

Todd Bardwick



2023

*The Chess Detective*

Todd Bardwick was born on April 19, 1963 near Hartford, Connecticut. He learned how chess at age 6 from his father, Alan Bardwick.

Alan was the 1956 Unrated Chicago High School Champion, the 1986 Denver Chess Club Champion, and the 1987 Boulder Champion. Alan's highest rating was 2148 (in 1989), making the Bardwick father-son duo the third strongest in Colorado chess history (behind the Fishbeins, and Ponomarevs).

Alan Bardwick was the Colorado State Chess Association Treasurer from 1978-1979, Member at Large from 1979-1980, and Vice-President from 1980-1981. Alan was also the President of the Denver Chess Club from 1980-86 and a Senior Level Tournament Director, organizing and directing the Colorado Open and seven Denver Opens.

Todd won the Novice Trophy in his first tournament, the 1973 Al Wallace Memorial, and became an expert in high school and with Yury Oshmyansky, led Cherry Creek High School to three Colorado high school state titles from 1978-1980. Todd won the 1981 Colorado High School Championship.

Bardwick went to the University of Colorado in Boulder, graduating first in his Civil Engineering class in 1985. During his college years, he was the Denver Chess Club Champion from 1981-1983.

After college, he moved to San Diego for five years, where he worked as a rocket scientist for General Dynamics in the Structural Analysis group.

Todd moved back to Denver in late 1989 and finished in a tie for second place (with Michael Ginat) in the 1993 Colorado Open [the last three games were wins against James McCarty (2376), Randy Canney (2355), and a draw with Michael Mulyar (2413)], achieving the National Master title.

Bardwick is the only five-time consecutive Denver Open Champion (1992-1996) with an average performance rating over 2400 for those tournaments.

Todd was also the Colorado Chess Tour Winner in 1995-1996.

On September 5-6, 1995, in the fourth round of the Colorado Open, Bardwick survived rook and knight vs. rook end-game against FM David Lucky (who a month earlier tied for second in the U.S. Open) in a game that lasted 12 hours. This game is the record longest continuous chess game in the United States between masters.

Organizing, Directing, and Promoting Chess

Todd was President of the Colorado State Chess Association from 2004-2006 and over the years has held every position on the CSCA Board except Secretary. Years of service on the CSCA Board were 1978-1979, 1993-1997, 2002-2008, and 2015-2019.

He has also been the CSCA Historian since John Harris passed away in 1995 and the CSCA Scholastic Coordinator.

Bardwick is a National Tournament Director (NTD) and has directed many of the largest tournaments in Colorado – Colorado Open, Denver Open (many times), Colorado Scholastic State Championship (over ten years), and Cherry Creek District Chess Tournament (over 25 years).

Todd was the head of the committee and made the successful bid that brought 1998 U.S. Championships and US Senior Open to Denver, winning the bid by finding a free hotel site and providing daily media coverage for nineteen straight days through his column in the *Rocky Mountain News* (Denver won the bid over New York City and Honolulu).

Twice a year for decades, Bardwick promoted chess by bringing new players to the game by making chess visible to the public through Simultaneous Exhibitions in local Denver malls. He also gave many simuls in local schools, the Denver Art Museum, and even Cirque du Soleil.

Bardwick also promoted chess to the public by speaking to thousands of attendees through annual Chess Knights at the Pepsi Center before Denver Nuggets basketball and Colorado Avalanche hockey games (2007-2016). After a lecture, he would perform the Knight's Tour blindfolded for the audience periodically stopping on squares to give out prizes to the kids.

Coaching

Bardwick has been teaching chess to kids and adults through the Chess Academy of Denver and Colorado Master Chess full-time for over 30 years and is one of the most experienced and successful chess teachers in the country. He has taught over 15,000 classes (and many more private lessons) to children in before and after school programs, classes as part of school curriculums in the classroom during the school day, one-day chess rec center workshops, and summer camps.

Todd has taught numerous nationally ranked students and Colorado State Individual and Team Champions. His students have become expert and master rated players and one was the highest rated player for his age in the country and a two-time national champion.

Bardwick founded the summer annual Rocky Mountain Chess Camp for kids in 1995, one of the oldest chess camps in the nation. Thousands of kids have attended this camp over the years, many from across the country and even some from overseas. (2024 is the 30th year of the camp.)

Bardwick is also a USCF Level V – Professional Chess Coach, one of seven in the nation with this distinction. In 2023 the United States Chess Federation awarded Todd the prestigious Dan Heisman Award for Excellence in Chess Instruction. (2023 was the third time the Heisman Award was awarded.)

Also in 2023, Bardwick joined the USCF Scholastic Council & Committee after receiving an invitation from Scholastic Committee Chair, John D. Rockefeller V.

Journalist and Author

Bardwick's chess articles and books have wide audiences in Denver, the United States, and around the world.

Todd wrote a monthly chess column in the Denver Rocky Mountain News newspaper (the 11th largest newspaper in the country at the time) from 1993 through 2009 when the paper closed. The column featured stories on local and national chess events and players, interviews with professional athletes who play chess, rules, famous games, and reviews of movies that featured chess.

In 2002, Todd started writing a chess column for *School Mates* which turned into *Chess Life for Kids*, the national chess magazine for children, where he became known nationally as the Chess Detective®.

Bardwick has also written a series of nine books that cover all the major aspects of the game from teachers to kids to advanced tournament players.

Teaching Chess in the 21st Century (2005) is a book for teachers to justify teaching chess as part of the math curriculum showing how chess meets the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Standards.

