



TRACK TALK

May 20, 2024

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Remembering those who have lost their lives in service to our country.

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND!!!

There's something for everyone this weekend at the Zoo! Heading up the weekend it's the Speedway's Friday night program when the Modifieds return to heat up the track. On Saturday, the AutoMODIFIED Drift Group (leased program) hosts Open Drifting and then on Sunday, Great Lakes Racing Promotions has leased the track for a 200 lap Enduro, Monster Truck and a few fireworks! Keep reading for all the details.

FRIDAY, MAY 24: IT'S THE MODIFIEDS!



THE 4J TRUCKING Modifieds return to Kalamazoo Speedway for the first of their 3 appearances with a \$2,500 to win purse.

Also on the card are the Techworks Trailers Street Stock, the O'Reilly Auto Parts FWD – Outlaws and the Spartan Insulation FWD – DOTs. We will see you at the races! More details on the next page.



Friday, May 24	
Pits Open	2:30 PM
Adult Pit Pass (13+)	\$35
Youth Pit Pass	\$15
Ticket Windows Open	2:30 PM
Adult Grandstand	\$18
Youth Grandstand (6-12)	\$5
Kids 5 & under	FREE
Racing Starts	7:30 PM



MAY 25: OPEN DRIFTING (leased event).



THE AutoMODIFIED Drift Group returns this weekend for its 5th event of the young season. Experienced and new drifters are always welcome.

Ticket windows (pits and grandstands) open at noon; drifting runs from 2:00 – 9:00 PM. Adult grandstand tickets are \$5; 12 and under are free. General pit passes are \$20; ride-a-longs are available! Rain in the forecast? No problem! Drifting is a rain or shine event.

MAY 26: MEMORIAL DAY MAYHEM (leased event).

Sunday, May 26	
Pits Open	3:00 PM
Adult Pit Pass (13+)	\$35
Youth Pit Pass	\$15
Ticket Windows Open	3:00 PM
Adult Grandstand	\$15
Youth Grandstand (6-12)	\$5
Kids 5 & under	FREE
Program Starts	7:00 PM

Great Lakes Racing Promotions closes out the weekend with their Memorial Day program. A drifting exhibition, spectator drags, a monster truck and the headliner: a 200 lap Enduro. The night caps off with a few fireworks.



This event was an addition to the schedule and as a leased event is not part of the seasonal skybox package. Seasonal boxholders who want to attend may do so for \$100 plus we'll add a skybox for one AutoMODIFIED drift night (for the drift night, just purchase admission tickets (\$5 for persons 13+) for the number of adults using the box. Persons who aren't seasonal renters may rent a box on May 26 for \$200. Call 269.355.4628 with questions or to rent.



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FRIDAY, MAY 31: THE FOUR WEEKLY CLASSES RACE.

Friday, May 31	
Pits Open	3:30 PM
Adult Pit Pass (13+)	\$35
Youth Pit Pass	\$15
Ticket Windows Open	3:30 PM
Adult Grandstand	\$15
Youth Grandstand (6-12)	FREE
Kids 5 & under	FREE
Racing Starts	7:30 PM

THE FOUR weekly classes return to race on May 31! We welcome the AFC Metal Supply Late Models, Honor Credit Union Limited Late Models and the Techworks Trailers Street Stock. The Late Models will be racing for a \$1,500 to win purse, the Limited Late Models for \$1,000 and the Street Stock will also be racing for a \$1,000 purse. And that's not all, in the Front Wheel Drive class we're got the O'Reilly Auto Parts Outlaws and the Spartan Insulation DOTs. Point fund dollars come into play for the Top 5 in each class/division or bonus money for those 6th and back who don't miss a race.

Thank you for patronizing our 2024 class sponsors!



JUNE 21: AUTOGRAPH NIGHT (August 9 rain date).

Mark Your Calendars! Autograph Night has been scheduled for June 21. We'll hope for great weather; however, if it rains, we'll hold Autograph Night on August 9.



WELCOME NEW SPONSORS.



