

# Late power-play goal sinks Thunderbirds

UTICA, N.Y. – The Springfield Thunderbirds (29-30-3-2) battled back from an early two-goal deficit, but a late power-play goal from the Utica Comets (29-26-4-5) resulted in a 4-3 Comets win on Saturday night at Adirondack Bank Center.

For a second straight evening, the T-Birds relented a goal to their opposition in the opening half of the first period. Just 4:00 into the action, Shane Bowers skated the puck across the T-Birds blue line, creating a 2-on-1. Bowers opted to take it himself, beating Colten Ellis on the glove side and making it 1-0 for Utica.

Springfield's power play had two chances in short order to try to equalize, but the man-advantage came up empty each time. Utica made the T-Birds pay for that at 12:26 when Will MacKinnon let go a

seeing-eye wrist shot from the blue line that nicked the inside of the post and beat Ellis to give the Comets a 2-0 lead.

The Comets continued to have penalty troubles, though, and at 16:28, Tanner Dickinson got Springfield's power play on the board with a perfectly placed wrist shot over the glove of Akira Schmid, and the lead was cut to 2-1.

The Comets, though, were undeterred, and they restored the two-goal cushion just 1:29 later when Erik Middendorf crashed the net from the right-wing side. Ellis made the first save, but the rebound sat in the crease, and Middendorf polished it off to give Utica a 3-1 advantage at 17:57, a lead that carried through to the break.

The T-Birds' power play again had a chance to turn the tide of the game when

a pair of Utica penalties gave Springfield some time on both 4-on-3 and 5-on-3 advantages. Unlike the night before, though, the T-Birds came up empty, and the 3-1 score carried past the midpoint of the game.

With Utica on a power play at 12:15 of the period, Springfield used its shorthanded unit to claw back into the game when Will Bitten won a footrace to a loose puck at the Utica blue line, storming in on Schmid and roofing a shot over the goaltender's trapper to make it a 3-2 game on Bitten's 17th goal of the season.

Bitten's goal got the T-Birds' mojo back, and 3:12 later, Ryan Suzuki tied the game on his second point of the night. After Adam Gaudette narrowly missed the top corner, the T-Birds' leading scorer retrieved

the puck in the left corner and laid it off to Hugh McGing. With little space available, McGing slid a perfect pass through the top of the blue paint to Suzuki, who one-timed it through Schmid to tie the score.

The stalemate carried to the second intermission, and the two teams cautiously played the opening 15 minutes of the third scoreless. Unfortunately for the T-Birds, a Bitten minor penalty opened the door for Utica's power play, and after a Justin Dowling shot rang off the post, Bowers was in the right place to lift the loose change into the twine with 3:18 to play. Bowers' fourth point of the night and eighth goal of the season proved to be the dagger, and for the fourth straight time in the season series between Springfield and Utica, the home team came away victorious.

## RAILERS from page 12

often through the years and practices with Worcester if needed. Smotherman had hoped to get him into a regulation game at some point.

"But not like that," the coach added.

Spagnoli is a 40-year-old Rhode Islander, a professional goalie coach. He replaced the 35-year-old Muse, which might be some kind of ECHL record. Spagnoli stopped 11

of 12 shots, only allowing Johnson's late goal.

He played sparingly in the Federal League into 2014-15, his most recent appearance a four-minute stint for the Watertown Wolves. Since then Spagnoli has served as an EBUG for, he guessed, about 40 to 45 games.

"He is the ultimate EBUG," Smotherman said.

Spagnoli knows the job description.

"Usually something pretty bad has to happen for an EBUG to come in," he said. He was not the EBUG for the Lennox injury, but joined the Railers in Glens Falls the next day.

Nine years after his last pro appearance, Spagnoli was in a game against a high-powered team. He did not appear to be nervous.

"Honestly, I thought I would be," he said, "at least a little more than I was. I felt like I settled in pretty quickly. A couple touches

of the puck and you're right into it."

The cities of St. John's and Worcester have had a lot of similarities.

Both had two different AHL franchises. Worcester had the IceCats and Sharks. St. John's had the Maple Leafs and IceCaps. Both have an ECHL team. Worcester leads the all-time series by 45-43-12. The American Hockey League teams were 29-18-9. The Growlers prevailed in this league, 25-16-3.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### NOTICE OF INTENTION OF SELECT BOARD TO LAY OUT A TOWN WAY AND PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 82, Sections 21 through 23, the Select Board of the Town of Belchertown intend to lay out as a town way, a certain street in Belchertown, MA identified as "Industrial Road" all Prepared for The Inhabitants of the Town of Belchertown, a "Street Acceptance Plan Industrial Road," dated February 14, 2024, prepared by Sherman & Frydryk, Land Surveying & Engineering. This plan is available for inspection at the office of the Town Clerk, Lawrence Memorial Hall, Belchertown, Massachusetts.

You are invited to attend a public hearing to be held by the Select Board in the Select Boards Meeting Room on the first floor of Lawrence Memorial Hall, 2 Jabish Street, Belchertown, on **Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 7:03 p.m.** The Select Board will determine the boundaries and measurements of the ways, file the same in the office of the Town Clerk and submit the resulting layouts for acceptance at the next Town Meeting scheduled for Monday, May 13, 2024.

TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN SELECT BOARD Edward G. Boscher, Chairman Ronald E. Aponte,

Vice-Chairman Margaret D. Louraine, Clerk Jennifer D. Turner, Member Lesa Lessard Pearson, Member 03/28, 04/04/2024

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In accordance with the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 82, Sections 21 through 23, the Select Board of the Town of Belchertown intend to lay out as a town way, a certain street in Belchertown, MA identified as "Meadow Pond Road" all Prepared for The Inhabitants of the Town of Belchertown, a "Street Acceptance Plan & "As-Built" Conditions Plan, "Meadow Pond Road (and a portion of Jasons Way)" dated December 22, 2023, by Sherman & Frydryk, Land Surveying and Engineering, a Division of Hancock Survey Associates, Inc., and recorded with the Hampshire Registry of Deeds in Northampton, Plan Book 255 Page 96(1-4). This plan is available for inspection at the office of the Town Clerk, Lawrence Memorial Hall, Belchertown, Massachusetts.

You are invited to attend a public hearing to be held by the Select Board in the Select Boards Meeting Room on the first floor of Lawrence Memorial Hall, 2 Jabish Street, Belchertown, on **Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at**

**6:33 p.m.** The Select Board will determine the boundaries and measurements of the ways, file the same in the office of the Town Clerk and submit the resulting layouts for acceptance at the next Town Meeting scheduled for Monday, May 13, 2024.

TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN SELECT BOARD Edward G. Boscher, Chairman Ronald E. Aponte, Vice-Chairman Margaret D. Louraine, Clerk Jennifer D. Turner, Member Lesa Lessard Pearson, Member 03/28, 04/04/2024

### SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLE

This ad is pursuant to MA Gen. Law Ch.255, Sec. 39A as of April 19, 2024 the following motor vehicle will be for sale to satisfy a garage keepers lien:

**2002 BMW 3 Series**  
VIN: WBAET37492NG78677  
Color: Green  
LKO: Joseph Wood  
Address: 226 West Street  
Ware, MA 01082

**2007 Nissan Maxima**  
VIN: 1N4BA41E87C817139  
Color: Blue  
LKO: Thaysha Colon  
Address: 121 N Main Street, M7  
Belchertown, MA 01007

**Relentless Towing**  
Belchertown, MA  
413-530-3804  
04/04, 04/11, 04/18/2024

## GARDEN from page 3

Yesiree, it can happen even 15 minutes after ingesting it. Use the bathroom and voila, your urine will have a pungent, asparagus-like smell. Only maybe worse.

Our bodies convert asparagusic acid into sulfur-containing chemicals that are volatile enough to fly from the toilet up your nose, that is, if you have the ability to perceive it. Some people don't.

Call them lucky, perhaps. I consider myself lucky to have such an amazing veg-

etable growing right in my backyard, stinky or not.

*Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*

## VACANCIES from page 3

### Belchertown Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force

One Community Member vacancy

The Town of Belchertown is accepting letters of interest to fill a community member vacancy on the newly developed Belchertown Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force. The focus of the Task Force is to develop a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement for the Select Board to review and to consider adopting, to seek out opportunities to acknowledge and/or celebrate the diversity within our own community and to welcome the whole community to join in, and to offer suggestions on how the town addresses specific or potential acts of violence, including hate speech, should such acts arise in our community, region, or state. Efforts should be made to include

voices from the community or communities that are directly affected. Partnership opportunities with surrounding towns to strengthen regional or state efforts might also be explored. This is a seven member committee to include: A representative from law enforcement, a representative from Town Hall, and five community members representing diversity in one or more of the following areas: Racial and ethnic backgrounds, Social positions with respect to gender identity and sexual orientation, social positions with respect to disability, and Age groups and prior vocational experiences. All are encouraged to apply. Please submit a letter of interest to: Select Board, The Finnerty House, One South Main Street, P.O. Box 670, Belchertown, MA 01007 or by email to selectboard@belchertown.org. Deadline: Friday, April 26

## SENIORS from page 1

When it comes to the Senior Work-Off Program, the Selectboard is still in discussion for how it will be implemented, and Martin shared how it will be open to veterans.

"I feel that the money should go to those who are struggling right now," Martin said.

### Appointments

The board began the meeting with a series of appointments and discussed various working positions available for the town, both part time, and a full time position.

They reviewed a Building Commissioner

contract, which has been signed, and the Selectboard will move forward with the contract in the coming months.

### Old business and information

The board accepted departmental reports and approved and signed various maintenance warrants. They also briefly discussed updates on the Massachusetts Department of Transportation project and its location.

"The only project that qualifies this year was trying to put in the public water support," Martin said of the One Stop for Growth grant. The Selectboard is continuing discussion on how to increase the town's access to fresh water.

## PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit [www.publicnotices.turley.com](http://www.publicnotices.turley.com)

**Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.**

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You can count on Dorsey Memorials to guide you through the Memorial Stone Process.