

KOSSUTH COUNTY SPORTS

ADVANCE

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Dirt track racing right around the corner

By Greg Grabianowski
Sports Editor

ALGONA—Area racing at the Kossuth County Speedway draws closer and closer despite Mother Nature recently battling a tug-of-war game between spring and winter.

The track will have some changes this season as Kevin Long is the new track manager and Austin Wolf will be in charge of the track preparation.

“We want to get the car count back up by picking up some drivers that used to race here,” said track manager Long. “We have been talking to drivers and trying to address some of the feedback we have been getting from them.

“We are also going to try to incorporate more things for the kids and the families in the grandstands as we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the reopening of the track in 1986.

“We are going to speed the show up so the last checkered flag flies around 9:30 p.m. We will be having the same car classes as last season. I have been working on trying to get our modified and compact classes up a little higher.

“One of the changes will be the trophy pictures. We are going to do the cruiser and compacts together after the compact feature and then grab each feature winner as they come off the scales.

“In the past, some cars got caught up in tech and it slows the show down waiting for them and makes the show longer than it should be. We also are not going to open the grandstands for the picture; that can be done at the end of the night in front of the grandstand if they want one.

“We will start the year with weekly IMCA racing with our first special set for May 29 with the Scott Cook Memorial Sport Mods Nationals. The Beck’s Hybrid Stock Car Special is June 5 and on June 12 we are going to have 305 IMCA sanctioned Race Savers Sprint Cars with approximately 20-25 cars competing.

“June 26 is the ‘Bumble Bee Nationals’ and Outlaw Mini Mods and July 3 is American Made Late Models Special. July 10 is the Bradie Becker Memorial and July 17 is the Jess Weishaar Hobby Stock Car Special.

“The ‘Salute to Veteran Race’ is July 24 and there will be no cruisers or compacts that night. The Harken/Hovinga Memorial is slated for July 31 and we are part of Speed Week on Aug. 7.

“That week will begin on Tuesday in Spencer; Wednesday night they are in Alta for the tour before coming here on Thursday evening and will go to Britt on Friday and Saturday nights for ‘Night of 1,000 Stars’.

“Aug. 14 is Drivers Appreciation Night and we

will conclude the year on Aug. 21 with the Jade Long Memorial Season Championship Race. I want to invite everyone to come out and give us look at the Kossuth County Speedway this year as we hope to have something for everybody.”

Grandstand admission for adults is \$12.00 each night with kids 12 and under getting in free while pit passes are \$30.00. For more information or questions about the speedway call Kevin Long (712 298-1288) or Scott Schultze (515 341-1372).

“Last fall we brought in probably 20 side-dump loads of black dirt for the track,” said track preper Wolf. “We have kind of reshaped the track in places. Erpelding Excavating fixed the tile that was kind of plugged in turn one and that will hopefully help the drainage down there.

“With the most recent rains and the snow melts, it seemed to be doing its job. We are going to bury tires in down low in the both corners. Hopefully this week, the weather will cooperate and we can finish the reshaping of the track and start sheep-footing it.

“We want a good racing surface; that is our number one goal this season. As we progress through the year, we do not want to have to rip it open and start over by any means. We want to have a good, fast, hard surface by late May when the specials start rolling in.

“We widened turn one quite a bit on the entry so the fast racers can slide in through there; slide up and catch something coming out of turn number two. We have more goals for next year but this year’s main one is a smooth, consistent track each week.

“If we develop a soft spot, we are going to attack during the week. We want both a cushion at the top and a lane for the bottom feeders also. I think the track came through the winter well. The frost came out a little slower than we wanted which slowed things down and then we got two March snowfalls.

“If we could get a timely rain after a good week of sheep-footing this week to get a hard surface; that would be great. Those hobby stock tires dig in and their cars start lifting through the corner and creates kind of a ripple effect.

“The days of everyone having an open motor in the modifieds as we all had 600 horse and we would use that horsepower to blow off the track and hammer through those ruts. But now with the crate engines, the power is not where it used to be so those holes develop a lot quicker.

“We will deal with any holes at the track and attack the soft spots when we find them. I know that was a problem the past few years with all the rain and it takes a lot of work to get rid of them. I am hoping to a have a great track for the drivers every Thursday night so the fans can see the best racing in the area.”



