

**AMERICAN SPEED U.S. NATIONALS
SATURDAY, MAY 28**

Pits Open	2:00 PM
Pit Passes	\$35
Adult Grandstand	\$25
Youth Grandstand 6-12	\$10
Kids 5 & Under	FREE
Opening Ceremonies	7:00
Racing Starts	7:25 PM

In addition to the race program on Saturday, a series of events are planned as part of the Opening Ceremonies to honor veterans including an Honor Guard, 21-gun salute, and a fly over by the Hooligan Flight Team. Must See Racing is honored to spread the word bringing awareness about the STEADFAST FOR VETERANS program to help veterans who fought for and defended our freedom. Veterans will receive a discount (\$2) off admission prices and free admission to the Battle Creek Air Show. Following the special Opening, the American Speed U.S. Nationals get back to racing with the Winged Supermodifieds, the Must See Winged Sprints, the National Compact Touring Series (again racing for points) and a non-point race featuring the

Zoo Stock. Plus it's Autograph night. Note: Zoo Stock drivers dipping below the 16.750 lap speed rule will be disqualified; however, they may remain in the Zoo Stock class when regular weekly racing resumes.

FRIDAY, JUNE 4 – (COVID) KALAMAZOO KLASH XXVIII

**KALAMAZOO KLASH XXVIII
(MAKE-UP RACE FROM 2020)
FRIDAY, JUNE 4**

Pits Open	Noon
Practice/Qualifying	3:00 PM
Pit Passes	\$35
Adult Grandstand	\$25
Youth Grandstand 6-12	\$10
Kids 5 & Under	FREE
Racing Starts	7:00 PM

Next up at Kalamazoo Speedway is another special event, Kalamazoo Klash XXVIII (the Klash that was scheduled to run in 2020). It's the COVID Klash, paying \$5,000 to win for the Outlaw Super Late Models in this 100-lap annual event. Sharing the program with the COVID Klash will be the second annual Raber's Rumble for the Street Stocks, a \$2,500 to win event.

It's a longer day than usual, so we'll be offering reserved seating (chairs with backs!) on the deck (\$35). Call 269.355.4628 to reserve your seat.



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TIRES FOR BOTH KLASH EVENTS

The Kalamazoo Klash is one of the premier Outlaw Super Late Model events in the Midwest and named one of the top 5 events in the nation. Yet the national tire shortage does not care about these accolades nor that we are running two Kalamazoo Klash events this year: The 2020 make-up Kalamazoo Klash on June 4 and the 2021 Klash on August 18.

At the time Track Talk was published it was unclear which tires will be available for the Klash, and not due to a lack of trying to get an answer. What is known is that there will be a 4-race tire limit for all cars and all race tires will be purchased from the track on the day of the event. Tires will be held in impound until approximately 30 minutes prior to qualifying.

We will post an update under the Kalamazoo Klash post as soon as we have word from Hoosier.

KALAMAZOO SPEEDWAY TEEN DRIVERS

We have an unusually high number of teen drivers this year (upwards of 20) and thought we'd run a few words about each of them over the next several weeks.

Our youngest driver this year (and perhaps ever) is Kylee Letts. Kylee (right) will turn 14 in August and pilots the #07 Zoo Stock; she's already itching to get into her dad's Template Late Model. (This will not be happening in the immediate future, says dad.) She's an alum of the Little Kalamazoo Speedway and is the daughter of Renae and Chris Letts. Both her parents race, as do other family members, Chad Wright and Bill Evink. Her goal for the season is to hold a checkered flag in Victory Lane.



Camille Lewis (below) is a veteran driver at 19. Starting in 2016 she drove full time at another area track before she tried out the 2017 Super Shoe at Kalamazoo Speedway. The Zoo then became her home



track and Camille has been racing full-time here since then. She earned a top 10 finish for the season (6th) in 2019. She's set personal goals of not wrecking in 2021 and winning a feature event, with previous heat races to her credit already. She'd like to check out some other area tracks, as well. Camille is currently 7th in the point standings.

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Madison Snyder (right) turned 16 last month and this is her second year of racing; her first at Kalamazoo Speedway. Like many of our teen drivers, she is an alum of the Little Kalamazoo Speedway. Madison drives the #25 Street Stock. As a young driver she is looking to improve over the course of the season and would like to take a checkered flag in 2021.



We caught up with Makenna Long (left) at the Tire Barn. Makenna is 16 having started racing here when she was 14 and drives the #15 Street Stock. She's looking to build on her driving skills over the course of the season and told us she's set a goal of picking up a heat win this year. And not more than a couple of hours later, she did just that.

Bryson Hosner (right), 17, drives a Zoo Stock and started racing at Kalamazoo Speedway in 2019. His goals for the season include running a lap time under 17 seconds and working to get as high in the Zoo Stocks points as possible. He's currently 18th (of 78) with a heat win under his belt. Dad, Ira, and brother Drew also race in the Zoo Stock class.



Drew Hosner (left), 15, drives a Zoo Stock and, like his brother, has met with early success this year winning the 'B' feature on opening night and picking up a heat race win. He is hoping to consistently run well in his new car using his mantra of "go fast and turn left". His goals include consistently running at the 'A' feature level.

