



Rotterdam, Friday 25 August

Bulletin no 3

Only Halfway!

Although we have played three days out of five, the tournament is still only just over half way, with 14 rounds still to be played on Saturday and Sunday.

For some time now, it has seemed as if Paris Polytechnique, or l'X as they are called at home (pronounced LIX) are going to run away from the pack, but their lead over the second team, although substantial, never seems to reach the stage where they could be called "a match ahead of the rest".

The chasing pack consists of Trondheim, 3 Polish teams (Lodz, Gdansk and Krakow), and 2 Dutch (Tilburg and Maastricht). But the "peloton" is longer than that and I won't yet bet on any team not making it to the medal places.

Meanwhile, the Belgians and the Irish have only one target left - becoming the first team of their country.



Herman, Jeanne, Paul

Change of program.

On **Sunday**, Lunch will be shortened to 40 minutes (sandwiches will be prepared) and the afternoon session will start half an hour earlier than originally planned, at **13.15**. The end will be at 16.20, after which we shall have to ask for your assistance. The hall has to be emptied by Monday morning, so if every team helps, you will have just one table, one screen and four chairs to bring downstairs.

Results

Ranking after round 14			
1	PARIS POLYTEC	FRA	258
2	TRONDHEIM	NOR	245
3	TILBURG	NED	243
4	LODZ	POL	243
5	GDANSK	POL	239
6	KRAKOW	POL	238
7	MAASTRICHT	NED	237
8	PARIS ENS	FRA	233
9	WARSZAWA 1	POL	232
10	ROTTERDAM	NED	230
11	DELFT	NED	228
12	LONDON	ENG	224
13	NIJMEGEN	NED	220
14	WIEN	AUT	219
15	bye		210
16	OLSZTYN	POL	206
17	WARSZAWA 2	POL	205
18	PRAHA	CZE	204
19	ANKARA	TUR	203
20	RIGA	LAT	202
21	HAIFA	ISR	202
22	MILANO	ITA	201
23	ANTWERPEN 1	BEL	199
24	ANTWERPEN 2	BEL	187
25	WROCLAW	POL	177
26	TARRAGONA	ESP	175
27	GALWAY	IRL	172
28	DUBLIN	IRL	164
29	ROMA	ITA	150
30	BEOGRAD	SCG	132

Follow the championships on-line at:

www.unibridge.org

The organisers thank the Flemish Bridge League (**VBL**) for hosting the web-site, and Yves Meyus for designing and maintaining it.

Also a big thank you to **Carta Mundi**, the playing card manufacturing firm from Turnhout, who have provided the cards to this and all previous University Championships.

Message from the Appeals Committee

Paul Magerman

The Organising Committee made certain that it appointed a Chief Tournament Director with the highest possible grade in the EBL. She is helped by a very able assistant, and the General Manager too has a high grade in the EBL.

That is why we find it strange that so many appeals are filed by the players. Up until now the Appeal Committee has seen no reasons whatsoever to change the rulings of the Directors.

In addition, in most cases the Appeals Committee strongly hesitated to refund the deposit. Twice, two out of three members favoured keeping the money, and only an unwritten rule stating that Committees must be unanimous in deciding on frivolity meant the money was refunded.

The very high quality of the Directors and their decisions deserve better!

Today's outing and Tournament

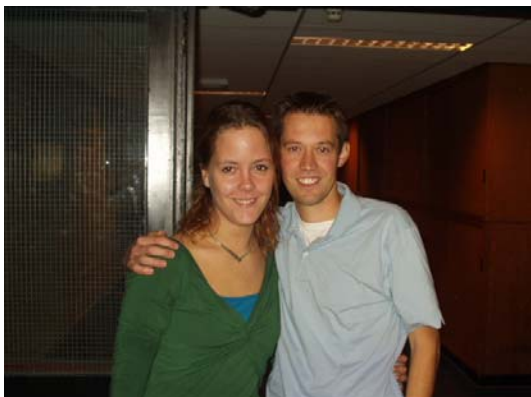
When you are reading this, it is probably almost time to leave for the outing. If you haven't registered in advance it is time to start grovelling and ask to be admitted.