The beginner series consists of *Chess Workbook for Children* (2006) – a companion workbook to Teaching Chess in the 21st Century, *Chess Concepts and Coloring Book for Kids* (2019) – for real young players, and *Chess Handbook* (2020) – a comprehensive beginner book that also bridges the gap to intermediate players.

Chess Workbook for Children and *Chess Strategy Workbook* have been translated into Russian and sold throughout Russia. *Chess Workbook for Children* has also been translated into Korean and Czechoslovakian and sold in those countries.

The intermediate/advanced books in the series for rated players consist of *Chess Strategy Workbook* (2010), *Chess Tactics and Combinations Workbook* (2019), *Attacking the Chess King Workbook* (2019), *Chess Endgame Workbook* (2021), and *Chess Openings* (2022).

Bardwick's contributions to the French Defense are in *Play the French* (New Edition) by IM John Watson, pages 47-48 for the Exchange Variation and *Inside Chess*, April 15, 1996, pages 29-30 in an article by Watson on the Advance Variation.

Todd is an acknowledged contributor to *A Legend on the Road – Bobby Fischer's 1964 Simul Tour – Second Edition*, by IM John Donaldson.

"Bobby Fischer's Visits to Colorado" <https://new.uschess.org/news/bobby-fischers-visits-colorado> won Honorable Mention for Best Historical Online article from the Chess Journalists of America. The full article was published in the August 2018 *Colorado Chess Informant*.



First trophy - 1973



1982 Boulder Open playing GM Walter Browne



1982 Boulder Open playing GM Walter Browne (standing)



Alan Bardwick teaching at Rocky Mountain Chess Camp



March 2007 Simul at Colorado Mills Mall



October 2002 Simul from above



October 2002 Simultaneous Exhibition at Southglenn Mall



October 2003 Simultaneous Exhibition at Colorado Mills Mall



1998 Carol Jarecki letter to Rocky Mountain News



1998 US Championship Finals with Carol Jarecki



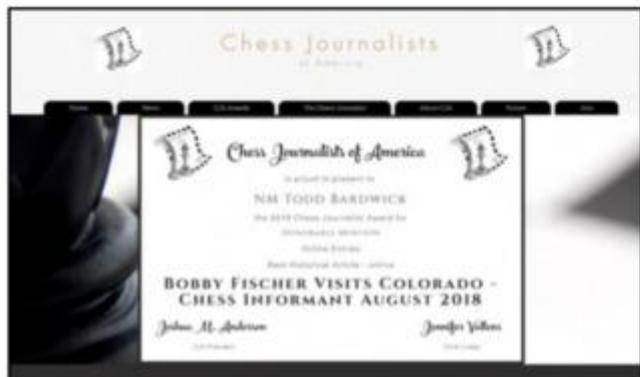
1998 US Championships - Finals



2007 Denver Nuggets Chess Knight at Pepsi Center



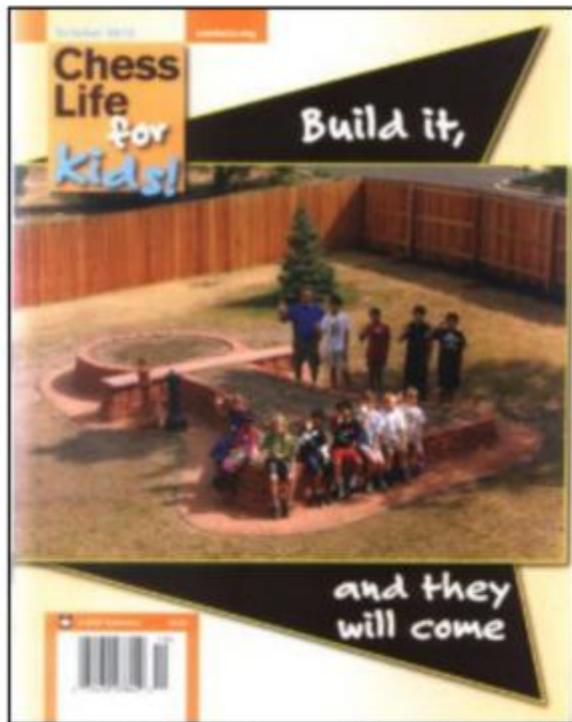
2014 Colorado Avalanche Chess Knight at Pepsi Center



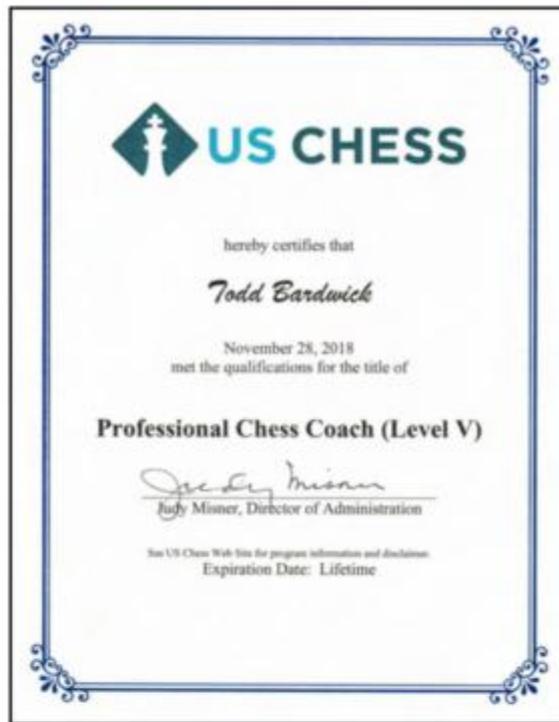
CJA - 2019



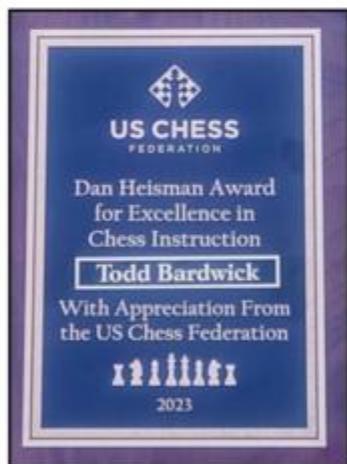
Pepsi Center - scoreboard at Chess Knight



