



# Butterfly®

## June 2006

### NEWS

Our own affairs:

#### We promote Table tennis

It is our philosophy to support table tennis in all areas. It is only natural that we sponsor big events like the World Championships 1997 in Manchester or the ITTF Pro Tour Grand Finals 2000 in Sydney as well as school sports, sports for everybody and talent projects. We know very well that a popular top sport needs a broad basis. We look after clubs, teams, associations and national teams. It is and has always been of great importance to us to promote young talented players. Timo Boll and Michael Maze, the most talented players in Europe, have always profited from us. At the same time we helped many young players who didn't win the European Championships. We will still improve and extend our promotion system. Mario Amizic, the most successful club coach in the world, who collected more trophies with Borussia Düsseldorf since 1986 than anybody else, is now a member of our team. He is our new sporting director and a table tennis expert par excellence. Mario will be in charge of the BUTTERFLY promotion system and will make it even more effective and attractive for young ambitious players. Mario will put new emphasis on the professional promotion of talents in close teamwork with other well-known coaches like Helmut Hampl, Dirk Huber, Stéphane Michel, to name only the most famous ones. Our numerous world-class players will also help us to develop and improve new products. They will play in tough competitions, help our youngsters and promote our sport. They will all do their best, so that BUTTERFLY can give you the best. Living Table Tennis - this is not an empty slogan for us. This is our philosophy, but not only ours. We know very well that many BUTTERFLY fans not only play table tennis but live table tennis: all around the world, having a lot of fun.

**LIVING TABLE TENNIS. LIVING BUTTERFLY.**

We are prepared to do everything for it.

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

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Kalinikos Kreanga

**My backhand is very natural**

Kalinikos Kreanga, for years you have belonged to the best players in the world. Your very aggressive backhand loop, which nobody else plays so hard, is feared by everyone. How did you manage to reach top level? When did you start with table tennis?

**I started to play table tennis very early, when I was seven years old. I trained very quickly and a lot under professional conditions. So I improved more and more automatically. I was surprised about my development when I was first ranked in the World Ranking List. Then I understood that I could become really good. I worked even harder to improve everything.**

You said that you trained professionally very early. When did you think of becoming a table tennis professional for the first time?

**I think the ideal age to think about such things is at the end of the junior years, which means when you are about 16, 17 or 18 years old. Then you must decide: studying, job education or table tennis professional. Before that time it doesn't make sense. It depends on the perspective as well: Am I a professional among many or am I a good professional? This you don't know when you are very young. Additionally you need luck to come to the top.**

Mr Kreanga, you have played since 17 years for Greece but you come from Romania, that table tennis nation, which is famous for their excellent work with juniors. Where in Romania did you start your career?



**15<sup>th</sup> June – 18<sup>th</sup> June 2006**  
**Pro Tour: Volkswagen China Open**

**21st June - 25<sup>th</sup> June 2006**  
**Pro Tour: Brazilian Open**

**4<sup>th</sup> July – 9<sup>th</sup> July 2006**  
**Student Worl Championship**  
**Maribor (Slovenia)**



## **Impressum:**

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**One can assume no liability for expected errors and omissions.**

**All prices are recommended retail prices.**

**I started in my home town Resita, from where I went to Greece in 1989. I was 17 and my table tennis life began to become very professional.**

With 17 you made this important decision. Why?

**To be honest, I wasn't very good at school and I saw a perspective in table tennis.**

Your trade mark is a unique backhand loop. Were you born with this stroke or did you work hard on it?

**I don't think that you are born with strokes.**

O.K. but nobody can copy such a stroke?

**That, in fact is difficult, even I don't know how to improve it even more. (He laughs.) There are still a lot of things I can improve on but not so many on my backhand. I do think that my backhand is very natural. But my body supports me a lot with my backhand strokes. I am very light and very speedy. If you have a long backhand movement, you need a lot of space and you have to be very speedy to gain space for this backhand.**

You are now 34 years 'young'. I say young consciously because you really don't look it. But let's be honest, with 34 years of age a table tennis professional is starting to get old. How do you still manage to achieve results on this level?

**Sport develops continuously. Many table tennis producers, nations, teams and coaches change their way of thinking. 20 years ago the age of 30 was a certain borderline. Not today. There are many good players older than 30 even 40. That is no different in other sports, for example in football. The mentality has changed and so has the training. We can't practice the**

**whole day on the table like when we were young but we can do a lot for our body and our fitness. If you take care of your body and don't get injured then I think that you can play table tennis up to the age of 36, 37 achieving top results.**

Table tennis fans ask again and again how: often does a professional train?

