

KALAMAZOO SPEEDWAY

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TRACK TALK

June 10, 2024



FRIDAY, JUNE 14: THE WEEKLY CLASSES RACE. MICHIANA VINTAGE RACERS.

Friday, June 14	
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

ALL WEEKLY classes race this week at Kalamazoo Speedway. We welcome the AFC Metal Supply Late Models, Honor Credit Union Limited Late Models and the Techworks Trailers Street Stock. And that's not all, our Front Wheel Drive classes are racing for extra purse money: the O'Reilly Auto Parts Outlaws for \$750 to win and the Spartan Insulation DOTs for \$500 to win. AND, the Michiana Vintage Racers will be with us to show off their cars!

Thank you for visiting our 2024 class sponsors!



DON'T FORGET! AUTOGRAPH NIGHT IS NEXT FRIDAY.

FRIDAY, JUNE 21: WEEKLY CLASSES PLUS AUTOGRAPH NIGHT. STEAK & SHAKE WILD CARDS

ALL WEEKLY classes race this week at Kalamazoo Speedway. We welcome the rear wheel drive classes: AFC Metal Supply Late Models, Honor Credit Union Limited Late Models (racing for \$5,000 to win) and the Techworks Trailers Street Stock. Our front wheel drive classes will also be racing: the O'Reilly Auto Parts Outlaws and the Spartan Insulation DOTs.

It's Autograph Night at the Zoo from 6:45 - 7:30. Join us in the pits (no pit pass required) to check out all the cars and drivers up close and personal.

Then it's the Steak 'n Shake Wild Cards. Compliments of Steak 'n Shake West Main, there will be extra purse money for three Street Stock drivers. The winner will see an extra \$100 and we'll



use a random draw (excluding the first place finisher) to pick two numbers. Those numbers translate to two finishing positions. The driver finishing in those positions will receive \$200 or \$300 extra in purse money. Details coming in the June 17 Track Talk. Let's show our appreciation by visiting Steak 'n Shake West Main—they're open 24 hours!

June 21, 2024	
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	7:45 PM



DRIVER REMINDERS!



FORMER TRACK owner and now Promoter, Gary Howe, reminded drivers of a few housekeeping rules during the drivers' meeting for the Late Models and Front Wheel Drive classes prior to the start of the June 7 racing, and we thought we'd pass it along to those drivers who didn't hear it firsthand.

1. No speeding in the pits!
2. No pot on Kalamazoo Speedway grounds.
3. No alcohol during the races in the pits. Pop those beer cans after the final race.
4. No lollygagging when entering and exiting to/from the upper pits under green.
5. Never leave your car if involved in an incident during a race. (Yes, get out of it if there's a fire.)
6. Tow straps or hooks must be present on front wheel drive cars.
7. The DOT races should not look like an Enduro. Let's race.

JUNE 7: REVEAL THE HAMMER MARTY JONES '75 RECAP.

WE HAD a full house of fans, drivers and crew on hand for the inaugural Marty Jones '75, commemorating the life and achievements of former track owner Marty Jones who passed away in 2023.

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IN THE **Spartan Insulation Front Wheel Drive - DOT** class, Dillon Rose drove to fast time again, besting over 30 cars, clocking a 16.344 (82.599 MPH). With the Reveal the Hammer Marty Jones '75 running, heats were dispensed with for the night. John Rupe (far right) won the 'B' feature with the runner-up position going to John Neal (middle); Josh Forney also medaled (left) as the 3rd place finisher. Bentley Foote came in fourth followed by Jacob Montgomery-Froelick, James Cantrell, Bri Brady, newcomer Dylon Pike, Don Teadt and Eric Rabb, all finishing on the lead lap.



The 'A' feature started out with three quick cautions. Once back to green, Ryan Diamond made quick work of moving from his seventh starting position to the lead and once he arrived, he stayed there. Scott Eley ran in the runner-up position for much of the race prior to being displaced. At the checkered it was Ryan Diamond (at right in red), Anthony Foote (middle) in the runner-up position followed by Dillon Rose (far right). Scott Eley finished in fourth with Ethan Emerson wrapping up the top five. Brandon Chadwick led off the second half of the order followed by Gunner Gale, Austin McKee, Bo Brady and Brandon French. Scott Eley has the point lead over Dillon Rose (-94), Desmond Watkins (-97) and Bo Brady (-116).