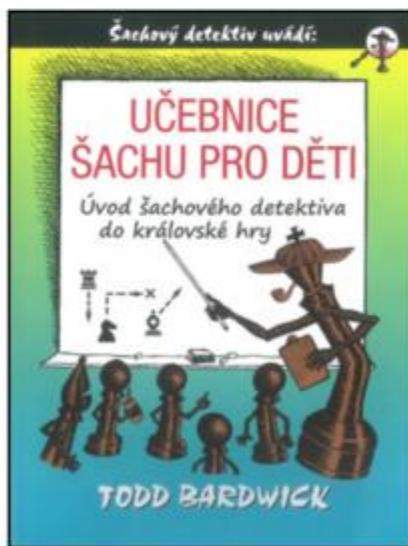
Pawn Garden on the cover of the October 2012 Chess Life for Kids



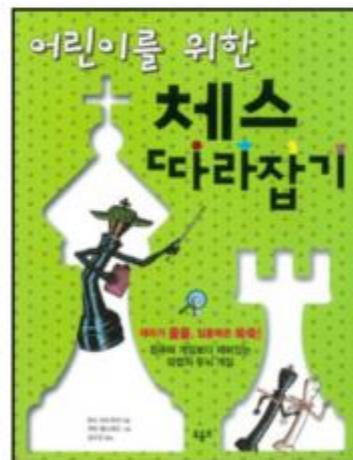
USCF - Level V Coach



Dan Heisman Award for Excellence in Chess Instruction



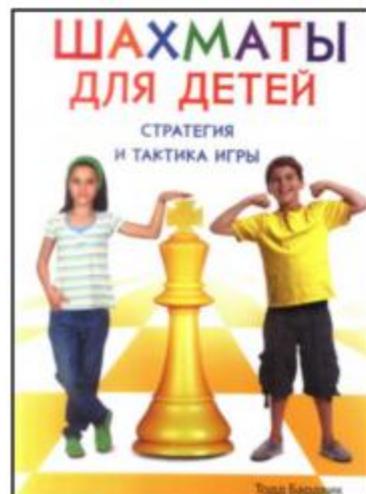
Chess Workbook for Children Czech Republic cover



Chess Workbook for Children Korean cover

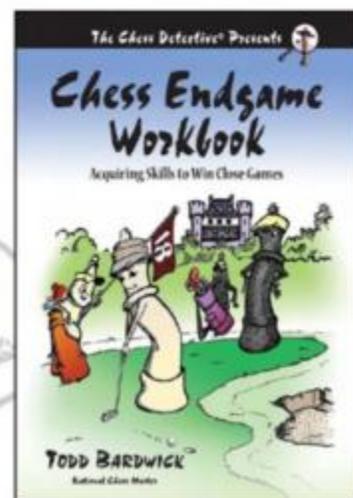
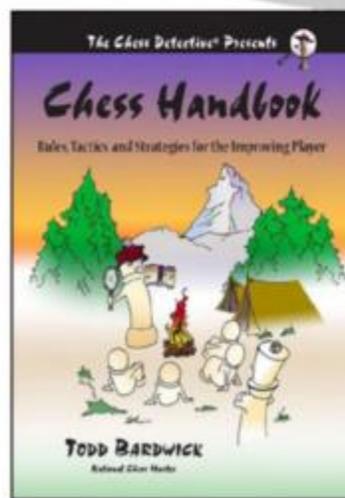
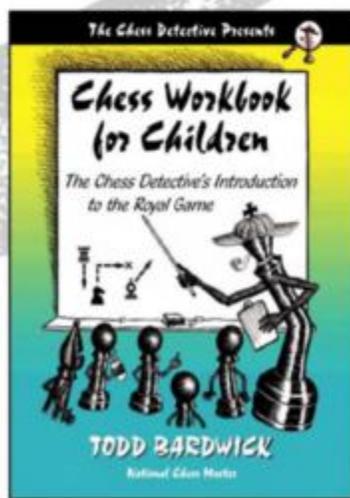
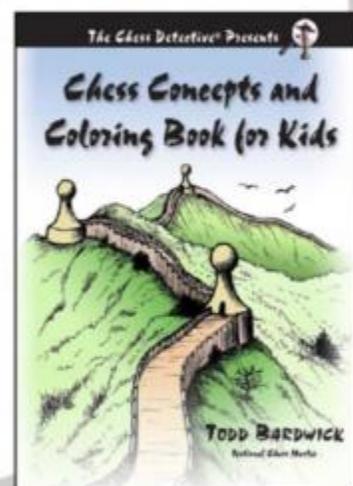
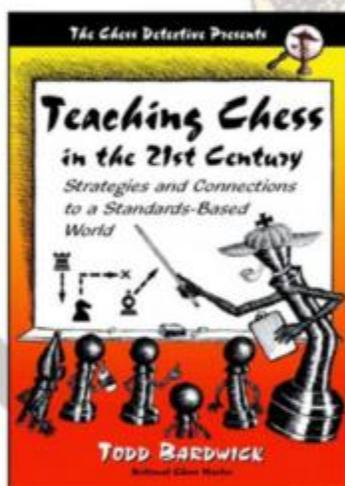
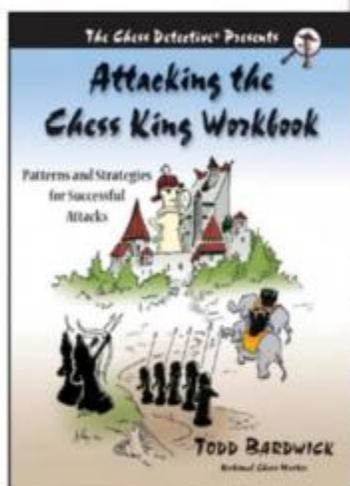
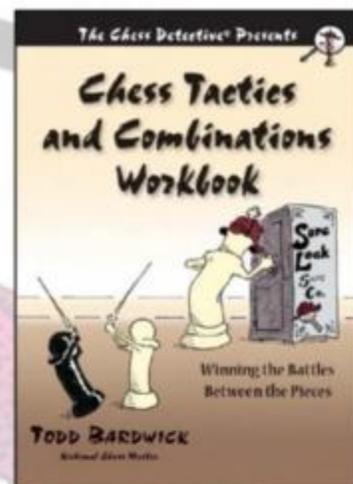
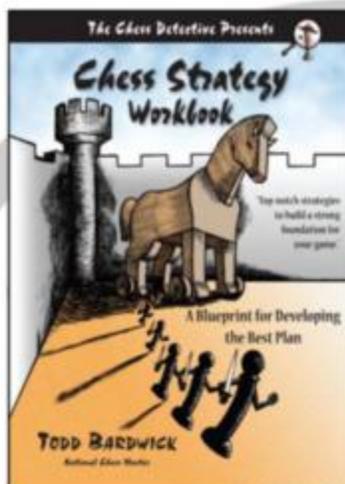
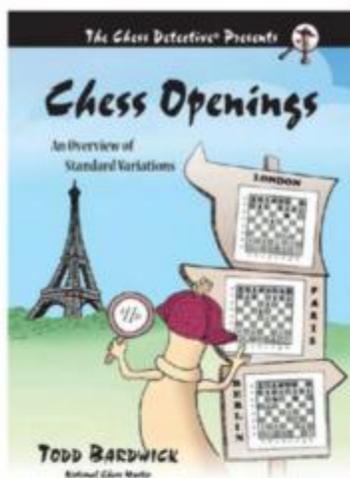


