



KALAMAZOO Speedway TRACK TALK May 3, 2017



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#fastfridays

IN THE MAKE READY CHUTE – FRIDAY, MAY 5 (K-12 STUDENTS FREE)

FRIDAY, MAY 5. The pits open at 3:30 and racing follows at 7:30 PM. All five of Kalamazoo Speedway's weekly race divisions will be competing. Australian Pursuits will take the place of the heat races (in all but the Flip Flop Cyber Stock division), quarter-midgets from the Little Kalamazoo Speedway will be on parade plus the Rent-a-Rides return to the track. Will any Rent-a-Ride driver take home the \$500 bonus money generously posted by Kasten Insulation Blasting & Coatings? The bonus goes to any first-time Rent-a-Ride driver who wins the "A" feature.

Hard to imagine the crowd-pleasing Rent-a-Ride program is starting its third year. Individuals 18 and over can "Rent-a-Ride" for an authentic racing experience on an authentic track. The Speedway provides the car (equipped with an automatic transmission), a mid-week orientation/practice session, all in-car safety equipment, pit passes for the driver and the 2 driver-provided crew members, a safety/crew chief and commemorative photos. On race day the driver qualifies the car during the hot lap session, races in a heat race and the 15 lap feature race in the entry level Flip Flop Cyber Stock division. The cost is an all-inclusive \$295. Flyers are available at the ticket window or call Kenny at the Speedway office (269) 692-2423.



Wondering about Australian Pursuits? With good reason! Australian Pursuits are run in a variety of ways, but at Kalamazoo Speedway, the Pursuits will take the place of the regular heat races this week for all divisions except the Flip Flop Cyber Stocks. Just like the regular heats, if the division

has 12 or fewer cars for the night, all cars will run in one race. If the division consists of 13 or more, the field is split. The line-up is determined by each driver's time in qualifying. The slowest qualifying car will start first and the fastest car will start last, just like a traditional heat race. Unlike regular heat races; cars will start single file. Once the race starts, if a car is completely passed by another car, the driver must pull into the pits and their race is over. The checkered flag waves when either one car is left running or all laps (the same number of laps that would have been run in a heat race) have been completed. Points are awarded in the traditional way as well.

Admission for May 5: Adults \$12, K-12 students FREE – High School Students Need School ID. 5 and under FREE

Pit Passes: \$25.00 (NASCAR members) or \$30.00 (non-members)

LOOKING BACK: OPENING NIGHT

Three pre-season practice sessions and three grim weather forecasts. Not only were we spared bad weather but we enjoyed two summer-like nights. Early reports for opening night told us that we were wedged between a lot rain on Thursday and even more on Saturday. Race officials needed antacids all week. But the weather luck held out again and despite some spitting right before race time, we stayed dry AND opening night wasn't a blanket fest in the grandstands. **THE RACING WAS GREAT AND WE WELCOME YOU BACK FOR THE SEASON!**



Let's remember Kalamazoo Speedway's inversion rule. The fastest cars in group qualifying don't start the feature at the front. The fast qualifier in each class (with 15 or more cars) rolls the Speedway's pair of big and bold pink dice. The inversion is determined by adding the face value of the throw of the dice PLUS 6. For example, if the throw is a 5 and a 4, the inversion would be 15. The fastest qualifier starts the feature in the 15th spot, the 2nd highest qualifier starts in 14th and so on. The 15th highest qualifier is now in the pole position. When the field is 14 cars and under, step away from the dice, the field is automatically fully inverted (fastest qualifiers to the rear, slowest in front).



Nick Failing (center) won the 15 lap **Flip Flop Cyber Stock** feature holding off a determined Valerie Bozell. It took 3 green flag starts to get the 1st lap in, but the Opening Night features were finally off and running. Bozell took fast time with a 17.182 (.006 off her record time of last year), Failing was the second fastest qualifier. With the Speedway's full inversion, Failing and Bozell started at the tail of the 11 car field and each had to drive through the rest of the field in 15 laps to finish in the top spots. With Lane Head (last

year's champion) racing in the Super Stocks, there will be a new champion in this division in 2017. Denver Sweat, Joey Failing (left in the above photo) and Tony LoBretto rounded out the top five.