**That is not so easy to answer. It depends.**

Let's take the preparation for the season.

**That is always hard. In training camps we train six to seven hours a day. Normally I train about four hours a day. Sometimes only two hours but these very intense.**

You are now 34 years old and don't have many more years as a professional ahead of you. Have you still got a target that you are very eager to reach?

**I don't have a special target any more. I would like to play at the same level I have got now as long as possible. That includes my number 14 on the World Ranking List. And I would like to keep enjoy playing.**

Do you have plans after your active time?

**No.**

Not really? You surely would be a good coach.

**I don't know.**

## ITTF World 's Ranking lists, mens (06/2006)

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

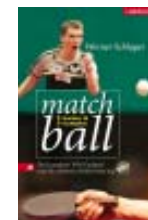
(Butterfly-players are marked!)

## ITTF World 's Ranking lists, women (06/2006)

1	ZHANG Yining CHN	16	FUKUHARA Ai JAP
2	GUO Yue CHN	17	JIANG Huajun HKG
3	GUO Yan CHN	18	STEFF Mihaela ROU
4	Li Jia Wei SIN	19	STRUSE Nicole GER
5	LI Xiaoxia CHN	20	LI nan CHN
6	TIE Yana HKG	21	FAN Ying CHN
7	WANG Nan CHN	22	Li Jiao NED
8	BOROS Tamara HRV	23	TOTH Krisztina HUN
9	KIM Kyung Ah KOR	24	LIU Jia AUT
10	NIU Jianfeng CHN	25	MOON Hyun Jung KOR
11	GAO Jun USA	25	WANG Yue Gu SIN
12	CAO Zhen CHN	27	HIRANO Sayaka JPN
13	LIN Ling HKG	28	ZHANG Rui HKG
14	LAU Sui Fei HKG	29	TAN MONFARDINI Wenling ITA
15	PAVLOVICH Viktoria BLR	30	SHEN Yanfei PRK

Not only the autographs of the Ex-Worldchampion are desirable but his new book also generates a lot of interest among table tennis fans. It is of course also available at [www.butterfly-world.com](http://www.butterfly-world.com)

In the German speaking countries there are about 1 million people playing table tennis in the clubs and accordingly more privatly. They all know Werner Schlager. „Matchball“ tells his story. It is the story of somebody, who didn't have a chance but used it: His family was poor. His mother accompanied him for years to tournaments with packed food, because there was no money to buy anything in the hall. His father was his first coach who taught him the rhythm of table tennis with Polka music. But Werner Schlager did succeed: he became World Champion in 2003, 2005 European Champion in the doubles. This autobiography with Werner Schlager's 11 strategy tips and a DVD included (with the WC game and the best ralleys in his career) **must** be read by a table tennis player. The numerous anekdotes –from sawn off legs of a table tennis board in his youth and his unforgettable meeting with Bill Gates- make „Matchball a pleasure to read for every sport fan.



## Chinese Taipei Open: Title for Oh Sang Eun and Tie Yana



On the final day of the Chinese Taipei Open Tie Yana (Hong Kong) won her second Pro Tour title within a week. The South – Korean Oh Sang Eun won the men single. The doubles title went to Ryu Seung Min/Lee Jin Kwon (South-Korea) and to the Japanese women Ai Fukuhara/Ai Fujinuma.

The success of the Hong Kong Chinese Tie Yana, yesterday winner in the Quarterfinals against the Kropbach player Wu Jiaduo and winner against the Spaniard Shen Yanfei was the only clear victory in the four finals. The most dramatic match took place between Oh Sang Eun and the French Christophe Legout, who yesterday beat the future player of Frickenhausen Bastian Steger (Duesseldorf) in the Quarterfinals. Legout lost the deciding set 9:11. The summer trip to the Asian Pro Tour (100.000 Dollar prize money) was worth its while for the s French players, who have not been so successful over the last years. A week ago Damien Eloi completely unexpectedly reached the final in South Korea and this time Legout surprised.

