

KALAMAZOO SPEEDWAY

est. 1950

TRACK TALK

JUNE 5, 2023

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JUNE 9 🏁 THE INTIMIDATOR 100

Rescheduled from April 28, it's the 23rd running of the Intimidator 100 paying out a cool \$7,500 to win for the Outlaw Super Late Models. Sponsored by Landscape Forms and second only to the Kalamazoo Klash for the Outlaws, this is a race to see! Joining the program for a solid night of racing are the Hutcherson Construction Late Models, Techworks Trailer Sales Street Stock and the O'Reilly Auto Parts Outlaw FWD. The Zoo Stock have a rare night off. The Street Stock will be running their third of six "Big Money" nights for \$1,000 to win: the purse sponsored by Performance Plus Auto & Fabrication. The Late Model and Outlaw FWD are racing for their regular weekly payout.

FRIDAY, JUNE 9

Pits Open	2:30 PM
Adult Pit Pass (13+)	\$35
Minor Pit Pass	\$15
Tickets Windows Open	2:30 PM
Adult Grandstand	\$20
Youth Grandstand (6-12)	\$10
Kids 5 & under	FREE
Program Starts	7:30 PM

We will see YOU at the races!

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JUNE 16 🏁 THE MODS ARE BACK!!!!

FRIDAY, JUNE 9	
Pits Open	2:30 PM
Adult Pit Pass (13+)	\$35
Minor Pit Pass	\$15
Tickets Windows Open	2:30 PM
Adult Grandstand	\$18
Youth Grandstand (6-12)	\$5
Kids 5 & under	FREE
Program Starts	7:30 PM

Mark your calendars!



The 4J Trucking Modifieds are back for their second of four appearances in 2023 racing for \$2,500 to win. Joining the Mods are the Vintage Racing Organization of America cars and our own weekly classes, the Hutcherson Construction Late Models and the Spartan Insulation Zoo Stock.

The Spartan Insulation Zoo Stock are running their 3rd of six "Big Money" nights; the purse sponsored by Howe Patio & Windows. The Late Models will run for their regular weekly payout.



"Racing into the Future with Cars from the Past!" That's how The Vintage Racing Organization of America (VROA) likes to be thought of when you hear their name. The VROA is a club dedicated to preserving circle track racing prevalent during the 1940's - 1960's. Cars must use pre-1948 bodies manufactured in the US or Canada, running inline six cylinder 250 Chevy or 240 Ford and the Chevy 305 or Ford 302 V8 engines.

NEXT GENERATION OF RACERS!

We've got a growing number of young drivers racing at Kalamazoo Speedway this season; fourteen of our teens are under the age of 18. Two of them drove themselves into Victory Lane on May 26 and two others made their way to Victory Lane on June 2. We touched base with two of the drivers before the June 2 races and will be catching up with the rest of our teen drivers over the course of the season.

Without a doubt, Bentley Foote is our youngest driver weighing in at 9 years old (he won't be 10 until December!)



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Bentley honed his racing skills driving a mini wedge for 3 years before moving up to the big leagues this year. May 26 was his first start in the big leagues and he drove his #88 Zoo Stock to Victory Lane in the Zoo Stock B feature.

Dakara Williams, 14, unlike Bentley, has no racing experience, says step dad, Dan Rigoni, "she'd never even driver a lawn mower." Dakara has a passion for racing and in her second start, won her heat race. For 2023 she plans to work at improving her skills and becoming more consistent.



JUNE 2 🏁 RACE RECAP

It was another great night of racing at Kalamazoo Speedway. All four weekly classes raced plus the Michiana Vintage Racers were on hand to show off their stuff.

In the **Hutcherson Construction Late Models** Billy Shannon (at right rolling the dice for the inversion) was back on top of the fast-time leaderboard, 13.960 second, 96.705 mph. TC Burgess shot to the front for a lap before Rick Senneker led for the next quarter of the 40-lap race. Chris Shannon made his move to the lead at about the half-way point with Jeff Bozell, Dylan Stovall and a late charging Luke Krick putting up challenges.



At the checkered it was Chris Shannon picking up the \$1,200 purse put up by class sponsor Hutcherson Construction.

Luke Krick was the runner-up followed by Dylan Stovall, Buddy Head and Jeff Bozell finishing in the top five. Billy Shannon led the second half of the order followed by David Guarino, Bill Tomlinson, Rick Senneker and Ryan Stutz, all finishing on the lead lap. Defending champion Billy Shannon is the point leader with Jeff Bozell trailing by only 32.



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Left, 2nd place finisher Dylan Stovall and, right, Luke Krick who finished in 3rd place.

Some drivers pace before their feature, others sit quietly in their car, some talk with fellow drivers or crew. Bryce Bozell, age 11, (left) was so chill he caught some quick shut eye before hurtling around the track at over 90 miles per hour. (He finished the race in 11th place on the lead lap).

