

## Issue August of 2004

### Schedule

until 29. of August	Olympic Games, Athens
27. to 29. of August	Children's Olympics Borussia Düsseldorf
01. to 05. of September	World Student Championships in Győr (HUN)
09. to 12. of September	Pro Tour: China Open
16. to 19. of September	Pro Tour: Volkswagen Open in Shanghai (CHN)
23. to 26. of September	Pro Tour: Volkswagen Open in Kobe (JPN)

## Mourning for Hikosuke Tamasu

Hikosuke Tamasu (picture) has passed away aged 83 in Hakone (near Tokyo). Tamasu founded „Tamasu Co Ltd.“ In 1950 and was responsible for the rise of the company to the leading manufacturer in Table Tennis. For eleven years his son Kimihiko has been leading the world wide enterprise.



### Short biography:

Born 20<sup>th</sup> of August 1920 in Yanai (Prefecture Yamaguchi), Japan

Started Table Tennis at the age of 11 years

In the final of the Japanese Championships of the men in 1937 (aged 17)

Japanese Champion in the mixed doubles in 1949

Founded Tamasu Co., Ltd. On the 19<sup>th</sup> of December 1950 as

Managing Director with his father as President.

- Portrait Düsseldorf
- Olympics: Local Hero Kreanga

- VDTT: Training Tip
- Products of the Month
- World's Ranking List Men/Women

- Material Talk:  
Defensiv rubbers
- and much more.....!



**Olympic Athen 2004**

**3 x Gold, 1 x Silver, 2 x Bronze  
for Butterfly players**



**Read more in our Olympic  
Special following the next days!**

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**www.butterfly-world.com**

## Borussia Düsseldorf – new label for Butterfly

Borussia Düsseldorf is the youngest member of the family of Butterfly clubs – and at the same time the most prominent within Europe and the World. How large the popularity of the successful Table Tennis club throughout the globe is, was shown by the large international response to the announcement of the new cooperation between Borussia and Butterfly.

The enormous popularity within Germany and abroad doesn't come by chance, but is rather a result of hard work. For centuries the makers of the club have combined basic elements like success, promotion of young talents, good sports spirit and a family atmosphere in a perfect and even manner.

Borussia has been the first address for top players for generations. If at the beginning of its rise with Eberhard Schöler, Hans Wilhelm Gäb and Wilfried Micke, later with the English star Desmond Douglas, the German aces Ralf Wosik or Hajo Nolten, Jörgen Persson or in the nineties Jörg Roßkopf, Steffen Fetzner, Petr Korbel and Vladimir Samsonov – Düsseldorf's successful players have always been likable characters as well.

Even more: Many of the former players stuck to the club after their career – let it be in management or leading positions. This was due to the legendary coherence of the professionals living on site. Schöler and Micke, the first Bundesliga Manager of modern type in the eighties, made Borussia fit for future tasks. Gäb, honourable President of the German Table Tennis Federation (DTTB) and successful business manager, is still Chairman of the supervising board and leads the club together with coach and manager Andreas Preuß, formerly a player of Düsseldorf's champions team as well.

The results of such a continuity are respectable and show not only in the contracting of today's Butterfly coach Mario Amizic for ten years during the „era Roßkopf“. 20 Champions titles, 17 national Cups and seven triumphs on the European stage in the Champions Cups or the Champions League – a record in all competitions – and two ETTC victories are the impressive and unique balance.



**Japan's great talent  
Ryusuke Sakamoto  
is given a major role  
in the future of  
Borussia**



The foundation for this has been a reputable club politic for decades. Financial risks are foreign for the Borussia, solid planning is highest guideline. In spite of 40 years of uninterrupted German elite the Düsseldorf club never was object of rumours regarding financial problems – other than so many clubs that rose and disappeared again.

Different than most other top clubs on the continent Düsseldorf has an almost perfect infrastructure: Built in the mid-nineties by the club's own effort the Table Tennis Centre with training- and competition hall, boarding house and Table Tennis school still sets international standards. No wonder that international top players and Bundesliga-competitors are frequent guests in Düsseldorf's training group.

