

KALAMAZOO SPEEDWAY

est. 1950

TRACK TALK

JULY 5, 2023

IN THIS EDITION

- 🏁 JULY 8 KALAMAZOO KLASH
- 🏁 JULY 14 MODS RETURN
- 🏁 JUNE 30 RACE RECAP
- 🏁 WEEKEND EVENT RECAP



JULY 8 🏁 KALAMAZOO KLASH XXXI

SATURDAY, JULY 8 KALAMAZOO KLASH XXXI	
Pits Open	11:00 AM
Adult Pit Pass (13+)	\$40
Minor Pit Pass	\$20
Ticket Windows Open	11:00 AM
Adult Grandstand	\$30
Youth Grandstand (6-12)	\$10
Kids 5 & under	FREE
Program Starts	7:00 PM

It's that time!!! And it only comes once a year. Three classes. 250 laps of prime features. Last Chance races. Pure racing. Don't miss it!

\$15,000 to win for Kalamazoo Klash XXXI for the Outlaw Super Late Models.
 \$5,000 to win for the Late Models
 \$5,000 to win for the Raber's Street Stock Rumble

Skyboxes are sold out.

There are no advance ticket sales for this event. We've added 800 new seats.

Coolers 14" and smaller are allowed, no glass.

Blankets may not be placed before the ticket windows open at 11:00 AM on July 8.

Sorry, no strollers or wagons for this event due to congestion in the grandstands.

Pit pass/grandstand punch cards may be used. Most coupons are not valid.

More information is located in the Fan and Driver Information sheet located on the home page of our website. Click on the Kalamazoo Klash post. The event schedule follows on the next page.

EVENT SCHEDULE

KALAMAZOO KLASH TRIPLE HEADER

July 8, 2023

PIT GATES OPEN	11:00
TIRE BARN OPENS	11:30
MANDATORY DRIVERS' MEETING	2:30
PRACTICE	3:00
Street Stock – Session #1	3:00 – 3:20
Late Model – Session #1	3:24 – 3:44
Outlaw Super Late Model – Session #1	3:48 – 4:08
Street Stock – Session #2	4:12 – 4:32
Late Model – Session #2	4:36 – 4:56
Outlaw Super Late Model – Session #2	5:00 – 5:20
QUALIFYING	5:25
Street Stock	2 laps
Late Model	2 laps
Outlaw Super Late Model	3 laps
PRE-RACE	6:30
Awards	6:30
First Race to Front Stretch/Second to Make Ready	6:40
Invocation/National Anthem	6:55
FEATURES	7:00
Street Stock Last Chance	20 laps
Late Model Last Chance	25 laps
Outlaw Super Late Model Last Chance	25 laps
Raber's Street Stock Rumble	50 laps
Late Model	75 laps
Outlaw Super Late Model (Kalamazoo Klash XXXI)	125 laps



Raber's Street Stock Rumble



General Sponsor



Trophy Sponsor

TRACK TALK

TRACK TALK

TRACK TALK

JULY 14 🏁 THE MODS ARE BACK!



Those 4J Trucking open-wheel, bad-boy mods return to race for a \$5,000 to win purse! Also on the card are the Engine Pro Vintage Modifieds, the Crown Vics plus the O'Reilly Auto Parts Outlaw Front Wheel Drives and the Spartan Insulation Zoo Stock.

It's a Big Money night for the Outlaw FWD, racing for \$500 to win (Honor Credit Union) while the Zoo Stock (Howe Patio & Windows) race for \$400. The Crown Vics' purse is \$400 to win.

FRIDAY, JULY 14	
Pits Open	2:30 PM
Adult Pit Pass (13+)	\$35
Minor Pit Pass	\$15
Ticket Windows Open	2:30 PM
Adult Grandstand	\$18
Youth Grandstand (6-12)	\$5
Kids 5 & under	FREE
Program Starts	7:30 PM

We will see YOU at the races!



JUNE 30 🏁 RACE RECAP

June 30 kicked off a whirlwind of 4 different events running through July 5. June 30 was Front Wheel Drive Night at the Zoo featuring the National Compact Touring Series running their 9th Annual World Series of Compacts for a \$3,000 purse plus the Spartan Insulation Zoo Stock raced for \$1,000 to win.

Matthew Elsey Jr. was the fastest qualifier for the **National Compact Touring Series** with a lap speed of 15.273 (88.391 MPH) of the 42 cars that qualified. Paul Bittle was the fastest in practice (15.104). Heat races were won by Dan Irvine, Colin Bozell, Ryan Crocker, Chris Howard and Duane Crum. Wayne Stack won the 25-lap 'B' feature followed across the line by the rest of the top five: Chris Howard, Ryan Crocker, Kenny Wright and Robert Siegel. In the 50-lap 'A' feature, Paul Bittle took the lead after the field sorted out with Will Slaughter and Dan Rigoni challenging. Elsey Jr. moved up from his 11th starting position to the 6th position with 40 laps remaining. Seven laps later he was in the second position. With 27 laps remaining, Bittle had a substantial lead while Elsey Jr. had an equally substantial lead over Dave Leonard Jr., who had moved into the third position. With it looking as if Bittle was going to fly to a \$3,000 pay day, that's not how it turned out. Bittle pulled off the track with 19 laps remaining; the two juniors (Elsey and Leonard) sported a large lead on the rest of the field but Elsey Jr. had the stronger race and crossed the finish line first followed by Leonard Jr. (0.914 seconds behind), then Curtis Edney (11.842 seconds back), Dan Rigoni, Kater Stark, Pete Doxey, Will Slaughter, Allen Hite, Mike Sanders and wrapping up the top 10, Michael Oldenburgh.

