

Driver Profile: Michael Langdon – Passion and Perseverance on the Track

Hometown: Sherwood, MI

Division: Outlaw Limited Late Model

Car: 1997 Howe XL

The Racing Legacy

Racing is in Michael Langdon's blood. It all started with his grandfather back in 1968, followed by his uncles and dad in the late '80s and early '90s. Watching family members compete fueled a lifelong passion, and Michael has wanted to race for as long as he can remember.

From Dirt to Pavement

After 18 years racing on dirt at Butler, Michael decided it was time for a change. Sick of the same old routine, he ventured into pavement racing in 2024, bringing with him a dirt-modified car to the Super Shoe Nationals before making the leap full-time. With a steep learning curve, he's embraced the challenge, planning to race at Kalamazoo, M40, and Galesburg in 2025.

Favorite Moments

Michael's first Super Shoe Nationals in 2018 at Kalamazoo stands out as a cherished memory—an event shared with good friends that cemented his love for pavement racing.

Biggest Challenges

Adapting to pavement racing has been the toughest hurdle. Learning the nuances of car setup and driving technique has required patience, but Michael enjoys every step of the process.

Racing Philosophy and Rituals

For Michael, racing is about fun and camaraderie. Before each race, he enjoys bantering with friends and keeping the atmosphere light. It's a sport, but it's also about building lasting memories.

Influences and Idols

Growing up, Michael admired racers like Bob Thoms, Terry Wilber, and Logan Beckwith III, whose skills and style left an indelible mark. His uncles were key influences, from their mentorship to wrenching on cars in Uncle Steve's barn.

Achievements and Goals

One of Michael's proudest moments was beating Kenny Wallace for a feature win in a dirt-modified car. Though championships and frequent wins are elusive due to budget constraints, his ultimate goal is simple: to have fun and maybe win a few more features along the way.

Support System

Michael's racing journey wouldn't be possible without his dad, who attends every race and shares his passion. He also pits alongside friends Louis Miller and Bob Hile, whose guidance has been invaluable in mastering pavement racing.

Life Outside Racing

When not at the track, Michael enjoys working on the race car, fishing, and spending time with his many animals.

The Racing Community

The people are what make racing special for Michael, from fellow competitors to the fans—especially kids, who are the future of the sport. Meeting fans and sharing the love of racing is one of the most rewarding aspects of the journey.

Words of Wisdom

For those looking to start racing, Michael advises staying within your budget. "Don't jump straight into a late model or a mod just because it sounds fun. Start small and grow from there."

Sponsorship Shoutouts

- Furniture Mattress Warehouse Coldwater, MI
- Union City Speed Shop Union City, MI
- Culp's Auto Salvage Union City, MI

Dream Tracks

On pavement, Michael dreams of racing at high-speed tracks like Bristol or Anderson, while Fairbury's hammer-down dirt track is at the top of his dirt racing bucket list.

Michael Langdon embodies a racer's spirit—passionate, determined, and always ready for the next challenge. Whether tearing up the pavement or chatting with fans, he represents what grassroots racing is all about.