKG
10	CHEN Weixing AUT	25	CHIANG Peng-Lung TPE
11	KONG Linghui CHN	26	PRIMORAC Zoran CRO
12	CHUAN Chih-Yuan TPE	27	BLASZCZYK Lucjan POL
12	SCHLAGER Werner AUT	28	JOO Se Hyuk KOR
14	CRISAN Adrian ROU	29	KEEN Trinko NED
15	MAZE Michael DEN	30	ROSSKOPF Jörg GER

ITTF World 's Ranking lists, women (08/2005)

1	ZHANG Yining CHN	16	SONG Ah Sim HKG
2	NIU Jianfeng CHN	17	ZHANG Rui HKG
3	WANG Nan CHN	18	Li Jiao NED
4	Li Jia Wei SIN	19	STEFF Mihaela ROU
5	GUO Yue CHN	20	TOTH Krisztina HUN
6	GUO Yan CHN	20	LI Xiaoxia CHN
7	TIE Yana HKG	22	FAN Ying CHN
8	KIM Kyung Ah KOR	23	KIM Hyang Mi PRK
9	BOROS Tamara HRV	24	WANG Yue Gu SIN
10	GAO Jun USA	25	FUKUHARAAi JAP
11	LIU Jia AUT	26	MOON Hyun Jung KOR
12	PAVLOVICH Viktoria BLR	27	LI Nan CHN
13	LAU Sui Fei HKG	28	SUN Bei Bei SIN
14	CAO Zhen CHN	29	BAI Yang CHN
15	LIN Ling HKG	30	KIM Hyon Hui PRK

(Butterfly-players are marked!)

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40 mm *** Ball

ITTF approved
Colour: white or orange
Quantity: 3 or 72 pieces
Details: premium Class Ball, perfectly round, ideal hardness and exact weight.
Hand selected

72 pieces, 74,90 Euro

3 pieces, 3,40 Euro



Fun-Ball XXL

Size: 44 mm
Packs of two
1,90 Euro



Trainingsball „Youth“

Colour: white and orange
Quantity: 144 pieces
Details: extremely stable training ball with out compromises

144 pieces, 33,90 Euro

6 pieces, 1,60 Euro



Butterfly Ball Backpack

Size: 22,5 x 22,5 x 40mm

Details:

The Ball Backpack is suitable for more than 200 balls. It can be placed directly on the table for many-balls training.

7,90 Euro



Ball Box Triangel

Colours: blue, red, silver

Details: hard ball box for 3 balls

4,90 Euro



Butterfly Ball Safe

Details: constructed of hard plastic the Ball Safe offers space for 6 balls. Can be used as a roll for gluing.

2,40 Euro



Amigo Ball Collector

Details: uncomplicated ball collector (16x 28 cm) with telescopic handle (61 to 106 mm) for an affordable price.

19,90 Euro

 **Butterfly**
NEWS®

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In memoriam Andrzej Grubba: the best die young

The final goodbye is always painful for the surviving dependants. United in this helpless pain was the Table Tennis World in the days after the 21st of July, when Andrzej Grubba passed away after a long disease at the age of 47.



A „breach“ left behind by the Polish idol is more than a vocabulary to describe a loss of human beings for family and friends. In the past months Andrzej Grubba has set his marks as an official as well in his home country and abroad, after more than 20 years in the World's top as player and coach. These marks won't be swept away that soon, though they won't last forever.

How can this true Table Tennis can be forgotten: Three medals at World Championships, one ECC-title (1982 with the Dutch Bettine Vriesekoop in the mixed doubles) and eleven times a pedestal place at European Championships, one World Cup triumph in 1988, one victory at the Europe Top-12, twelve Singles-titles in Poland and many other international successes document the class of the „Polish violin“, as the ITTF publication „Table Tennis Legends“ considered him for his virtuous play.

The valuation for Andrzej Grubba around the globe is rather based on his personality, which can be considered one of the greatest in Table Tennis. Andrzej Grubba was fair, honest and genuine, and with all his cheerfulness and optimism yet still serious and profound; shortly: a sportsman and role model par excellence. In spite of his healthy ambitions to continuously reach new success and to exceed his own borders, Grubba always stood for the „Gentleman“- at the Table as well as outside of the box.

The deep affection and adoration of fans throughout the World and of people in his direct environment was worked for literally by Andrzej Grubba, adequate to his nature. To simply play off given programmes was not his. Tasks taken by the family man were fulfilled completely. Grubba gave 100 % throughout his career and the base for his standing as public darling and carrier of all sympathies was the fact, that this could be felt by everyone.

In the memories of his beloved ones Andrzej Grubba lives on – and therefore is not dead. Immortal will his memory in Table Tennis stay. For a long time the values, which Andrzej Grubba lived for more than twenty years, will be essential in our great sports. One comfort, yet insufficient, is the fact, that Andrzej Grubba will be alive, where and when ever any player in any hall in this world will change his racket from one to the other hand for fun. This was the trick, which Andrzej Grubba perfected to inspire thousands of Table Tennis fans.

Andrzej Grubba's family mourns for father and husband, the Table Tennis World for one of its greatest, and Butterfly for one of its truest friends and partners. The best die young – but the legend lives.

His last public act at the ceremony of the Polish Open 2004, men's single – here with the President of the Polish Federation Dachowski.



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 – Returns of semi-length

The exercise to train returns of semi-length is similar than the one for services.

Returns of semi-length prevent the opponent from playing another short ball and to utilize wide angles. And it's hard to attack with pressure on a well played semi-long ball, for the edge of the Table is close to the point where the ball should be hit.

Returns of semi-length only make sense on short or semi-long services, for long services should be attacked immediately.