Chess Workbook for Children - Russian Cover



Chess Strategy Workbook - Russian cover

Todd Bardwick's books in English



Todd was 11 years old when this simul game was played against Danish Grandmaster Bent Larsen. Larsen lost to Paul Nikitovich, Alan Bardwick, and Ron Leonhard in the simul. Three years earlier, Larsen lost the 1971 Quarter-Final World Championship Match in Denver to Bobby Fischer.

[Event "1974 Bent Larsen Simul"]

[Site "Denver, Colorado"]

[Date "July 18, 1974"]

[White "Todd Bardwick (1205)"]

[Black "GM Bent Larsen"]

[Result "0-1"]

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 exd4 4. Nxd4 g6 5. f4 Bg7 6. Nb3 d6 7. Nc3 Nf6 8. Be2 O-O 9. O-O Be6 10. Bf3 Qc8 11. h3 Rd8 12. Be3 Be4 13. Rf2 e5 14. Be2 Bxe2 15. Qxe2 exf4 16. Bxf4 Qe6 17. Re1 Rac8 18. e5 Nh5 19. exd6 Qxe2 20. Rxe2 Bxc3 21. bxc3 Nxf4 22. Rxf4 Rxd6 23. g4 b6 24. Re4 Rcd8 25. Kg2 R8d7 26. Kg3 Kg7 27. Ree4 f5 28. gxf5 gxf5 29. Rf4 Kf6 30. Nd4 Rg7+ 31. Kf2 Nxd4 32. cxd4 Re7 33. Rc3 Rd5 34. Re3 Rxe3 35. Kxe3 Ra5 36. Kd3 Rxa2 37. d5 Ke5 38. Rd4 Ra1 39. Kc3 Ra3+ 40. Kc4 Ra4+ 41. Kb5 Rxd4 42. Kc6 a5 43. d6 Rxd6+ 0-1



Position after 29...Kf6

Bob Fordon won the 1980 Colorado Open a few months after this game and was Boulder's only master and top rated player for many years.

[Event "1980 Al Wallace Memorial"]

[Site "Denver, Colorado"]

[Date "March 9, 1980"]

[Round "3"]

[White "Todd Bardwick (1911)"]

[Black "Bob Fordon (2151)"]

[Result "1-0"]

1. e4 e5 2. Nc3 Nf6 3. Nf3 Nc6 4. g3 Bb4 5. Bg2 O-O 6. O-O Re8 7. Nd5 Bf8 8. e3 d6 9. h3 e4 10. Ne1 Ne5 11. b3 Bf5 12. f3 Nxd5 13. exd5 exf3 14. Nxf3 Qd7 15. g4 Bd3 16. Rf2 Be7 17. Bb2 Bf6 18. Nxe5 Bxe5 19. Bxe5 dxe5 20. e4 Rac8 21. Qf3 Ba6 22. h4 c6 23. g5 Re7 24. Qg3 exd5 25. exd5 b6 26. Be4 Rec8 27. Kh2 Re1 28. Rxc1 Rxc1 29. Qxe5 g6 30. Qf4 Be8 31. Qf3 Re1 32. h5 Qe7 33. d3 Qe5+ 34. Qf4 Qxf4+ 35. Rxf4 Re2+ 36. Kg3 Rxa2 37. hxg6 hxg6 38. d6 Bd7 39. Bd5 Ra5 40. Bxf7+ Kg7 41. Kh4 Rf5 42. Rxf5 Bxf5 43. Be4 Bd7 44. Kg3 b5 45. Bd5 a5 46. b4 a4 47. Kf4 a3 48. Ke5 Kf8 49. Kf6 Bf5 50. Bf7 1-0



Position after 20...Rac8

Jim Hamblin had a peak rating in the 2300s and was the 2003 Colorado Open Champion. He won the Denver Open in 1972, 1976, and 1990.

