Grandmaster Repertoire 2B

Dynamic Systems

By

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Quality Chess www.qualitychess.co.uk

Preface

After what has seemed like a uniquely long year, I have completed the fourth and final volume of the updated *Grandmaster Repertoire* series on 1.d4. Those familiar with the first three books in the series already know that the current one does not feature any flagship openings such as the Queen's Gambit, Grünfeld or King's Indian. Instead, it tackles the no-less-difficult challenges of the Dutch Defence, the Benko and Budapest Gambits, the Modern Defence, and various other systems which are slightly out of the mainstream, but which are nonetheless capable of posing serious practical problems, as I have observed in my experience as a coach. To meet the various challenges, I have proposed the following advancements over my previous work:

Dutch Defence

I recommend meeting the Stonewall, Classical and Leningrad systems of the Dutch in broadly the same way as in my 2010 book *Grandmaster Repertoire* 2 - 1.d4 *Volume Two* (henceforth abbreviated to *GM* 2), but with a multitude of updates and refinements to improve White's play, as well as correcting some move-order and transpositional issues which I previously overlooked.

Benoni Systems & Benko Gambit

Against the Czech Benoni and various 1.d4 c5 systems, I have once again provided an improved version of my previous coverage. In the case of the Benko Gambit though, I have abandoned the Fianchetto Variation in favour of the main line with 6.2c3 and 7.e4. I believe this poses more serious problems for Black, and am looking forward to future developments in this variation.

Budapest Gambit

I am happy to change my original prescription of 4.2 f3 in favour of 4.2 f4, in light of the discovery of 4...g5 5.2 d2!, after which White's position seems extremely promising.

Modern & Other Defences

The final part of the book contains a mix of updates and brand new recommendations. One such instance occurs after 1.d4 d6, when I am no longer recommending 2.23 f3 – not that there is anything wrong with that move, but a game between L'Ami and Mamedyarov inspired me to choose 2.c4 instead. The resulting type of position is one that I find both interesting and advantageous for White.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude to the entire team at Quality Chess, with whom I have been working intensively since 2007! My collaboration with them has greatly contributed to my career as a chess coach and helped enshrine my name among the pantheon of opening theoreticians. I am forever grateful to QC for offering me such a platform. Having now completed my tenth book, I have decided to a take a break from writing to pursue other chess-related projects, and I have no doubt the wisdom I have gleaned from my time as a QC author will prove invaluable in my future endeavours.

Boris Avrukh Chicago, February 2019

Contents

Preface		3
Key to symbols used & Bibliography		6
D	1	
Duto		_
1	Stonewall — 5是e/	/
2	Stonewall – 5\$d6	25
3	Classical – Introduction	59
4	Classical – 7🖄 e4 & 7 🖞 e8	74
5	Leningrad – Introduction	94
6	Leningrad – 7c6 & 79e4	119
7	Leningrad – 7e8	141
8	St Petersburg	165
Beno	oni Svstems	
9	Czech Benoni – Sidelines	192
10	Czech Benoni – Main Lines	213
11	Closed Benoni	232
12	1 d4 c5 2 d5 e6	232
13	Miscellaneous Lines	265
Benk	xo Gambit	
14	Sidelines	281
15	5 ^{\$} xa6	293
16	5g6	310
Buda	apest Gambit	
17	Fajarowicz	322
18	3 2 g4 – Sidelines	337
19	3 ² g4 – Main Lines	351

Modern Defence

20	4c5 & 4 ģg4	366
21	Main Line	390
1.d 4	4 ∅f6 2.c4	
22	Old Indian	415
23	Pseudo Queen's Indians	440
24	Black Knights' Tango	451
Min	nor Lines	
25	1d6	463
26	English Defence	483
27	1e6 2.c4	517
28	b-Pawn Systems	538
29	Odd Ideas	564
Vari	ation Index	581



Benko Gambit



Sidelines

Variation Index

1.d4 2f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5

4.cxb5

A) 4e6 5.②c3 exd5 6.②xd5 Åb7 7.e4!	282
A1) 7绝xd5	283
A2) 7a6 8.bxa6	284
A21) 10②fxd5	285
A22) 10约bxd5N	286
B) 4a6 5.bxa6 e6 6.②c3 exd5 7.②xd5	287
B1) 7ĝxa6	288
B2) 7É)xa6	289
B3) 7 ² xd5	290
B4) 7 \$e7!?	291



A1) note to 8...d6



A1) after 14... \$6



1.d4 2f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5

Once again I recommend accepting the gambit, but there will be an important change of direction from my previous work, as we will no longer be following up with a kingside fianchetto.

