



Łódź, Thursday 4 September 2008

Bulletin 3



Early Leaders on Track



No, not this track

During the second day of competition, a number of teams have shown that they are in contention. The Czech republic started the day on a maximum 50/50, and stayed in the top-3 throughout the day. Netherlands A and Poland A are where they are to be expected. Austria and Great Britain, and the four other A teams, are in the chasing group.

Program

Friday :

09:30	Matches 9-10
13:30	Lunch
14:15	Matches 11-13
20:30	Dinner

Who's here ?

At the start of each University Championship, it is my habit to look through the player lists and see who's been at one or more of these championships before.

Since the Europeans have the advantage of being able to come to one of these things every year, I'll start by looking at the others.

The following players were also at Tianjin: Anton Blagov and Dave Sabourin of Canada; Lin Chih-Hung and Wang Po-Han of Chinese Taipei, Arie Maramis and Mario Mambu of Indonesia. A special mention should go to the only Chinese returning player: Liu Yan, as she has won a gold medal there. None of these players were present in 2004 though.

Let's then look at the European players. 36 of them were also at Brugge last year, and 19 at Tianjin. Nothing very special there. We need to go a little further back in order to find interesting numbers. 13 players remain from Rotterdam 2005, and 4 from Istanbul: Merijn Groenenboom and Meike Wortel from the Netherlands, and Jacek Kalita and Krzysztof Kotorowicz from Poland. Those two join Liu Yan in having already won gold at a World Championship. Both also have a silver from Brugge 2003.

Four other players were also at Brugge in 2003: Wojciech Gaweł, Michal Nowosadski, Piotr Nawrocki of Poland and Milan Macura of the Czech Republic. They can wear the honorary title of Cavemen.

Krzysztof Kotorowicz has done even better: he was there in 2002 and 2001

as well! That makes him the seventh Superdinosaur in history (that's a career of seven years). Although he missed out last year, Krzysztof is now also playing his seventh championship, a feat previously only accomplished by Sebastian Reim of Germany.



**Three former
World University Champions:
Jacek Kalita, Liu Yan, and
Krzysztof Kotorowicz**

Team Photos

Several teams took the opportunity of having their pictures taken during the opening ceremony. Your editor took those pictures as well. A first selection will appear in this bulletin.

It is our intention to publish pictures of all the teams, preferably from the complete delegation. If you believe your delegation is too big to be easily found, then arrange among yourselves a time and place and tell Herman.

China



**Chen Qiang, Wu Qiang, Zhang Jun, Sun Tianheng (off),
Yang Ying (npc), Jin Zhou (off), Liu Yan, He Ming (coach)**

Chinese Taipei



**Liu Jin-Shuen, Lin Yi-Li, Shih Jie-Ren, Ou Yang Yi,
Lin Chih-Hung, Wang Po-Han and four officials**

(The order of these pictures is alphabetical)

The first cards have hit the table

by Christer Andersson

Six of the ten matches in the first round were between teams of the same country. These are matches full of prestige and here the play is for who should have the right to represent the A team, rather than traditional Victory Points. This time 5 of the six A teams won their match. The unlucky losers were Poland.

The first round

In the first round, the bulletin staff had a look at the match between Indonesia and Great Britain in the open room. It turned out to be a rather dull affair, with 0, 1 or 2 IMPs changing hand on eleven of the twelve boards. The last board decided the whole match, which ended in a win for Great Britain with 18-12.

The first board of the Championship could have been a swing had the no trump range differed between the teams. But both played weak no trump and had to deal with a board that could be used as advertisement for not playing a weak no trump. So both teams missed a chance to win some IMPs on the board and put pressure on the opponents for the rest of the match. Assume you are East and listen to the following bidding:

West	North	East	South
Ew'ton	Maramis	Zigmond	Mambu
	Pass	Pass	1 NT
Dble	Pass*	Pass	Redbl
Pass	2 ♣*	Dble	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Your opponents, the Indonesian pair, Arie Ardiansyah Maramis – Mario Fernando Charlie Mambu, had methods to find a fit and escape from the doubled no-trump contract, which would have gone three down. North's pass in the second round was a command to partner to redouble. When he came back with 2♣, he showed a two-suited hand, at least 4-4, with clubs and an unspecified major.

What would you lead from the following hand?

♠ Q 7 5 3 - ♥ A 10 7 - ♦ 7 4 - ♣ 10 5

Trying anything but a trump would have resulted in seven tricks for the defence, and collected 300. That would not be enough to compete with the 400-450 that is available in 3 NT or 4♠, but the diamonds would not split 3-3 every day.

The full board:

Board 1. Dealer North None Vuln.

