

West cashed four club tricks but then had to lead away from his spade queen. D'Orsi put up dummy's jack and had nine tricks: three spades, three hearts, two diamonds and one club.

Plus 100 and plus 600 gave the d'Orsi team 12 international match points on the board.

Note that it would not have helped West to lead his spade queen at Trick 10. East had been squeezed by the clubs and had discarded one spade. So d'Orsi would have won the spade queen with his king and cashed the spade ace, which would have swallowed dummy's jack and East's ten to leave South's nine as a winner.

World championships will not be the same without d'Orsi's warm smile and personality.

A version of this article appears in print on February 12, 2015, on page C4 of the New York edition.

---

© 2015 The New York Times Company