



6<sup>th</sup> Composing Thematic Tourney FRME, 2024

Section - Endgame Studies

Final award

**Organizers:** The Royal Moroccan Chess Federation (FRME)

**Tournament director:** Vidadi Zamanov (Azerbaijan)

**Judge:** Peter Gyarmati (Hungary)

**Award publication:** <http://frme.fr.nf>

24 study from 11 authors 7 countries: **Belarus**-Ivan Bondar, **Germany** -Rainer Staudte, Michael Schlosser, **Israel**- Yochanan Afek, Michael Pasman, **Russia**-Pavel Arestov, Ivan Belonozhko, Oleg Pervakov, **Spain**- Luis Miguel González, **Ukraine** -Vladislav Tarasiuk,**USA**- Daniil Yakimovich

Many thanks for organizers and for tourney director, **Vidadi Zamanov** that I was chosen as a judge.

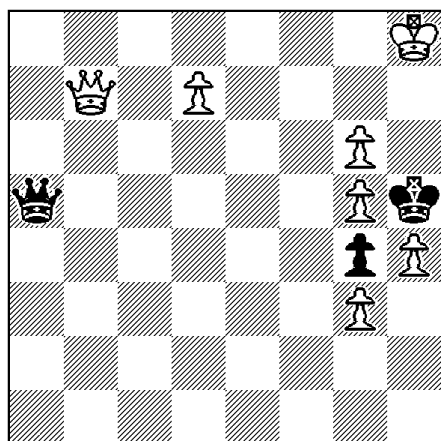
I have received 24 studies anonymous works for judging tourney director. The average level of studies was very good. I proposed the theme of the tournament, which was accepted by the organizers. This was the following: „**Queen endgame with win requirement. White sacrifices his queen. Material should be in the starting position Q+pawns vs Q+pawns, more queens are possible.**”

In the evaluation, I mostly preferred those works that depicted the theme element multiple times. Within this, I preferred those where the sacrifice happened in different fields, so the work is more elegant. I appreciated the complex structure, that is, the two or more main lines and the thematic and logical deceptions. The minor piece promotions and their justification (for example, the avoiding of stalemate) was a well-appreciated moment due of character of theme. Of course, I also took into account other aspects of the game (tactical motifs, strategic plans and formal elements (e.g. switchback maneuvers) when awarding the award. Before the ranking, I note that two studies (No10 and No11) were not thematic.:

**2. Ivan Belonozhko(Russia)**

6<sup>th</sup>ThematicTourney FRME,2024

1<sup>st</sup>Prize



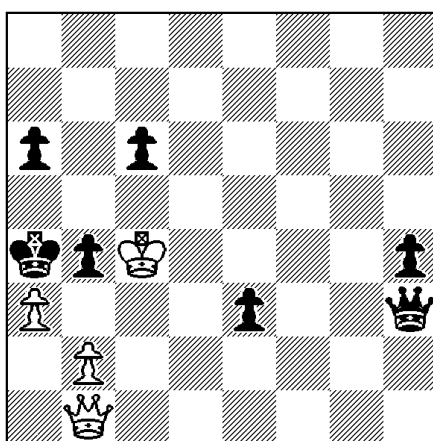
Win

(5+5)

**21. Oleg Pervakov(Russia)**

6<sup>th</sup>ThematicTourney FRME,2024

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize



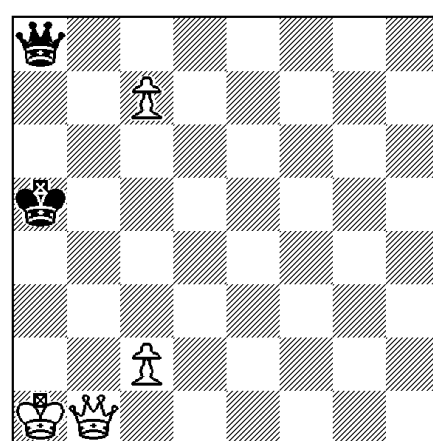
Win

(4+7)

**12. Yochanan Afek (Israel)**

6<sup>th</sup>ThematicTourney FRME,2024

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize



Win, BTM

(4+2)