Close to their first success of a Pro Tour title was a Japanese double with German origin. Seiya Kishikawa, who plays in the 2. Bundesliga for Bergneustadt, and the super talented Jun Mizutani (now Holthausen, changing to Duesseldorf) were leading already with 3:1 sets against the Olympic Champions Ryu Seung Min and Lee Jin Kwon before the South Koreans could turn things round. Coach and trainer of the young Japanese is the Croatian Mario Amezic, the former success coach of Borussia Duesseldorf, who lives and works with his training group in Duesseldorf for most of the year.

### Men single

#### Final

Oh Sang Eun KOR- Christoph Legout FRA  
4:3 (10,-8,6,6,-9,-9,9)



### Woman single

#### Final

Tie Yana HKG - Shen Yanfei ESP 4:1 (-9,8,6,4,6)

### Men double

#### Final

Ryu Seung Min/Lee Jin Kwon KOR - Jun Mizutani/Seiya Kishikawa JPN 4:3 (-10,-3,7,-8,5,4,7)

### Woman double

#### Final

Ai Fukuhara/Ai Fujinuma JPN - Jee Min Hyung/Kwok Fong Fong KOR 4:2 (-9,3,3,-9,11,5)

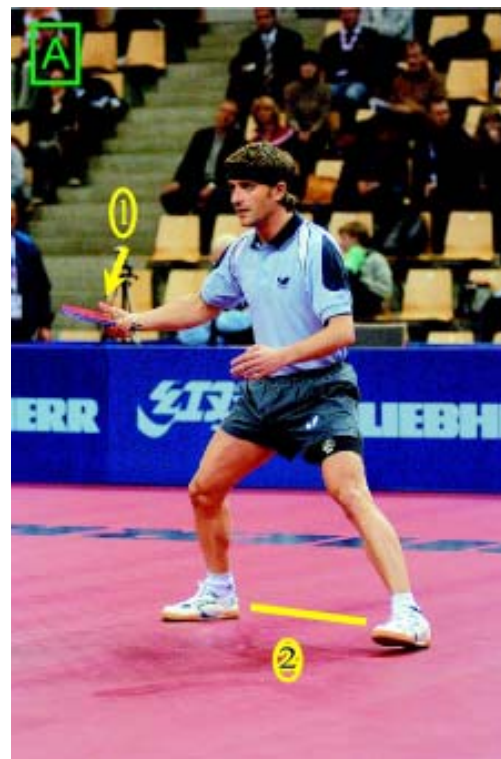


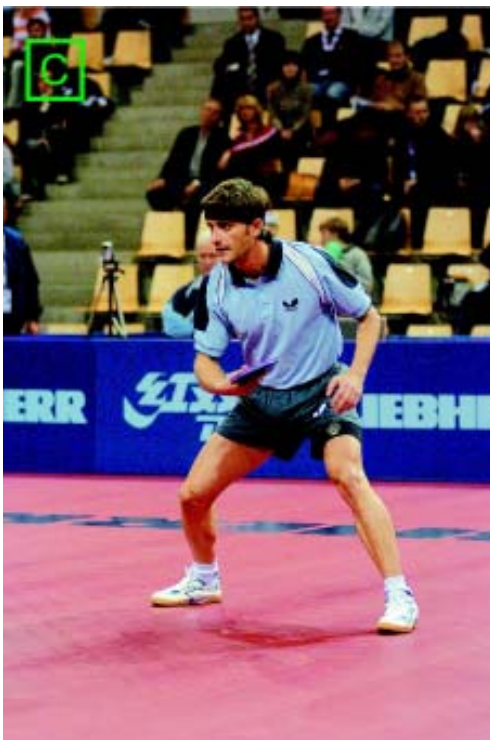
## Kalinikos Kreanga's backhand mega spin

In the last Butterfly – Newsletter we looked at the backhand loop of Werner Schlager, the World Champion 2003 from Austria. This time a backhand specialist 'par excellence' presents this central attacking stroke. Kalin Kreanga, Kalin in short, grew up in Romania and played for Greece since he was 17 years old. He has developed a trade mark: his backhand mega spin. Like nobody else he is able to loop with his backhand out of all positions. If he hits it properly his opponent can expect brutal spin and brutal speed. Sometimes his backhand swings are so spectacular that the spectators are simply amazed. Unbelievable rallies are often the reason for standing ovations and it is difficult to imagine the international table tennis circus without the 34 year old, who has been the public's favourite since 15 years. Let's have a look at the spectacular backhand loop which he calls himself a 'natural' stroke.

