

July 20, 2024 - Elko, MN

By Jason D Searcy

Elko Speedway, Minnesota's only NASCAR sanctioned track, hosted an Eve of Destruction in front of a large crowd on Saturday night July 20th.



The Interim HealthCare Staffing

Late Model division raced two cautions less 25 lap feature events. The first race had #32 Jeremy Wolff and #81 Bryan Syer-Keske racing side by side for numerous laps before Wolff established himself as the leader. On lap 10 four-time ELKO Champion #3 Christopher Marek from Elko (MN)



passed Wolff on the high side to take over the top spot. Marek then held onto the lead and won by 1.792 seconds; it was the first win of the season for Marek at Elko Speedway. Jeremy Wolff finished second, 16-year-old rookie #10 Danny Mann was third, #50 Steve Anderson Jr fourth and fast-qualifier #41 9-time Champion Donny Reuvers finished fifth of the 16 cars competing. Reuvers received a \$500 bonus from Interim HealthCare Staffing for scoring the fastest time in qualifying 14.629 seconds.

The second NASCAR sanctioned Late Model feature event had #19 Jake Ryan from Elko (MN) taking the lead from the front row on the first lap. Ryan then never looked back, he led every lap and won by 1.136 seconds. It was the fourth win of the season for Ryan at ELKO. Michael Ostdiek #18 finished second, #75 Joel Theisen was third, #94 Hunter Paine moved up from his 10th starting position to finish fourth and Bryan Syer-Keske rounded out the Top 5 finishers.

With the good night for Jake Ryan, he will increase his point lead in the Late Model division over #52 Chad Walen who finished 10th and 12th in the two feature events.

NASCAR sanctioned Thunder Cars raced two 20 lap feature events during Eve of Destruction at ELKO.

Jason Novak #88 led the first handful of laps in feature number one, #16 Jimmy O'Meara then took over the lead on lap five. At the half-way point of the race #99

Brent Kane from Lonsdale (MN) drove up from his 10th starting position to challenge for the lead, he took the top spot on lap 11. A caution period occurred just before the finish causing a green-white-checkers situation. Kane held on to win by 0.63 seconds, it was his fifth win of the season at ELKO. Jimmy O'Meara finished second place, #29 Tommy Sorem third, #9 Adam Wiebusch fourth and #83 Julie Jorgenson fifth of the 11 cars competing.

The second Thunder Car race had #18 Eric Montour leading the first half of the race, he was in a great battle with #41 Ben Gannon who just slipped past him on lap 9. Gannon continued as the leader even after a caution period tightened up the field. Point leader #99 Brent Kane was able to catch Gannon on lap 16 and passed him on the high side to take the lead. Kane was able to hold onto the top spot and won by 0.757 seconds. It was the 6th win of the season for Kane at ELKO and a clean sweep for the night. Gannon finished second, Tommy Sorem was his usual consistent third, Adam Wiebusch fourth and Julie Jorgenson scored another fifth-place finish.

Brent Kane was able to extend his point lead in the Thunder Car division, he currently has four Thunder Car titles at Elko Speedway.

The NASCAR sanctioned Power Stocks raced two cautions less 20 lap feature events at Elko Speedway Saturday night. The first race had the defending Champion #83 Julie Jorgenson from Dundas (MN) charging up from the seventh starting position to win for the first time in 2024. Veteran driver #62 Tom Doten and 15-year-old Clayton Dorner #14d raced side by side the first few laps of the race, Dorner established himself as the leader and held on until Julie Jorgenson took over the top spot at the half-way mark, she stayed up front and pulled away, winning by an impressive 2.15 seconds at the finish line during this caution less race. Mike Stoer #08 finished second, Dorner was third, point leader #57 Jesse Fischer finished fourth and #3 Jimmie Jorgenson was fifth of the 15 cars racing.