At this exercise we take a barrier as a tool.

While the partner (not visible) stands in the backhand-corner and plays variable services, the return player has the task to play his returns, so that they either bounce for the second time close to the end-line or to fall in the gap between barrier and table. Long services, brought in once in a while, should be played with a topspin. Again the returns should be initiated with a lunge out of a proper ready position.

Next month is about aggressive, long returns





**His club coach made him a coach:
„... actually I wanted to continue playing“**

Mr. Hampl, you are surely one of the most successful German Coaches, if not the most successful. You are considered discoverer of Jörg Roßkopf and Timo Boll. Many other German Top players have gone through your schooling. Recently you have sensationally won the Champions League with the TTV Gönnern against the Belgium favourite Royal Vilette Charleroi. Table Tennis is your life. How did it come to this?

Up to the age of 28 I played 1.Bundesliga myself. At the TTC Mörfelden I had a coach, which was Sports Director of the Hessian Table Tennis Federation at the same time. And at the same time the federation was looking for a head coach. He motivated me to make the Coaches A-Level, but I wanted to continue playing. For a joke I asked him, if he wanted to get rid of me. He said no, for he had actually meant, I had the capabilities to become a good coach. So I made the coaching

Without doubt: Helmut Hampl is one of the greatest in the branch. He turned his hobby into his profession at the age of 28. Outstanding success, which was not possible for him as a player in the Bundesliga, happened to him as a coach. In Germany the now 52-years old was elected Coach of the Year in 1997 and 2002 by the Members of the Federation of German Table Tennis Coaches (VDTT). And if measured objectively he might have won the election even more often. He is not only discoverer and supporter of Jörg Roßkopf and Timo Boll, the two greatest Table Tennis players since the era of Eberhard Schöler. For 25 years he now is Head Coach of the Hessian Table Tennis Federation and together with his coaches team has developed and improved a system of sighting and promotion, which can be considered most successful in Germany. The model of the TTV RE-BAU Gönnern as well is unique in the country, for it is based on the initial idea of the cooperation of the Hessian Federation with a Hessian club to play 1.Bundesliga with as many Hessian players as possible to prevent them from leaving to other federations. One of them was and is Timo Boll. Not only he has profited from this model, but the club as well, which has sensationally won the European Champions League.

In this series of interviews Helmut Hampl, advisor for Butterfly since 1997, will give a deeper insight into his life in Table Tennis.

diploma and now I'm Coach for the HTTV for 25 years. On the 1st of January I had my anniversary.

So with 28 you abruptly terminated your career as a player to become coach?

First the HTTV set up the model „FTG Frankfurt“, where I was supposed to lead young talents as playing coach. There were Jörg Roßkopf, Thomas Roßkopf, Hans-Jürgen Fischer, Jörg Windirsch, Torsten Kirchherr. We have managed this for two years and got promoted into the 1.Bundesliga, but we couldn't play there for the financial base wasn't given. We grew faster in terms of sports than in terms of business. This ended the project. Jörg Roßkopf was 16 at the time and needed to play 1.Bundesliga. In spite of his contract with the FTG he was released to go to Düsseldorf.

Mr. Hampl, you are considered a talent discoverer. The Federation of German Table Tennis Coaches has made you Coach of the Year for this. You named some well known German players, which went through the Hessian promotion system. The

Hessian Timo Boll is another one. Why does Hessian bring out that many good players?

Of course it's a little luck. But it's a fact, that from the beginning on we have put an emphasis on our sighting system. Until today we constantly work to improve it. And in the future we still will do anything to optimize it. All our top players went through this system. Besides we have outstanding training possibilities in our training base in Frankfurt, which at the same time is federal- and Olympic base as well. We can train every day. And – as far as I know – we are the only federation, which offers basic-, top- and professional training together in one base.

At which age do talents start with you?

It depends – sometimes at eight, sometimes at nine or ten years.

Is a follower for Timo Boll in sight?

We have a very talented B-cadet, Patrick Franziska, who already is No.11 in Europe.

Besides your engagement as Hessian head coach you have been head coach of the TTV RE-BAU Gönnern as well. How can these two jobs be combined?

Twelve, thirteen years ago there was the situation, that there was no 1.Bundesliga club in Hessian at the men. The young top players left the federation latest when becoming senior. The leadership of the federation ordered me to look for a club willing to cooperate with the federation to play Bundesliga in the long run. By chance I met Torsten Märte, which club Gönnern played third league. Mr. Märte has already been well known for his management qualities at that time. So we set together and decided to test this model. The philosophy was to play with as many

Hessian players as possible. In the first year we got promoted to 2.Bundesliga. At the same time Timo Boll was contracted at the age of 13. He started on position 5 and we got promoted into the 1.Bundesliga. Timo became European Cadet Champion in this year and we decided to put him on position 4 at the age of 14. For this we have contracted Hans-Jürgen Fischer, an „old“ Hessian talent on three and Dany Heister and Xu Zengcai for the top two.

You said Timo was aged 14. He had to go to school, hadn't he? And his hometown Höchst in the Odenwald is almost 200 kilometres away from Gönnern. How did you solve this problem?

Timo had to go to school for another two years till his 16th birthday and for this we transferred the complete Bundesliga-training to Timo's hometown Höchst. We wanted to give him the option of training as professionally as possible at the age of 14, without neglecting his educational duties. It worked out best. We trained twice a day. The school was very cooperative regarding schedule and days off. It was fruitful. In the first year we were underdog No.1 in the 1.Bundesliga and finally made a sensational 6th rank. By the way, this was the season with twelve teams and four teams going down, for the league was reduced to ten in the year after. From that time on it was constantly going up. The next year we already became German Cup Winner.