We will consider A) 4...e6 but B) 4...a6 is definitely the main move.

4....g6

Occasionally Black delays his counterplay in favour of completing his kingside development first. As a rule, White follows the same general plan as in the main lines, but gets an easier version, so it's enough to give just a few brief examples.

5. Dc3 &g7 6.e4 d6 7. Df3 0–0 8. &e2 a6 9.0–0 axb5 10. &xb5 &a6



11.₩e2!

This is the most precise way of implementing the "light-squared strategy" which I will refer to again, both in this chapter and what follows.

11...₩a5 12.a4 🖄bd7

Another good example continued: 12... 違xb5 13. ②xb5 營b4 14. ③c3 ②bd7 15. 彙d2 單fb8 16. 單fb1 營b7 In Martinez Rodriguez – Renteria Becerra, Mondariz 2011, the simple 17. ③b5N ⑤e8 18. 彙c3± would have secured White a big advantage. A thematic move in this type of Benko position.



White remained a healthy pawn up in Krysa – Torella, Neuquen 2017.

A) 4...e6



Playing ...e6 is not unheard of in the Benko Gambit, but usually it happens after White has committed himself in some way that makes Black's central action especially appealing. In the present situation, Black's plan is not so easy to justify.

5. 2 c3 exd5

5... \$b7?! 6.e4 is hardly playable for Black.

13.\armaa3!

 $7.\hat{\boxtimes} xf6\dagger$ $\overset{}{\boxplus} xf6$ is also playable but I prefer the text move.



A1) 7...2xd5 is worth considering but I consider A2) 7...6 the most serious option.

Accepting the central pawn is suicidal:

7...②xe4? 8.奠c4!

White's initiative plays itself.

8....奠e7

8...\$d6 9.\$\$\$9.4\$ 0-0 10.\$h6 \$\$e5 11.\$\$f3 \$\$xb2 12.0-0 \$\$\$d6 13.\$\$\$g5 gave White a decisive attack in Huuskonen – Bostrom, Finland 1977.

9.∰e2 ④f6

9...0d6 10.2g5 f6 11.2f4 0xc4 12.1mxc4 d6 13.0–0–0→ was also bad news for Black in Kunze – Partys, Rijeka 2010.

10. 2xf6† gxf6

White has more than one winning move but my preference is:



11.ĝf4!N ≌a5†

- 11...&xg2 loses to 12.&xf7[†] (or 12.0–0–0+–) 12...&xf7 13. $\begin{tabular}{ll}{ll}h5$ [†] when White can either win back the bishop or go straight for the king.
- 12.空f1 d5 13.罩e1 營d8 14.臭d3

White has a crushing initiative.

A1) 7.... 2xd5 8.exd5



8...d6

8....違d6 9.心f3 0-0 was tried in one of the more recent games in this line, Spindelboeck - Theuretzbacher, Austria 2017. White developed his bishop to e2 but he should have played more actively with:



10.\dd3!N \equiv e8\text{i} 11.\dds_2 There is no reason to worry about 11...\dds_f4 12.0-0 \dds_xe3 13.fxe3 d6, when the surprising 14.h4! enables White

to seize the initiative on the kingside. The key point is revealed after: 14...h6



15. ②g5!! hxg5 16. 營h5 With a crushing attack.

9.@e2!

The knight is heading to c3 in order to cement the d5-pawn.



9... ĝe7 10. 2 c3 0-0 11. ĝe2 2 d7

11...a6 has also not yielded much success for Black; after 12.0–0 axb5 13.&xb5 &d714. $\&f4\pm$ he failed to create any compensation in Neelotpal – Boidman, Hofheim 2014.

12.0-0

International Master Dimo Werner has played this position four times with Black. His last attempt continued:

12....莒e8 13.皇f4 ②b6 14.皇f3 皇f6

Here I found a logical improvement over Citak – D. Werner, Budapest 2007:



15.a4!N±

White is obviously better.

A2) 7...a6



Compared with the previous line, Black keeps a bit more tension in the position, although White should still have the better chances.