The attractiveness of the Table Tennis location Düsseldorf will increase in the near future. For City, Region and the State will set up a new High Performance Centre for the DTTB due to the perfect ideal environment at the river Rhine. It will technically and structurally be attached to the Borussia location, where the Japanese hopes have their second home guided by Mario Amizic. Expectedly from 2006 on Top stars like the German Butterfly ace Timo Boll and their high class training partners from all over the World will hold their camps under the same roof as the Borussia team.

Today's Borussia team, which includes the members of the Butterfly family Michael Maze (Top-12 winner from Denmark), Bastian Steger (German National team player) and Japan's great talent Ryusuke Sakamoto, is a steady continuation of Düsseldorf's Table Tennis philosophy. It has already been in 2003 when the Borussia was one of the few clubs to consider the change in international Table Tennis and it's extended schedule. Michael Maze was given fewer starts, which is appreciated by „Mika“ and has it's effect as demonstrated by his Europe Top-12 victory.

Both partners of the cooperation between Düsseldorf and Butterfly hope for extensive and partly novel synergy effects in different sections. When the most successful club of the World and the globally leading equipment manufacturer work together, the hope for successful projects is more than justified. For both Butterfly and Düsseldorf certain values are the base for performance: reliability, comradeship, professionalism and fair-play.

**Though he dropped out in the round of the last 32 against Table Tennis ace Jörgen Persson, Kreanga is still one of the best European players**



## **Butterfly star Kalinikos Kreanga was local hero at the Olympics**

The relationship to the audience has quite changed for Kalinikos Kreanga after the Olympic Games in Athens: Used to the support of the spectators due to his attractive playing style, the Butterfly-star this time even more enjoyed the wide sympathy of most of the visitors of the Galatsi Olympic hall, for the Olympics were home play for the Greek in the true sense of the word. Knowing the overwhelming enthusiasm of the Greek for their teams at „normal“ matches in Soccer or Basketball one could imagine the atmosphere in the hall during the event of the century in the own country, when Kreanga played Sweden-star Jörgen Persson.

The 32-year old fled from his home town Rumania to Greece and asked for political Asylum at the end of the eighties after the Junior ECC in Luxembourg, right before the major changes in the East started. A preview of what was to come was given to Kreanga in his preparation. „I try to play the Olympics like a WCC and not to give them too much importance. But it's more stressful with the games happening in my home country“, Kreanga reported only a few days before the opening ceremony about the increasing interest of fans and media.

The hype is no surprise. As World's No. 9 Kreanga, who adapted his original name Calin Creanga to his new adopted country, was without doubt one of the greatest medal candidates in the host's Olympic cadre. The quick right hander is one of the most popular athletes in Greece in spite of the low significance of the Table Tennis sports in general. Presence in TV is not unusual for him and in the Olympic tournament he almost feels as on a mission and not only as sole fighter. In case of entering the pedestal Kreanga hopes for „a great moment for me and Table Tennis in Greece. This would be a step towards more professionalism in our sports“.

Professionalism is not what the WCC-third is lacking, whose famous backhand topspin is unique within the world. For a perfect preparation Kreanga cancelled his participation at the financially very attractive Super Circuit in Japan, and had left the German Bundesliga club Ochsenhausen for the large number of matches heading to France. At Montpellier TT and after the Olympics at Enebon, the Greece has enough time for the necessary regeneration.

In spite of the lower salary his financial situation is coped well with by the offence player, who for a long time has been considered double- and mixed-specialist (European Champion in the doubles 1994 and in the mixed in 1992 plus four ECC silver medals in both disciplines). The Bronze medal at the WCC 2003 in Paris brought him public funding of 44.000 Euro, his second rank at the ECC 2002 in Zagreb (Defeated by Timo Boll in the final) was worth 30.000 Euros according to Greece's table of bonus for sportsmen. A medal in Athens would have been worth it: for Gold the Greek Government spent more than 190.000 Euros, for Silver it would have been 132.000 Euros and Bronze still 102.000. Entering the quarter final still brings 30.000 Euros.

This was the goal of the World-cup second, who returned from the US Open in Chicago in June with an injury of his shoulder blade. „This would be a good result for me.“ At his former two participations at the Olympics in 1996 in Atlanta and 2000 in Sydney Kreanga missed the round of the best sixteen.

