

LAZOS UPSET WINNER IN AMERICAN OPEN

By

Andrew KEMPNER, Tour. Dir.

An unheralded Los Angeles Master topped a record field of 160 in the Fourth Annual American Open, held at the Miramar Hotel in Santa Monica Nov. 28-Dec 1.

James LAZOS (2316) posted the fine score of 7½ in the 8-rd event. His bid for the title hung in the balance of flags as a fierce time-pressure scramble developed in his last-round game with John BLACKSTONE (2275), L.A. County Champion.

BLACKSTONE, with the black pieces, had secured the slightly more aggressive game, but his usually accurate judgment betrayed him in an open position rife with combinations. LAZOS thus succeeded Dr. Anthony SAIDY (who flew in from Douglaston, New York, where he is writing a theoretical book on chess) as American Open Champion, and pocketed the \$600 first prize. His single draw was with John VARIS (1874) in round 2.

LAZOS, now 31, emerged years ago as a prodigy from the late Herman STEINER's chess stable. His last tournament victory prior to this event was the 1965 Rocky Mountain Open. It is well-known that Jim prefers slow, non-committal openings (one of his novelties is the amorphous 1.P-K3) and has a penchant for finely-drawn positional strategies. His end-game technique is highly respected by the coffee-house set.

SAIDY (2522), highest rated in the field, finished out of the money along with Tibor WEINBERGER (2444), and was clearly off form. Perhaps he should not have played after being bedded for 3 days with flu right up to round 1. Tony had clear advantages in his games with George SAIDI (2163) and Norman LESSING (2174) but drew. Then it fell to Larry REMLINGER (2250) of Long Beach to put Tony away for keeps in the money round.

REMLINGER prefers a solid game with a tactical punch at the end. Feinting threats on the kingside, he forced SAIDY to passively blockade his own pieces, then penetrated with a fine queen move which resulted in a passed pawn. REMLINGER's 7-1 score was good enough to tie for 2-3 with 20-yr. old Walter Shaun BROWNE (2436) of Brooklyn.

BROWNE, nicked for a point in Rd 4 by Harry MAYER (2040) when, as Walter put it, he "went crazy" in an overwhelming position, acted like Desperate Desmond throughout the tournament. His flag was always on the brink, the result of endless ruminations in the opening, after which he sometimes made the worst move available. In his game with William BRAGG (2024) he had to make 28 moves in 2 minutes. This time-pressure syndrome has become characteristic of BROWNE's play, but must seriously depress his scores over the long haul. Nevertheless, his ferocious drive to win pulled him even with REMLINGER and earned him \$237.50 in prize money.

At 6½ came BLACKSTONE, Ernest Shields Open winner Charles HENIN of Sherman Oaks and Earl PRUNER of Los Angeles. WEINBERGER finished with 6 points - tied with some players he traditionally leaves in the dust. The American Open seems to be his hard luck tournament, for he has never won a major prize in 4 years. WEINBERGER can play exceptional chess when he respects his opponent, but tends to relax when his adversary is from the unwashed masses. For him to have lost positions against lower-rated players is normal but invariably this Hungarian Houdini brings off a swindle or finesse that reverses the expected result. Not so this time. To Marlie THOMASON (1895) and Charles DITLOW (1728) go the honors of nailing shut Tibor's coffin when their chances developed.

Other prize winners included Expert: 1-9: P. RHEE, N. LESSING, R. SCHUTT, V. PAFNUTIEFF, J. SCHMITT, P. EBERLEIN, G. SCHAIN, A. SUHOBECK and M. SIERO. Class A: K. STANI, J. CALLAWAY, 13 tied for 3rd. Class B: R. GARDNER; 2-4, V. FAGIN, E. FAELTON, S. SCHWARTS. Class C: K. MORRISEY, 2-3 R. ERVIN, D. HILL. D: J. SKRATULIA. U/r: K. KAHYAI (Iran). Woman: D. BRAGG. Senior: LESSING, SIERO, PAFNUTIEFF. U 18: B. ANTMAN. U14: D. BERRY.