[Event "1980 Class Championships"]

[Site "Colorado Springs, Colorado"]

[Date "May 31, 1980"]

[Round "1"]

[White "Jim Hamblin (2122)"]

[Black "Todd Bardwick (1917)"]

[Result "0-1"]

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. e5 e5 5. a3 Bxc3+ 6. bxc3 Ne7 7. Qg4 O-O 8. Bd3 Nbc6 9. Nf3 f5 10. exf6 Rxf6 11. Bg5 Rf7 12. Ne5 Nxe5 13. dxe5 e4 14. Be2 Qc7 15. f4 Qa5 16. Qh3 Qb6 17. Bh5 g6 18. Bg4 Bd7 19. Rf1 h5 20. Bf6 Qb2 21. Rd1 Rxf6 22. exf6 hxg4 23. f7+ Kg7 24. Qxg4 Qxc3+ 25. Rd2 Qxa3 26. Qg5 Qa1+ 27. Kf2 Qf6 28. Qg3 Kxf7 29. Kg1 a5 30. Qa3 b5 31. c3 Nc6 32. Rb1 Rb8 33. f5 gxf5 34. Qd6 Qe7 0-1



Position after 15.f4

This game took place on Board 1 on the stage in the Glenn Miller Ballroom at CU Boulder. Both players had less than two minutes on their clock to reach move 40 when the game ended. GM Browne tied for first the tournament with Igor Ivanov and Alex Fisbein. Walter Browne was the current US Champion, a title he won six times - only Bobby Fischer has more U.S. Championship titles.

[Event "1982 Boulder Open"]

[Site "University of Colorado; Boulder, Colorado"]

[Date "January 30, 1982"]

[Round "1"]

[White "Todd Bardwick (2007)"]

[Black "Walter Browne (2636)"]

[Result "0-1"]

1. e4 e5 2. Nc3 g6 3. g3 Bg7 4. Bg2 Nc6 5. Nf3 e6 6. O-O Nge7 7. e3 Nf5 8. Rb1 O-O 9. a3 d5 10. cxd5 exd5 11. b4 c4 12. b5 Na5 13. Bb2 d4 14. Ne2 c3 15. e4 c2 16. Qxc2 d3 17. Qc5 dxe2 18. Rfe1 Nb3 19. Qb4 Nfd4 20. Bc3 Be6 21. Rxb3 Nxb3 22. d4 Re8 23. Rxe2 Rxc3 24. Qxc3 Nxd4 25. Nxd4 Qxd4 26. Qc7 Qd1+ 27. Bf1 Bh3 and White Resigns 0-1



Position after 11.b4

This game took place on the stage on Board 1. IM Ivanov won the U.S. Grand Prix many years and although he didn't officially have the grandmaster title, his peers considered him grandmaster strength. Bardwick and Ivanov also played in Round 3 of the 1983 Boulder Open. Ivanov won both the 1983 and 1984 Boulder Opens with a perfect 5-0 score.

[Event "1984 Boulder Open"]

[Site "University of Colorado; Boulder, Colorado"]

[Date "February 4, 1984"]

[Round "2"]

[White "Igor Ivanov (2614)"]

[Black "Todd Bardwick (2156)"]

[Result "1-0"]

1. d4 Nf6 2. e4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. Nf3 0-0 5. Qb3 Nc6 6. Bg5 h6 7. Bh4 Be7 8. e3 b6 9. Be2 Na5 10. Qc2 d5 11. Bxf6 Bxf6 12. cxd5 exd5 13. 0-0 c6 14. Rad1 Re8 15. b4 Ne4 16. Bxc4 dxc4 17. h3 Qe7 18. Rb1 b5 19. e4 g6 20. Rfe1 Bg7 21. a4 a6 22. Qd2 Bd7 23. e5 Bf5 24. Ne4 Red8 25. Ra1 Bxc4 26. Rxe4 Bf8 27. e6 f5 28. Re2 Rd6 29. Rae1 Rad8 30. Qf4 Bg7 31. Nh4 Kh7 32. Qg3 Qg5 33. e7 Qxg3 34. exd8=Q Rxd8 35. fxg3 Rxd4 36. Re6 c3 37. Rxe6 Rxb4 38. Re7 Re4 39. Rxg6 1-0



Position after 23.e5

Spence Lower was a master from New Mexico who occasionally visited Colorado.