**№2. Ivan Belonozhko (Russia) 1<sup>st</sup>Prize.**

1. **g7 Qc3** 2. **Qf3!!** (2. d8Q? Qxg7+=) 2... **Qxf3** (2... gxf3 3.d8Q+ f2 4.Qf8 Qb2 5.Qf5 f1Q 6.Qxf1 Kg6 7.Qf6+ Qxf6 8.gxf6) 3. **d8B!** (3. d8Q Qf7=) 3... **Qf7** (3... Qc3 Bf6+-) 4. **Bf6 Qb7** (4... Qg6 5.g8Q Qf5 6.Qf7+-) 5. **g8Q Qe7** 6. **Qg6+!** Wins (6.Bxe7? stalemate). White presents two thematic sacrifices. The first is very effective, two pieces can capture the white Queen. The bishop promotion is impressive. The goal, to break the stalemate, is obvious. After the minor promotion, an interesting game develops. It creates a very original effect.

**№21. Oleg Pervakov (Russia) 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize.**

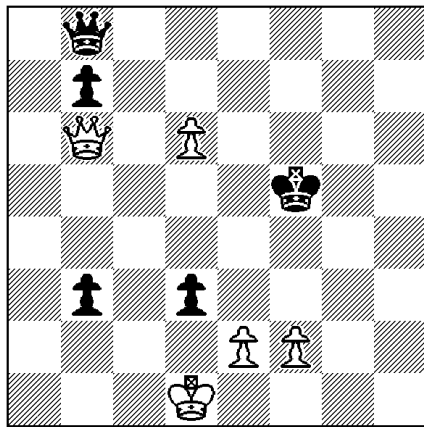
**1.b3+!** [1.Qd1+? Ka5 2.Qd8+ Ka4 3.Qd1+ (3.b3+? Kxa3 4.Qa5+ Kb2—) 3...Ka5=; 1.Qc2+? Ka5 2.Kc5 Qg4!—]  
**1...Ka5** [1...Kxa3 2.Qa1#] **2.Kc5** [2.axb4+? Kb6—+] **2...Qg4 3.Qg6!** Theme **3...Qf4! 4.Qf6!** Theme **4...Qb8! 5.Qd8+!**  
Theme **5...Qxd8 6.axb4#** Model mate. Triple theme representation. The white queen is sacrificed on three different fields. Although there is no other extra content in the study (minor piece promotion, thematic try, two or more main lines, etc.) it is a very clear and rich representation of the theme.

**№12 Yochanan Afek (Israel) 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize.**

**1...Qh8+** [1...Qc6 2.c4 (the simplest) Ka6 3.Qb5+—] **2.Qb2!** [2.Ka2? Qc3!=] **2...Qh1+ 3.Ka2 Qc6! 4.Qa3+!**  
[4.Qe5+? Ka6! 5.Kb3 Qb6+ 6.Kc3 Kb7=] **4...Kb5! 5.Qd3+!** [Logical try: 5.c4+? Kb6! 6.Qd6!? Qxd6! 7.c8N+ Kc5  
8.Nxd6 Kxd6 =] **5...Kb6** [5...Ka5 6.Qf5+— queening ] **6.Qd6!!** Queen Sacrifice. Main **A6...Qxd6** [Main B 6...Ka7!  
Counter queen sacrifice! 7. Kb3 (b2)! Counter-counter queen sacrifice! 7...Qxd6 8.c8N+—] **7.c8N+! Kc5 8.Nxd6  
Kxd6 9.Kb3! Kd5 10.Kb4 Kc6 11.Kc4!+ 1–0.** It presents two active and one passive queen sacrifices, in the two  
main variations and in the logical try. There are three knight promotions with knight-forks in main lines and in the  
logical try.