Unfortunately his home bonus was of no use for Kreanga. In the round of the last 32 players he dropped out against Jörgen Persson. He was defeated 1:4 by the experienced Swede. „I would have liked to show a bit more, but Jörgen was the better player today.“



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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 „Defensiv rubbers“

## There is no true pimple-in defensive rubber!

The last time our topic was the long-pimple programme of Butterfly. Today we want to talk about sandwich rubbers suitable for defence and of course about the Butterfly defensive blades.

*Is there a true defensive rubber with pimples in except for the SUPERANTI?*

That's true: of course there is no true defensive rubber with pimples in. The choice of rubbers for players with defensive orientation depends on their system – rather passive or more offensive with smash and counterspins. And every player reacts different to the rubbers. One prefers softer ones, other like it hard. This is what makes it difficult to give a 100% advice for rubbers. We can only set up an orientation based on the experience of our contract players, our customers and many of our tests.

*With the TACKINESS rubbers in Version C and D Butterfly for years has been offering two rubbers, which are very tacky and recommended for defence play. The name comes from „tacky“. What are the certain qualities and what's the difference?*

Truly the TACKINESS programme is made for defensive players or all-rounders and has been successful for centuries alike the SRIVER programme. The TACKINESS C is softer than the D-version in sponge and top rubber. Therefore it produces maximum rotation. But it's clearly slower than the D. So the D-version is slightly harder and faster, but still has a respectable tackiness. With both rubbers one can play topspin or smash, but it's different than with the BRYCE. One shouldn't forget that at the base especially the older players prefer a controlled all-round play – the modern offensive rubbers are too fast for that.

*There also are the TACKIFIRE SPECIAL and TACKIFIRE SPECIAL SOFT. Do those rubbers have anything in common with the TACKINESS rubbers or are they totally different?*

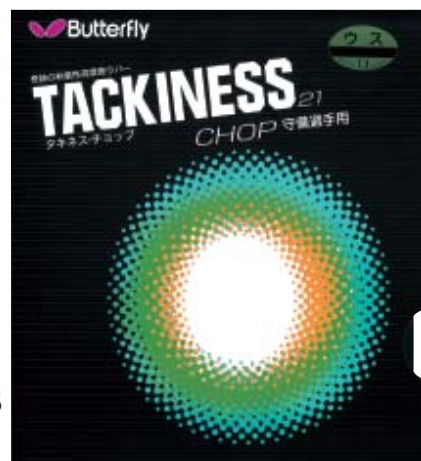
Both TACKIFIRE rubbers are designed for offensive players. Sponge as well as surface are quite hard. The SOFT – as the name shows – has a softer sponge and the rubber so becomes more elastic. To make it clear: the TACKIFIRE is not an improvement of the TACKINESS programme, but a totally new development, which considers the typical profile of the Chinese rubbers, but combines it with Japanese rubber technology. Who has tried Chinese rubbers before knows, how tacky and extremely hard those are. But, the TACKIFIRE rubbers are not a copy of Chinese rubbers, but the harder section of our programme.

*But then are the TACKIFIRE rubbers suitable for backspin defence?*

A modern defence player should be able to play with the soft version. Above the table it produces enormous rotation, and speed glued he's very suitable for counter spins close as well as away from the table. And I would like to emphasize, that the TACKIFIRE rubbers are very durable and elasticity and tackiness prevail for a long period.

*Let's get back to the TACKINESS rubbers. Which of the two versions is good chop-defence?*

Definitely the TACKINESS C. It's very controlled and precise and recommend itself for all players, that push and chop a lot. Of course the TACKINESS C is a passive rubber. That's why there's the TACKINESS D, still with the typical playing qualities of TACKINESS, but for it's harder orientation more bound for action. A typical all-round rubber.



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*Finally a question about a so called golden rule in choice of rubbers. It is said: The thinner the sponge of a rubber, the more controlled it is and the more rotation can be produced. Is this rule valid?*

Partly. When pushing with backspin above the table, or when serving, I hit the ball with minor speed. The ball does not enter into the rubber that much as at a counter-spin for example. That gives the tackiness of the surface much importance. It's different when defending in distance of the table. When I want to defend fast topspins or smashes with backspin, a thicker sponge is of advantage. Alike playing topspin. The ball penetrates deeper into the sponge, which is then more important for the development of rotation. So the right choice of thickness of the sponge depends on my strength and weaknesses of my play. When talking about the classic defender, rarely attacking, mainly pushing and playing passive, then a tendency towards thinner rubbers makes sense. A modern defence player with an own topspin will be better recommended a thicker sponge.