[Event "Longmont Easter Action"]

[Site "Longmont, Colorado"]

[Date "April 18, 1992"]

[Round "4"]

[White "Todd Bardwick (2156)"]

[Black "Spence Lower (2252)"]

[Result "1-0"]

1. e4 e5 2. Nc3 Nf6 3. Nf3 Nc6 4. g3 d5 5. cxd5 Nxd5 6. Bg2 Nb6 7. O-O Be7 8. a3 O-O 9. b4 Be6 10. b5 Nd4 11. d3 Nb3 12. Rb1 Nxe1 13. Qxe1 f6 14. Nd2 Rb8 15. a4 Qd4 16. a5 Nd7 17. Nce4 Rfe8 18. Qc2 Ne5 19. Nxc5 Qxc5 20. Rfe1 Qd6 21. Ne4 Qa3 22. Ra1 Qb4 23. Ne5 Bf7 24. Bxb7 Qxb5 25. Bxc8 Rxc8 26. Qa4 Qb2 27. Re2 Qb8 28. Nd7 Qa8 1-0



Position after 15...Qd4

From the mid-1980s through the 1990s, McCarty was the top player at the Denver Chess Club and achieved a peak rating of 2416 in May of 1996. McCarty won the Colorado Open in 1984, 1989, and 1996. He won the Colorado Chess Tour in 1994-1995 and was Denver Open Champion in 1991, 1997, 1999, 2000, and 2002.

[Event "1993 Colorado Open"]

[Site "Denver, Colorado"]

[Date "September 5, 1993"] [Round "4"]

[White "James McCarty (2379)"]

[Black "Todd Bardwick (2184)"]

[Result "0-1"]

1.b3 c5 2.Bb2 Nc6 3.e3 d5 4.Bb5 Nf6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.h3 Bxf3 7.Qxf3 Rc8 8.0-0 a6 9.Bxc6+ Rxc6 10.d3 e6 11.Nd2 Be7 12.Qe2 0-0 13.e4 b5 14.e5 Nd7 15.c4 Qc7 16.f4 bxc4 17.dxc4 d4 18.Rf3 f5 19.exf6 Bxf6 20.Qe4 e5 21.Raf1 Re6 22.g4 Qc6 23.f5 Rd6 24.Qxc6 Rxc6 25.Ne4 Bh4 26.g5 h6 27.gxh6 Rxh6 28.Kh1 Nf6 29.Nxc5 e4 30.Rf4 Bg3 31.Rxe4 Nxe4 32.Nxe4 Rxh3+ 33.Kg1 Be5 34.Ba3 Rd8 35.Be7 Rd7 36.f6 gxf6 37.Bxf6 Re3 38.Nc5 Rf7 39.Bxe5 Rxe5 40.Rxf7 Kxf7 41.b4 Ke7 42.Kf2 Kd6 43.Nd3 Re3 44.e5+ Kc6 45.Nc1 Kb5 46.Nb3 Kc4 47.c6 Re8 48.Kf3 d3 49.Nd2+ Kd4 50.a4 Rf8+ 51.Kg4 Kc3 52.Ne4+ Kxb4 0-1



Position after 18.Rf3

Canney needed a win in this last round game to tie for first place with Michael Mulyar. Randy won the Colorado Open in 1978, 1991, and 2010 and the Colorado Closed in 1988 (reaching a 2405 rating), 1991, 1999, and 2011. He also won the Denver Open in 1981 and 1982.

[Event "1994 Colorado Closed"]

[Site "Denver, Colorado"]

[Date "March 27, 1994"] [Round "7"]

[White "Randy Canney (2329)"]

[Black "Todd Bardwick (2225)"]

[Result "0-1"]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Ne7 7.Qg4 Kf8 8.a4 b6 9.Nf3 h6 10.Bd3 Ba6 11.0-0 Bxd3 12.exd3 Nd7 13.Ba3 Kg8 14.a5 Kh7 15.dxc5 bxc5 16.d4 Re8 17.Qh5 g6 18.Qh3 Kg7 19.dxc5 Rc8 20.c4 Nxc5 21.exd5 Nxd5 22.Rad1 Qxa5 23.Be1 Rh8 24.Qh4 Qd8 25.Qg4 Nb3 26.Ba3 Qa5 27.Bd6 Qc3 28.Qa4 a5 29.Qd7 Qc6 30.Qxc6 Rxc6 31.Nd4 Nxd4 32.Rxd4 Ra8 33.Ra1 a4 34.Kf1 Rca6 35.Ra3 g5 36.h4 f5 37.hxg5 hxg5 38.38.g3 R8a7 39.Re4 Kg6 40.Re8 Rb7 41.Rc4 Rba7 42.Kg2 Kf7 43.Rc8 Ra8 44.Rc4 Ke8 45.f4 g4 46.Kf2 Kd7 47.Ke1 Rb6 48.Rxa4 Rxa4 49.Rxa4 Rb3 50.Ra3 Rxa3 51.Bxa3 Nc3 52.Kf2 Ne4+ 53.Kg2 Ke6 54.Be7 Kd5 55.Bd8 Kc4 56.Be7 Kd3 57.Bb6 Ke2 58.Ba7 Nc3 59.Bb6 Nd1 60.Bd8 Ne3+ 61.Kg1 Kf3 62.Bh4 Ng2 63.Kf1 Nxb4 64.gxh4 and White Resigned 0-1



Position after 19.dxc5

Mulyar needed a win in this last round game to tie for second place with Randy Canney and Michael Ginat. Jerry Kearns won the tournament by a full in point - the eight player field average rating was 2320.

