

# KALAMAZOO SPEEDWAY

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## TRACK TALK

AUGUST 6, 2023

### IN THIS EDITION

- 🚩 AUGUST 11 AUTOGRAPH/BACKPACK NIGHT
- 🚩 AUGUST 12 OPEN DRIFTING
- 🚩 AUGUST 18 OUTLAWS ARE BACK
- 🚩 SUPER SHOE INFO
- 🚩 AUGUST 5 RECAP



### AUGUST 11 🚩 WEEKLY RACING 🚩 AUTOGRAPH & BACKPACK NIGHT

The four weekly classes hit the track, but before that, it's autograph night and youth backpack giveaway night. Youth 12 and under get into the races FREE plus youth can pick up a back-to-school backpack. We'll be holding Autograph & Backpack Night before the race program (from 6:35 – 7:15 in the infield). Drivers, crew, staff – as always, we'll gratefully accept any backpacks or school supplies you'd like to donate. Thank you. The Kalamazoo Camaro Club will be onsite and doing a few parade laps and then it's on to the Hutcherson Construction Late Model \$1,200 to win race (sponsored by Hutcherson Construction), the O'Reilly Auto Parts Outlaw FWD race for \$500, sponsored by Honor Credit Union, and the Spartan Insulation Zoo Stock for \$400 to win (sponsored by Howe Patio & Windows). The Techworks Trailer Sales Street Stock race for their regular weekly purse.

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST 11

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
<b>Autographs/Backpacks</b>	<b>6:35 – 7:15</b>
Racing Starts	7:30 PM

We will see YOU at the races!!!

August 11: Autograph and Backpack Giveaway Night. Thank you to our sponsors!



**AUGUST 18 🏁 THE OUTLAW SUPER LATE ARE BACK!**

The Outlaw Super Late Models are back for their last \$5,000 to win race at Kalamazoo Speedway for the 2023 season; a 75 lap finale!

Joining the Outlaws are the Late Models and the Street Stock. Hey! Those are the classes that made up the fabulous Kalamazoo Klash on July 8. We will see YOU at the races!

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18	
Pits Open	2:30 PM
Adult Pit Pass (13+)	\$35
Youth Pit Pass	\$15
Ticket Windows Open	3:30 PM
Adult Grandstand	\$20
Youth Grandstand (6-12)	\$10
Kids 5 & under	FREE
Racing Starts	7:30 PM

**AUGUST 12 🏁 OPEN DRIFTING (LEASED EVENT)**



It's open drifting on Saturday, August 12 at the track. If you haven't checked them out, they'll be holding two Saturday events in August: August 12 and August 26.

Drift events are rain or shine. It's only \$5 for adults to watch; 12 and under are free. Thinking you might want to be a driver? A \$20 pit pass will get you into the pits to view the cars and talk to the drivers; all of whom are more than happy to offer help.



**SUPER SHOE INFORMATION**

Be watching the Kalamazoo Speedway website! Super Shoe XXXVII information will be published this weekend AND camping reservations will start next week.

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## AUGUST 5 🏁 RACE RECAP

We beat the rain and every race was completed, but it couldn't have been closer!! Unfortunately that meant that Victory Lane for most of the features was suspended to make sure we beat the rain. Drivers who want a Victory Lane photo may make arrangements to have one taken prior to the August 11 races.

Michael Sullins was fast qualifier with a time of 17.426 seconds for the **Crown Vics**. He (right) went on to win the heat race as well. In the 12-lap feature, Jerry Osterhouse took the checkered flag. Michael Sullins was the runner-up followed by John Osterhouse, Hannah Zwart and Jake Hopwood completing the top five. Sorry, no Victory Lane photos due to rain moving in.

