

IN THIS EDITION



TRACK TALK

June 17, 2024

- June 21 – Weekly Racing
Autograph Night (6:45 – 7:30)
\$5000 to win MODS
Steak 'n Shake Wild Cards
- June 29 – Red, White & Boom
Night of Destruction
- Virtual Drivers' Meeting
- June 14 – Race Recap



FRIDAY, JUNE 21: WEEKLY CLASSES PLUS AUTOGRAPH NIGHT. STEAK 'n SHAKE WILD CARDS.

ALL WEEKLY classes race this week at Kalamazoo Speedway. We welcome the rear wheel drive classes: AFC Metal Supply Late Models, Honor Credit Union Limited Late Models (racing for \$5,000 to win) and the Techworks Trailers Street Stock. Our front wheel drive classes will also be racing: the O'Reilly Auto Parts Outlaws and the Spartan Insulation DOTs.

It's Autograph Night at the Zoo from 6:45 – 7:30. Join us in the pits (no pit pass required) to check out all the cars and drivers up close and personal.

Then it's the Steak 'n Shake Wild Cards. Compliments of Steak 'n Shake West Main, there will be extra purse money for three Street Stock drivers. The winner will see an extra \$100 and we'll



June 21, 2024	
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	7:45 PM

use a random draw on the front stretch (excluding the first place finisher) to pick two numbers. Those numbers translate to two finishing positions. The drivers finishing in those positions will receive \$200 or \$300 extra in purse money. Let's show our appreciation by visiting Steak 'n Shake West Main—they're open 24 hours!



SATURDAY, JUNE 29: RED, WHITE & BOOM. NIGHT OF DESTRUCTION.

Saturday, June 29	
Pits Open (Participants Only)	1:00 PM
Adult Pit Pass (13+)	\$35
Youth Pit Pass	\$15
Deadline to Register	5:00 PM
Mandatory Drivers' Meeting	5:15 PM
Ticket Windows Open	11:00 AM
Adult Grandstand	\$25
Youth Grandstand (6-12)	\$10
Kids 5 & under	FREE
Pit Party	4:00 – 6:30 PM
Program Starts	7:00 PM

BRING THE family out to the Red, White & Boom Night of Destruction on Saturday, June 29. The day starts out with a pit party running from 4:00 – 6:30, then a family-friendly, entertaining program capped off by our signature and awesome display of fireworks! Want to be a star in the program and have a vehicle? We're looking for drivers for four of the events: Trailer Race, two-wheel race, flagpole race and the backwards push race. Participant rules and payout are posted on the Speedway website. Grandstand tickets will be sold at the Speedway starting at 1:00 PM on Saturday, June 29. A ticket is required to enter the grandstands to place a blanket.

We are selling grandstand seating over the phone starting on Tuesday, June 18 (269.355.4628). If we can't pick up, shoot us a text. Advance tickets will only be sold by calling the above number. A nonrefundable convenience fee of \$3.00 will be charged per ticket.

Introduction of Monster & Trophy Trucks
Drifters Gone Wild
Monster Trucks – Round 1
Flagpole Race
Two-Wheel Madness
Trophy Trucks – Round 1
Backwards Push Race
INTERMISSION
Monster Trucks – Round 2
Truck & SUV Trailer Race
Trophy Trucks – Round 2
Bus Race
FIREWORKS



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VIRTUAL DRIVERS MEETING!

**NOW
HEAR
THIS**

HIGHLIGHTS FROM Gary Howe's (track promoter), June 14 Drivers' Meeting.