**1. Pavel Arestov (Russia)**

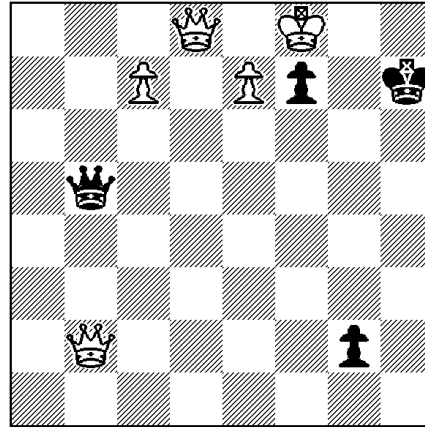
**6<sup>th</sup> Thematic Tourney FRME, 2024**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Prize**



**Win (5+5)**

**3. Ivan Belonozhko (Russia)**

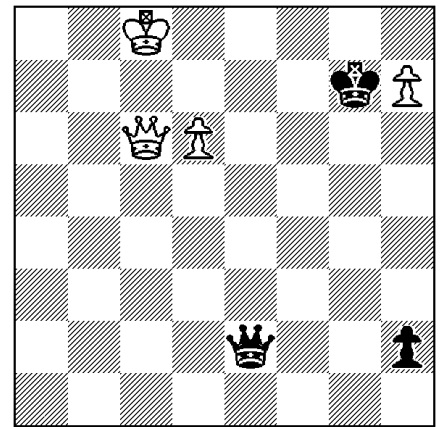
**6<sup>th</sup> Thematic Tourney FRME, 2024**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Honorable Mention**



**Win, BTM (5+4)**

**13. R. Staudte & M. Schlosser (Germany)**

**6<sup>th</sup> Thematic Tourney FRME, 2024**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Honorable Mention**



**Win (4+3)**

**№1. Pavel Arestov (Russia) 4<sup>th</sup> Prize.**

**1.d7!** (1.Qb5+? Ke6 2.Qxb3+ Kxd6 3.Qxd3+ Ke6 =) **1...dxe2+** (1...b2 2.Qxb2 Qc7 3.Qb5+ Ke6 4.Qxd3 +-) **2.Ke1!**  
(2.Kxe2? Qe5+ 3.Kf1 Qa1+ 4.Kg2 Qg7+ 5.Kf1 Qxd7 =) **2...b2 3.Qxb2** (3.d8Q!? Qxd8 4.Qxd8 b1Q+ =) **3...Ke6**  
(3...Qd8 4.Qxb7 Qa5+ 5.Kxe2 + Ke6 6.Qc6+ Ke7 and difficult technical win.) **4.Qxb7!!** theme 1 **4...Qd6!** (4...Qxb7  
5.d8N+! Kd5 6.Nxc7 +-) **5.Qc6!!** theme 2 (5.Kxe2? Qe5+ 6.Kf1 Qa1+ 7.Kg2 Qg7+ 8.Kf1 Qa1+ =) **5...Qxc6  
6.d8N+! Kd5 7.Nxc6 Kxc6 8.Kxe2**, win. There are two active queen sacrifices and two main lines in this study. In  
both of them, white do a knight promotion and then gives a fork. This is great, but I am bothered by a possible  
deviation: instead of 3...Ke6, 3...Qd8 can also be good, and the win is a difficult technical task for white.

**№3. Ivan Belonozhko (Russia) 1<sup>st</sup> Honorable Mention.**

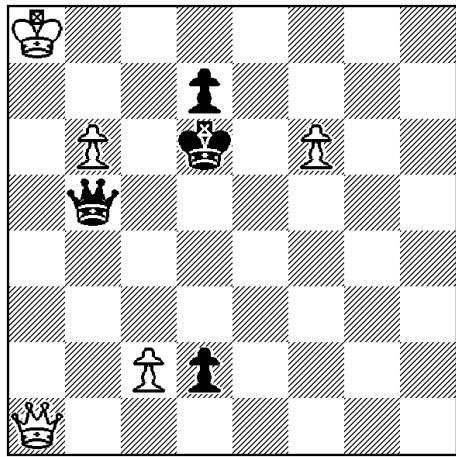
**1... g1Q 2. Qh8+!!** [2. c8Q??Qg8#) (2. Qc2+??f5 3. e8N!?) (3. Qh2+ Qxh2 4. e8QQh6+—) 3... Qg8+—] **2... Kxh8 3. Kxf7+**  
(3. e8=Q? Qg8=) **3... Kh7 4. Qh8+!!Kxh8 5. c8=Q+ Qe8+!!** (5... Kh7 6. Qh3+ Qh5+ 7. Qxh5#) **6. Qxe8+ Kh7 7. Qh8+!! Kxh8  
8. e8Q+ Kh7 9. Qe4+ Kh6 10. Qh4#.** White presents three active queen sacrifices on the same field, on h8. Black's  
counter-sacrifice on e8 is also noteworthy. Finally, white wins with a short mate attack.