The Heyes brothers battle the Pesicka sisters down the back straightaway in a two-person cruiser feature last season at the Kossuth County Speedway. ICON Images photo

2025 Kossuth County Speedway Schedule

April 24	Test & Tune
May 1	First Night of Weekly IMCA Racing
May 8	Weekly IMCA Racing
May 15	Weekly IMCA Racing
May 22	Fan Appreciation Night, Weekly IMCA Racing
May 29	Scott Cook Memorial, “One-Eye” Sport Mods Nationals, Weekly IMCA Racing
June 5	Beck’s Hybrid Stock Car Special, Weekly IMCA Racing
June 12	IMCA Race Savers Sprints, Weekly IMCA Racing
June 19	IMCA Weekly Racing
June 26	“Bumble Bee” Sport Compacts Nationals, IMCA Weekly Racing
July 3	American Late Models Special, Weekly IMCA Racing
July 10	Bradie Becker Modified Memorial Race, IMCA Weekly Racing
July 17	Jess Weishaar Hobby Stock Car Memorial Race, Weekly IMCA Racing
July 24	“Salute to Veterans Night” (No cruisers or sport compacts)
July 31	Harken/Hovinga Memorial Fair Races, Weekly IMCA Racing
Aug 7	“Speed Week”, Schattschneider Memorial, Weekly IMCA Racing
Aug 14	Drivers Appreciation Night, Weekly IMCA Racing
Aug. 21	Jade Long Memorial Season Championship Night, Weekly IMCA Racing

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Joyce signs with University of South Dakota Coyotes

By Greg Grabianowski
Sports Editor

VERMILLION, SD—Former Bishop Garrigan all-state point guard Molly Joyce recently entered the transfer portal and will be taking her basketball talents next year to the University of South Dakota.

Joyce has spent the past two seasons at Truman State University in Kirksville, Mo. and she had a lot of success the past two years for the Bulldogs.

She was named to the Great Lakes Valley Conference’s second-team all-conference squad this winter and was also chosen to the Academic All-Conference Team.

Last year for the Bulldogs, Molly was named to the Great Lakes Valley Conference’s all freshmen team and was selected as the freshman of the year in the league.

This year for Truman State, she poured in 470 points in 31 games for a scoring average of 15.2

points per contest while on the court.

The former Golden Bear was successful on 143 of 361 overall field goals for 39.6 percent; splashed 46 of 154 three-pointers for 29.9 percent and buried 138 of 163 charity tosses for 84.7 percent. Joyce dished out 66 assists; grabbed 128 total rebounds, came up 39 steals and rejected 10 shots this year.

During her two years as a Bulldog, she tossed in 774 points in 59 games played in for a career scoring average of 13.1 points per outing.

Molly connected on 247 of 638 shots from the field overall for 38.7 percent; nailed 75 of 256 attempts behind the three-point line for 29.3 percent and converted 205 of 250 free throws for 82 percent.

She handed out 105 assists at Truman State in two years; hauled in 223 rebounds, pocketed a total of 70 steals and blocked 19 shots. Joyce will have two years of eligibility remaining.

WB-M girls win three events at Raider Relays

SAC CITY—Powered by gold medal performances in three different events, the West Bend-Mallard Wolverine girls’ track squad placed fourth in the team standings with 79 points at the Raider Relays on Friday, April 4.

Placing first for the purple-and-gold was Allie Fehr with a leap of 4’ 10” in the high jump; Tyra Schupbach in the 3,000-meter run in 10:40.58 and the 4 x 800-meter relay crew of Addie Montag, Lily Morey, Mackenzie Fehr and Allie Fehr with a time of 11:19.51.

Taking second was Maddie Fehr in the 100-meter dash in 13.66 along with Schupbach in both the 800-meter run with a clocking of 2:38.40 and the 1,500-meter run in 5:12.68.

Finishing in third place was the 4 x 200-meter relay unit of Allie Fehr, Payton Akridge, Maddie Fehr and Morey with a time of 1:56.43 and the 4 x 400-meter relay quartet of Allie Fehr, Maddie Fehr, Montag and Morey in 4:36.09.

Maddie Fehr was fourth in the long jump with her leap of 13’ 8½” while teammate Mackenzie Fehr was sixth in both the 400-meter dash with a clocking of 1:12.69 and the 800-meter run in 2:55.33.

Montag placed seventh in the discus with a throw of 85’ 1” as both Akridge in the 100-meter dash with a time of 14.73 and Morey in the 200-meter dash in 30.22 ended up in ninth place overall at the meet.



West Bend-Mallard’s Lily Morey ran the third leg at Sac City in the winning 4 x 800-meter relay in 11:19.51 for the Wolverines at the Raider Relays on Friday.

WB-M Girls Track...see page B2

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