1. \$5,000 to win for Limited Late Models on June 21. Can bring your own tires; qualify and start the feature on the same set of tires.
2. For the July 13 Klash, both the Street Stock and Late Models are racing for \$5,000 to win. Can bring your own tires, qualify and start the feature on the same set of tires. The weekly race rules will apply to the Klash.
3. No antifreeze in the cars. None!
4. No pot in the pits. Period.
5. When there is an on track incident, stay in your pit stalls. 95% of the drivers and pit members handle themselves like pros but there's 5% who need to settle down. Stay put in your pits, no fighting. Come to the tower and tell us the problem, we'll work with you.
6. In two weeks, June 29, we have our first Night of Destruction of the season. We crash cars, we smash cars, we roll cars over, we jump over the sides of the other cars—man, we have a blast! But listen up guys—our weekly events are not Nights of Destruction.
7. The DOT class has been hitting their race time-limit for two weeks in a row. Let's settle down and race. Keep off the aprons. Stop the 3-4 cars wide on the first lap of the race.
8. Outlaw and DOT racers. Let's get your car in the class where it belongs. If need be, I will be adding 100 pounds to cars on the top of the right side floor board.
9. Black Flags. If you're black flagged for a time violation, something dragging, fluid, etc., get off the track. Pay attention to your RACEceiver and don't keep flying around the track for 4-5 more laps.
10. Attention Social Media Pirates. No problem here last week and I thank you; however, the Sunday night guys at our neighbor to the east? Not good at all. If you have some comments or suggestions, reach out to me.
11. Last but not least. I can't thank you drivers enough for your support and attendance here at Kalamazoo Speedway. Good Luck tonight, settle down a bit and have some fun!

JUNE 14: RACE RECAP.

**SPARTAN
INSULATION**
SNU-WOOL®
PREMIUM CELLULOSE INSULATION

DESMOND WATKINS (16.350, 82.569 MPH) was the top qualifier of 29 cars in the

Spartan Insulation Front Wheel Drive - DOT class. Rielly Meade (right), Bub Green (next page right) and Bri Brady (next page left) won the heat races.

Branden Chadwick (next page) won the 15-lap 'B' feature with the runner-up position going to Ethan Emerson. Steve Thomson took third place followed by Jonathan Jacobs, Josh Forney, Bri Brady and Bentley Foote (-1).



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Brandon Chadwick (above) won the 'B' feature for the Front Wheel Drive DOT class. Above pictured are the top 3 finishers: Steve Thomson (3rd), Brandon Chadwick (1st) and Ethan Emerson (2nd).

Gunner Gale led for the early laps in the \$500 ton win 20-lap 'A' feature. Gale held the lead until 11 remaining and the T1 of Drew Hosner (starting 11th) got around him. The #99 of Jorden Brinkert, who started the race in the 17th position, had been working his way up the field and moved around Gale with under 10 laps remaining. Drivers took to heart Gary Howe's drivers' meeting request to race rather than stage an enduro. While Brinkert was gaining on Hosner in the final laps, at the checkered it was Drew Hosner (below with dad and mom) for his first win of the year, followed by Jorden Brinkert (finishing under one-half a second behind him), then Gunner Gale (bottom right). In fourth place it was Austin McKee followed by Scott Elsey wrapping up the top five. Desmond Watkins led off the second half of the order with Matt Elsey, Rielly Meade, Dillon Rose and Anthony Foote rounding out the top 10. Scott Elsey has the point lead. Desmond Watkins moved into second place (-95) and Dillon Rose slipped to third (-105).



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Matthew Elsey Jr. continued his dominance in the class by qualifying the fastest (15.232, 88.629 MPH) and winning the \$750 to win feature in the **O'Reilly Auto Parts Front Wheel Drive – Outlaws.**

Wayne Stack (below left) and Christian Haisley (below right) won the heat races. In the 20-lap feature, Charles Anderson, Amanda Weatherwax and Brian Patton went three-wide at the start but Bryson Hosner took the lead. Matthew Elsey Jr. shot up to the lead with 14 laps to go. With 10 laps to go, Matt Elsey, Bryson Hosner and Wayne Stack were vying for position, Jake Doxey having moved into the runner-up position with 12 remaining. A late race caution saw Matt Elsey and Wayne Stack make pit stops. Tyler May made a late race go at Bryson Hosner, who was running in third. At the checkered it was Matthew Elsey Jr., Jake Doxey and Bryson Hosner as the top three. Tyler May finished fourth followed by Christian Haisley, Bryan Gates, Matt Elsey, Mason Metzger, Brian Patton and Amanda Weatherwax (-1). Matthew Elsey Jr. retains the point lead over Matt Elsey (-58) and Bryan Gates (-112).



