May 24, 2025 - Elko, MN

By Jason D Searcy

The 60th season opener was Saturday night over the Memorial Day weekend at Elko Speedway, the first race for the new owners, MEGA properties, who acquired the track from Tom Ryan who has been the sole owner for the past 25 years. The MEGA group is made up of local owners who are committed to preserve the track's legacy and ensure that racing will continue to thrive and improve in the region for years to come.

An impressive field of 19 NASCAR sanctioned Late Models raced two 25 lap feature events. The first one was won by #18 Michael Ostdiek from Lakeville (MN) he took the lead on lap 18 after racing side by side with #32 Jeremy Wolff for numerous laps, Ostdiek then extended his lead and won the race by 5 car lengths with Wolff finishing second. Dillon Sellner #07 led the field to green and held the top spot the first five laps of the race, he held off a swarming group of drivers to finish third. Chad Walen #52 was fourth and #50 Steve Anderson Jr was fifth. Fast qualifier #3 Chris Marek finished 7th in this cautionless race, Marek's fast lap in qualifying was 14.478 seconds.

The second Late Model feature event saw #6 Owin Giles battle with defending Champion #19 Jake Ryan at the start before jumping out to a big lead. Mid-race #14 Grant Brown from Prior Lake (MN) raced up from his fifth starting position to challenge Giles for the top spot. The 2015 Power Stock Champion Grant Brown raced side by side for many laps and finally took the lead on lap 15. Big 8 touring series star Grant Brown held on through two restarts and won at ELKO for the first time in a Late Model since 2017. Owin Giles edged #3 Chris Marek by inches to finish runner-up, Marek was third, Chad Walen fourth and Jeremy Wolff finished 5th of the 19 cars competing.

The NASCAR sanctioned Thunder Cars raced two 20 lap feature events Saturday night at ELKO! The first race was won by veteran driver #18 Eric Montour from Rosemount, he raced side by side with 7-time ELKO champion #3 Conrad Jorgenson for the first 6 laps, he then took the lead and kept pace holding off the hard-charging fast qualifier #99 Brent Kane to win by two car lengths. Brent Kane won qualifying on a new tire being used at ELKO with a time of 15.036, he started the race 8th and raced up

to finish second. Conrad Jorgenson was third, #8 Taylor Goldman fourth and #29 Tommy Sorem fifth of the 12 cars competing in this cautionless race.

The second Eternity Homes Thunder Car feature had 15 year old #20 Spencer Corrigan lead the first lap of the race before #09 Matt Wiebusch from Lonsdale (MN) grabbed the top spot and never let it go. Wiebusch was the 2008 Power Stock Champion at ELKO, he took the last two seasons off racing but returned in spectacular fashion winning by a full car length during this cautionless race in feature two on opening night. Brent Kane raced up from his 11th starting position to finish second place, #41 Ben Gannon was third, #3 Conrad Jorgenson fourth and #29 Tommy Sorem was fifth.

The NASCAR sanctioned Power Stocks raced two 20 lap feature events at Elko Speedway on Saturday night. The first race had a wild finish. Brock Westermayer #14 led the first lap and #14 Clayton Dorner led for another few laps until #24 Donovan Michaud grabbed the top spot. Fast Qualifier #88 Nick Oxborough took over the lead in a furious battle with two laps remaining. On the last lap there was contact between Oxborough and Michaud causing both cars to slow dramatically and opening the door for #3 Jimmie Jorgenson from Lakeville (MN) to pass both of them on the high side coming out of corner two. Jorgenson then held off #08 Mike Stoer who finished second place, #62 Tom Doten was third, #57 Jesse Fischer fourth and Clayton Dorner fifth. Oxborough and Michaud dropped to sixth and seventh in this 12 car cautionless event. Oxborough won qualifying with a time of 16.752 seconds.

The second Power Stock feature was also caution-free. Brock Westermayer led lap one, Donovan Michaud led lap two and #88 Nick Oxborough from Lakeville (MN) took over on lap 3 and extended his lead throughout the race, winning by 8 car lengths. Mike Stoer finished second, Jimmie Jorgenson won a great battle to finish third, Jesse Fischer fourth and Donovan Michaud was fifth of the 12 cars competing.

The INEX sanctioned Legends cars raced a 20 lap feature event during opening night at Elko Speedway.

Riley Goodwin #27 led the opening lap of the race and #3 Dirk Henry took the lead on lap two. 15 year old #12 Ayrton Brockhouse grabbed the top

spot with an inside pass on lap 6 until Fast-qualifier #64 Tristan Swanson from Elko (MN) raced up from his 12th starting position to challenge for the lead. Swanson just snuck past Brockhouse with a high-side pass on lap 14 and then held on after a restart to win by just a car length at the stripe. Tristan Swanson is planning on racing at ELKO when his Super Late Model race schedule allows, his fast lap time in qualifying was 15.619. Ayron Brockhouse finished second, Dirk Henry was third, 13 year old #22 Cam Panitzke was fourth and Robby Carter finished 5th of the 16 cars in attendance.

Johnny Kemp #k7 from Delhi (NY) and Tristan Swanson were the two heat race winners in the Legends division.

The INEX sanctioned Bandoleros raced a 12 lap feature event during opening night at Elko Speedway.

Macie Ryan #11 led the first lap and #15 Justice Doubrava took over the lead on lap two. After a restart on lap three #5 Christopher Flynn, who started 11th, made his charge to the runner-up position. After another restart on lap eight Flynn took the lead until another caution period set up a shootout with just a few laps remaining. On the restart Mason Westphal #32 from Farmington (MN) dove down low and in a furious side by side battle, he held on to win by just a car length at the finish line. Christopher Flynn was second, Justice Doubrava third, #57 Rev Heitkamp fourth and Macie Ryan fifth of the 15 cars competing.

The Bandolero heat winners at ELKO were #56 George Brochman and #5 Christopher Flynn.

*All results and unofficial at this point

Go to <u>ElkoSpeedway.com</u> for results or MyRacePass and search Elko Speedway.

The ATV big air tour action athletes entertained the huge holiday weekend crowd at Elko Speedway with high flying tricks 30 feet in the air.

Timberworks LumberJacks put on a show of lumberjacking skill on the main concourse between races.

The petting zoo and the addition of an arcade under the main grandstand plus the new food options now available through Rack Shack Barbecue was a big hit on opening night.

Up Next at Elko Speedway is an Eve of Destruction NASCAR Advance Auto Parts night on Saturday June 7th. Racing in all five divisions plus MAW wrestling, Monster Trucks, Drifters, Petting Zoo and music by Chad Johnson.

Get more information at ElkoSpeedway.com or follow us on Social Media.

Elko Speedway is a NASCAR sanctioned high banked 3/8th mile asphalt track with stadium seating located in Elko-New Market MN. Just 30 minutes South of the Twin Cities.