8.bxa6 2xa6 9.2c4 2b4

A less accurate move order is: 9...②xd5 10.exd5 ②b4 10...心c7 occurred in Schimpf – Huber, Munich 2017, when 11.এf4N d6 12.心e2 逸e7 13.0–0 0–0 14.a4 would have been clearly better for White.



11.₩b3!?N

11. Df3N is the simplest repertoire choice, transposing to variation A21 below, but the text move is quite a tempting extra option against Black's chosen move order. My analysis continues:

11...ĝa6

11.... 逸d6 12. 句f3 鬯e7† 13. 逸e3 鬯e4 14.0–0 0–0 15. 句d2 鬯f5 16.a3 句c2 17. 莒ac1 创xe3 18.fxe3 鬯h5 19.g3± leaves Black without enough for the pawn.

12.②f3 ₩e7† 13.ዿe3





16.空e2! 營xh1 17.罩e4† 奠e7

18.d6 0–0 19.dxe7 筥fe8 20.奠xc5 公c6 21.约g5 Black is under serious pressure.

10.②f3

We will analyse A21) 10...②fxd5 and A22) 10...②bxd5N.

A21) 10....包fxd5 11.exd5 鬯e7† 12.臭e3 鬯e4



I also checked 13...心xa2N 14.逸xa2 罩xa2 15.0–0 when the threat of 罩e1 prevents Black from completing development. Play may continue: 15...鬯xd5 16.罩e1 鬯xd1 17.罩cxd1



Even without queens, White's initiative is serious, for instance: 17... $\Xi a6$ 18. $\pounds f4$ [†] $\Xi e6$ 19. $\pounds g5 \rightarrow$



14.0-0!

White utilizes a simple tactic to accelerate his development.

The key move.

Weirdly, the database shows another game from five years later between the same players, where White opted for the weaker 16.\approx xc4?!. The reasons why Black repeated this line and White deviated with an inferior move remain a mystery to me.

16...0-0-0

In B. Toth – Capece, Reggio Emilia 1974, White could have decided the game with:



17.鼍xc4!N 包d3 18.鼍f1 包xb2 19.營b3 包xc4 20.鼍b1+-

With a devastating attack.

A22) 10... Dxd5N 11.exd5



Although Black's last move was a novelty, the resulting position has occurred via transposition, as the knight went via c7 to d5 in one game.

11...凹e7† 12.臭e3 凹d6

It is also important to consider: 12...¹⁹e4 13.¹/₂c1 2xd5 (13...¹/₂xd5?! 14.0–0 is too dangerous for Black with his king stuck in the centre)



14.b3! 堂e7 15.0-0 堂e6 (15...0-0 16.罝e1 wins material) 16.a4 營f5 17.罝e1 0-0 18.奠g5± White is significantly better.

We have been following Donner – Contedini, Lenzerheide 1964. An obvious improvement for White is:



13.0-0N 皇xd5

If 13...違e7 then 14.创h4! is extremely powerful; for instance, 14...g6 15.堂h6 堂xd5 16.邕e1 and Black unavoidably loses material.

14.**≜xd5 [™]xd5**

14...心xd5 15.罝e1 兔e7 16.兔f4! is nasty for Black.

15.罩e1 凹xd1 16.罩axd1±

Despite the queen exchange, White's initiative is strong, especially considering

that 16...0-0-0 is not really an option due to 17.23g5.

B) 4...a6



This is overwhelmingly the most popular choice.

5.bxa6

At this point Black's most popular choice has been 5...\$xa6, while 5...g6 is arguably the most theoretically challenging option. These two moves will be examined in Chapters 15 and 16 respectively.

Before then, we will consider a third option:

5...e6

Black aims for central play, in a similar fashion to variation A above, but he hopes that the exchanging of the b5-pawn will increase his active possibilities.

6. 2 c3 exd5

6...②xd5 7.②xd5 exd5 8.∰xd5 transposes to variation B3 below.

7. 2xd5



At this juncture it is worth considering **B1**) 7...\$xa6, **B2**) 7...\$xa6, **B3**) 7...\$xd5 and **B4**) 7...\$e7!?.