4TH AMERICAN OPEN

Santa Monica

Nov. 1968

	Ratg.	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Rd 8	Tot.
1. LAZOS	J. 2316	W 65	D134	W 82	W 53	W 17	W 18	W 8	W 4	7½-½
2. BROWNE	W. 2436	W 95	W 50	W 59	L 20	W 45	W 23	W 19	W 9	7-1
3. REMLINGER	L. 2250	W118	W 85	W 33	D 27	W 29	D 20	W 21	W 7	7-1
4. BLACKSTONE	J. 2275	W 89	W116	W 39	D 18	W 27	W 15	W 20	L 1	6½-1½
5. PRUNER	E. 2263	W 94	W 77	W 21	W 35	L 20	W 28	W 11	D 8	
6. HENIN	C. 2219	W 78	W130	L 35	D 34	W 72	W 53	W 56	W 20	
7. SAIDY	A. 2522	W132	W 32	W 28	D 19	W 11	D 9	W 14	L 3	6 - 2
8. RHEE	P. 2131	W 81	W 88	W125	D 9	W 22	W 37	L 1	D 5	
9. LESSING	N. 2174	W115	W 51	W 66	D 8	W 35	D 7	W 27	L 2	
10. WEINBERGER	T. 2444	W 91	L 73	L 54	W 80	W 98	W 51	W 46	W 18	
11. SCHUTT	R. 2166	W108	W 72	W 63	W 73	L 7	W 39	L 5	W 43	
12. PAFNUTIEFF	V. 2180	W110	W 24	D 29	W134	D 19	L 21	W 45	W 28	
13. SCHMITT	J. 2199	L 92	W137	W 91	W 85	D 63	D 73	W 29	W 31	
14. EBERLEIN	P. 2139	W120	W 43	L 73	W 51	W 40	W 41	L 7	W 33	
15. SCHAIN	G. 2045	W 86	L 64	W 65	W 62	W116	L 4	W 73	W 58	
16. SUHOBECK	A. 2080	W114	L 75	W 25	W 24	W 50	L 22	W 77	W 37	
17. SIERO	M. 2152	W159	W 34	W 62	D 22	L 1	D 29	W 68	W 39	
18. SPENCER	S. 2163	W 55	W 81	W 40	D 4	W 32	L 1	W 22	L 10	5½-½
19. SAIDI	G. 2112	W144	W 84	W 64	D 7	D 12	W 83	L 2	D 21	
20. LAYER	H. 2040	W 42	W 44	W 92	W 2	W 5	D 3	L 4	L 6	
21. STANI	K. 1966	W131	W 80	L 5	W 54	W 90	W 12	L 3	D 19	
22. SMITH	K. 2332	W 98	W 38	W 49	D 17	L 8	W 16	L 18	W 53	
23. BRAGG	W. 2024	W142	D 41	D 74	W 84	W130	L 2	D 44	W 65	
24. CALLAWAY	J. 1825	W105	L 12	W101	L 16	W111	D 59	W 92	W 56	
25. GARDNER	R. 1700	L 27	W146	L 16	W112	W 66	D 71	W 69	W 52	