Fast qualifier for the **Spartan Insulation Zoo Stock** was Nick Failing with a time of 16.509 seconds. Failing won one of the four heat races and also the \$1,000 to win 'A' feature, commenting that it had been a while since he'd had a win at Kalamazoo Speedway. True that! Terry Kline (bottom right), John Rupe and Leonard Diamond won the other heats. Austin McKee added another 'B' feature win to his resume. The last race of the night and with sprinkles falling, Victory Lane was back open. Bailey Pauwels and Roger Hensley skipped their Victory Lane celebration but finished second and third, respectively, in the 'B' feature. Noah Thomson and Robert Metheny Sr. completed the top five. Honorably mention goes to Don Teadt who came in sixth in the 12 car field. The 20-lap 'A' feature began with a complete restart and within a few laps the Zoos thought they were the Street Stock going three-wide and nose to tail. Nick Failing was the beneficiary of hard racing and took the lead with 14 laps remaining. A couple more cautions marred the race but the last 12 laps were caution free with Failing earning the checkered flag followed by Ryan Diamond, Rielly Meade, Matthew Elsey Jr. and Jordan Brinkert in the top five. The second half of the order started with Dylan Hoppes, followed by Ed Clawson, Charles Anderson, Mason May and Terry Kline, all finishing on the lead lap. This was not a point race.



Clockwise on the next page: Leonard Diamond (Zoo heat winner), John Rupe (Zoo heat winner), John Rupe (Zoo feature following being hit), Nick Failing ('A' feature winner), Rielly Meade (3<sup>rd</sup> place 'A' feature), Austin McKee ('B' feature winner).

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For the **O'Reilly Auto Parts Outlaw FWDs**, Matthew Elsey Jr. put up a fast time of 15.210 (88.757) who went on to win the heat race. Curtis Edney Jr. led the first lap of the 15-lap feature, then Nick Layman took a turn. Edney Jr. took it back in short order before Will Slaughter laid claim to the lead. Matthew Elsey Jr. was moving up through the field when he headed to the pits. At the end it was Will Slaughter claiming the checkered flag and the \$1,000 to win purse, Dan Rigoni was the runner-up followed by fellow lead lap finishers Ira Hosner and Curtis Edney Jr. This was not a point race.

On the next page (right): Will Slaughter (feature winner), the top three in the Outlaw FWD feature (Ira Hosner [3<sup>rd</sup>], Dan Rigoni [2<sup>nd</sup>] and Will Slaughter and Matthew Elsey Jr. (heat winner).

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Ricky LaDuke (15.039) was fastest in practice and Kyle Ribble was tops in qualifying with a time of 14.896, 90.628 MPH for the **Techworks Trailer Sales Street Stock**. In the heat race, it was Danny Oxford (below left) taking the checkered flag. Ricky LaDuke drove to the lead within a few laps in the \$1,000 to win, 30-lap feature. Kyle Ribble gave LaDuke some competition; both distancing themselves from the rest of the field by almost half the length of the track. In the end, LaDuke (bottom left) took the checkered flag and Ribble was the runner-up. Gabe Carr was third followed by Zach Westdorp and Danny Oxford wrapping up the top five and the cars finishing on the lead lap. This was not a point race for the Street Stock.



Bob Mitchell (Wisconsin) qualified at the top of the **Kalamazoo Speedway Big Rigs** field (18.554); Austin Hoppe (Wisconsin) was fastest in practice (18.753). Mitchell and Hoppe were two of the three drivers who brought their own trucks to run; the rest of the still growing fleet is owned by Kalamazoo Speedway. Steve Roden (Allegan) won one of the heats with Austin Hoppe winning the second. Steve Roden gave Hoppe a challenge in the

25-lap feature but finished in the runner-up position. Bob Mitchell finishing third followed by Mike Morgan (Tennessee) and our own Tim Gale wrapping up the top five.

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Clockwise: Austin Hoppe (Kalamazoo Speedway Big Rigs feature winner), Steve Roden (2<sup>nd</sup>), Bob Mitchell (3<sup>rd</sup>) and one of the parade trucks.



Fast, Family Fun for 73 Years

photos by A. Fisher

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