TRACK TALK TRACK TALK TRACK TALK

Clockwise: Wayne Stack ('B' feature winner), Matthew Elsey Jr. (fast-time and 'A' feature winner), Elsey Jr. with 'A' feature runner-up Dave Leonard, Jr.



CJ French was the top qualifier in the **Spartan Insulation Zoo Stock** with a time of 16.800 (80.357 MPH). Heat races were won by Matt Elsey, JJ Brooks, and Nick Ruimveld. Austin McKee won the 20-lap 'B' feature in a competitive race. Anthony Foote, JJ Brooks, Terry Kline and Ken Papesh finished in the top five. The 30-lap 'A' feature started with a caution and a complete restart. Once green, Daniel Abercrombie pulled into the lead. Charles Anderson, Rielly Meade, Matthew Elsey Jr, and Gunner Gale were not content to leave things that way. Gunner Gale was crowding leader Abercrombie with 15 laps remaining. Gale took the lead on the backstretch with 13 laps remaining and put up a substantial lead. At the checkered it was 14-year-Gunner Gale taking home the \$1,000 purse. Daniel Abercrombie was the runner-up followed by Charles Anderson, Wes Allen, Cory Kruzell, Mason May, Scott Elsey, Matt Elsey, Eric Mepnyans and James Binkley wrapping up the top 10. Elsey Jr. holds a slim 11 point lead over Mason May in the points with CJ French only 32 behind.

Left to right: Matt Elsey (heat winner) and JJ Brooks (heat winner)



TRACK TALK TRACK TALK TRACK TALK

Clockwise: Nick Ruimveld (heat winner), Austin McKee ('B' feature winner), Anthony Foote, Austin McKee and JJ Brooks (top 3 in the 'B' feature), Charles Anderson, Gunner Gale and proud papa, Tim Gale (Gunner Gale 'A' feature winner), and Gunner Gale celebrating his achievement.



JULY 1 – JULY 5 🏁 RECAPS

On July 1, **AutoMODIFIED** held an open drifting event, hosting 30 cars from seasoned drivers doing tandems to true novices. Their next event is July 15. The track goes hot for the drifters at 2:00 PM. Adult grandstands are \$5. Rain or shine!

On July 3, it was another leased event, this time by the **Midwest Dirt Compacts LLC** offering the 'Merica at the Zoo. Results follow on the next page.

TRACK TALK TRACK TALK TRACK TALK

Timothy Likens took fast-time with a 17.178 lap speed in the **Crown Vics**. Michael Sullins took the heat race and Jerry Osterhouse won the 20-lap feature, followed by Timothy Likens and Michael Sullins.

Matt Kemp drove to fastest qualifying time in the **MCR Dwarf** series with a lap speed of 14.082. Stephen Chartrand and David Wylie won the heat races. Zack Nichols won the 16-car, 25-lap feature. Matt Kemp was the runner-up followed by Eric Hoffman, Stephan Shlater and David Wylie.

Matthew Elsey Jr. took fast time over 37 other contenders in the **Midwest Dirt Compacts** with a time of 15.383 seconds. Keith Adams, Bryson Hosner and Matthew Elsey Jr. won the heat races. David Simpson won the 15-lap 'B' feature; Bryson Hosner was runner-up with Scott Elsey, Ed Clawson and Mason May rounding out the top five. Matthew Elsey Jr. won the 25-lap 'A' feature followed by runner-up Dave Leonard Jr., in a repeat finish from the June 30 National Compact Touring Series race. Allen Hite came in third followed by Dan Rigoni, Ryan Crocker, Curtis Edney Jr., Chase Willard, James Sumerix, Wayne Buckner and Dillon Rose closing out the top 10.

In the **Ohio Wheelman Series** Billy Roberts was fast qualifier in the 16-car field with a time of 15.258. Matt Wilson won fast-car dash. Joseph Muldoon and Howard Kelly Jr. won the heat races. Billy Roberts won the 50-lap feature in a race plagued by cautions. Josh Poore was the runner-up followed by Dennis Wood, Jeff Kuykendall, Tyler Hufford, Stephen Schlea, Joseph Muldoon, Matt Wilson, and Howard Kelly Jr., finishing on the lead lap with 10th place finisher, Thomas Joy, completing 49 laps.

Photos of the July 3 event may be found on SmugMug, Racing Woody.

Then it was the **July 5 pre-Klash practice** where the Street Stock, Late Model and Outlaw Super Late Models drivers were able to get in some last minute practice before the July 8 Kalamazoo Klash XXXI, Late Model '75 and the Raber's Street Stock Rumble. Adam Terry posted the fastest practice time for the Outlaw Super Late Models (12.794). Chris Shannon drove to the fastest practice time in the Late Models (13.968), while Kyle Ribble led the pack (15.114) in the Street Stock.

We will see YOU on Saturday, July 8!



Fast, Family Fun for 73 Years

Photos A. Fisher

TRACK TALK TRACK TALK TRACK TALK