

KALAMAZOO SPEEDWAY

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TRACK TALK

July 22, 2024

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FRIDAY, JULY 26. MODIFIEDS RETURN. \$5,000 to WIN.

RACE DAY INFORMATION	
Ticket Windows Open	2:30 PM
Pit Passes (13 years and up)	\$35
Junior Pit Passes (12 and under)	\$15
Adult General Admission	\$18
Youth (6-12) General Admission	\$5
Kids 5 & under	FREE
Pits Open	2:30 PM
Hot Laps Begin	5:00 PM
Racing Starts	7:30 PM

WE HAVE a big show this week at the Zoo. The 4J Modifieds are here for their \$5,000 to win race and the Engine Pro Vintage Modifieds will be joining them to show off their chops. Three of the Kalamazoo Speedway weekly classes race: the Techworks Street Stock, the O'Reilly Auto Parts Front Wheel Drive - Outlaws (\$750 to win) and the Spartan Insulation Front Wheel Drive - DOTs (\$500 to win). AND, it's Michigan Auto Racing Fan Club night! Photos on the next page.





Clockwise: Front Wheel Drive – DOTs run for \$500 to win; Front Wheel Drive – Outlaws run for \$750 to win; the Vintage Modifieds join us; Jared Blanchard (Late Model weekly race driver, will be piloting the #4 Vintage car; the Street Stock are also on the race card this week.

We will see YOU on Friday night!

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2. The FIVE WEEKLY CLASSES RETURN.



**\$1,500 TO WIN LATE MODELS.
STEAK 'N SHAKE WILD CARD NIGHT (DOTs).**

RACE DAY INFORMATION	
Ticket Windows Open	3:30 PM
Pit Passes (13 years and up)	\$35
Junior Pit Passes (12 and under)	\$15
Adult General Admission	\$15
Youth (6-12) General Admission	FREE
Kids 5 & under	FREE
Pits Open	3:30 PM
Hot Laps Begin	5:00 PM
Qualifying	6:00 PM
Racing Starts	7:30 PM

WE RETURN to our regular weekly racing program on August 2 (AUGUST already??) with a couple of twists. The Late Models race for \$1,500 to win and it's another Steak 'n Shake Wild Card Night, this time for the Front Wheel Drive DOTs. Details will follow in next week's edition of Track Talk!



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SATURDAY, JULY 27. OPEN DRIFTING. (leased event)

Brought to you by AutoMODIFIED, it's another Saturday of Open Drifting. Experienced and first-time drivers are welcome. Non-driver pit passes are \$20 (ride-a-longs possible!), adult grandstands \$5 with kids 12 and under FREE! Food Truck! Rain or shine!



REMINDERS.

Tickets for the Legendary Night of Destruction (Saturday, September 14) can be purchased now by phone (269.355.4628). Please note there is a \$3 convenience for tickets purchased over the phone.

Autograph Night is August 9!

Lost & Found. Currently looking for their owners: cell phone, gold ring with diamond like stone, toddler shoes, kid's and adult sunglasses and several sets of keys. Call 269.355.4628.

JULY 19, 2024: WEEKLY RACING RECAP.

Kalamazoo Speedway was back to its regular race program on July 19 and it was great to welcome all the classes back to the track. For those of you who missed it:

Front Wheel Drive - DOT

Dillon Rose was the fastest qualifier out of the field of DOT drivers (16.306, 82.792 MPH). Scott Elsey, Jeremiah Bouma and Don Teadt (right) won the heat races. Kyle Shannon drove to a win in the 15-lap 'B' feature. Brittany Bennett (one of the Speedway's youngest drivers at 14) was the runner-up and Brandon Tripp (in his first appearance at the Speedway) medaled in third place. Bentley Foote placed fourth, followed by Cayden Verburg, both on the lead lap. Travis Petto, Don Teadt and Brandon Darrow's nights ended earlier during the feature.



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Clockwise: Jeremiah Bouma (DOT heat winner); Scott Elsey (DOT heat winner); Kyle Shannon ('B' feature winner) and Brittany Bennett (runner-up), Brandon Tripp medaled in third place but skipped Victory Lane; Kyle Shannon with his #21 in Victory Lane.

In the 'A' feature, Hannah Zwart and Austin McKee were the early front-runners before Jeremiah Bouma drove to the lead from a ninth starting position. Street Stock-like pack racing behind Bouma took root amongst Scott Elsey, Bo Brady, Desmond Watkins, Austin McKee and Anthony Foote. After a first lap caution, the race ran caution free until eight to go when 3 cautions stalled out the action. Having exceeded the time limit (1 minute for each of the 20 laps), the next caution ended the race. Jeremiah Bouma claimed his first feature win followed by Scott Elsey, Anthony Foote, Desmond Watkins and Bo Brady in the top five. Dillon Rose led off the second half of the top 10 followed by Gunner Gale, Hannah Zwart, Ryan Diamond and CJ French, all finishing on the lead lap. Scott Elsey continues to hold the point lead over Dillon Rose (-120).

Below: Scott Elsey (2nd), Anthony Foote (3rd) and Jeremiah Bouma in the DOT 'A' feature. The Bouma Group celebrates the victory.



