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Table tennis players, *andro*-customers, fans of the world's fastest game!

An amazing year 2009 has ended - and what an exciting year! After the Team World Championship and the European Championship in October the German Open in Berlin and the Polish Open in Warsaw came up with astonishing results. In Berlin Wu Jiaduo surprised after a longer dry spell with an outstanding performance. Also Christian Süß played himself into the spotlight. Furthermore andro and the Polish Table Tennis Federation decided to continue their successful partnership. We will also take a look beyond the boundaries of Europe all the way to South-America where a Belgian andro star caused furor.

Enjoy reading our new newsletter.
Your *andro* team

German Open in Berlin - andro-stars set the course

A spectacular comeback, an impressive response and an outstanding win of an underdog: A very positive conclusion for the andro team at the German Open. Wu Jiaduo provided the biggest surprise by showing a sensational comeback. After a year with several kickbacks, a big disappointment at the Olympic Games and a miserable European Championship performance „Dudu“ played herself into the spotlight. Furthermore Dudu defeated the Singapore Chinese Feng Tian Wei (singles competition) and Li Jia Wei (team competition), no.5 and no.6 of the world rankings. With an unstained performance of five wins and no defeats in the singles and a 1-0 record in the doubles she lead the DTTB-team into the finals of the team competition. Although Dudu did not loose any match in the team competition she could not avoid her team's 1-3 defeat in the finals against the Runner-Up of the World Championships and the Olympic Games - Singapore. Dudu elated the spectators so much that her match even attracted more attention than Timo Boll's match. "I underestimated Wu" the Singapore Chinese admitted meekly. "She played overwhelmingly". However also Dudu was surprised of her own performance. "I thought: This is not normal!" Dudu confessed. Numerous spectacular rallies with steadily various placing of the ball and rythmic changes were the base for thousands of spectators' amazement. andro-star Wu Jiaduo sustained this high performance the whole tournament long until her final match against Liu Jia from Austria. For Germany's no.1 it has been a big step forward. "She played a world class tournament" Liu Jia attested. DTTB coach Jörg Bitzigeio explained: "This time she took the chances she has been working for." Wu Jiaduo's prize: 10.000 US\$ for being second and a ten position step up to position 23 in the ITTF World Rankings.



Christian Süss managed an impressive comeback too. Moreover he accomplished big success at the European Championships in St. Petersburg. With his andro ROXON rubbers he again dominated the team competition and won the gold medal in the doubles with Timo Boll - of course without the use of speed glue, tuner or booster. Nevertheless he was not in his best shape yet and showed up some shortcomings. In contradiction to that he showed up with a well improved performance in Berlin. With andro rubbers, andro blade and andro speedballs (andro was the official ball-sponsor of the German Open) he won game by game. To name some opponents: Tomas Pavelka, Adrian Crisan and He Zhiwen. The first defeat he had to take was in the finals against the Poland's Wang Zengyi. Finally the Polish Nationalteam surprisingly won the title; this also honoured andro being the sponsor of the Polish Nationalteam. The andro star failed in the round of the last 32 against nobody less than the subsequent champion of the tournament, Timo Boll. Nadine Bollmeier joining the



main draw is a respectable result. By winning her matches in her group against the Rumanian Andrea Dospina (4-0) and the Lithuanian Lina Misikonyte (4-1) she made her way into the round of the last 64 where she started 2-0 against the Japanese Yuka Ishigaki. In the end, she unfortunately lost 2-4. Barbora Balazova, the youngest amongst andro players also lost against a Japanese.



Polish Open andro - ready to take off

andro affords Polish men's team to take off. After the surprising triumph in the men's team competition at the German Open the next coup followed a week later. At the Polish Open Lucjan Blaszczyk and Wang Zengyi triumphed over Gao Ning and Yang Zi in the finals. But only the first match against the Indian Achanta and Saha was a clear 4-0 victory. Every following match only two points decided about win or defeat. But the risk-seeking Polish duo played confidently and with big self confidence - and a big part of it they gained in Germany. On the one hand because andro was the material sponsor of the Polish Open and provided tables, nets, balls and surroundings to sustain the quality of the game conditions and furthermore extended the contract with the Polish National Team. On the other hand Blaszczyk/Wang Zengyi already showed their potential at the German Open by not losing any game in the whole team tournament. „Wang plays much better than before. We are dangerous for any opponent“ Lujcan mentions, what sounded a little like a challenge to the world's best. Just self-confidence through success.

In addition to that the other andro stars like Christian Suess, Wu Jiaduo and Elke Schall also played well. Suess made his way through the group until he was stopped by the Singapore Gao Ning (0-4) in the round of the last 16. Elke Schall and Wu Jiaduo failed in this round, too. The convalescent Schall showed up well recovered from her foot-injury and made her way into the round of the last 16 where she ended up losing against the Croatian Tamara Boros (1-4). After making her way into the main draw „Dudu“ had to play against the nifty Li Qian. The defender lead 3-0 but the andro star fought and unfortunately lost 3-4.