**№13. Rainer Staudte & Michael Schlosser (Germany) 2<sup>nd</sup> Honorable Mention.**

**1.d7!** (1.Qc3+? Kxh7!=; 1.Qb7+? Kh8=; 1.Qc7+ Kh8=; 1.Qd7+ Kh8!=) **1...Qg4** [1...h1Q 2.Qxh1+—] **2.Qh6+!**  
(2.h8Q+? Kxh8 3.Qh6+ Kg8 4.Qxh2 Qf5! (4...Qe6? 5.Qg3+ Kf8 6.Qf2+ Kg8(6...Ke7 7.Qc5+ Kf7 8.Kc7+—) 5.Kc7  
Qc5+ 6.Kb8 Qb6+ 7.Kc8 Qa6+! 8.Kd8 Qa8+!= (8...Qf6+? 9.Kc7 Qc3+ 10.Kb8+—)] **2...Kxh6** (2...Kh8? 3.Qxh2+—)  
**3.h8Q+! Kg6** [3...Kg5 Qxh2+—] **4.Qg8+!** [4.Qxh2? Qf5! 5.Qd6+ Kf7!=; 6.Kc7 Qa5+ 7.Kb7 Qb5+perpetual check]  
**4...Kf5** (4...Kh5 5.Qh7+ Kg5 6.Qxh2+—) **5.Qh7+! Kf6** (5... Kg5 Qxh2+—; 5...Ke6 6.d8Q+—) **6.Qh4+!** (6.Qxh2 Qf5  
7.Qd6+ Kf7 8.Kc7 Qa5+ 9.Qb6 Qe5+—) **6...Qxh4** (6... Kf5 7.d8Q+—) **7.d8Q+ Ke5 8.Qxh4** wins. There are two

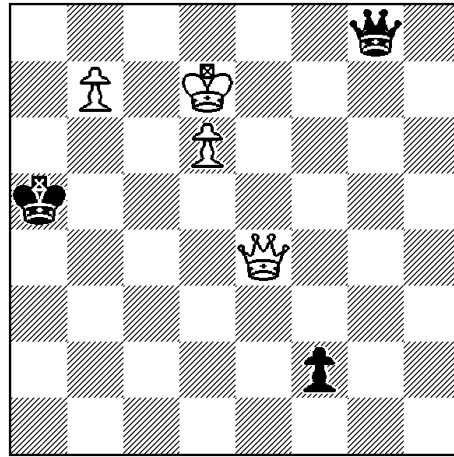
active queen sacrifices here on two different files (h6, h4). White uses simple geometric motifs to win. Black's counterplay in tries leads to a perpetual check.

**22. Oleg Pervakov (Russia)**  
**6<sup>th</sup> Thematic Tourney FRME, 2024**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Honourable Mention**



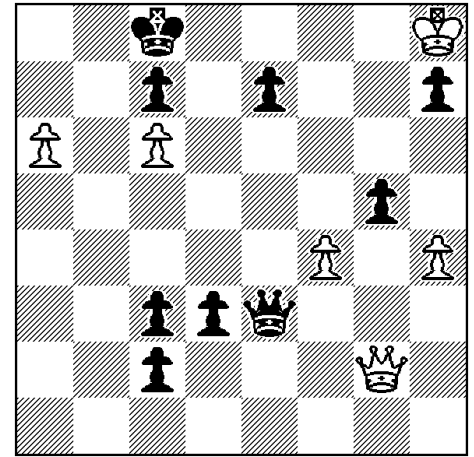
**Win** (5+4)

**15. R. Staudte & M. Schlosser**  
**6<sup>th</sup> Thematic Tourney FRME, 2024**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Honorable Mention**



**Win** (4+3)

**16. Luis Miguel González (Spain)**  
**6<sup>th</sup> Thematic Tourney FRME, 2024**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Commendation**