♠ J 4	
♥ 9 6 5 4	
♦ J 8 2	
♣ J 5 4 3	
♠ A K 10 9	♠ Q 7 5 3
♥ 8 3 2	♥ A 10 7
♦ A K Q 6 3	♦ 7 4
♣ 8	♣ Q 7 6 2
	♠ 8 6 2
	♥ K Q J
	♦ 10 9 5
	♣ A K 10 9

At the Table East selected the ♣2 as opening lead and now declarer could

both arrange a spade ruff in hand and finesse trumps over East. Only one down. Result repeated in the other room.

Board 7 gave the only swing, and it is presented in a separate article

The second round

This round our choice was on a match between David and Goliath, or whatever the corresponding figures may be called in Buddhist countries, that is the match between Singapore and China. Although it ended 15-15 it was far from a dull match. After seven boards, China had collected 17 unanswered IMPs, but from there on it was only Singapore, who won the last five boards 20-4. The most interesting hands occurred in the first part of the match. This was one:

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vuln.

♠ Q 6 5			
♥ A K 8 3			
♦ Q J 3			
♣ 10 9 7			
♠ K 10 7 3 2	♠ A J 9 8		
♥ J	♥ 10 9 6 5		
♦ A K 8 5 2	♦ 10 9 4		
♣ J 3	♣ 8 4		
♠ 4			
♥ Q 7 4 2			
♦ 7 6			
♣ A K Q 6 5 2			

West	North	East	South
Zhang	Yong	Lin	Xu
		Pass	1♣
1♠	Dble	3♠	4♥
4♠	Dble	All Pass	

Although the Chinese pair interfered heavily in the bidding, Yong and Xu found their way to 4♥, which is one

down on best defence. With a nicer trump break it would make. Not sure of the position, it is understandable that Jun Zhang took the insurance of paying out only a small sum by bidding 4♠. Yong doubled and led the ♥A. Seeing four cards on the Table and the jack falling from declarer, he switched to the ♦Q. Declarer won, cashed the king of trumps and reasoned that South must have nine or ten cards the bid suits for his bidding. As that distribution would make the trump break more likely to be 3-1 than 2-2, he followed up by finessing in trumps and going only one down. As the contract and result was the same at the other table, there was no swing on the board.

On the following board, there was a swing of 1 IMP:

Board 17. Dealer North None Vuln.

♠ A K 9 8 3			
♥ K 10 4 3 2			
♦ J 6 2			
♣ -			
♠ Q J 7 4 2	♠ 10 5		
♥ A Q 5	♥ J 9 7		
♦ 8 4 3	♦ 9		
♣ 8 2	♣ A K 9 7 6 5 4		
♠ 6			
♥ 8 6			
♦ A K Q 10 7 5			
♣ Q J 10 3			

West	North	East	South
Zhang	Yong	Lin	Xu
	1♠	3♣	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♦	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

The pre-emptive 3♣ required Giozhen Xu to make a choice between 3♦ and 3NT. Bidding 3NT has the advantage

that it clearly shows good club stoppers, but risks missing a diamond slam. On the other hand, introducing the diamond suit, and later coming back with 3 NT, gives the impression that the stopper in clubs might not be that good. Not wanting to sacrifice the possibility of a diamond slam, Xu went for the diamond bid, which led to game in the suit.

Jun Zhang made a good choice and led $\diamond 3$, won by Xu with the ten. Declarer has eight winners and can ruff two clubs on the table. But that is not enough. He needs to negotiate also a heart trick. If he instead directly plays for the ace of hearts being favourably placed, which is indicated by the bidding, he might be able to set up the suit if it is distributed 3-3. That would give him three tricks

Board 7

By Kees Tammens & Christer Andersson

When two contributors both select the same board to describe, I prefer to present their stories side by side:

That is what happened with board 7 of the first match of yesterday.

Board 7. Dealer South All Vulnerable.

\spadesuit A 9 7 6 5	
\heartsuit 4	
\diamond 10 9 7 3	
\clubsuit A 10 7	
\spadesuit Q 10 8 3	\spadesuit J
\heartsuit 10 2	\heartsuit A Q 9 8 5 3
\diamond A Q 8 6 4	\diamond K J 2
\clubsuit 9 4	\clubsuit K Q 6
	\spadesuit K 4 2
	\heartsuit K J 7 6
	\diamond 5
	\clubsuit J 8 5 3 2

and the game. He might even make the contract with hearts 4-2 if West has to guard both majors.

Xu went for a hybrid play. He ruffed a club, cashed the spade honours (discarding a club) and ruffed a spade, revealing the 5-2 break. He now continued with a high club and discarded a heart from the table. Lin won the king and continued with the club ace. This was ruffed in dummy, the hand reached by a spade ruff, trumps drawn and the game made by playing hearts to the king.