26. KAHYAI	K. u/r	D 58	L102	W 36	D 69	D 34	W107	W 50	W 63	
27. LEIDNER	M. 2131	W 25	W107	W 75	D 3	L 4	W 63	K 9	D 36	5 - 3
28. ANTMAN	B. 1999	W 90	W 57	L 7	W107	W 64	L 5	W 41	L 12	
29. McREYNOLDS	F. 1933	W 99	W132	D 12	W 92	L 3	D 17	L 13	W 76	
30. BERRY	D. u/r	W 36	L 40	D 83	W 58	W134	D 33	L 43	W 77	
31. BA 'CHELDER	C. 2040	W119	D100	W102	D 41	D 73	D 76	W 38	L 13	
32. LAINSON	B. 1890	W146	L 7	W 42	W122	L 18	L 65	W118	W 87	
33. RADAIKIN	V. 1967	W 67	W 87	L 3	D 55	W 60	D 30	W 86	L 14	
34. WELSH	D. 1845	W156	L 17	W 99	D 6	D 26	L 43	W122	W 90	
35. MOORE	R. 1965	W129	W147	W 6	L 5	L 9	W 62	L 58	W 84	
36. GROSS	B. 1821	L 30	D 61	L 26	W118	W 54	W105	W125	D 27	
37. FAGIN	V. 1753	W101	L 39	W 97	W 43	W 68	L 8	W 47	L 16	
38. HOUGH	R. 1876	W151	L 22	L119	W 67	W 81	W 88	L 31	W 86	
39. KE MERER	T. 1973	W133	W 37	L 4	W 82	W 88	L 10	W 76	L 17	
40. YERGIN	C. 1917	W111	W 30	L 18	W 79	L 14	L 44	W 91	W 88	
41. FAELTEN	E. 1777	W157	D 23	W 60	D 31	W 59	L 14	L 28	W 68	
42. MORRISSEY	K. 1597	L 20	W158	L 32	L106	W 96	W 79	W F	W 85	
43. STANDERS	L. 1972	W117	L 14	W 76	L 37	W 94	W 34	W 30	L 11	
44. SCHWARTA	S. 1776	W 70	L 20	L 79	W137	W101	W 40	D 23	D 48	
45. COM LONS	K. 1961	L 80	W111	W118	W 78	L 2	W 64	L 12	W 83	
46. CORBIN	L. 1956	L147	W129	L 78	W133	W110	W 84	L 10	W 82	
47. NG	R. 1990	W135	L 82	L 94	W142	W 91	W130	L 37	W 72	
48. MORTZ	J. 1972	W112	L 92	W 89	L 64	W 78	W 75	D 65	D 44	
49. HAMMIE	R. 1976	L 88	W 56	L 22	W135	L 65	W142	D 54	W 94	4½-3½
50. LATTA	B. 1870	W143	L 2	W 80	W125	L 16	D 90	L 26	W 92	
51. JONES	K. 1857	W138	L 9	W133	L 14	W 74	L 10	D 94	W108	
52. DE LAURA	R. 1923	D 60	D 83	W115	L 90	D 92	W 89	W 57	L 25	