Immediately above: Front Wheel Drive – Outlaws. Matthew Elsey Jr. feature winner and Bryson Hosner (3rd), Matthew Elsey Jr. (winner) and Jake Doxey (2nd) in the feature.

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In the **Techworks Trailer Street Stock**, Kyle VanSparrentak was the top qualifier in the field (14.776. 91.364 MPH). Chad VanSparrentak (skipping Victory Lane) and Mason Montgomery (right) won the heat races.



Gabe Sheppard led the first couple of laps in the 35-lap feature before Alex Sexton moved into the lead. With 30 laps remaining, the running order was Alex Sexton, Ricky LaDuke, Jeff Town, Kyle VanSparrentak and Chad VanSparrentak. LaDuke moved around Sexton with 28 laps left in the race. Kyle Ribble was moving up and poised to break into the top five. With 20 remaining, LaDuke still held the lead, Kyle VanSparrentak had moved into the second position, Jeff Town had moved up to third, Chad VanSparrentak was in fourth then Alex Sexton. With five remaining, Kyle Ribble had moved up to third, LaDuke still had the lead with Kyle VanSparrentak in the runner-up position. At the checkered, it was Ricky LaDuke (below right), runner-up Kyle VanSparrentak, Kyle Ribble (kind of the 2023 look in Victory Lane), Jeff Town and Chad VanSparrentak rounding out the top five. The second half of the order started with Alex Sexton, then Blake Hybels, Mason Montgomery (-1), Mike Gain (-1) and Bobby Oxford (-1). Defending champion Kyle VanSparrentak has the point lead over Ricky LaDuke (-41) and Alex Sexton (-98).



For the **Honor Credit Union Limited Late Models**, Bryce Bozell was the top qualifier clocking a 13.254 lap speed (101.856 MPH). A single heat race was run with Bozell as the victor, who skipped Victory Lane. Making it a clean sweep of the night, Bryce Bozell posted his first feature victory at Kalamazoo Speedway. Cody Hawn took the early lead in the 20-lap feature; Ricky LaDuke retired having been a party to a pile-up in the heat race earlier. Bryce Bozell shot out to the lead when the field went back to green and didn't look back. At the checkered it was Bryce Bozell, Cody Hawn was the runner-up with Louis Miller joining them in Victory Lane having placed third. Bob Bliss and Mason May finished a lap down. Bryce Bozell is the point leader over Cody Hawn (-41) and Louis Miller (-97).

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Left, Bryce Bozell with his first feature win at Kalamazoo Speedway and right, Louis Miller (3rd), Bryce Bozell (1st) and Cody Hawn (2nd) in the Limited Late Model feature.



Jerry Pierman led the pack in qualifying time (13.871, 97.325 MPH) in the **AFC Metal Supply Late Models**. A single heat race was run with Chris Garrett (right) taking the checkered flag



Chris Garrett and Jared Blanchard led the field to green in the 30-lap feature. Jared Blanchard led the first lap and went green to checkered as the leader. Behind him the field was fluid. John Trudell pulled into second early on with Kenny Head on his tail. Ten laps in, Trudell was still in second but Chris Garrett had moved into third with Head slipping to

fourth followed by Jerry Pierman and Billy Shannon before the caution flew. At the checkered it was Jared Blanchard with back-to-back trips to Victory Lane, Chris Garrett as the runner-up and Billy Shannon having made a late race pass of John Trudell (who finished fourth). Kenny Head finished fifth followed by Jerry Pierman, Bill Tomlinson, Patrick Kirkendall and Rick Senneker who retired earlier with another disappointing finish. Taylor Sexton was not able to start the race. Jerry Pierman, despite not finishing on the podium, retains the point lead over Billy Shannon (-1) and Jared Blanchard (-91).



photos by A. Fisher



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