At the other table China played 3NT and had an easy task after the lead of the $\clubsuit 8$. Declarer made an overtrick and 1 IMP.

Kees describes what happened at the all-Dutch match.

A -maybe too young- $2\spadesuit$ struck in its own disadvantage:

West	North	East	South
Mich'en	Helmich	Wortel	Hop
	$2\diamond$	$2\heartsuit$	$2\spadesuit$
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

The choice for $2\diamond$ may not be everyone's favourite but alas, it can also work out fine. Meike Wortel overcalled $2\heartsuit$ and surely that would have ended the auction if South passes. But East got another chance and came in with a double. Marion Michielsen found a spectacular and prosperous solution. With good spade stoppers and possibly 5 diamond tricks, she opted for 3NT.

After a spade to the King, the second spade was ducked by North. Declarer

played a club to the King, took five diamond tricks and played a second club for 9 tricks and 15 IMPs when 4♥X went two down.

Christer Andersson chose the same board from the match between Great Britain and Indonesia:

West	North	East	South
Ew'ton	Maramis	Zigmond	Mambu
			Pass
Pass	1 ♠	2 ♥	2 ♠
Pass	Pass	Dbl	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Dbl
All Pass			

Apparently James Ewington thought his spade holding reliable enough to try the no trump game, but this was missed by their opponents. It seems like to double on Mambu was more based on a nasty surprise in hearts than a strong support in spades.

Maramis led the ♠6 won by Mambu with the king and catching the three from declarer. Mambu returned the four, which draw the ten from declarer and the ace from Maramis. It is now vital for defence not to continue spades. When they did, declarer got two spade tricks to add to his five diamond tricks and the heart ace. He only had to establish a club to make his contract, scoring 750.

If Maramis switches to hearts, defence survives as the diamond break does not allow declarer to play clubs twice against dummy. The alternative, to duck the second spade with the North hand is not possible, as declarer now can play clubs twice against dummy and there is no way get South in for a third spade. The most comfortable way for defence

to beat the 3 NT contract is to lead hearts. Although it is indicated by the bidding, it does not look appetising.

As the contract was 4♥X at the other table, and the red suits did not behave, it cost 800 and gave the British squad no less than 17 IMP. Thus, beating the 3 NT contract would still have resulted in a significant loss on the board.

It turned out that both our journalists had chosen a good table, as these were the only two tables where 3NT was bid, and both made it!

Most tables were in 4♥ going down, and the Datum score was +110 (as opposed to the -600 and -750 presented here).

That's Confidence!

I was invited at the Czech breakfast table and I was quick to congratulate the team with their flawless start.

"It will be difficult to maintain a 25VP average", I told them.

"Completely impossible !!!", they said, "since we have a bye today".

They were going for it though!

The first Impressions

By Kees Tammens

Only 24 boards played and already lots of interesting material for the bulletin. For Dutch juniors this is already the fourth youth event of the year: last spring the White House Junior Internationals, in June two practice matches against Poland U-20 and U-25, and in July the European Junior Pairs in Wrocław.

In round one the countries with two participating teams see a national battle. Team A of the Netherlands is formed of two of the pairs that won the European Junior Teams in Jesolo (Groenenboom - Drijver en Wortel - Michielsen) with Verbeek - Molenaar as co-equipiers. Netherlands B feature Hop - Helmich and Nab - Dekkens, the first three also in the U-20 team for Beijing.

So this match featured Junior Experience versus Young Talents.

The A-team lost 10 IMPs on a poorly defended board but won some part-score battles to even the score. Then came board seven, which is presented elsewhere in this bulletin and which yielded 15 IMPs to the A-team.

So the "old" juniors took the lead and kept it till the end (20-10).

In round 2 a first Dutch - Polish clash:

Bob Drijver and Merijn Groenenboom did well to bid an excellent 4♠ on board 18.

Board 18. Dealer East N/S Vulnerable.

♠	K 6 4 3 2		
♥	Q 9		
♦	K		
♣	A K Q 7 6		
♠	Q 9 8 7	♠	J
♥	K 8 7 5 3	♥	A J 6 4
♦	10 7	♦	Q 8 5 4 2
♣	5 2	♣	J 10 8
		♠	A 10 5
		♥	10 2
		♦	A J 9 6 3
		♣	9 4 3

West	North	East	South
Wasiak	Drijver	Kraw'k	Groen'm
		Pass	Pass
Pass	1♠	Dble	2♥
3♥	4♠	All Pass	

2♥ = 8-9, 3+ spades

Bob Drijver in North did well to conceal his second suit so east had a difficult lead. Not willing to lead from the unsupported ♥A, he chose the ♣J. Declarer took the ♣A, unblocked the ♦K, crossed to ♠A and threw the ♥Q on the ♦A. Now he played a club from dummy. Skillfull play as he would have succeeded even with clubs as well as spades 4-1.