**Win** (6+9)

**№22. Oleg Pervakov (Russia) 3<sup>rd</sup> Honourable Mention.**

**1.b7** [1.f7? Ke7=; 1.Qd4+? Kc6=] **1...d1Q!** **2.Qxd1+ Kc7** **3.Qxd7+!** Theme. [Thematic try 3.Qd6+? Kxd6 4.b8Q+ Qxb8+ 5.Kxb8 Ke6 6.Kc7 Kxf6 7.Kxd7 Ke5 8.Kc6 Kd4 9.Kb5 Kc3=] **3...Kxd7** **4.b8Q Qc6+** **5.Qb7+ Kd8!** **6.Kb8!** [6.Qxc6?= Model stalemate; 6.f7? Qa4+ 7.Kb8 Qa7+! 8.Kxa7= Model stalemate] **6...Qb5!** [6...Qc5 7.Qe7+; 6...Qd6+ 7.Ka7 Qa3+ 8.Qa6 Qc5+ 9.Qb6+-] **7.f7!** [7.Qxb5?= Model stalemate; 7.c4? Qe5+ 8.Ka7 Qa5+! 9.Qa6 Qc7+ 10.Ka8 Qc6+! 11.Ka7 (or 11.Qxc6= Model stalemate) 11...Qc7+ 12.Ka8 Qc6+!= Perpetual check] **7...Qe5+** **8.Ka7 Qa5+** **9.Qa6 Qc7+** **10.Ka8** Switchback **10...Qxf7** [10...Qb7+ 11.Kxb7+-] **11.Qd6+!** [11.Qb6+? Qc7! 12.Qb8+ Kd7=] **11...Kc8** **12.Qb8+** Switchback, wins [12.Qc6+ Kd8 13.Qd6+ Waste of time] **1-0**. There is only a thematic queen sacrifice here, but the game is interesting. Includes a thematic try and four model stalemates too.

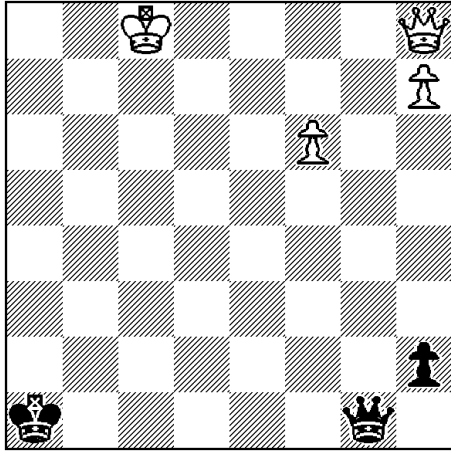
**№15. Rainer Staudte & Michael Schlosser (Germany) 4<sup>th</sup> Honorable Mention.**

**1.Qd3!** [guards a6 and f1; 1.Qf5+? Ka6!=] **1...Kb6** **2.Qb3+! Qxb3** **3.b8Q+! Ka6** **4.Qxb3! f1Q** **5.Qd5!** [5.Kc7? Qc1+ 6.Kb8 Qc6 7.Qd3+ Ka5 (7...Kb6? 8.Qd4+ Ka6 9.Qa7+-) 8.d7 Qb6+ 9. Kc8 Qc5 10.Qd8 Qf8+ 11.Kc7 Qc5+ 12.Kb7 Qb6+ 13.Kc8 Qc5+ perpetual check] **5...Kb6** **6.Qc6+! Ka7** [6...Ka5 7.Kc7 Qc4 8.d7+-(8.Qxc4 stalemate)] **7.Kc7! Qf7+** **8.Qd7!** [8.d7? Qf4+ 9.Kc8? Qb8#] **8...Qb3** [8...Qc4+ 9.Kd8+ Kb6 (9...Ka8 10.Qc8+ Qxc8+ 11.Kxc8+-) 10.Qc7+ Qxc7+ 11. dxc7+-] **9.Kc8+! Ka6** **10.Qc6+ Ka7** [10...Ka5 11.Qa8+] **11.Qc7+ Ka6** **12.d7 Qg8+** **13.d8R!** [13.d8Q? Qg4+ 14.Qdd7 Qg8+ 15.Qcd8 Qc4+ 16.Kb8 Qb3+ position A 17.Kc7 (17.Ka8 Qd5+ 18.Qxd5 stalemate. (18.Kb8 Qa8+ 19.Kc7 Qb7+ 20.Kd6 Qb4+ 21.Ke6 Qe4+=)) 17...Qb6 18.Kc8 Qb8+ 19.Kxb8 stalemate.] **13... Qg4+** **14.Qd7 Qc4+** **15.Kb8 Qb3+** **16.Ka8 Qf3+** **17.Qd5** [wins.]. There is only one thematic queen sacrifice, but the game is interesting, especially the ending. White avoids a draw with a rook promotion. In the try (13.d8Q?), the game ending by stalemate or perpetual check.

