

KALAMAZOO SPEEDWAY

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TRACK TALK

May 7, 2024

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FRIDAY, MAY 10: THE FOUR WEEKLY CLASSES RACE.

Friday, May 10	
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

THE FOUR weekly classes are the show stoppers on Friday, May 10. Don't miss the AFC Metal Supply Late Models, Honor Credit Union Limited Late Models, the Techworks Trailers Street Stock and the Front Wheel Drives sponsored by O'Reilly Auto Parts (Outlaws) and Spartan Insulation (DOT). **Front Wheel Drives! Get a SOLID tow strap, hook or chain (that won't break) attached to the front and rear of your cars where a wrecker can quickly and safely hoist the car if it needs to be towed.**

REMINDER: Drivers electing to start at the tail of the field are NOT exempt from breaking out.

Thank you for patronizing the 2024 class sponsors!



MAY 17, 2024: WEEKLY RACING.

Friday, May 17	
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

WE WILL be repeating our May 10 program when the four weekly classes heat up the track on Friday, May 17. Returning are the AFC Metal Supply Late Models, Honor Credit Union Limited Late Models, the Techworks Trailers Street Stock and the Front Wheel Drives. This week the Front Wheel Drives race for extra purse money: The O'Reilly Auto Parts Outlaws race for \$750 to win while the Spartan Insulation DOTs race for \$500 to win. Let's go racing!



MAY 11: OPEN DRIFTING (leased event).

THE **AutoMODIFIED Drift Club** returns this weekend for its 4th event of the young season.

Ticket windows (pits and grandstands) open at noon; the track is hot from 2:00 - 9:00 PM. Adult grandstand tickets are \$5; 12 and under are free. General pit passes are \$20. Rain in the forecast? No worries! Drifting is a rain or shine event. Experienced and new drifters are always welcome.



MAY 3: INTIMIDATOR 100 RECAP

ALL WEEK the forecast looked iffy for racing, but by the end of the week we went racing! TWO HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIVE laps of feature racing!



The **Spartan Insulation Front Wheel Drive DOT's** Dillon

Rose was at the top of the leaderboard at the conclusion of qualifying with a quick time of 16.528 seconds (81.680 MPH). Dave Smith won the 15-lap 'B' feature from the tail of the 11-car field. Landen Deplanche and Brenden Keene also medaled in the race.



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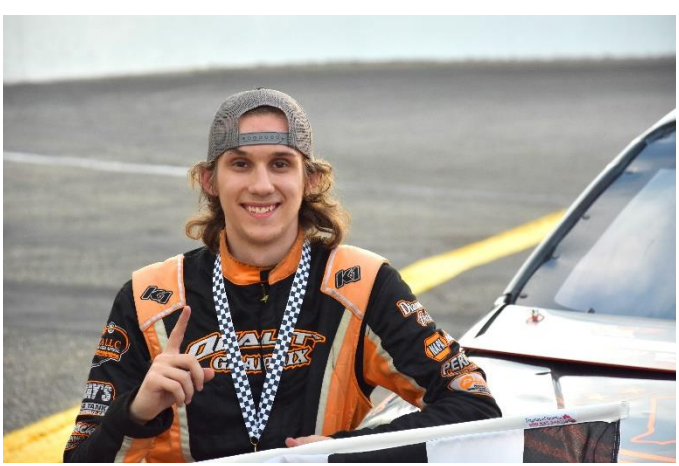
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In the 20-lap 'A' feature, Hannah Zwart took the early lead. With 5 laps in, Scott Elsey was the leader followed by John Rupe, Zwart, Duane Greene III and Joel Areaux. Desmond Watkins and CJ French were marching through the field. In the final five laps, Elsey still held the lead with Watkins looking to pass him. Two laps remaining saw Elsey followed by Watkins, Greene III with Ryan Diamond having moved into 4th place and Rupe hanging on to fifth. Then a new race developed, a reminder to all drivers to NEVER give up. Elsey had a tire go down, Watkins met with misfortune, was clobbered and the caution flew. In a mad dash when the race went back to green, Dillon Rose took the checkered flag followed by CJ French, Bo Brady, John Rupe and Anthony Foote wrapping up the top five. In the second half of the order it was Jeremiah Bouma, Hannah Zwart, Joel Areaux, Scott Elsey and Mike Currier. Scott Elsey has the point lead (260) followed by Bo Brady (258) and Desmond Watkins (248).



In the **O'Reilly Auto Parts Front Wheel Drive - Outlaw** division, Dave Leonard Jr. was the fast qualifier with a time of 15.244 (88.559 MPH). The 20-lap feature started with a caution. Back to green, Wayne Stack moved into the lead and kept it while the two #27 cars pushed through the field to challenge him. Matthew Elsey Jr. took the lead with nine laps to go and didn't look back. At the checkered it was Elsey Jr. with his second win of the year followed by Dave Leonard Jr., Wayne Stack, Bryan Gates and Mason Metzger in the top five. The second half of the order was led off by Eric Mepyans, followed by Tyler May, Amanda Weatherwax, Charles Anderson Jr. (moving up a class in 2024) and Drew Hosner (who was towed off with 5 laps remaining). Dave Leonard Jr. is the point leader (290) followed by Bryan Gates (254) and Matthew Elsey Jr. (250).