Lloret de Mar - Sun, Beach and Fun with andro

Temperatures up to 24°, a white beach, a blue sea and 2 hours table tennis each day. All this will be provided from the 16th May until 22nd May 2009 to the participants of the 22nd table tennis tournament in Lloret de Mar which is sponsored by andro. Frank Peters, whose agency FP 2000 Sport Travel & Events arranges this tournament, is a professional concerning event-management. Together with the former national soccer player Willy van de Kerkhof he organizes sport- and music-events on the Spanish Costa Brava and the Turkish Riviera and therefore has much experience concerning soccer, hockey and volleyball. But the table-tennis section is something special to him. „Many participants are coming here for ten to fifteen years now. Many friends meet here every year and also marriages have been started here“ Frank Peters says. Comfortable basic conditions, a convenient time schedule, international participants and a friendly atmosphere attract 300 people each year. One can start in three different competitions: First the basic tournament where no differentiation in age or sex is made (only a classification regarding playing ability). Second a tournament for seniors who start according to their age group. Both are team competitions in a Corbillon-Cup-System (groups of four). On the last day, a single competition is taking place and for best conditions 36 andro tables and nets as well as andro balls are provided. „We are very happy about the cooperation with andro to considering best quality in table tennis equipment“ Frank Peters explains.

Furthermore professional health care and health insurance are included in the starting amount. Much time to relax outside the gym and people especially from England, Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany are joining this event. „In May, Lloret de Mar is not that big party scene but that does not mean that you can not celebrate a lot.“ The Opening Party and the Final Ceremony are a big part of the event. For all participants Happy Hour is provided in the biggest disco of Lloret de Mar all the time.

Snoopy? Just come! Any information needed to this event can be read in the internet on [www. fp2000.nl](http://www.fp2000.nl) or to get an email-info write to info@fp2000.nl

Nico Vergeylen - practice, fight and win

He has accomplished what other people dream throughout their lives. As thousands of spectators acclaimed the march of their nations in Beijing this summer, Nico Vergeylen carried the flag of his country. The Belgium flag – and it was the march of the Paralympics. Four years ago, at the Paralympics in Athens, he celebrated the biggest success of his athletic career: The gold medal with the team what aroused big hope for the Games in Beijing. But the



dreams lost ground in the quarter finals. „It was a big disappointment“ he says. Nico Vergeylen learned to deal with throwbacks. In the last weeks he made rapid ascend in his performance. At the Tango-Cup in Buenos-Aires the 40-year-old, who is sponsored by andro for several years, won 3 gold medals in one tournament for the first time. In his class 8, in the open class and in the team competition where he started with the German Jan Brinkmann. Athletes who can not stand participate in the classes 1 to 5. Nico Vergeylen, whose knee is stiff and who has not got any function on that side of the body, is categorized into class 8. In the future he eventually will be classified into class 7. „At every international tournament of disabled athletes a public health officer is present in order to classify and prove the persons“ Nico says. After his triumph in Buenos Aires another success followed in Venezuela. The gold medal in the singles tournament (class 8), the silver medal with the team and the bronze medal in the open class gained him so many points that can almost be assured of the fact that his next goal is already achieved: The European Championships in Italy 2009. Nico invested much for this aim because only three of the eight tournaments he started at are financially sponsored by the federation. Of course andro will support Nico Vergeylen at the European Championships. Since a botched surgery took the natural movement-ability of his leg -when he was 5 years old- the Belgium has passed a long and difficult path. He started playing table-tennis at the age of thirteen. „A long time I have only been occupying myself on the computer. I wanted to do something back then.“ he explains. His leg, of course, turned out to be a big handicap in the field of table-tennis, too. Due to the fact that he cannot bend his knee he is not able to play a forehand topspin. Therefore he strikes back with hard blocks and smashes with the andro LOGO, a short pimple rubber. On the backhand, where he also uses a topsin, he plays an andro ROCKET. To this day he practices four times a week and joins matches twice weekly – also in the fourth Belgium League. „Just to play in the disabled league would be underchallenging, because the niveau in Belgium is too low.“ Nico Vergeylen is very ambitious. He wants to become a better player and is ready to work hard for it. Using andro equipment.



andro SPEEDBALL 3 STAR

A table-tennis ball is equally round with a diameter of 40mm and weighs 2.7g. Insiders know that it is a big skill to produce a top-competition ball. A „smashed ball“ is not only a deadly weapon but moreover can speed up to 170km/h. Playing a hard stroke the ball contacts the rubber only 1/1000 second but deforms up to 25%. (measured 1970/71 at the TU Braunschweig by Martin Sklorz). In order to sustain this high quality requirements, we have developed the andro speedball. Not by accident andro was the official ball sponsor of the German Open , the European Championships 2000 in Bremen and at the Europe Top 12 2004 & 2006. Moreover speedball is the official playball of the DTTB for the years 2007-2010. After the production the balls run through a selection process, where each ball is tested mechanically and manually regarding weight, hardness and roundness. Due to the fact that celluloid is hardening by the time-factor, our andro ball ripens specially stored. By being stored 6 months, the andro speedball becomes rounder and hardens additionally. The result: An excellent equal ball bounce for more precision.