B1) 7... 皇xa6 8. 包f3 包c6

8...逸e7 is worth checking, but the following line seems quite convincing for White: 9.创xe7 營xe7 10.遺f4 d5



11. $\overset{\text{w}}{=}$ 4[†]! $\overset{\text{w}}{=}$ bd7 12.e3 $\overset{\text{w}}{=}$ b7 13. $\overset{\text{w}}{=}$ c2 0–0 This was Knol – Sitorus, corr. 2016, and now 14. $\overset{\text{w}}{=}$ b5N works well for White, mainly due to the fact that 14...d4 15.0–0 is not at all dangerous for him, for instance:



15....違xf3 16.gxf3 包e5 17.鬯e2 包d5 18.遑g3 White is clearly better.



9.e4 এxf1 10.空xf1 鱼e7 11.包c3!

A simple yet powerful move, which I was able to discover over the board. White retreats the knight from its strong position but secures the e4-pawn and earns important time to consolidate his position.

11...d6

Another good example continued 11...0–0 12.g3 c4 13. 2g2 Ee8 14. Ee1 2b4 15. 2g5± and White's advantage was beyond any doubt in Avalyan – Tomasi, Mamaia 2017.

12.g3 0-0 13. bg2

Black is unable to create any serious counterplay, especially with his bishop on e7.

13...[™]d7 14.[□]e1 [□]fb8

My game continued 14...h6 15.違f4 心h5 16.奠e3 心f6 17.罩e2!? 罩fd8 18.罩c1 鬯e6 19.a3 罩ab8 20.鬯a4 and I enjoyed a healthy extra pawn in Avrukh – Terrieux, Sautron 2013.



15.b3 h6 16.奠b2 凹b7 17.凹e2±

Black had no real compensation for the pawn in Steedman – Aymard, corr. 2015.

B2) 7.... 🖄 xa6



This has been a popular choice but it does not work too well for Black.

8.皇g5 皇e7 9.包xe7 鬯xe7 10.包f3 0-0

10...h6 11.2h4 does not really change anything; 11...0–0 12.e3 just reaches our main line below.

Another game continued 10...2b7 11.e3 0–0 12.2e2 d5 13.0–0± and Black had no compensation whatsoever in Kalinowska – Stock, Plzen 2017.

11.e3

The following sequence looks pretty natural:



13...d4!? 14.exd4 \(\exists e8 is an interesting attempt to open things up, but White keeps everything under control as follows:



15.&xf6! $mathbb{W}xf6$ 16.0–0 $mathbb{H}d8$ 17.a3! cxd4 18. $mathbb{D}e1$ $mathbb{D}c7$ 19. $mathbb{D}d3$ White stabilized the position while keeping his extra pawn in Galje – Dijk, corr. 2016.

14.0-0 g5

Otherwise it is not clear how Black can claim any compensation for the pawn.

15.臭g3 包e4



16.🖾d2!

It is essential to get rid of the strong knight.

16... ②xg3 17.hxg3 皇f5 18.a3±

This has occurred in four correspondence games. Even though Black only lost once and drew the other three, I believe White retains a solid advantage. Black does not have full compensation and faces an unpleasant battle for a draw.

B3) 7... 2xd5 8. 2xd5 2c6



9.覍d2!

This has been a rare choice so far, but it works perfectly for White.

9...\$xa6

Black has also tried: 9.... 2e7 10.e3 0-0 10... 習b6 11. 2c3 0-0 transposes. 11. 2c3 曾b6



12.a3!

It seems to me that Black is in trouble after this precise move.

12...ĝxa6

Another good example continued 12...\$f6 13.\$xf6 gxf6 14.\mathbb{Z}b1 \$xa6 15.\$xa6 \$\mathbb{B}a5\$ 16.\$\mathbb{B}d2 \$\mathbb{E}xa6 17.\$\dots\$e2\$± and Black's strategy had obviously failed in Hildebrand – Gierth, email 2012.

13.ዿxa6 ₩xa6 14.¤d1 d6



15.@e2±

White was a healthy pawn up in Brugger – Lovholt, corr. 2007.

10.e3 \$xf1 11.\$xf1 \$e7

I found six correspondence games from this position, all of which ended in draws. Surprisingly, White never opted for the following natural continuation:



12. 逸c3N 0-0

13.a3 🛔 f6

13...创b4 also fails to impress after 14.鬯f3 鬯b6 15.创e2.

14. 🖞 xc5 🖄 a5 15. 🗏 b1!