Then came the decisive blow. The girls stunned everybody with a perfect relay sequence to an excellent 6♠ on board 20.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vulnerable.

♠ 8 2
 ♥ J 9 5 3
 ♦ J 6 2
 ♣ J 6 4 2
 ♠ K Q 10 7 ♠ A J 6 5
 ♥ K 7 ♥ 10 8 2
 ♦ 7 ♦ A 9 3
 ♣ Q 10 8 7 5 3 ♣ A K 9
 ♠ 9 4 3
 ♥ A Q 6 4
 ♦ K Q 10 8 5 4
 ♣ -

West	North	East	South
Mich'n	Sak'ska	Wortel	Butryn
1♣	Pass	1NT	2♦
Dble	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♥	Pass	6♠	All Pass

1♣	Natural	1NT	GF relay
Dble	4♥ or 4♠	2♥	relay
2NT	4♠	3♣	relay
3♥	4♠ and 5♣	3♠	relay
3NT	4-6	4♣	KC
4♥	0 aces	6♠	I knew it

This incredible sequence ended in 6♠, impeccable (especially played by West, but as you can see a Lightner can spoil that particular party).

After ♦K to the Ace, declarer drew trumps, was startled when clubs did not behave, but was home when, after ruffing the fourth club, she found ♥A in South, which was after all to be expected after the vulnerable overcall.

As I was asked to chair the jury for the Paul Magerman award, this hand is the first entry and I hope many players,

coaches and kibitzers will provide me with more highlights.

It can be the best played, defended or bid hand, all is eligible for the prize from Paul, who created this event and who was a great friend.

Live on BBO

There will be one match per round that is going to be transmitted on BBO.

On Friday the chosen matches are:

Rd 8 (09:30) France A - Singapore

Rd 9 (11:20) Great Britain - Poland A

Rd 10 (14:15) Norway B - Chinese T.

Rd 11 (16:05) Czech Rep. - Netherl's A

Rd 12 (17:55) Netherl's B - China

And on Saturday:

Rd 13 (09:30) Chinese T. - Germany B

Rd 14 (11:20) Norway A - France A

Ranking after 6 rounds:

1	Netherlands A	127
2	Czech Republic	122
3	Great Britain	114
4	Poland A	112
	Austria	112
6	Norway A	111
7	Germany A	101
8	USA A	100
9	Norway B	98
10	France A	95
11	Indonesia	92
12	China	85
13	Netherlands B	80
14	Chinese Taipei	79
	Canada	79
16	USA B	74
17	Belgium	73
	Germany B	73
19	Poland B	70
20	France B	53
21	Singapore	43

Indonesia



(embassy staff member), Arie Maramis, Bert Toar Poli (off), Mario Mambu, Rury Adhani, Daan Elia Mogot, Franciska Ariyami, The Indonesian Ambassador to Poland, Bang Bang Sarenga (off), Fir Firdaus (coach), Donald Gustaaf Tuerah (npc), Renal Kandlio

Czech Brilliancy

By Bert Toar Polii, Indonesia

This was the first board of our second match, which we played against the Czech Republic.

Board 13. Dealer North. None Vuln.

♠ A 9 5 4	♠ Q 8
♥ 8 5 4	♥ J 7 3 2
♦ K Q 10	♦ 8 6
♣ A Q 6	♣ K 9 8 3 2
♠ K J 6	♠ 10 7 3 2
♥ K 9 6	♥ A Q 10
♦ J 9 5 2	♦ A 7 4 3
♣ J 10 5	♣ 7 4

Milan Macura was declarer in 4♠ on the lead of the ♥6. Milan played a diamond to the Queen and played a low spade. It is difficult for East to put in the ♠Q and switch hearts.

Rury Adhani won with the ♠J and played the ♣J. Declarer ducked (!!!) and won the ♣A next. He now played the ♠A, ruffed a club, played all the diamonds and endplayed West with the ♠K. Good play.

In the other room, Mario Mambu won the ♦ lead with the 10, and played a low spade. West won and played the ♣J. Here, Mario put in the Queen, and so East could switch to the lethal heart.

Only 2 other declarers managed this contract, which was astonishingly bid at every single one of the 20 tables in the room!

Canada



**Hershel Macaulay, Dave Sabourin, Aled Iaboni, Anton Blagov,
Ethan Macaulay, Gordi Zind, Bryan Maksymez (npc)**

France



**Thibault Coudert (A), Alain Dusmenil (npc), Yannick Valo (B),
Christophe Grosset (A), Damien Bondat (B), Simon Poulat (A),
Landry Andrea (A), Oscar Cohen (B),
Robin Pendrigh (B), Timothee Boekhorst (B)**