**№16. Luis Miguel González (Spain) 1<sup>st</sup> Commendation.**

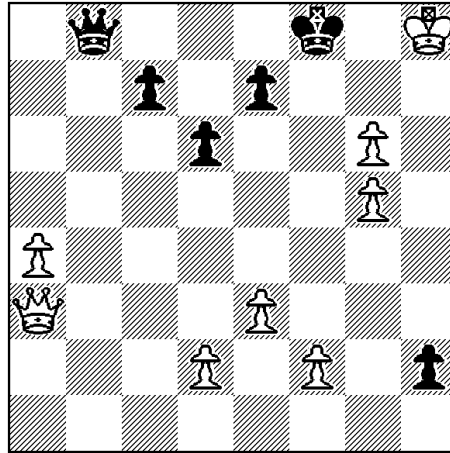
**1.Qh3+!** Thema [ 1.a7? Qxe5+! 2.Kxh7 Qf5+ 3.Kg8 Qg6+ 4.Kf8 Qf6+ 5.Ke8 Qh8+ 6.Kxe7 Qe5+ 7.Kf7 Qf5+ 8.Kg7 Qe5+ 9.Kg6 Qe6+ 10.Kh5 Qf7+ 11.Kg4 Qf4+ 12.Kh5 Qf7+=perpetual check ] **1...Qxh3** **2.a7 Kd8** **3.a8Q+ Qc8** **4.Qa2! e6** **5.Qa3! Qd7!** **6.cxd7 d27.Qa6!** [ 7.Qa8+? Kxd7 8.Qa4+ c6 9.Qxc2 gxh4 10.Qxh7+ Kc8!= ] **7...Kxd7** **8.Qd3+! Ke7!** [ 8...Kc8 9.Qxc2 gxh4 10.Qb3! Kd7 11.Kg7 Ke7 12.Qb4+ Kd7 13.Qa4+ c6 14.Kf7 h3 15.Qd4+ Kc7 16.Ke7 h2 17.Qa7+!+- ] **9.Qxc2** [ 9.Qxh7+? Kd8 10.Qd3+ Ke7 11.Qxc2 gxh4 12.Qh7+ loss of time ] **9...gxh4** **10.Qxh7+ Ke8** **11.Qh5+ Kd7** **12.Kg7! c6!** [ 12...Kc6 13.Kf6 Kc5 14.Qd1! h3 15.Kxe6 h2 16.Kd7 Kd4 17.e6 h1Q 18.Qxh1 c2 19.Qa1+ Kd3 20.Qa3+ Ke2 21.e7+-; 12...h3 13.Qf7+! Kd8 14.Kf8 c6 15.Qe7+ Kc8 16.Qxe6+ Kc7 17.Qd6+ Kb6 18.e6+- ] **13.Kf6! Kc7!** **14.Kg5!** [14.Kxe6? h3! 15.Qf7+ Kb6! 16.Qf3 Kc7! 17.Qh5 h2= ] **14...Kb6** **15.Qf3!** [ 15.Qd1? h3 16.Kf4 h2 17.Ke3c2!= ] **15...h3** **16.Kf4 h2** **17.Ke3** [wins.] This study presents an interesting game. It is surprising how effectively the king helps the queen stop the black pawns. The sidelines and tries do not make the analysis confusing, although they are not simple.