The open tournament on Friday evening still has a very few places left, and there too you'll need to ask Femmy or Caroline if one of those places can be yours.

Who will play with Zia and Sabine?

On the last page of yesterday's Bulletin Kees Tammens reported a well defended 5♣ contract in which it was crucial not to allow declarer to reach dummy to finesse partner for the trump queen. At printing yesterday we did not know from which match the board came and who the successful defender was. That problem has now been solved; the defender was a she. Her partner told us the board came from the match between Praha and Tilburg, and the defender was the Dutchess (*) Marion Michielsen.

(*) indeed, what do you call a young lady from the Netherlands? Here's a Swedish-invented word that might just stick.



Marion Michielsen defended well and then played even better. Jeroen is full of admiration.

Today, the Bulletin detectives are looking for another potential excellent defender. The board we hope to find exuberantly defended was the last one of the first match.

Board 7 - D South All Vulnerable.

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

The detectives saw this board in the match between Riga and Rotterdam. The normal contract of 3NT was reached the following direct way:

West	North	East	South
<i>Tammens</i>	<i>Tihane</i>	<i>dWaele</i>	<i>J.Bethers</i>
			Pass
INT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

The first defensive problem is to find the spade lead. Understandably Rene de Waele led a low heart giving away the contract by allowing the low heart on the table to become a winner. Having over-come the first problem and found a spade lead, the defense cannot cash all four spade winners. In that case declarer can throw clubs from hand and win the club continuation with the ace. Now four rounds of diamonds with a club discharge from hand finishes East. He cannot hold on to both the club king and four hearts. To defeat the contract, West has to return a club to partners king early in defense before all spades are cashed, not to put partner into the squeeze position. This defense was not found in this match. But we wonder - did any player find that nice defense. If so, please let the Bulletin staff now.

Olsztyn



Krzysztof Trunowicz, Tomasz Reczuga, Ewa Hocheker, Pawel Turlejski

Paris Polytechnique (I'X) & Paris Ecole Normale Superieure



**Christophe Oursel (npc), Paul Seguineau (P), Alexandre Hobeika (E),
Nicolas Chauvelot (E), Frederic Volcker (E), Thomas Bessis (P),
Godefroy De Tessieres (P) , Adrien Vinay (P), Nicolas LeProvost (E)**

Riga



Peteris Bethers, Martins Lorencs, Janis Bethers, Aivar Tihane

Taragona



Ramon Gómez Hierro, Gonzalo Goded Merino, Joan Priu Tous, Enric Nart Comes

Team Presentations

We have not received any team presentations, so we'll just publish team photos instead. Don't forget that there are only two bulletins after this one, so don't go running away when you see Herman's camera approaching!

Ankara



Ardic Karol, Omer Keziluk, Ozan Ildeniz Ucan, Ercan Ercis, Serhat Ozer Paksoy

Maastricht



Andor van Munnen, Tim Heeres, Richard Ritmeijer, Erwin Barendregt

Boards of the day

When the opponents carefully maneuver into game, seemingly without confidence, and you have valuable cards behind the opponent bidding a suit, it might be profitable to double on pure speculation because of your nasty surprise. But if you cannot see the way forward for the defense, my advice would be to take it easy. Round 5 saw a clash between two Polish teams that at the time were in the upper part of the standings, Olsztyn and Warsaw I:



**Ooff, it's not a heart lead,
thinks Krzysztof**

Rd 5 Bd 10 - D East All Vulnerable.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Naw-Rocki</i>	<i>Hoch-eker</i>	<i>J. Koto-rowicz</i>	<i>Truno-wicz</i>
		1♠	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
Dble	All Pass		

The double was speculative and not lead directing as West was on lead himself. The lead, however, became crucial. A majority of Piotr Nawrocki's cards would have defeated the contract – any ♣ or ♥ would have led to at least one down. But Piotr started with a low spade, directly establishing the two tricks declarer needed to make his contract. The club surprise, on which the double was based, had no relevance on this board.

