

KALAMAZOO SPEEDWAY

est. 1950

TRACK TALK

MAY 29, 2023

IN THIS EDITION

- 🏁 JUNE 2 RACE PROGRAM
- 🏁 JUNE 9 RACE PROGRAM
- 🏁 MAY 26 RACE RECAP
- 🏁 TECH CORNER
- 🏁 LUG NUT MASCOT



JUNE 2 🏁 FOUR WEEKLY CLASSES

The four weekly classes are back on June 2, all racing for big purses plus the Michiana Vintage Racers will be showing off their stuff. The Hutcherson Construction Late Models return this week to race for their second "Big Money" night (\$1,200 to win); the purse also sponsored by Hutcherson Construction. The Street Stock will be running nose to tail and side by side for their \$2,000 to win purse; Randy's Trucking is covering that purse. The O'Reilly Auto Parts FWDs will be running their 3rd (of six) "Big Money" nights for a \$500 purse, sponsored by Honor Credit Union. Then it's the Spartan Insulation Zoo Stock running for their own \$400 to win purse, also being covered by Randy's Trucking. For those of you who want a look at vintage racing cars, the Michiana Vintage Racers will be running a few parade laps.

FRIDAY, JUNE 2

Pits Open	3:30 PM
Adult Pit Pass (13+)	\$35
Minor Pit Pass	\$15
Tickets Windows Open	3:30 PM
Adult Grandstand	\$15
Youth Grandstand (6-12)	FREE
Kids 5 & under	FREE
Program Starts	7:30 PM

We will see YOU at the races!



Our Big Money Sponsors for June 2:



JUNE 9 🏁 THE INTIMIDATOR 100

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)	\$5
Kids 5 & under	FREE
Program Starts	7:30 PM
Mark your calendars!	

It's the Intimidator 100 paying out \$7,500 to win for the Outlaw Super Late Models. Joining the program are the Hutcherson Construction Late Models, Techworks Trailer Sales Street Stock and the O'Reilly Auto Parts Outlaw FWD. The Zoo Stock have the night off. The Street Stock will be running their third Big Money night for a \$1,000 to win purse, the purse sponsored by Performance Plus Auto and Fabrication. The Late Model and Outlaw FWD will race for the regular weekly payout.



MAY 26 🏁 RACE RECAP

It was a great night for racing with some surprising outcomes.

The **Spartan Insulation Zoo Stock** boasted 27 cars and started off their night with Matthew Elsey Jr. qualifying at the top of the leaderboard with a time of 16.817 (80.276 mph). Heat Race #1 had three generations of Elseys racing (Scott, Matt and Matthew). Matt took the checkered flag but Scott kept the pressure on. Desmond Watkins took Heat #2, newcomer Dakara Williams took the Heat #3 and 9-year-old Bentley Foote (right) won Heat #4. Nick Ruimveld (page #3) won the 'B' feature in a race where breakout penalties ruled. Bentley Foote, in a different sort of breakout night, was the runner-up with Gunner Gale coming in third. In the Zoo 'A' feature, Matthew Elsey Jr. lost the front bumper of his car on lap 1. When the field went back to green after a complete restart, Scott Elsey moved to the front for the 20-lap feature. Matt Elsey Sr., was glued in the runner-up position while Elsey Jr. moved through the field pushing dad to third. At the checkered it was Scott Elsey, Matthew Elsey Jr., and Matt Elsey; three generations of Elseys nabbing the top three positions. Track champion Rielly Meade came close to being the spoiler in that trifecta but settled for fourth, followed by Mason May, CJ French, Tyler Vanderhoff, Eric Mepnyans, Desmond Watkins and Terry Kline. Matthew Elsey Jr. is the Zoo Stock point leader.



TRACK TALK

TRACK TALK

TRACK TALK



Zoo Stock Heat Winners (clockwise): Matt Elsey Sr. (#36), Desmond Watkins and Dakara Williams (#29)



Below (left to right): Scott Elsey (first place), Matthew Elsey Jr. (runner-up) and Matt Elsey (third) in the Zoo Stock 'A' feature. Nick Ruimveld won the 'B' feature (#7 on the next page)



TRACK TALK

TRACK TALK

TRACK TALK



The **O'Reilly Auto Parts Outlaw FWD** found Matthew Elsey Jr. at the top of the 14 drivers who qualified. His time of 14.887 (90.683 mph) wasn't enough to repeat his last week's record breaking time, but it was faster than the top Street Stock qualifier. He also won his heat race (below left); Ira Hosner won Heat #2 (below right). Then Elsey Jr. had a me, myself and I trifecta by qualifying fastest, winning his heat and then winning the feature. Jake Doxey was the early leader in the feature and finished in the runner-up position. Wayne Stack finished third followed by Rodney Russell II, Nick Failing, Tom Smith, Robert Siegel, Bryan Gates, Nolan Gross and Nick Layman wrapping up the top 10. Matthew Elsey Jr. is the point leader here as well.