[Event "1995 Colorado Closed"]

[Site "Denver, Colorado"] [Date "April 2, 1995"] [Round "7"]

[White "Michael Mulyar (2450)"]

[Black "Todd Bardwick (2239)"]

[Result "0-1"]

1.d4 e6 2.c4 f5 3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2 d5 5.Nh3 c6 6.Qc2 Be7 7.Nf4 0-0 8.Nd2 Ne4 9.f3 Nxd2 10.Bxd2 Bf6 11.e3 g5 12.Nd3 Nd7 13.0-0 Qe8 14.Bb4 Rf7 15.Bd6 dxc4 16.Qxe4 e5 17.Rae1 Nb6 18.Qc5 exd4 19.exd4 Be6 20.Bh3 Qd7 21.Ne5 Bxe5 22.dxe5 f4 23.Bg2 Nd5 24.b4 a6 25.a4 Re8 26.Rf2 Ne3 27.Rxe3 fxe3 28.Qxe3 Rg7 29.Qc5 Bd5 30.Bf1 Qe6 31.Bd3 Rf7 32.Qe3 h6 33.Qe2 Rg7 34.Qc2 Bb3 35.Qc3 Bd5 36.Be2 Kh8 37.Qd3 Rd8 38.f4 gxf4 39.Rxf4 Qh3 40.Qd2 Rdg8 41.Be5 Rxc3+ 42.hxg3 Rxc3+ 43.Kf2 Rg2+ 44.Ke1 Rxd2 45.Rf8+ Kg7 46.Kxd2 Qg2+ 47.Kc3 Qg3+ 48.Kd4 b6 49.Bd6 Qg1+ 50.Kc3 Qe3+ 51.Kb2 Qd4+ 52.Kc1 Qg1+ 53.Kb2 Qd4+ 54.Kc1 Qc3 55.Kb1 Ba2+ 56.Kxa2 Qxc2+ 57.Ka3 c5 58.bxc5 bxc5 59.Rf3 Qc1+ 60.Ka2 Qc4+ 61.Rb3 Qxa4+ 62.Kb2 Qd4+ 63.Kc2 c4 64.Ra3 h5 65.Rg3+ Kf7 66.Rf3+ Kg6 67.Ra3 Kf5 68.Rxa6 c3 69.e6 Qd2+ 70.Kb3 Qb2+ 71.Ka4 Qa2+ 72.Ba3 Qc4+ 73.Ka5 Qxa6+ 74.Kxa6 Kxe6 0-1



Position after 23...Nd5

This game lasted a little over five hours and was played in the morning before the record long Lucky-Bardwick game. Mikhail Ponomarev won the Colorado Open in 1990 and both the Colorado Open and Colorado Closed in 1997.

[Event "1995 Colorado Open"] [Site "Denver, Colorado"]

[Date "September 3, 1995"] [Round "3"] [Result "1-0"]

[White "Todd Bardwick (2210)"]

[Black "Mikhail Ponomarev (2272)"]

1.e4 Nf6 2.Nc3 b6 3.e4 e5 4.Nf3 Bb4 5.d3 Ne6 6.Be2 h6 7.0-0 Qe7 8.Nb5 Bd6 9.d4 exd4 10.Nxd6+ cxd6 11.Nxd4 Nxd4 12.Qxd4 0-0 13.f3 Qe5 14.Be3 Re8 15.Rad1 Re6 16.Qd2 Ba6 17.Bd4 Qa5 18.Qxa5 bxa5 19.Bxf6 Rxf6 20.Rd5 Re8 21.Rxa5 Rc6 22.Rc1 Re6 23.b4 Re5 24.Rd5 Kf8 25.a4 Rxd5 26.exd5 Rc7 27.Kf2 Ke7 28.b5 Bb7 29.Re1 Kf6 30.Bd3 Rc8 31.f4 a6 32.Re2 axb5 33.axb5 Ra8 34.Ke3 Ke7 35.Kd4 Kd8 36.Bh7 Kc7 37.Re7 Rf8 38.Bf5 Bc8 39.e5 g6 40.b6+ Kd8 41.b7 Kxe7 42.b8=Q dxc5+ 43.Kxc5 gxf5 44.Qe5+ 1-0



Position after 13...Qe5

A couple weeks before this game, Lucky tied to second in the U.S. Open, beating GM Walter Browne in the 6th Round. This game lasted exactly 12 hours - the longest continuous master game in the U.S. history; from 5:00 pm on Sept 3 - 5:00 am on Sept 4. Another possible record in this game is that Lucky first moved his g1 knight on move 43 - extremely rare for a player of his strength.

[Event "1995 Colorado Open"] [Site "Denver, Colorado"]

[Date "September 3-4, 1995"] [Round "4"] [Result "1/2-1/2"]

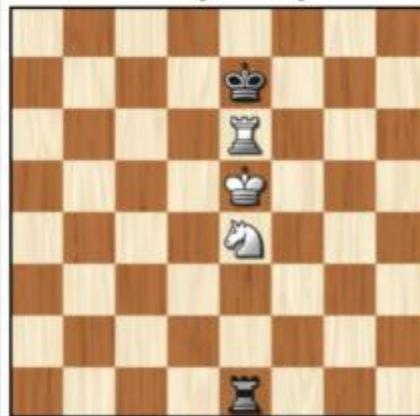
[White "David Lucky (2459)"]

[Black "Todd Bardwick (2210)"]