			<u>Ratg.</u>	<u>Rd 1</u>	<u>Rd 2</u>	<u>Rd 3</u>	<u>Rd 4</u>	<u>Rd 5</u>	<u>Rd 6</u>	<u>Rd 7</u>	<u>Rd 8</u>	<u>Tot.</u>
53.	VALDMA	K.	u/r	D102	W 58	W100	L 1	W105	L 6	W 55	L 22	4½-3½
54.	DITLOW	C.	1728	W122	L 59	W 10	L 21	L 36	W112	D 49	W 97	
55.	CHALKER	R.	1747	L 18	W131	W132	D 33	W 68	L 56	L 53	W106	
56.	RUBIN	S.	2032	W124	L 49	W 98	D 72	W 57	W 55	L 6	L 24	
57.	SEFTON	D.	1749	W158	L 28	D105	W129	L 56	W123	L 52	W101	
58.	MELNIKER	R.	1793	D 26	L 53	W141	L 30	W104	W 61	W 35	L 15	
59.	KENNEDY	W.	1978	W123	W 54	L 2	W 75	L 41	D 24	D 83	D 64	
60.	HILL	D.	1455	D 52	W141	L 41	W100	L 33	L 72	W107	W103	
61.	ERVIN	R.	1436	L 69	D 36	L140	W157	W103	L 58	W102	W100	
62.	NEZHNI	L.	1802	W126	W154	L 17	L 15	W122	L 35	D 97	W 93	
63.	HEISMAN	D.	1927	W139	W109	L 11	W 94	D 13	L 27	W100	L 26	
64.	STOUTENBRO	Ross	1799	W155	W 15	L 19	W 48	L 28	L 45	W 81	D 59	
65.	YASUTAKE	P.	1696	L 1	W136	L 15	W 99	W 49	W 32	D 48	L 23	
66.	GAMBOA Dr.	G.	1956	W137	W128	L 9	L 88	L 25	W144	L 87	W131	4-4
67.	BRAGG	D.	1505	L 33	L101	W155	L 38	W109	W148	L 91	W F	
68.	BORGES	F.	1921	L128	W139	W110	W 74	L 37	W 82	L 17	L 41	
69.	LUDVIK	C.	1900	W 61	L125	D104	D 26	D 89	W149	L 25	D 78	
70.	PEDERSEN	P.	u/r	L 44	W112	L 84	L115	L123	W143	W151	W124	
71.	GELLER	S.	2054	D 74	L 93	W106	W104	L 76	D 25	L 88	W129	
72.	LEVINE	S.	1829	W153	L 11	W147	D 56	L 6	W 60	D 90	L 47	
73.	THOMASON	M.	1895	W 79	W 10	W 14	L 11	D 31	D 13	L 15	L F	
74.	JONES	A.	1622	D 71	W140	D 23	L 68	L 51	D117	W134	D 75	
75.	POST	L.	1800	W150	W 16	L 27	L 59	W 79	L 48	D108	D 74	
76.	WREN	G.	1750	D141	W106	L 43	W150	W 71	D 31	L 39	L 29	
77.	NEUSTAEDTER	R.	1859	W148	L 5	L 90	W124	W131	W125	L 16	L 30	
78.	LEONHARDT	K.	1663	L 6	W156	W 46	L 45	L 48	D121	W105	D 69	
79.	TAJIMA	R.	u/r	L 73	W120	W 44	L 40	L 75	L 42	W112	W123	
80.	USAN	R.	1587	W 45	L 21	L 50	L 10	W138	L103	W146	W125	