Black does not have enough activity. For instance:



15... 包b3 16. 閏45 拿xc3 17. 閏xb3 拿f6 18. 閏43 閏a5 19. 包f3 莒fb8 20.g3 莒xb2 21. 莒xb2 拿xb2 22. 豐xd7±

White has excellent winning chances.





This isn't the most obvious choice but it has been tried in several correspondence games, and has surprisingly achieved a plus score for Black.

8. 2xe7

This simple move is White's best bet.

I have to mention the remarkable line: 8.e4 0–0 9.0c3 0xa6 10.e5



Black has full compensation for the piece, and has achieved a win and a draw from two correspondence games.

8....鬯xe7 9.鼻f4 d5 10.e3 0-0 11.幻f3 罩d8

11...\$xa6?! 12.\$xa6 \(\exists xa6 \(\exists xa6 \) 13.0-0 gives White an extra tempo compared with the main line below.

12. 倉e2

In most games White has played 12.a3 or some other waiting move, hoping to gain a tempo after ...\$xa6. However, it is risky to leave the king in the centre and Black can play an active move such as ...\$\delta e4 before taking on a6, so I prefer to simply develop and castle.

12...ĝxa6

12...d4 13.[™]b3 is good for White.

13.皇xa6 邕xa6 14.0-0 ②c6 15.皇g5! h6



16.[@]e2N

I found a game where White exchanged on f6, but we may as well hit the rook first.

16...**¤da**8

16....莒a7 17.逸xf6 鬯xf6 18.莒fd1 c4 19.h3 leads to a similar situation.

17.**\$xf6 \%xf6 18.\%d2 d4**



19.exd4

19.b3 dxe3 20.營xe3 囚d4 is pretty similar to our main line.

19...心xd4 20.心xd4 cxd4 21.a3 d3 22.骂ac1

Black certainly has some compensation but is doomed to a long defence.

Conclusion

This chapter has focused on two Benko sidelines: 4...e6 and the related idea of 4...a6 5.bxa6 e6. In general, I am not too impressed with Black's attempts to generate counterplay in the centre. A lot of the lines lead to positions where White may face some technical challenges to convert his extra pawn, but he is nonetheless playing for a win with little risk – always a pleasant situation for a practical player.

Abridged Variation Index

The Variation Index in the book is 12 pages long. Below is an abridged version giving just the main variations, not the sub-variations.

Chapter 1

1.d4 f5 2.g3 친f6 3.ቌg2 e6 4.친f3 d5 5.0-0 ቌe7 6.c4 0-0 7.친bd2

A) 7... De4 9 B) 7... Dc6 11 C) 7...c6 16

Chapter 2

1.d4 f5 2.g3 친f6 3.皇g2 e6 4.친f3 d5 5.0-0 皇d6 6.c4 c6 7.친c3 0-0 8.땔c2

A) 8...dxc4 27 B) 8...違d7 28 C) 8...②bd7 29 D) 8...營e8 32 E) 8...營e7 35 F) 8...②e4 39

Chapter 3 1.d4 f5 2.g3 ⁽²⁾f6 3.⁽²⁾g2 e6 4.c4

A) 4...\$b4† 60 B) 4...\$e7 5.\$f3 0-0 6.0-0 63 B1) 6...b6 64 B2) 6...\$e4 65 B3) 6...d6 66

Chapter 4

1.d4 f5 2.g3 ₺f6 3.ዿg2 e6 4.c4 ዿe7 5.₺f3 0-0 6.0-0 d6 7.₺c3

A) 7....⁽²)e4 75 B) 7...⁽²⁾e8 81

Chapter 5 1.d4 f5 2.g3 ව්f6 3. ද් g2 g6 4. විf3 ද් g7 5.0-0 0-0 6.b3

A) 6...4 e4 97 B) 6...c5 98 C) 6...d6 7. 2 b2 100 C1) 7...4 c6 101 C2) 7...a5 103 C3) 7...e5?! 107 C4) 7...e6 111 C5) 7...h6 114