Kyle VanSparrentak (below tossing the dice) posted a 14.894 second lap (90.641) mph in the **Techworks Trailer Sales Street Stock**, a good start toward the \$2,000 to win purse compliments of Randy's Trucking. Norm Overhiser won

the nine car Last Chance race. Also advancing to the 35-lap feature were Gabe Carr, Danny Oxford and Jerry Ballard. Blake Hybels, 16, took the early lead and put a lot of pavement between his #17 and the rest of the field which was nose-to-tail and door-to-door. Caution flew with 19 laps remaining when Jeff Town had a tire go down. On the restart Lee Slaton took the lead with Alex Sexton, 16, pressuring. Three cautions flew in two laps and both Slaton and Sexton retired with 14 laps remaining. Now it was Ricky LaDuke and Brock Ganus at the head of the pack with LaDuke in front. With six laps remaining, Ganus pulled ahead. At the checkered it was Brock Ganus (below right), runner-up Ricky LaDuke, Kyle Ribble, Austin Maynard and Brandon Zachary in the top five. Kyle VanSparrentak, Gabe Carr, Jeremy Young, Tristan Crago and Zach Westdorp completed the top 10. Kyle



VanSparrentak has the point lead with Ricky LaDuke 54 points behind.



Norm Overhiser, winner, Last Chance Race.



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Below, runner-up and defending champion, Ricky LaDuke (left), and 3rd place finisher, Kyle Ribble.



In the **O'Reilly Auto Part Outlaw FWD** it was Matthew Eley Jr. taking all the top honors. Eley Jr. (right, with family) was the fast qualifier with a time of 15.275 (88.380 mph) and won the \$500 purse (sponsored by Honor Credit Union) by winning the 25-lap feature. Bryan Gates led lap one, Rodney Russell II led lap two and then it was Eley Jr. leading until the checkered flag waved. Before the feature began, Nick Layman's #5 suffered a broken axle during qualifying. Father, Ira Hosner, and son, Drew, both qualified but Drew's high school graduation was on race night (the scheduling nerve!!) and didn't make it back in time for the feature. Drew, third in the points, going into the night, slipped to 8th. Dave Leonard Jr. was the runner-up in the race, followed by Rodney Russell II (right), Dan Rigoni and Bryan Gates. Dillon Rose and Ryan Diamond were 6th and 7th (having graduated from the Zoo Stock earlier in the evening), followed by Wayne Stack, Brad Ingle and Jake Doxey. Matthew Eley Jr. has a commanding point lead. Dave Leonard Jr. also ran in the Street Stock feature and skipped Victory Lane to get buckled into his Street Stock car.



The **Spartan Insulation Zoo Stock** paid \$400 to win (compliments of Randy's Trucking) for the 'A' feature. Ryan Diamond, back after sitting out 2 races for dipping under the Zoo Stock fastest time allowed, posted fast time (16.813, 80.295 mph). Dillon Rose, also back under the same circumstances, was the second fastest with a time of 16.836. New this year, if a driver dips under 16.700 for TWD laps during the night, they will sit out 2 events before being able to run in the Zoo Stock in 2023.

The 'B' feature was won by JJ Brooks. Anthony Foote, 12, and Terry Kline were the runner-up and 3rd place finisher respectively. Tyler Vanderhoff darted out to the lead in the 20-lap feature. With 12 laps remaining the #27 of Matthew Eley Jr. took the lead and put up a huge lead. With 2 laps remaining a caution was tossed. Ryan Diamond made the most out of this



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and took the lead, crossing the finish line first. Unfortunately, he again dipped below the maximum allowable speed and was disqualified. Dillon Rose suffered the same fate. That made Matthew Eelsey Jr. the winner, followed by Mason Metzger, II, and Matt Eelsey Sr. as the top three. CJ French and Mason May rounded out the top five. Charles Anderson came in sixth followed by defending champion Logan Meade, Eric Mepyans, Desmond Watkins and Nick Ruimveld. Eelsey Jr. pulled into Victory Lane so his car could bask in its glory while he darted off (with helmet still on) to the make ready chute to buckle into his Outlaw FWD car (photo previous page).



Clockwise Zoo Stock medalists: Mason Metzger (second place 'A' feature), Matt Eelsey (third place 'A' feature), Anthony Foote (second place 'B' feature), Terry Kline (third place 'B' feature) and JJ Brooks (first place 'B' feature). Metzger and Bryce Bozell are first cousins.



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REMINDER: TECH BULLETIN #01-2023

From Tech Bulletin #01-2023

OUTLAW SUPER LATE MODEL (OSLM)

- 🚩 **Left Side Weight Rule.** Nothing more than 60.000%.
- 🚩 **Tread Width.** Maximum 83" tread width. This will be checked with toe plates and will be measured at 1" above the concrete surface.
- 🚩 **Tire Program.** All 4 race tires will be purchased at the track the day of the race and these tires will remain impounded, until they are released. You may purchase practice tires or bring in your own.

JUNE 🚩🚩 AUTOMODIFIED DRIFT EVENT



AutoMODIFIED ran its 3rd open drifting event of the season on Sunday, June 4. Fans and drivers had a blast and are looking forward to the competition weekend on June 17-18.

JUNE 24 🚩🚩 RED, WHITE & BOOM NIGHT OF DESTRUCTION

Next week we'll be covering the fun and fabulous Red, White & Boom Night of Destruction. Novelty events, Travis Pastrana, the drifters, Scarecrow! Don't miss it!! The show starts at 7:00 PM sharp but get there MUCH earlier to avoid the gridlocks trying to get into the venue and at the ticket office.



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Photos A. Fisher

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