81.	SLECHTA	D.	1640	L 8	L 18	W145	W127	L 38	W152	L 64	W126	
82.	KELLEY	M.	1770	W149	W 47	L 1	L 39	W 97	L 68	W127	L 46	
83.	DEVINE	T.	1787	D106	D 52	D 30	W 93	W140	L 19	D 59	L 45	
84.	JENNINGS	J.	1787	W152	L 19	W 70	L 23	W121	L 46	W126	L 35	
85.	HAMILTON	B.	1864	W145	L 3	W135	L 13	L 86	W124	W 95	L 42	
86.	ILRAKALL	H.	1600	L 15	L 97	W149	W115	W 85	W116	L 33	L 38	
87.	WALMSLEY	R.	1718	W 97	L 32	L154	W123	L125	W131	W 66	L 32	
88.	GLASS	R.	1731	W 49	L 8	W143	W 66	L 39	L 38	W 71	L 40	
89.	NEWBOLD	R.	1694	L 4	W138	L 48	W151	D 69	L 52	W117	D 99	
90.	WOOD	Glen	1552	L 28	W127	W 77	W 52	L 21	D 50	D 72	L 34	
91.	MYERS	R.	1709	L 10	W 96	L 13	W147	L 47	W 67	L 40	W128	
92.	KROTKI	J.	1661	W 13	W 48	L 20	L 29	D 52	W134	L 24	L 50	3½-4½
93.	CHRISTIANSEN	L.	1652	D140	W 71	L134	L 83	L128	W139	W121	L 62	
94.	BEATTIE	W.	1680	L 5	W148	W 47	L 63	L 43	W128	D 51	L 49	
95.	CALDWELL	A.	1698	L 2	L103	W136	L131	W 99	W111	L 85	D 96	
96.	SKRATULIA	J.	1375	L116	L 91	L120	W149	L 42	W135	W142	D 95	
97.	WEIL	D.	u/r	L 87	W 86	L 37	W114	L 82	W115	D 62	L 54	
98.	COLE	J.	1696	L 22	W145	L 56	W128	L 10	D101	L106	W139	
99.	BRONSON	P.	1485	L 29	W113	L 34	L 65	L 95	W156	W115	D 89	
100.	WRANGELL	P.	1777	W F	D 31	L 53	L 60	W150	W106	L 63	L 61	
101.	SANTARIUS	J.	u/r	L 37	W 67	L 24	W132	L 44	D 98	W104	L 57	
102.	VIGNEAU	S.	1732	D 53	W 26	L 31	L140	L106	W150	L 61	W109	
103.	BECKWITH	S.	1755	L125	W 95	D150	L F	L 61	W 80	W119	L 60	
104.	SECORD	P.	1644	L154	W155	D 69	L 71	L 58	W136	L101	W138	
105.	HUNT	W.	u/r	L 24	W124	D 57	W F	L 53	L 36	L 78	W137	
106.	KRYSTALL	D.	u/r	D 83	L 76	L 71	W 42	W102	L100	W 98	L 55	
107.	FLOOD	M.	u/r	W113	L 27	W128	L 28	D119	L 26	L 60	W127	
108.	FOTIAS	C.	1655	L 11	L126	W148	L121	W146	W127	D 75	L 51	
109.	AHMED	V.	u/r	W BY	L 63	L137	D138	L 67	W153	W113	L102	
110.	HINRICHSSEN	D.	1660	L 12	W143	L 68	W146	L 46	L122	L131	W151	