The second Power Stock event had the other Jorgenson sibling winning. Jimmie Jorgenson #3 from Elko (MN), the younger brother of Julie, won making it a sibling sweep of the night for the



Jorgenson's. Payton King #77 led the first few laps until Jimmie Jorgenson took the lead on lap four and held back some hard charges to win by 0.736 seconds, it was the second win of the season for Jimmie Jorgenson. Five-time former ELKO Champion #88 Nick Oxborough raced for the first time this year and finished second, Julie Jorgenson was third, Jesse Fischer finished fourth and Mike Stoer rounded out the Top 5 finishers. Jesse Fischer continues to hold a slight points advantage in the race for the 2024 Power Stock Championship.

The INEX sanctioned Legends division raced two very competitive 20 lap feature events during Eve of Destruction at Elko Speedway. 19 cars competed, both races were very competitive, but both were won by 14 year old Ayrton Brockhouse #14 from Shakopee (MN) making it a clean sweep of all races including qualifying.

The first race had #3 Zach Geiger lead the first handful of laps until 2018 Champion #75 Baiden Heskett charged up from his 8th starting spot to take the lead on lap 5, one lap later fast-timer Ayrton Brockhouse slipped past Heskett for the top spot. The entire field was slowed for a caution on lap 11, after the yellow lap period Brockhouse continued his sprint to the finish, he held off the advances of Heskett and won by 0.483 seconds. It was the 4th win of the season for Brockhouse. Heskett finished second, #2 Rob Thurston was third, #87 Robby Carter fourth and Zach Geiger held on for a Top 5 finish.

The second feature event for the Legends division had #24 Gage Schmidt leading the first lap until 2021 Champion Robby Carter took over the top spot. Ayrton Brockhouse weaved through traffic from his 9th starting spot to challenge Carter wheel to wheel on lap 9, he finally completed the pass for the lead on lap 11. Brockhouse held on and won by 0.544 seconds. Robby Carter finished second place, Baiden Heskett was third, Rob Thurston fourth and #13 Ayden Brockhouse, the older brother of Ayrton, finished 5th. It was the fifth win of the season at Elko Speedway for Ayrton Brockhouse, who is now the Elko Speedway Legends division point leader; he is also the INEX semi-pro division national points leader.



The INEX sanctioned Bandoleros division for kids ages 7-14 raced two 12 lap feature events at Elko Speedway Saturday night. Bentley Thompson #22 from West Salem (WI) won both races making it a clean sweep on the night.



For the first time this season the first race was caution free, Thompson started the event in the last row, he worked his way through traffic and finally did take the lead on lap 7 with an inside pass overtaking #57 Revelin Heitkamp who had led the race since the start. Thompson then motored to the finish and won by 1.385 seconds. Colton Roe Pershall #32 finished second, rookie drivers Rev Heitkamp was third and #32w Mason Westphal were fourth and #5 Christopher Flynn was fifth of the 14 cars competing.

Thompson also won the second Bando race, incoming point leader #8 Thomas Poretsky led the first couple laps until Mason Westphal took over the top spot on lap 2. Thompson passed Westphal for the lead and then Westphal dropped from the race with mechanical problems. The yellow flag flew two different times and Thompson was able to hold off the pack both times and won by 0.884 seconds making it two feature wins on the night and for the season so far at ELKO. Colton Roe Pershall finished second, Rev Heitkamp was third, Thomas Poretski fourth and #64 Jaden Allen Miller-Schmitz rounded out the Top 5 finishers.

After the two Bando races the entire field of competitors banded together in solidarity in honor of a man who just passed away earlier that day, Brian Huttner who is the father of 9 year old Bando driver #21 Aiden Kubiszewski. Brian was recently named the Fire Fighter of the Year by the Savage (MN) volunteer Fire Department. The entire Bando field of drivers did a memorial lap around Elko Speedway in memory of Brian and in support of their fellow racer Aiden.

All results are unofficial at this time, go to ElkoSpeedway.com or scoring.racing and search Elko Speedway for more information.



Two Monster Trucks crushed cars in front of the huge Eve of Destruction crowd. Kayla Erickson in “the Boss,” and Josh Baumgartner in “Mechanical Mischief.”