The **Techworks Trailers Street Stock** never disappoint and May 3 was no exception. "THAT's what I'm talking about!!" rumbled through the crowd. Alex Sexton was the top qualifier in a field of 16 with a time of 14.928 (90.434 MPH). In the 30-lap feature, the #99 of Jordan Dahlke started on the pole and kept the lead through the first third of the race. Behind him the field was sorting out with Zach Westdorp, Kyle Ribble, Alex Sexton, Mike Zorden and Blake Hybels each vying for position. (continued on next page)



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Nick Pressler made it into the mix along with Ricky LaDuke as the race progressed. It was 17-year-old Alex Sexton battling with veterans Zorden, Pressler, Ribble and LaDuke putting on quite the show. In the end, it was Alex Sexton with his first feature win at Kalamazoo Speedway followed by Nick Pressler, Kyle VanSparrentak, Mike Zordan and Ricky LaDuke. Jordan Dahlke led off the second half of the order followed by Zach Westdorp, Mike Gail, Nick Marcott and Gabe Sheppard. Alex Sexton is the point leader (278) followed by Kyle VanSparrentak (274) and Mike Zordan (268).



Bryce Bozell drove to a fast time of 13.256 (101.841 MPH) in a smaller than expected field of **Honor Credit Union Limited Late Models**. In the 20-lap feature, Louis Miller had the early lead before Jeff Ganus planted his #5 at the front of the pack with 18 laps remaining. Bryce Bozell took the second place position from Miller about halfway through the race. In the end it was Jeff Ganus, Bryce Bozell, and Cody Hawn earning medals and a trip to Victory Lane. Jeff Ganus has the point lead (296) followed by Bryce Bozell (292) and Cody Hawn (264).



Next up were the **AFC Metal Supply Late Models**, rivaling the Street Stock for a compelling race. Billy Shannon posted a fast time of 13.846 (97.501 MPH). In the 30-lap feature, Taylor Sexton jumped out to the lead trying to match her brother's earlier win. The #26 of Kenny Head took the lead with, ironically, 26 laps remaining. Head's lead was short-lived as Billy Shannon powered to the lead with 20 laps remaining. Shannon retained his lead but remarkable racing occurred behind him as drivers fought for position. With 13 laps remaining, teammate Jared Blanchard, running in the third position, spun out sending him to the tail. Blanchard powered back from misfortune passing decorated veteran drivers and recaptured his 3rd place position by the time the checkered flew. Keep an eye on the teammates for the rest of the season. Billy Shannon took the checkered flag this week, followed by Jerry Pierman who ran a strong race, Jared Blanchard, Kenny Head and Chris Garrett. Leading off the second half of the order was Rick Senneker followed by Bill Tomlinson and Jordan Brinkert (all on the lead lap). Buddy Head qualified but didn't start the feature. Jerry Pierman (294) has the point lead, followed by Billy Shannon (290) and Jared Blanchard (278).



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And for the finale of the night, the **Howe Patio & Windows Outlaw Super Late Models** ran the 24th Intimidator 100 with a

field of 19. So, it seems fitting that the 24 car took home the \$5,000 purse and a bundle of bonus money. But we're getting ahead of ourselves. Tyler Roahrig qualified the fastest with a time of 12.482 (108.156 MPH). Jacob Maynard led the first 7 laps when Mike "Bubba" Brooks brought out the caution and was retired from the race. A second caution going back to green heralded the departure of several cars including last year's Intimidator 100 winner, Brian Bergakker. When the field sorted out after going back to green a second time, Adam Terry was in the lead followed by Matt Frazier and Jeff Ganus. Adam Terry broke out, was headed toward the infield to serve out the penalty by driving from chute to chute when he spun out bringing out another caution. Matt Frazier assumed the lead until Mark Shook relieved him of it with about 70 laps remaining. Shook, Steve Needles, Tyler Roahrig and Phil Bozell had been steadily moving through the field. Roahrig had planted himself on Shook's tail and so it went with Shook holding him off until Frazier spun with 39 laps remaining. On the restart, Shook was out to a slim lead with a persistent Tyler Roahrig on his tail. With 20 remaining Roahrig took the lead, Mark Shook was in the runner up position, Steve Needles was in third followed by Adam Terry and Phil Bozell. Mark Shook retired with 3 laps remaining leaving the finishing order as Tyler Roahrig, Steve Needles, Adam Terry, Phil Bozell and TK Whitman. The second half of the order started Matt Frazier followed by Monte Tolan, Mark Shook, Doug True and Trever McCoy, the latter three drivers having retired.



FAST, FAMILY FUN for 74 YEARS

Photos A. Fisher

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