*Let's take a look at the Butterfly blade programme for defensive players. Butterfly offers three defence models. Can you sketch out the differences?*

The DEFENCE ALPHA DEF is our classical defence blade. Formerly it was named only DEFENCE. It is three-layered and towards the handle becomes five-layered. This gives it the necessary stability. The soft willow-wood provides the enormous control.

*The DEFENCE ALPHA DEF is the slowest blade, isn't it?*

One can't say this like that. None of our defence blades is really slow. They can be compared to our all-round blades. The difference is in the size of the blade's face. All three blades have a larger one than the all-round or offensive blades. Of course there are slower defence blades on the market. But those are really only suitable for a total passive defence and this is a matter of the past. Top-defenders have never played slow blades. Therefore we don't have those in our programme.

*With what do the Butterfly defence artist Joo Se Hyuk, current Vice-World Champion from South-Korea, and Japanese Koji Matsushita play?*

Koji plays the KOJI MATSUSHITA PRO DEF, developed with his help, and JOO with DIODE, an older Butterfly blade unavailable at the moment and a bit slower than the ANDREJ MAZUNOV OFF+. The old DIODE was a very sensitive blade, which warped easily. That's why we took it off the market. But we're working on a more stable follower, for it had been unique for its playing attributes.

*Which of the three Butterfly defence-blades is the hardest?*

Definitely the MATSUSHITA POWERDEFENCE DEF. It allows many variations. Next the KOJI MATSUSHITA PRO DEF. By the way, both blades have a distinctly increased face. They are perfect for the modern defence play.

*Is the increased face of the blade necessary?*

No, not really, but it's tradition. The blade is a bit heavier by this. But because the defender play thinner rubbers this equals it. Still the defenders usually don't like lighter blades. All chop-defence goes from up to downwards as like a hammer does, and therefore you need a certain weight.



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!



## Exercise for Service – Part 2: Side-backspin

The next step in training services lies in the ability to vary your rotation. Most easy is the variation of sidespin to side-backspin. Now the tip of the racket does not point down but slightly sideways. The elbow comes down a little bit and the actual stroke is in a light curve so that the face of the blade is almost at level in the end. As always we need this little quick kick out of the wrist to provide the necessary rotation.

In this exercise we place a bottle in the middle of the table. Now one has to try to play the ball around the bottle. The more backspin, the later the ball leaves the table. Good service players are able to play around the bottle and into the net.



Next month we will continue with a pure backspin service.

[www.vdtt.de](http://www.vdtt.de)

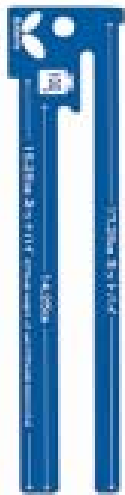
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# Produkte des Monats

Im gut sortierten Fachhandel!



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



## Net Gauge

The new patented net ruler with a weight of 100 g tests the proper tension of the net. According to ITTF regulations it shouldn't sag more than 10 mm when charged with 100 g in the middle. Additional functions for maximum rubber thickness, maximal thickness of the top rubber and the Japanese net height for „Large Ball“ Table Tennis (17,25 cm).

**9,90 Euro**

**NEU!**



## Elite Clip

ITTF-approved  
Net-colour: black  
Details: Very stable and simple to handle by clamping mechanism

**31,90 Euro**



## Europa

ITTF approved  
Net-colour: black

**46,90 Euro**



## National League

ITTF approved  
Net-colour: black

**32,90 Euro**



## Europa 25

ITTF approved  
Type premium competition, folded  
Width: 1525 mm  
Height: 1377 mm  
Depth: 144 mm  
Playing surface 25 mm  
Conventional supporting structure  
Weight: 110 kg

**570,00 Euro**



## Centrefold 25

ITTF approved  
Type premium competition, folded on frame  
Width: 1525 mm  
Height: 1700 mm  
Depth: 340 mm space saving system  
Playing surface 25 mm  
Automatic supporting structure  
Weight: 111 kg

**720,00 Euro**



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## Butterfly worldwide..