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Front Wheel Drive – Outlaw



Matthew Elsey Jr. found himself in a familiar spot claiming fast-time for the 15 person field with a lap speed of 15.172 (88.980 MPH). Elsey Jr. went on to win his heat (below); the second heat was won by Nick Layman (right, in his first appearance this year).



In the 25-lap feature, it looked like Matthew Elsey Jr., was going for another sweep in the Outlaws. Both Jake Doxey and Dale Leonard (in the Dave Leonard Jr. #27) had qualified well and were making a strong showing in the feature. Doxey in particular was keeping pace with Elsey Jr. and drew near several times. With the outcome looking

assured, Elsey Jr. pulled off the track with under five laps to go (engine issues). And then there was a race to the finish with Jake Doxey taking the win, Dale Leonard was the runner-up and Wayne Stack also medaling. Nick Layman was fourth followed by Matt Elsey. Bryan Gates, Mason Metzger, Charles Anderson (-1), Amanda Weatherwax (-2) and Elsey Jr (-4) wrapping up the top 10. Matthew Elsey Jr. retains the point lead over Matt Elsey (-73) and Bryan Gates (-140).



Jake Doxey in Victory Lane and Wayne Stack (3rd), Jake Doxey and Dale Leonard (2nd) in the FWD-Outlaw feature.

Street Stock



Kyle VanSparrentak was the top qualifier with a time of 14.875/90.756 MPH. Kyle VanSparrentak won the first heat (and passed on going to Victory Lane) and a jubilant Gabe Sheppard (right) won the second heat. It's been a long time coming for Sheppard and we share his jubilation.



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Gabe Sheppard, starting fourth, claimed the early lead until the first 8 laps played out. A caution shook things up and Kyle Ribble (who had moved into the runner-up spot a lap earlier) got out well on the restart and didn't look back. Lapped traffic looked like it might allow Kyle VanSparrentak, Blake Hybels and Alex Sexton to gain some ground, but Ribble managed the field and took the checked flag. Kyle VanSparrentak was the runner-up followed by Blake Hybels with another strong showing. Alex Sexton finished one place off the podium followed by Gabe Sheppard in a gutsy race. The second half of the order was led off by Brandon Zachary, Danny Oxford, Kenny Head II (-1), Logan Delayre (-1) and Mike Gain (-1). Kyle VanSparrentak is the point leader ahead of Alex Sexton (-136).



Left: Kyle Ribble, winner of the Street Stock feature and Blake Hybels (3rd), Kyle Ribble and Kyle VanSparrentak (2nd).

Limited Late Model

Bryce Bozell was the top qualifier (13.269, 101.741 MPH). He went on to win the single heat (a 10-car mini-feature) and to make it a perfect evening for the 13-year-old, won the feature. He skipped Victory Lane for the heat win but celebrated in Victory Lane following his 25-lap feature win (right). Louis Miller, then TC Burgess led the feature before Bryce Bozell moved to the lead. Ricky LaDuke, had another strong showing and moved from the back of the field (as did Bozell); LaDuke claiming the runner-up position. Cody Hawn claimed third place. TC Burgess finished fourth followed by Bob Bliss (-1) and Louis Miller (-1). Caleb Bisacky, Mike Langdon and AJ Foote departed the race before its conclusion.

At right: Cody Hawn (3rd place), Ricky LaDuke (runner-up) and Bryce Bozell.

Late Model

Jerry Pierman drove the fastest lap in qualifying for the Late Models with a time of 13.759 (98.118 MPH). Heat races were won by Kenny Head and Taylor Sexton, coming back from disappointment at the Klash when her car engine caught fire in the pits.



For the 35-lap feature, Luke Krick moved to the lead and held off the field for most of the race. Taylor Sexton ran in second place with Bill Tomlinson showing some speed of his own in third position and trading positions with Sexton for a time. At about the half-way point, it was Krick, then Tomlinson, Sexton, Dylan Stovall and Billy Shannon. Fast forward to eight laps remaining and Krick held the lead, but barely, over a hard charging Stovall, Sexton, Shannon and Chris Garrett. Stovall rounded Krick who then dropped back a few positions. Shannon moved into second with Sexton moving to third. Garrett had dropped back and Jerry Pierman had been fast moving through the field and moved into the fourth position with two laps remaining. At the checkered it was Dylan Stovall coming off a strong finish at the Kalamazoo Klash and Billy Shannon in the runner-up position. Taylor Sexton continued her strong showing and placed third. Jerry Pierman followed then Lucas Krick, Chris Garrett, Bryan Vanzile (in the #28 Jared Blanchard usually pilots), Kenny Head, Bill Tomlinson and Rick Senneker. The point lead is tied between Jerry Pierman and Billy Shannon. Jared Blanchard drops to fifth place behind Chris Garrett. Kenny Head moved from the fourth position into third. This class has seen the tightest point spread all season.



The Stovall friends, family and sponsor celebrate Stovall's achievement; Stovall (left) with Billy Shannon (runner-up and Taylor Sexton (3rd place).



Fast, Family Fun for 74 Years

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