

KALAMAZOO SPEEDWAY

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TRACK TALK

AUGUST 21, 2023

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AUGUST 25 🏁 THE OPEN WHEEL MODIFIEDS HEADLINE



The 4J Trucking Open Wheeled Modifieds close out their 2023 season at Kalamazoo Speedway with a \$5,000 to win 50-lap feature.

Also on the card are two of the weekly classes, the Street Stock and the Zoo Stock, plus the Engine Pro Vintage Modifieds.

We will see YOU at the races!

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25	
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



AUGUST 26 🏁 OPEN DRIFTING (LEASED EVENT)



It's another Open Drifting event brought to drivers and fans alike by AutoMODIFIED. An open drifting event, cars hit the course as singles, doubles, triples and,

occasionally, as quads. First time drifters plus the more experienced are always welcome. It's only \$5 for adults to watch; 12 and under are free. Driver pit passes are \$80 (which includes one crew member). Non-driver pit passes run \$20. Ticket windows and the pits open at noon; drifting runs from 2:00 – 9:00. Rain or shine!



SEPTEMBER 1 🏁 SEASON CHAMPIONSHIP NIGHT

How can it be Season Championship Night already! In two weeks, all four weekly classes race with undetermined champions in three of the four classes. Matthew Elsey Jr. has an insurmountable lead in the Outlaw FWDs and is the season champion in that class. This is the final “Big Money” purse for all four classes.

Mark your calendars!

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

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

SUPER SHOE INFORMATION

More Super Shoe information has been added to the Super Shoe post on the Speedway website (kalamazoospeedway.com). Event schedules for all 3 days of Super Shoe weekend have now been posted. Campers who want to reserve the same campsites from last year must do so by September 6. Reminder to the Crown Vics: To have a Super Shoe class all to yourselves gather 16 of your Crown Vic colleagues and call 269.355.4528 and pay your Super Shoe registration by September 6. (The same is true for the Modifieds). Information sheets for the Crown Vics and the two front wheel drive classes have been added. Pit stall rentals (\$100) are available in the upper and 3rd pits. Pit stalls in the infield are FREE! Still have questions? Shoot an email to gary@kalamazoospeedway.com or barbara@kalamazoospeedway.com.

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AUGUST 18 🏁 RACE RECAP

Sunny! No blistering heat! But close to blanket weather after the sun went down!

We had a few Modifieds in the house to run a few laps in anticipation of their August 25 \$5,000 to win appearance. Thank you, as always, to Jack Goodrich for offering the Invocation.

For something different, the 18 **Outlaw Super Late Models** ran their single-car qualifying at 7:30 PM. Mark Shook was the fastest of the 20 cars in practice with a time of 12.697. Both Jeff Ganus and Matt Sullivan practiced but didn't make it to qualifying. Shook went on to be the fastest in qualifying with a time of 12.506 (107.948). Mike Williams took the early lead in the 75-lap feature and kept it for the first 29 laps. Mark Shook, who started 14th, moved around Williams with 46 laps remaining. Adam Terry was also on the move from a starting position of 13. Steve Needles started in the 11th position and lagged through much of the race, pitting during caution but picked up positions and broke into the top five with about 20 laps remaining. Adam Terry made multiple runs on Shook and made up some ground when both drivers hit lapped traffic in the closing laps of the race, but it was Shook's night. At the checkered it was a win denied him at the Klash and Mark Shook took home the \$5,000 winner's check. Adam Terry was the runner-up and Steve Needles was third. Zack Cook finished fourth followed by Doug True, Scott Hantz, Matt Frazier, Mike Williams, Monte Tolan and Craig Everage.

Top row: Mark Shook (Outlaw Super Late Model feature winner. Last row: Outlaw Super Lates line up on the front stretch for driver introductions. The top three finishers (#14, #4 and #14) are pictured to the back of the pack (the whole field is not pictured). On the following page, 3rd place finisher Steve Needles, second-place finisher, Adam Terry, darted away too quickly to get his photo.



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Single lap qualifying was also used for the **Hutcherson Construction Late Models**. Buddy Head was the fastest in practice with a time of 14.017. Lucas Krick took those honors in qualifying putting up a 13.900 (97.122 MPH). The Late Model 40-lap feature was a series of unfortunate events plagued with cautions and ended when the race was called for time. The race started with a pile up in turn four. The race went back to green and with 37 laps remaining it was Taylor Sexton in the lead followed by Billy Shannon when another caution was called; the #96 of Ken Papesh caught fire. The woes continued six laps later when the #4 of Lon Putnam blew an engine (particularly painful given his modified met a similar fate earlier). Now 30 minutes into the race and 10 laps hadn't been completed. On the restart, with 37 laps remaining, Lucas Krick moved quickly to the lead and Jeff Bozell and Billy Shannon collided. Both drivers were done for the night. When the field went back to green, Lucas Krick again jumped out to the lead. Rick Senneker had charged up to the second spot with Jerry Pierman in third. With 5 remaining, the yellow waved again, thus ending the race. (Races have a time limit based on one minute per lap). Lucas Krick won the race. In the runner-up spot was Jerry Pierman, followed by Rick Senneker, Kenny Head, Taylor Sexton, Jared Blanchard, Race Bible and Matthew Elsey Jr. Billy Shannon was 9th and Buddy Head who also did not finish was 10th. Lucas Krick retains the point lead with Kenny Head trailing by 45 with one race remaining.



Lucas Krick (middle two photos) and runner-up, Jerry Pierman. Rick Senneker was also running in the Outlaw Super Late Model '75 and skipped photos.

The **Techworks Trailer Sales Street Stock** saw Kyle VanSparrentak put up the fastest time in practice (14.772). Kyle Ribble was the fastest in single car in qualifying (14.773, 91.383 MPH). The race started out a bit rough with an immediate caution but went back to green with Jerry Ballard leading. Danny Oxford assumed the lead for a handful of laps before Kyle Ribble drove his #25 to the front. While Ribble led, powerhouses Kyle VanSparrentak and Ricky LaDuke were working their way up the field. A caution with 14 laps remaining for a tire down on the #22 of Ballard equalized the field. Back



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to green, Ribble was out strong with the #68 of VanSparrentak charging after him. Ribble had the edge this night and at the checkered it was Kyle Ribble, Kyle VanSparrentak in the runner-up position followed by Ricky LaDuke, Zach Westdorp in another strong showing, Alex Sexton, Danny Oxford, Chad VanSparrentak, James Roden, Jerry Ballard and Norm Overhiser (all on the lead lap). With two Street Stock races remaining, Kyle VanSparrentak is the point leader over Ricky LaDuke (-71) and Kyle Ribble (-95).



Above, Kyle Ribble with family. Above right with his group and below with Ricky LaDuke (3rd place finisher) and Kyle VanSparrentak (2nd place finisher).



Sneak preview for the August 28 edition of Track Talk:

Awards Party news!

Night of Destruction news!



Fast, Family Fun for 73 years

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