For the **O'Reilly Auto Parts Front Wheel Drive - Outlaws**, Matthew Eley Jr. continued his streak of being the top qualifier, clocking a 15.087 (89.481 MPH) lap time.



Ira Hosner took the early lead in the 20-lap feature, Amanda Weatherwax turn her turn at the lead before Stephen Emmans (from Bristol, IN) led a few laps. As are their styles, Matthew Eley Jr. and Will Slaughter moved from the back of the field forward; Matt Eley not too far behind. Eley Jr. took the lead with about 13 laps remaining. A couple of late cautions threatened to shake things up a bit, but Matthew Eley Jr.'s car was too much for the rest of the field. Will Slaughter was the runner-up and Matt Eley was the third place finisher. Wayne Stack was fourth, followed by Stephen Emmans, Mason Metzger, John Neal III, Bryan Gates, Seth Smith and Tyler May, all on the lead lap. Matthew Eley Jr. has the point lead over Matt Eley (-33) and Bryan Gates (-73).

Left, FWD – Outlaw feature winner Matthew Elsey Jr. (right) and third place finisher, Matt Elsey (runner-up Will Slaughter did not join the winners in Victory Lane). Right, Matthew Elsey Jr. and Dan Helland (Michiana Curb Appeal).



AFC METAL SUPPLY
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Billy Shannon posted the fastest qualifying time (13.778, 97.982 MPH) in the **AFC Metal Supply Late Models**. Someone walked off with play by play notes for this 35-lap feature so other than getting the start and the finishing order right, we're in the weeds. Taylor Sexton led the early laps before disappointment hit in the form of car trouble and she departed the race. Jared Blanchard (below right and middle left), starting 10th, worked his way through the field, and despite challenges, was able to pick up his first feature win in the class. Isaac Ross (far right) was the runner-up with Jerry Pierman (left in the group photo) also medaling. Eric McGlothlen was fourth followed by Billy Shannon, Nick Pressler, Chris Garrett, Kenny Head, Bill Tomlinson (-1) and Rick Senneker (-1). Jerry Pierman doubled his very slim point lead over Billy Shannon (-4); teammate Jared Blanchard is down 95 points.



REVEAL THE HAMMER
OUTLAW LATE MODEL TOUR

HOWE
PATIO & WINDOWS

The main event of the night was the Reveal the Hammer Marty Jones '75 promoted by the **Reveal the Hammer Tour** and sponsored by **Howe Patio & Windows**. Mark your calendars now for the last **Outlaw Super Late Models'** race of the year at Kalamazoo Speedway. It only comes once a year, it's the Speedway's signature event: the Kalamazoo Klash (Saturday, July 13).

There were 35 cars that started out the night in practice (when do the Outlaw Super Late Models outpace the Front Wheel Drive – DOTs? It happened on June 7!

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Mark Shook had the fastest time in practice (12.649 (106.728 MPH). Tyler Roahrig had the fastest time in qualifying (12.543, 107.63 MPH). Single car qualifying (3 laps) was completed for this class at 7:30 so everyone could watch. Scott Hantz (right) won the Last Chance Race and Craig Everage was the runner-up, also advancing.



In the 24-cars strong Marty Jones '75, Adam Terry started on the pole (qualifying 8th) and led the first lap and held the lead through more than half the race. TK Whitman held the second position with Cory Pressler in third, Justin Claucherty in fourth and Steve Needles and Mark Shook right behind them. With 10 laps in, Tyler Roahrig was in sixth place and driving forward. Ten more laps thundered by and the #24 of Roahrig had made it into the top five and Brian Bergakker had moved into sixth. Thirty laps down, Terry still had the lead, Whitman held second, Needles was in third place and Roahrig had moved into fourth followed by Shook and Bergakker. A caution involving Whitman and Needles took both out of the race and changed up the field. With a third of the race run, it was Tyler Roahrig in the lead, followed by Adam Terry, Mark Shook, Brian Bergakker and Justin Claucherty; the #10 of Blake Childers was in sixth. Mark Shook got around Adam Terry. The inaugural Marty Jones '75 ended with Tyler Roahrig (bottom right) taking the checkered flag, Mark Shook (below left) in the runner-up position and Adam Terry (below right) taking third place. Brian Bergakker was fourth followed by Justin Claucherty, Blake Childers, Kyle Crump, Phil Bozell, Cory Pressler (-1) and Jaden Cretacci (-1).



photos by A. Fisher

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