(by Alan Ransome)

### Ormesby table tennis centre

Study and play table tennis

Ormesby Table tennis Club are linking with Middlesbrough College to establish a Table Tennis Academy starting in September. The Academy will be open to students who enroll for academic courses at Middlesbrough college and will provide approximately 9 hours of table tennis coaching and training each week within the normal college term. Academy members will also have the opportunity to participate in the Table Tennis Club's training programme which operates five evenings per week, plus training camps at weekends and school holidays. The Club's new facility in Cargo Fleet Lane, with up to 15 tables, will be used during the day for the Academy coaching sessions.

### Middlesbrough College

Middlesbrough College is the largest college in the Tees Valley, offering a wide choice of courses for thousands of students within the Cleveland area. The wide variety of courses includes vocational and A levels as well as running a Sports Academy, currently concentrating on basketball, football and volleyball. The levels that can be attained in education and sport are: A Levels, Sports Courses including Btec or 1<sup>st</sup> Diplomas, City & Guilds Sports Courses, English for speakers of other languages.

### Ormesby Table Tennis Club

The Ormesby Table Tennis Club is one of Britain's best known clubs, having operated since 1958. The Club have been national champions on 10 occasions and are the only British club to have won the European Club Championship, in 1972. The Club operates a comprehensive competition, coaching and training programme and enters several teams in the British League Senior, British League Junior where the club's first team is in both the Premier Division, and in the Middlesbrough & District and Cleveland Summer leagues local competitions. The Club organises groups of its players to participate in a wide range of ETTA national and open tournaments at senior and junior level.

### Table Tennis Academy

The Table Tennis Academy will operate on four days per week for a total of 9 hours at the Club's headquarters on Cargo Fleet Lane during the normal college day. The Head Coach will be former English and Commonwealth Champion Carole Moore who is one of the ETTA national team coaches, supported by other qualified ETTA coaches. Players attending the Academy will be expected to join the appropriate squad within the Club structure which is likely to be at either Excellence or Advanced level. In addition to training for improving table tennis playing standards, students on the course will be offered the opportunity of ETTA qualification courses in coaching, umpiring, development and tournament organisation.

**Costs :** The cost of enrolling for students within the European Community is free of charge. The fees for overseas students will be £3500, inclusive of any exam and assessment fees. This will consist of an initial deposit of £200 plus £1,100 payable at the beginning of each term for three terms. The College is able to assist with arranging accommodation. The average charge is between £30 and £40 per week in a shared house.

**For further information regarding the Table Tennis Academy, please contact:**

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## ITTF World's Ranking List, Men (Extract, 09 - 2004)

(Butterfly-players are marked!)

- 1 WANG Liqin CHN
- 2 **RYU Seung Min KOR**
- 3 WANG Hao CHN
- 4 MA Lin CHN
- 5 CHUAN Chih-Yuan TPE
- 6 SAMSONOV Vladimir BLR
- 7 Chen Qi CHN
- 8 **SCHLAGER Werner AUT**
- 9 **BOLL Timo GER**
- 10 **KREANGA Kalinikos GRE**
- 11 **KONG Linghui CHN**
- 12 LIU Guozheng CHN
- 13 **CHIANG Peng-Lung TPE**
- 14 HAO Shuai CHN
- 15 WALDNER Jan-Ove SWE

*The new World's ranking lists!*



- 16 **JOO Se Hyuk KOR**
- 17 **OH Sang Eun KOR**
- 18 SAIVE Jean-Michel BEL
- 19 PERSSON Jorgen SWE
- 20 **MAZE Michael DEN**
- 21 **KORBEL Petr CZE**
- 22 CHEN Weixing AUT
- 22 KARLSSON Peter SWE
- 24 QIU Yike CHN
- 25 BLASZCZYK Lucjan POL
- 26 **PRIMORAC Zoran CRO**
- 27 **Kim Taek Soo KOR**
- 28 SMIRNOV Alexei RUS
- 29 ROSSKOPF Jörg GER
- 30 KO Lai Chak HKG

Die neue Nummer zwei:  
Olympiasieger und Butterfly-  
Spieler Ryu Seung Min

## ITTF World's Ranking List, Women (Extract, 09 - 2004)

(Butterfly-players are marked!)

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