Chapter 6

1.d4 f5 2.g3 ⁽¹⁾f6 3.彙g2 g6 4.⁽²⁾f3 ⁽¹⁾彙g7 5.0–0 0–0 6.b3 d6 7.⁽¹⁾彙b2

A) 7...c6 120 B) 7.... (2) e4 129

Chapter 7

1.d4 f5 2.g3 ₺f6 3.ዿg2 g6 4.₺f3 ዿg7 5.0–0 0–0 6.b3 d6 7.ዿb2 ₩e8 8.c4

A) 8...e5 142 B) 8...心c6 146 C) 8...心e4 148 D) 8...心a6 151

Chapter 8

1.d4 g6 2.c4

A) 2....⁶5?! 166 B) 2...[§]g7 3.[§]f3 174 B1) 3...d6 174 B2) 3...c5 176 B3) 3...f5 181

Dynamic Systems

Chapter 9 1.d4 බ්f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e5 (3...a6) 4.බ්c3 d6 5.e4

A) 5...g6 193 B) 5...⁽²⁾bd7 201

Chapter 10 1.d4 ⁽²⁾f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 e5 4.⁽²⁾c3 d6 5.e4 \$e7 6.g3

A) 6...h5 214 B) 6...la6 215 C) 6...0-0 217

Chapter 11 1.d4 c5 2.d5 e5 3.e4 d6 4. \$b5†!?

A) 4...\$d7 233 B) 4...\$d7 238

Chapter 12 1.d4 c5 2.d5 e6 3.2c3

A) 3... (2) f6 250 B) 3...exd5 255 C) 3...d6 258

Chapter 13 1.d4

A) 1...c5 266 B) 1...e6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 exd5 4.cxd5 274

Chapter 14 1.d4 🖄 f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5

A) 4...e6 282 B) 4...a6 5.bxa6 e6 287 Chapter 15 1.d4 විf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6 ද්xa6 6.විc3 g6 7.e4

A) 7...d6 294 B) 7...ĝxf1 297

Chapter 16 1.d4 心f6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 b5 4.cxb5 a6 5.bxa6 g6 6.心c3 鼻g7 7.e4

A) 7....[™]a5 311 B) 7...0−0 312

Chapter 17 1.d4 ②f6 2.c4

A) 2...e6 3.g3 e5!? 323 B) 2...e5 3.dxe5 2e4 325

Chapter 18

1.d4 2f6 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 2g4 4. gf4

A) 4...ዿੈb4† 338
B) 4...g5 339
C) 4...公c6 5.公f3 ዿ̀b4† 6.公bd2 343
C1) 6...f6 344
C2) 6... C2 6... Me7 7.e3 公gxe5 8.公xe5 公xe5 9.ዿe2 b6 346

Chapter 19 1.d4 ව්f6 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 ව්g4 4. 2 f4 ව්c6 5. ව්f3 2 b4† 6. ව්bd2 ඕe7 7.e3 ව්gxe5 8. ව්xe5 ව්xe5 9. 2 e2

A) 9...d6 352 B) 9...0–0 356

A) 4...c5 367 B) 4...ĝg4 372

Abridged Variation Index

Chapter 21 1.d4 g6 2.c4 දුg7 3. විf3 d6 4. විc3 e5 5.g3

A) 5...ዿੈg4?! 392 B) 5...心c6 393 C) 5...exd4 396 D) 5...心d7 6.ዿg2 心e7 401

Chapter 22 1.d4 විf6 2.c4 d6 3.විc3

A) 3...\$f5 416 B) 3...\$f5 416 B1) 4...\$f3 419 B1) 4...\$f3 419 B2) 4...\$bd7 423

Chapter 23 1.d4 🖄 f6 2.c4

A) 2...b6 441 B) 2...e6 3.g3 b6 444

Chapter 24 1.d4 집f6 2.c4 집c6 3.집f3

A) 3...d5?! 452 B) 3...d6 453 C) 3...e6 4.g3 458 C1) 4...d5 458 C2) 4...\$b4† 460 Chapter 25 1.d4 d6 2.c4 e5 3.2c3

A) 3...⁽²⁾c6 464 B) 3...exd4 468

Chapter 26 1.d4 e6 2.c4 b6 3.e4

Chapter 27 1.d4 e6 2.c4 \$\\$b4\† 3.\$\$d2

A) 3...≝e7 518 B) 3...a5 523 C) 3...ዿxd2† 530

Chapter 28 1.d4

A) 1...c6 2.c4 b5 539 B) 1...b5 541 C) 1...b6 553

Chapter 29 1.d4

A) 1...e5? 565 B) 1...�ac6 571