AMERICAN OPEN - cont'd.

		<u>Ratg.</u>	<u>Rd 1</u>	<u>Rd 2</u>	<u>Rd 3</u>	<u>Rd 4</u>	<u>Rd 5</u>	<u>Rd 6</u>	<u>Rd 7</u>	<u>Rd 8</u>	<u>Total</u>
111.	MILLS	M. 1440	L 40	L 45	W117	W153	L 24	L 95	L124	W152	3 - 5
112.	JIRON	J. 1507	L 48	L 70	W159	L 25	W145	L 54	L 79	W142	
113.	GALLO	C. u/r	L107	L 99	L124	L152	L139	W157	L109*	W146	
114.	RAZIEN	P. 1637	L 16	L150	W156	L 97	W141	L126	L128	W153	
115.	LINN	D. 1657	L 9	W159	L 52	W 70	L 86	L 97	L 99	W143	
116.	HUFNAGEL	F. 1866	W 96	L 4	W142	W119	L 15	L 86	-	-	
117.	LA BRE	R. u/r	L 43	L123	L111	W156	W137	D 74	L 89	D119	
118.	LIEBERMAN	D. 1678	L 3	W153	L 45	L 36	W147	W151	L 32	-	
119.	McKAIG	W. 1588	L 31	W121	W 38	L116	D107	L 69	L103	D117	
120.	BATCHELDER	J. 1643	L 14	L 79	W 96	L126	L151	W145	D137	D121	
121.	SIMON	E. u/r	L130	L119	W151	W108	L 84	D 78	L 93	D120	
122.	VIKANDER	L. u/r	L 54	W144	W126	L 32	L 62	W110	L 34	-	
123.	STAMPS	R. 1537	L 59	W117	L130	L 87	W 70	L 57	L 79	W152	
124.	SURLOW	J. 1586	L 56	L105	W113	L 77	W129	L 85	W111	L 70	
125.	RACZ	S. u/r	W103	W 69	L 8	L 50	W 87	L 77	L 36	L 80	
126.	FITZGERALD	G. u/r	L 62	W108	L122	W120	L 55	W114	L 84	L 81	
127.	LAUTERBACH	J. u/r	W148	L 90	L146	L 81	W135	L108	L 82	L107	2-6
128.	BOWE	B. 1455	W 68	L 66	L107	L 98	W 93	L 94	W114	L 91	3-5
129.	WILLIAMS	J. 1486	L 35	L 46	W152	L 57	L124	W141	W144	L 71	
130.	KRAUS	A. 1850	W121	L 6	W123	W F	L 23	L 47	L F	-	
131.	SINGLETON	W. 1487	L 21	L 55	W158	W 95	L 77	L 87	W110	L 66	
132.	DAVIS	G. u/r	W160	L 7	L 29	L 55	L101	L137	W149	W148	
133.	WEILER	J. 1527	L 39	W149	L 51	L 46	L152	L148	W141	W145	
134.	VARIS	J. 1865	W136	D 1	W 93	L 12	L 30	L 92	L 74	-	2½-5½
135.	HIGGINS	O. 1551	L 47	W157	L 85	L 49	L127	L 96	D156	W144	
136.	MARTIN	D. 1361	L134	L 65	L 95	D141	W157	L104	L138	W159	
137.	ADAMSON	J. 1487	L 66	L 13	W109	L 44	L117	W132	D120	L105	
138.	NEWSOM	J. 1249	L 51	L 89	L144	D109	L 80	W155	W136	L104	
139.	GULLMES	A. 1469	L 63	L 68	D157	L144	W113	L 93	W150	L 98	
140.	HANKEN	J. 2158	D 93	L 74	W 61	W102	L 83	-	-	-	
141.	MOHAWK	W. 989	D 76	L 60	L 58	D136	L114	L129	L133	W156	2 - 6
142.	KRISTOFFERSON	K. 1577	L 23	W152	L116	L 47	W159	L 49	L 96	L112	
143.	JUDD	C. 1401	L 50	L110	L 88	L159	W149	L 70	W158	L115	
144.	RADER	D. 1633	L 19	L122	W138	W139	L 66	L F	L129	L135	
145.	LIEBERMAN	Mrs. 1328	L 85	L 98	L 81	W158	L112	L120	W159	L133	
146.	MURDOCK	B. 1416	L 32	L 25	W127	L110	L108	W159	L 80	L113	
147.	MOORE	R. 1485	W 46	L 35	L 72	L 91	L118	L153	L113	W155	
148.	JONES	N. 1291	L 77	L 94	L108	L127	W158	W133	L 67	L132	
149.	FEDERSEN	R. u/r	L 82	L133	L 86	L 96	L143	W BY	L132	W158	
150.	MASTERS	T. u/r	L 75	W114	D103	L 76	L100	L102	L118	L139	
151.	Mc GRANN	W. 1406	L 38	W F	L121	L 89	W120	L F	L 70	L110	
152.	KING	S. u/r	L 84	L142	L129	W113	W133	L 81	L123	L111	
153.	BRIGGS	E. 1111	L 72	L118	L121	L111	W147	L109	W BY	L114	
154.	BLACKMORE	W. 2142	W104	L 62	W 87	-	-	-	-	-	
155.	JUDD	R. u/r	L 64	L104	L 67	L138	L156	L158	L157	L147	0 - 8
156.	EGLITT	C. 1202	L 34	L 78	L114	L117	W155	L 99	D135	L141	1½-6½
157.	NORTON	R. u/r	L 41	L135	D139	L 61	L136	L113	W155	L150	
158.	SCHWARTZ	C. u/r	L 57	L 42	L131	L145	L148	W155	L143	L149	1 - 7
159.	MASTERS	M. u/r	L 17	L115	L112	W143	L142	L146	L145	L136	
160.	FARRINGTON	T. u/r	L132	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 - 8

*GALLO played an extra game W147 in this round to avoid a bye for 147.