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Matthew Elsey, Jr. stormed onto the scene in his #27 Zoo Stock as a 14-year-old in 2019. This year he is chasing points and watching his speed. Matthew had a shot at the Zoo Stock Season Championship in 2019. The championship came down to Season Championship Night and late in the race he dipped under the Zoo Stock speed limit and was disqualified. Matthew's parents both race (Christina Rantz and Matt Elsey) as does his grandfather, Scott Elsey.

RECAP – MAY 21, 2021

On a hot Friday, May 21, Kalamazoo Speedway hosted all five of its weekly classes. Hard to imagine just two weeks ago we had to cancel due to arctic temperatures!

Tyler McGhan claimed fast time (16.833) for the 33 Zoo Stock who qualified. Fourteen-year-old Blake Hybels, Joshua Nyberg, Charles Anderson and Christina Rantz won the heat races. Jared Blanchard (right) won the 15-lap 'B' feature for his first feature win of the season. Following Blanchard across the finish line were Blake Hybels, Joshua Nyberg, Chad Wright and Dave Smith. Renae Letts was at the top of the second half of the order, followed by Keegan Letts, Travis Petto, Kylee Letts and Mark Gunthorpe.



Dave Miller (right) made it two in a row, winning the 20-lap 'A' feature. Logan Meade and Jorden Brinkert gave Miller some serious competition for the checkered flag. Brinkert's night ended when he was disqualified for dipping under the Zoo Stock 16.750 speed limit. Logan Meade finished second followed by Dennis Mudd, Tyler McGhan, Keith Dixon, Ira Hosner, Aaron Anderson, Matthew Elsey, Jr., Charles Anderson and Ryan Osborne. Tyler McGhan moved into the point lead for the Zoo Stock.



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Pete Doxey was fast qualifier (15.656) in the Outlaw FWD class. Nick Layman and Jake Doxey won the heat races. Will Slaughter took the early lead in the 25-lap feature and maintained the lead until 3 laps to go when Sheldon Lindlag (right) passed him. Defending champion Pete Doxey put up an intense challenge, but it was Lindlag's night in Victory Lane. Following Lindlag and Doxey across the finish line were Will Slaughter, Jake Doxey, Drew Losey, Carlos Pizarro, Tyler McGhan, Nick Layman, Camille Lewis and Nick Failing. Tyler McGhan also moved into the point lead for the Outlaw FWD.



Brandon Zachary had fast time for the Street Stock (14.964) with Makenna Long, Barry Jenkins and Zach Westdorp winning the heat races. Tyler Hufford picked up the win in the Last Chance Race and advanced to the Street Stock 'A' feature along with Barry Jenkins, Jerry Ballard and Calvin Foote. Greg Brown had the early lead in the 30-lap feature before giving it up to Brock Ganus (right) with 25 to go. Ganus was able to spot a comfortable lead on the field at several points but that didn't stop Brown, Shane Miller, Keith Wilfong and Zach Westdorp from making a run at him. At the checkered it was Ganus, Brown, Westdorp, Miller and Wilfong in the top five. The second half of the order was Matt Weenink, Jeremy Young, Shawn Amor, Curtis Towne and Budd Hybels. Shawn Amor remains the point leader.



Chris Shannon was fast qualifier (13.889) with A.J. Foote and Brent Drobny winning the heats in the Template Late Models. The feature race was caution plagued with multiple leaders and challengers limping to the pits or to the tail of the field. Denver Sweat and Mike Green traded the lead in the early laps before Eric McGlothlen took the lead following a caution with 30 laps to go. McGlothlen and Nick Pressler were in a duel with 15 remaining when bad luck hit. Chris Shannon moved into the lead trailed by A.J. Foote; Foote having run in the top five for much of the race.

With five to go, Shannon was out of the race with his own bad luck; Foote was in the wall. With 3 to go it was Foote, Jesse VanAvery, Sr., Dylan Stovall, Denver Sweat and Kenny Head. The race ended in that order with the second half of the top ten finishers, not necessarily on the track at the completion of the race, Nick Pressler, Keegan Dykstra, Matt Sullivan, Chris Shannon and Bubbie Brooks. Chris Shannon is the point leader for the Template Late Models.

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Marty Crawford claimed fast time in the Outlaw Super Late Models with a lap speed of 13.183 seconds. Zack Cook and Todd Harrington won the heat races. For the second week in a row, Zack Cook led lap one of the 40-lap feature and led at lap 40. We heard the whispers last week, that if the feature had gone any longer Doug True would have gotten around Cook and won the race. Cook silenced those whispers this week. Mark Shook, veteran driver and former Outlaw Super Late Model and Super Shoe Champion was on Cook's tail for 30 laps. Shook got Cook loose a couple of times, looked to get around him on several others but Cook held him off; the duel commanding everyone's attention. The two made contact down the front stretch for the win but it was Cook (right with grandmother, Karen Sexton) finishing 0.158 of a second ahead of Shook. Bring on the COVID Klash on June 4th! Finishing third was Steve Needles, followed by Brandon Lyons, Doug True, Marty Crawford, Todd Harrington, John Long, Adam Terry and Kenny Whitman. Lyons was driving Rick Senneker's back up car and though Senneker hasn't been cleared to drive after sustaining multiple injuries after tumbling from a ladder, he was back at the track and is looking forward to getting back into the driver's seat. Todd Harrington is the point leader.



Fast Family Fun for 71 Years

Photos by A. Fisher

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