Steak 'n Shake West Main (open 24 hours) and Chiropractic for Health and Vitality (Dr. Kathryn Hafer, Allegan) join the family of Kalamazoo Speedway sponsors. Check out their signs (backstretch and midway, respectively). Steak 'n Shake will be sponsoring a few extra dollar purses for the rear wheel drives classes over the course of the season. We welcome and thank both for their support!

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MAY 17: RACING RECAP.



Jerry Pierman drove to the top of the leaderboard in qualifying with a time of 13.900 (97.122 MPH) for the **AFC Metal Supply Late Models**. Isaac Ross

(skipped Victory Lane) and Rick Senneker (left) won the 8-lap heat races.



grow. Jeff Ganus captured fast time 13.371 (100.965 MPH). Brock Ganus (skipping Victory Lane) won one of the 8-lap heats and Bob Bliss (below) won the other.



half of the order was Josh Trammell, Bob Bliss, Louis Miller (all on the lead lap) followed by Mason May (-1) and Terry

Fifteen cars competed in the 35-lap feature. Fresh off his heat win, Rick Senneker assumed the early lead. Pack racing behind him allowed him to temporarily pull away from the rest of the field. With 10 laps in, Isaac Ross was in second place with Jared Blanchard, Bill Tomlinson and Jerry Pierman behind him. Fifteen laps into the race, Ross got around Senneker as did Blanchard; Billy Shannon cracked the top five. Pierman got around Blanchard with 13 to go and Eric McGlothlen made it into 5th place. That order held through the rest of the race. Isaac Ross took the checkered with Jerry Pierman in the runner-up position, followed by Jared Blanchard (top three photo to left), Billy Shannon and Eric McGlothlen. Taylor Sexton led off the second half of the order followed by Kenny Head, Bill Tomlinson, Rick Senneker and Chris Garrett (all on the lead lap). Jerry Pierman extended his one point lead of last week to nine (600) followed by Billy Shannon (591) and Jared Blanchard (551).

The **Honor Credit Union Limited Late Model** class continues to



Bob Bliss took the lead for the 20-lap feature and held it for a few laps before Josh Trammell drove his way to the front. The 88 of Michael "Bubba" Brooks bested Trammell with 10 laps remaining. Bryce Bozell got around Brooks with Jeff Ganus right on his tail. Ganus rounded Bozell while Brock Ganus was pushing Trammell to the fourth position. In a lively race, it was Jeff Ganus with the win and young Bryce Bozell in the runner-up position. Brock Ganus was third followed by Michael Brooks and Cody Hawn wrapping up the top five. Leading off the second

Kline (-2). (Kline also pilots the #27 front wheel drive car). There's a new point leader this week, Bryce Bozell moves from second place to first (566) over Cody Hawn (551) and Louis Miller (516).



The picture of the top three (right), Brock Ganus (3rd place), Bryce Bozell (runner-up) and Jeff Ganus (also above).



The **Techworks Trailers Street Stock** leaderboard had Kyle VanSparrentak in a familiar position following qualifying—at the top with a 14.735 (91.619 MPH) lap speed. Ricky LaDuke (below) and Mike Gain won their respective 8-lap heat races.

In the 35-lap feature, Ricky LaDuke moved into the lead with 29 laps remaining. Kyle VanSparrentak hung with him and cut into LaDuke's lead but wasn't able to make the pass. Brandon Zachary, Kyle Ribble and Alex Sexton were all players in the race; Sexton getting around Ribble with 15 laps remaining and Zachary slipping to fifth. When the checkered flag waved it was Ricky LaDuke (below) with Kyle VanSparrentak in the runner-up position. Alex Sexton placed third followed by Kyle Ribble and Brandon Zachary. Blake Hybels led off the second half of the top ten followed by Mike Gain, Bobby Oxford, Gabe Sheppard and Kenny Head II. Alex Sexton (572) retains a slim margin over Kyle VanSparrentak (568) and Ricky LaDuke (545).



Next page (left). Third place finisher Alex Sexton, Ricky LaDuke and runner-up Kyle VanSparrentak.