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 e5 6.c3 Ne6 7.Ndf3 Qb6 8.g3 exd4 9.exd4 Bb4+ 10.Kf2 g5 11.h3 gxf4 12.Bxf4 f6 13.Kg2 Be7 14.Rh2 Nf8 15.Kh1 Bd7 16.exf6 Bxf6 17.Rd2 O-O-O 18.Rc1 Be8 19.Rc5 a6 20.Qe2 Kd7 21.Ne5+ Bxe5 22.Bxe5 Nxe5 23.Qxe5 Ng6 24.Qg7+ Kd6 25.Bg2 Rd7 26.Qf6 Rf8 27.Rxd5+ Kc7 28.Rxd7+ Bxd7 29.Re2+ Kb8 30.Qg7 Qd6 31.Qxh7 Ne7 32.Qe4 Nd5 33.Qe5 Qxe5 34.dxe5 Ne3 35.Rd2 Bb5 36.g4 Kc7 37.b3 a5 38.a4 Nng2 39.axb5 Ne3 40.Rd3 Nd5 41.Rf3 Rb8 42.Rf7+ Kb6 43.Nf3 Rc8 44.g5 Rh8 45.h4 Ne3 46.Kh2 Nf5 47.Kh3 Kxb5 48.Rxb7+ Kc6 49.Rf7 Kd5 50.g6 Ke4 51.Rh7 Rg8 52.Ng5+ Kxe5 53.h5 Rb8 54.Nf3+ Kf4 55.Nd2 Rd8 56.Nc4 Rd3+ 57.Kh2 Rxb3 58.Rf7 Kg5 59.g7 Nh6 60.Rf8 a4 61.Rh8 Rb7 62.Rxh6 Rxg7 63.Rh8 Rc7 64.Ne5 a3 65.Kg3 a2 66.Nf3+ Kf6 67.Ra8 Rc5 68.h6 Kg6 69.Rxa2 Kxh6 70.Kf4 Rf5+ 71.Kg4 Kg7 72.Re2 Kf6 73.Nd4 Re5 74.Rf2+ Kg6 75.Nf3 Re4+ 76.Kg3 Ra4 77.Ne5+ Kg5 78.Rf8 Rb4 79.Kf3 Ra4 80.Ke3 Rb4 81.Nf3+ Kg6 82.Nd4 Rb1 83.Kf4 Rf1+ 84.Nf3 Kg7 85.Ra8 Kf6 86.Ra6 Rb1 87.Nd2 Rb7 88.Ne4+ Ke7 89.Nc5 Rb1 90.Ke5 Re1+ 91.Ne4 Kd7 92.Rd6+ Ke7 93.Rxe6+ { It is around midnight and this is when the 50 move count begins. } Kd7 94.Rh6 Kc7 95.Kd5 Rd1+ 96.Kc4 Kd7 97.Rg6 Ke7 98.Ra6 Kf7 99.Nc3 Rd2 100.Nd5 Rd1 101.Rd6 Kg7 102.Kc5 Rd2 103.Re6 Kf7 104.Kd6 Rd1 105.Re2 Kg6 106.Ke6 Rg1 107.Nf4+ Kg7 108.Ke7 Rg4 109.Re4 Rg1 110.Re6 Rg5 111.Rf6 Ra5 112.Rg6+ Kh7 113.Rg4 Ra7+ 114.Kf6 Ra6+ 115.Ne6 Rb6 116.Rh4+ Kg8 117.Ra4 Kh7 118.Ra8 Rd6 119.Ra1 Rb6 120.Ra2 Rd6 121.Rh2+ Kg8 122.Rh6 Ra6 123.Kf5 Ra5+ 124.Kg6 Ra6 125.Kh5 Ra1 126.Rf6 Rh1+ 127.Kg6 Rg1+ 128.Ng5 Rg2 129.Re6 Kf8 130.Re1 Rg4 131.Re3 Rg1 132.Kf6 Rf1+ 133.Nf3 Ra1 134.Nd4 Rf1+ 135.Nf5 Rf2 136.Ra3 Ke8 137.Rd3 Rf1 138.Rd2 Rf4 139.Ke5 Rf1 140.Nd6+ Ke7 141.Ra2 Re1+ 142.Ne4 Kf7 143.Ra7+ Kg6 1/2-1/2



Position after 54.Nf3+



Position after 93.Rxe6+

This game was a time scramble in an even position with seconds left and both player's flags hanging; White's flag fell first. IM Michael Valvo won the 1999 Colorado Open. He was considered one of the best blitz players in the U.S. in 1962 and won the 1963 U.S. Intercollegiate Championship. Valvo is best known in the computer chess world. He organized, moderated, commented, or acted in some official capacity in every World Computer Chess Championship from the early 1980s till his death in 2004.

[Event "Chess Emporium Thursday Night"] [Site "Denver, Colorado"]

[Date "June 6, 1996"] [Round "2"] [Result "0-1"]

[White "Todd Bardwick (2199)"]

[Black "Michael Valvo (2429)"]

1.e4 d6 2.Nc3 f5 3.d4 Nf6 4.g3 g6 5.Bg2 Bg7 6.Nf3 0-0 7.0-0 c6 8.d5 Bd7 9.Rb1 Na6 10.b3 Nc5 11.Bb2 a5 12.Nd4 Qe7 13.e3 Rae8 14.Qe2 e5 15.dxe6 Nxe6 16.Rfd1 Nc5 17.Nee2 Nfe4 18.Nf4 Bh6 19.Nde2 Be8 20.Rbc1 Qe7 21.a3 g5 22.Nd3 Rf7 23.Nxc5 dxe5 24.Nc3 Nxc3 25.Bxc3 a4 26.b4 f4 27.exf4 gxf4 28.Re1 Qf8 29.Rxe8 Qxe8 30.Re1 Qf8 31.Be4 fvg3 32.hvg3 Bf5 33.f4 Bxe4 34.Qxe4 Bg7 35.Bxg7 Qxg7 36.Qe8+ Rf8 37.Qe6+ Kh8 38.Kf2 cxb4 39.axb4 a3 White lost on time. 0-1



Position after 21...g5