**8. R.Staudte & M.Schlosser**  
**6<sup>th</sup>ThematicTourney FRME,2024**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Commendation**



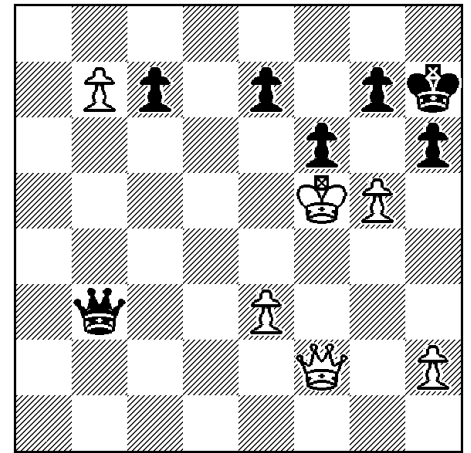
Win (4+3)

**24. Ivan Bondar (Belarus)**  
**6<sup>th</sup>ThematicTourney FRME,2024**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Commendation**



Win (8+6)

**23. Ivan Bondar (Belarus)**  
**6<sup>th</sup>ThematicTourney FRME,2024**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Commendation**



Win (6+7)

**№8. Rainer Staudte & Michael Schlosser (Germany) 2<sup>nd</sup> Commendation.**

**1.f7+ Ka2 2.Qb2+! Kxb2** [a Queen for a tempo to guard the promotion square of the Black Pawn] **3.h8Q+!** phoenix  
**3...Ka2** (3...Kb1 4.Qh7+ Ka1 5.f8!+-) **4... Qc1+ 5.Kb8! Qb1+ 6.Ka7! Qg1+** position A; **4... h1Q 5.Qf7+ Ka3** (5...  
**Kb1 6.Qb3+-) 6.Qc3+-] 4.f8Q! Qg4+** [This checking attack is met by an impressive march of the White King along  
the edge of the board.] **5.Kb8!** avoiding perpetual check (5.Kc7? Qc4+!) **5...Qg3+ 6.Ka8** (6.Kb7? Qb3+!)=) **6...Qg2+**  
**7.Ka7 Qg1+** position A **8.Ka6!** (8.Kb7? h1Q+ 9.Qxh1 Qxh1+=) **8...Qg6+ 9.Ka5** (9.Kb7 wastetime e.g 9...Qe4+  
10.Kb8! Qb1+ 11.Ka7 Qg1+ etc) **9...Qg5+ 10.Ka4 Qg4+ 11.Qb4** now the lonely King got decisive support  
**11...Qd7+ 12.Qb5!** wins, e. g. **12...Qd1+ 13.Ka5 Qd2+ 14.Qb4 Qd5+ 15.Ka6 Qe6+ 16.Ka7 Qe3+ 17.Kb8+-**  
**Qg3+ 18.Kc8+-** switchback, useful checks exhausted **1-0**. The study focuses on the white king migration. There are  
two white and one black queen on the board, but the perpetual check threat of black white can only be eliminated by  
accurate play. Unfortunately, the game is end with **12.Qb5!**, after which White can win in more ways. Therefore, the  
attractive king switchback maneuver is no longer part of the study.

**№24. Ivan Bondar (Belarus) 3<sup>rd</sup> Commendation.**

**1.Qa1 Qb2+! 2.g7+! Kf7 3.Qa2+! e6 4.g6+ Ke7 5.Qxb2 h1Q+ 6.Kg8 Qa8+ 7.Qb8!! Qxb8+ 8.Kh7 Qb4 9.d4** wins.  
Two spectacular thematic sacrifices and a black counter-sacrifice. The game is a bit self-explanatory, with big material.

**№23. Ivan Bondar (Belarus) 4<sup>th</sup> Commendation.**

**1.g6+ Kg8 2.Qa2!! e6+! 3.Kf4 Qb4+ 4.Kg3 Kf8! 5.Qa3!! Qxa3 6.b8Q+ Ke7 7.Qxc7+ Ke8 8.Qf7+ Kd8 9.Qg8+ Kc7**  
**10.Qxg7+ Kb6 11.Qxf6!** wins. Two beautiful thematic sacrifices on the a2-g8 and a3-f8 diagonal. It's spectacular, but  
the rest of the game is just technical.

**Judge:** Peter Gyarmati (Hungary), 3rd October 2024.