**Pictures A-D:** He starts his stroke movement with his legs parallel and more than shoulder wide apart (see 2, picture A). Noticeable is his loose grip of the racket at the beginning of the movement (see 1, picture A). His thumb is spread off, which indicates that Kalin holds the racket very loose during the transition periods of the stroke to relax his forearm muscles. On picture B Kalin starts to take his body down and takes the racket down to the lowest point. The backhand loop which we are observing here is played against a block, counter hit or loop, which means forward rotation, because the racket is very closed during the preparatory swing (3, Picture B) and the swing itself. Picture C shows very clearly that he bends his knees to take the main body weight down and that he turns the right shoulder forward. Kalin achieves an optimal pretension of the muscles at the end of the stroke preparation (picture D):

- in the arm-, especially underarm muscles through an extremely backward bent wrist (4, picture D)
  - in the body -, shoulder – and upper arm muscles by turning the shoulder forward (5, picture D)
- in the leg muscles through the optimal tension angle in his knee joints (6, picture D)





**Pictures E – G:** The real stroke movement is a masterpiece of human co-ordination, because all muscle groups mentioned above are involved in the stroke. The so called hand, which usually describes the action of the wrist, plays an important role of course, but Kalin's backhand loop shows the whole optimal timing of the body action in an impressive manner. The line of the stroke (**7, pictures E, F**) runs like drawn with a ruler upwards and forward.

The position of the racket is extremely closed when contact with the ball is made. The speed of the racket, supported by all muscle groups, achieves its maximum exactly at that moment, when contact with the ball is made, which we can't see here but can imagine it. The ball – and that is extremely important – is hit in front of the body and not on the side, roughly in height of the belly button. The body must be over the ball and not lean backwards as we can see it so often with insecure backhand players. Then you can't control the ball any more and it would probably go over the table. The last **picture G** shows how much the whole body is involved in the stroke: The playing arm is stretched out to the right and far away from the upper body at the end of the stroke. The left arm moves to the left and provides the necessary balance. The upper body is straight like it was at the beginning of the stroke (**picture A**).



## 08 Stars under the magnifier



All in all we can see an unbelievably perfectly co-ordinated backhand topspin movement. Surely you can't copy this movement. It is natural and somehow built in. Even though there may be one or more useful details to help you to improve your own backhand loop.  
Good luck.



At well assorted distributors!

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

**New!**

## Tracksuite AVON

Modern cut tracksuit from 100% DRY FIT Polyester provides a most attractive and refreshing look. Straight cut top and leg with ankle zip; mesh lining and hidden rubber band inside both jacket and trousers.

Colours: grey/navy, white/navy

Sizes: 3XS-4XL

**89,90 €**



**New:**

**Tracksuites Avon & Lyon available in sizes 3XS**



## Tracksuite LYON

Lightweight training from 100% Plain Micro Polyester. Straight cut top and leg with ankle zip; with mesh lining and hidden rubber band inside both jacket and trousers.

Colour: dark grey/red

Sizes: 3XS-4XL

**69,90 €**



## Shirt Tay

This functional shirt from 100% Micro Polyester provides best breathability and ventilation. Lightweight, relaxed fit for easy movement. Modern and attractive design through contrast stripes and piping.

Colours: yellow/blue, blue/black, red/black

Sizes: 3XS-4XL

**34,90 €**



**NEW! Also available with lady's cut in sizes XS-XL**

 **Butterfly**  
NEWS

**June**  
**2006**

# 10 Products of the month

## Shirt BRORA

Lightweight functional shirt from 100% Micro Polyester for relaxed fit. Modern printing and an eye-catching design offer an attractive look. With a contrasting, unicoloured collar.

Colours: red, royal blue

Sizes: XXS-3XL

37,90 €



## T-Shirt Kanji

Functional round neck T-Shirt from 100% DRY FIT Polyester with modern front printing and Chinese letters „Dragon“ or „Butterfly“. BUTTERFLY wording on back.

Colour: white

Sizes: 3XS-4XL

15,90 €



## 2-in1 jacket Steppe

Attractive and functional jacket, perfect for every season. 100% waterproof (water column 5000ml), windproof and breathable; 100% Nylon PU coated.

With hood, hidden in the collar, and reflecting safety piping on front and back.

*Inner jacket with fleece lining can be separated!*

Colour: black/grey/red

Sizes: XXS-3XL

99,90 €



June

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