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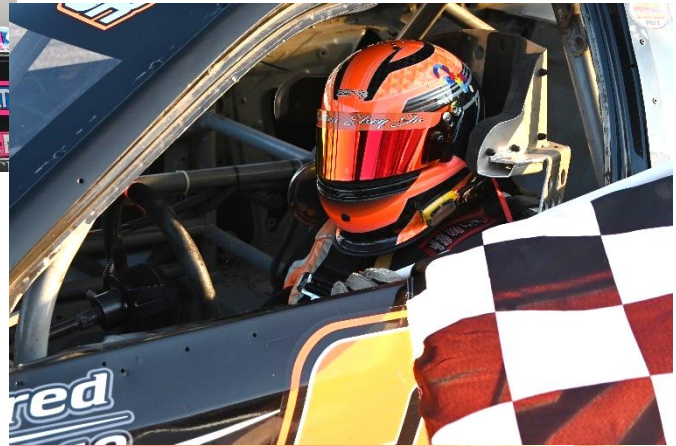
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Matthew Elsey Jr. was the top qualifier in the **O'Reilly Auto Parts Front Wheel Drives - Outlaws** with a time of 14.998 (90.012 MPH). He followed his fast time with a 6-lap heat win. Charles Anderson Jr. drove his way into Victory Lane in Heat #2. Five laps into the 25-lap feature, Matt Elsey took the lead

with Matthew Elsey Jr. working his way quickly through the field. Elsey Jr. moved into the lead with about 10 laps remaining. With only five laps left, there was a three-car pile-up due a car dumping oil on the track; leader Elsey Jr. left the track under tow. Despite pressure from Cody Griffith on the restart, Matt Elsey prevailed and took the checkered flag. Griffith was the runner-up followed by Tyler May, Bryan Gates and Charles Anderson Jr. Amanda Weatherwax led off the second half of the order, followed by Matthew Elsey Jr. (-5), Brian Patton (-5), Case Roelofs (-6) and Tammy Breed (-6). With Dave Leonard's absence (blown engine last week), Matt Elsey and Matthew Elsey Jr. (545) are tied for the point lead with Bryan Gates moving into the third place (522). Matt Elsey (below). (Lower Right) Matt Elsey, feature winner, Tyler May (3rd place) and runner-up, Cody Griffith.

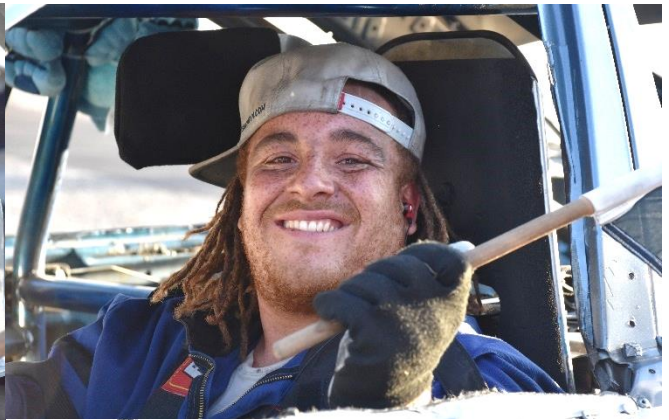


Dillon Rose added a third fast time to his resume by driving to a 16.283 (82.909 MPH) lap time in the **Spartan Insulation Front Wheel Drive - DOTs**. He added a heat race (next page top left) and was joined in the heat race Victory Lane celebrations by Desmond Watkins (top right) and Josh Forney (middle left). Bentley Foote (middle right) won the 'B' feature with Bri Brady and Kaleb Dunn (3rd row left) also medaling in the 15-lap feature. Josh Forney was fourth followed by Brenden Keene, and Jacob Montgomery-Froelik.

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Hannah Zwart led the first lap in the 20-lap 'A' feature. Desmond Watkins quickly moved into the top spot and held that position while Dillon Rose, Scott Eelsey, Dan Rigoni and Duane Green III got lined up behind him. With eight laps left, Rose got around Watkins taking Eelsey and Rigoni with him. At the checkered it was Dillon Rose (left), Matt Eelsey, Dan Rigoni (above), Desmond Watkins and Ryan Diamond. The second half of the order was Duane Green III, Bo Brady, Anthony Foote, Hannah Zwart and Brandon Chadwick. Scott Eelsey is the point leader (508) followed by Bo Brady (471) and Desmond Watkins (467).

Photos A. Fisher

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