Feature winner (left) Matthew Elsey Jr., runner-up Jake Doxey and third place finisher, Wayne Stack (below)



The **Crown Vics** made their first appearance of the season and they sure came to race, bumping even in qualifying. Jerry Osterhouse was the fastest qualifier with a time of 17.588 (76.757 mph). Hannah Zwart won the heat race, her first appearance at the track in a few years. Only 5 cars made it to the feature which became a 12-lap affair finishing with John Osterhouse taking the checkered followed by Jerry Osterhouse, Mike Ely, Wes Allen and Jack Hopwood.

TRACK TALK TRACK TALK TRACK TALK



The guest class of Crown Vics were a bit thin on cars but the winners were happy to be in Victory Lane: John Osterhouse (above left), Jerry Osterhouse (above right) and Mike Ely (right) were the top three finishers in the feature.

Hannah Zwart (below) won the heat race.



The rear wheel drive classes were both "blink" and it was like you were transported to a different race. Both races proved the adage "never give up".

In the **Techworks Trailer Sales Street Stock**, 33 drivers showed up to win the \$1,000 purse sponsored by Performance Plus Auto & Fabrication. Kyle VanSparrentak was the top qualifier with a time of 14.903 (90.586). Brandon Zachary won the 16 car Last Chance Race and

advanced to the feature finishing 4th in the 35-lap feature. Also advancing, Gabe Carr, Zach Westdorp and Alex Sexton. Andrew Rutherford, starting in the front row, took the lead and kept the lead despite multiple cautions. Last week's winner, Jeff Town, maintained second place until 12 to go when Ricky LaDuke moved past him. And then it was a race between Rutherford and LaDuke. With 10 remaining, it was Rutherford, LaDuke, Kyle VanSparrentak, Jeff Town and Austin Maynard. LaDuke took the lead with nine laps remaining and Rutherford got it back. LaDuke took the lead with 6 remaining. Rutherford wrested it back with 5 remaining. Both drivers were surging for the finish line on the last lap and made contact. Each took responsibility for the contact and proceeded to the pits. After the caution it was a race to the finish and top qualifier Kyle VanSparrentak (right), Austin Maynard (next page left) and Jeff Town (next page right) were the top three. Brandon Zachary followed in



TRACK TALK TRACK TALK TRACK TALK

fourth, then Alex Sexton, Jeremy Young, Colin Bozell, Dave Leonard Jr., Gabe Carr and Keith Wilfong. The Street Stock point leader is Kyle VanSparrentak.



In the **Hutcherson Construction Late Models** Hunter Jack (13.887, 97.213 mph) was the top qualifier of the 23 car field racing for the 40-lap, \$2,000 to win purse. Thanks to Jack's roll of the dice to set the inversion, Jeff Ganus and Eric McGlothlen started in the front row. That one-two formation remained for almost the rest of the race with Ganus in the lead. On the last lap going for the line, McGlothlen and Hunter Jack (running second and third) made contact after the checkered flag had waved giving the runner-up position to defending champion Billy Shannon followed by four-time champion Kenny Head. Luke Krick finished fourth despite almost becoming a calamity himself in the McGlothlen spin. Wrapping up the top five was Jeff Bozell, also experiencing a near miss. Taylor Sexton was sixth, followed by TC Burgess, Jesse VanAvery Jr., Lon Putnam and Ryan Stutz. Jeff Ganus is the point leader with Billy Shannon 8 points out.



Clockwise: Feature winner Jeff Ganus (point leader in the Late Models), defending champion Billy Shannon and four-time Kenny Head.

TRACK TALK TRACK TALK TRACK TALK

TECH CORNER

With a "big money" show for the Street Stock coming up June 2, we thought we'd remind drivers/crew of a few rules.

- I. If you're running manufacture sealed shocks (Fox), please tell tech when you come across the scales so we don't think you're underweight. This will save time and drivers from having to go back to your pits to fix your car. In order to get the weight break, Fox shocks must be run on all four corners. We will be checking cars as the car passes over the scales.
- II. All cars running T/A shocks must weight 3100 lbs.; Fox shocks 3050 lbs.
- III. All cars must have a left side weight percentage less than or equal to 58%. To be safe, set your scales at 57.7% to 57.9%.
- IV. Get your cars through tech when you first arrive; the scales in tech are the scales that we go by (not those that you may have at home).
- V. If you come across the scales and you are light or if the 58% rule is not followed you will be sent back to your pits to fix it or you will not race. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** You may use the tech scales as long as the scales are free. No excessive time will be permitted in the tech area; quick adjustments only, no total car setups.
- VI. Effective June 2, 2023, only one crew member will be allowed to look at the scales readout and only for their car. If you want to take a picture of the scale readout, please do so and move on. We want all cars to be able to make the race and we are invested in a level playing field.
- VII. **NO TIRE SOAKING.** We **WILL** be checking tires at random this week.
- VIII. It is the driver's responsibility to make sure their car is in compliance with Kalamazoo Speedway rules.
- IX. Front Wheel Drive cars. Please get those tow chains in place (front and back).

MEET LUG NUT



Be on the lookout for the Speedway mascot, Lug Nut. We'll be catching YOU with Lug Nut over the course of the season and maybe your photo will end up in Track Talk. Photo provided by Chad VandenBerg.



Photos A. Fisher

TRACK TALK

TRACK TALK

TRACK TALK