The following board from the match between Haifa and Wroclaw, on the other hand, had the sort of surprise that may be very profitable:

Rd 8 Bd 10 - D North East-West Vuln.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Robak</i>	<i>Schwartz</i>	<i>Dorabiala</i>	<i>Yener</i>
	1♠	Dble	2♠
Pass	3NT	Dble	All Pass

The play is not interesting and led to three down. Declarer could have escaped cheaper in a spade contract but still gone down doubled. My simple thought is: which are the strong arguments for bidding 2♠ on the South cards after a take-out double? I know it is important to show trump support to partner, but isn't that South hand a bit too weak and balanced?

Being aggressive and talking the opponents out of a game may be profitable, but only if their game can be made. That lesson was learnt by the players from Lodz on this board from their match against Trondheim in round 12:

Rd 12 Bd 17 - D North None Vuln.

<p>♠ K 10 9 ♥ A Q 10 8 6 ♦ K 3 ♣ 10 7 5</p> <p>♠ 7 6 5 4 2 ♥ J 4 3 ♦ - ♣ K 9 8 3 2</p> <p>♠ J 8 3 ♥ K 9 7 5 ♦ A J 8 5 ♣ A 6</p>	<p>♠ A Q ♥ 2 ♦ Q 10 9 7 6 4 2 ♣ Q J 4</p>
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West	North	East	South
<i>Kozikow-Reistad</i>		<i>Sponden-Berg</i>	
<i>ski</i>		<i>kiewicz</i>	
	1♥	2♦	2NT
Pass	3♥	4♦	Dble
All Pass			

The defense got four trump tricks and the aces in hearts and clubs, bringing the contract two down. 300 would not be expensive if the heart game can be made. But the Norwegians in the closed room efficiently brought the heart game three down by attacking diamonds and using spades for transportation to the East hand. !0 IMPs to Trondheim.

The Polish team took all of them back on the board that followed, which was timely, as the last five boards in the match were flat:

West	North	East	South
<i>Kozikow-Reistad</i>		<i>Sponden-Berg</i>	
<i>ski</i>		<i>kiewicz</i>	
		Pass	Pass
1♣*	2♦*	2♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Rd 12 Bd 18 - D East North-South Vul

<p>♠ 6 ♥ K Q 7 6 5 3 2 ♦ 8 5 ♣ J 5 4</p> <p>♠ K Q 5 ♥ A J 9 8 4 ♦ A J 9 7 ♣ A</p>	<p>♠ J 10 9 8 3 ♥ 10 ♦ K Q 10 3 ♣ Q 10 9</p> <p>♠ A 7 4 2 ♥ - ♦ 6 4 2 ♣ K 8 7 6 3 2</p>
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Tor-Ove Reistad's intervention on the Polish club was a weak jump overcall in either of the majors. When Tomasz Spondenkiewicz was able to show some strength by his spade call, Andrzej Kozikowski did not bother to explore any other game than 3NT. With the club jack in the hands of the right opponent, Kozikowski quickly scored one over-trick by establishing the spade suit.



Andrzej Kozikowski made 3NT+1

In the other room the disturbance resulted in the Norwegians bidding the East-West cards to 5♦. This is an excellent contract as 6♦ often makes on the East-West cards. Not this time however. The cross-ruff in the majors was too much for declarer. 11 IMP back to Poland and 15-15 in the match.

Antwerpen (team I?)

**Where else would you find the Belgians but at the bar,
with some beers and a couple of beautiful girls?**



**Steven De Donder, Pieter Van Parijs, Johan Fastenakels, Alon Amsel
Geert Magerman is NOT their NPC**

Meanwhile, the Irish have taken over the smoking area, but the sign outdoors
indicates that some other players can enter:

Irish Pub Good Lookers Only Welcome



**Tessa, Tallulah, Killer
The Italians are enjoying an Irish Pub you can smoke in!**