Sean Elkins (right) won the 20 lap **Outlaw Cyber Stocks** feature. Fast qualifier (15.315) and defending champion Dan Rigoni met with disaster in the opening lap (forcing a complete restart) and sustained too much damage to continue. In all, 4 drivers, Taylor Sexton (a graduate of the Little Kalamazoo Speedway), Ryan Hufford and CJ French didn't complete the first lap or return to the race. Larry Richardson, Nick Layman, Jeremy Young and Justin Hardy rounded out the top five.



Last year the **Pro Stocks** division was the largest and this year they've set the bar high with 21 cars in the field for a regular weekly race. Keith Wilfong (pictured) started the season in the same way he ended last year, winning the feature. Greg Brown had the quickest qualifying time at 14.510 (93.039 mph). Like the divisions before it, the Pro Stocks needed more than one attempt at getting their race underway. If this race was any indication, the Pro Stocks will provide hard and competitive racing week in and week out. Greg Brown, who finished a crushing 14 points out of the championship last year, found himself in second place again this week with Zach Cook, Bob Miller and Kyle Ribble rounding out the top five.

The **Super Stocks** boasted 18 cars but didn't get their race started on the first attempt either. Opening night jitters and maybe a little lack of practice weren't limited to any one division. Nick Pressler (with trophy) took the checkered flag followed very closely by Eric McGlothlen. Cory Pressler, Jon Beach and Buddy Head finished up the top five. Kenny Head came in 7th and was fast qualifier with a time of 13.485 (100.111 mph).

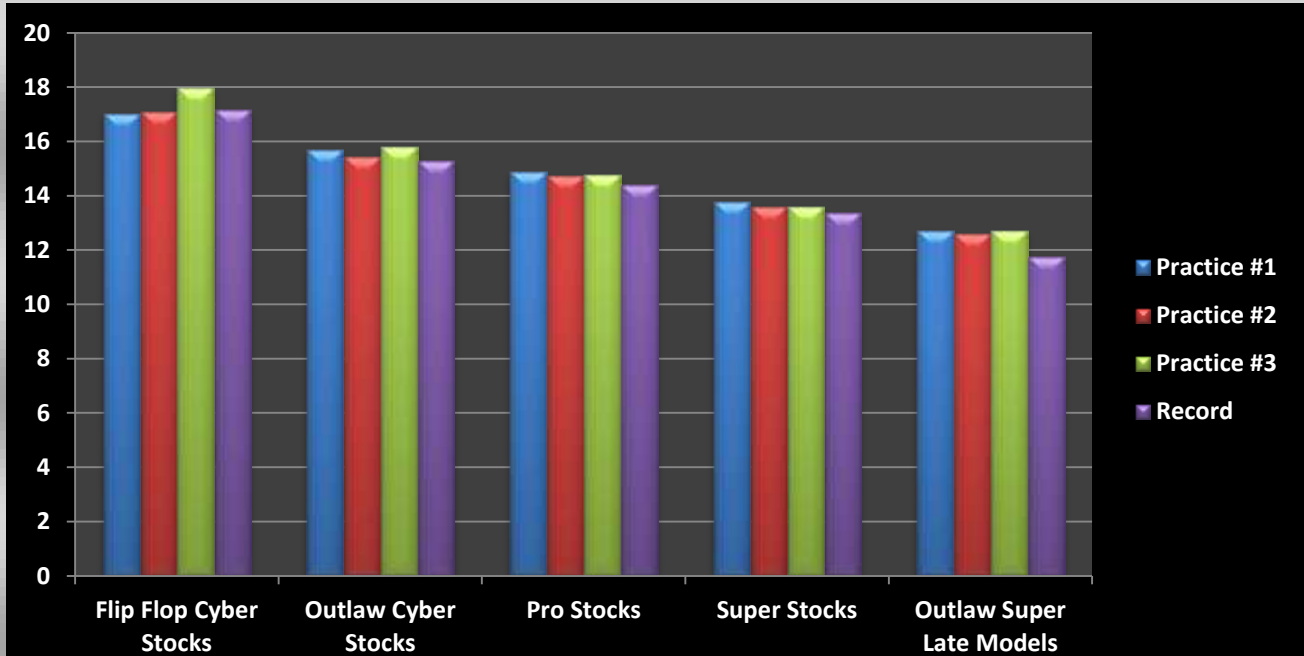


The **Outlaw Super Late Models** always have a strong field for the Intimidator 100 and the 17th running of the 100 was no exception. In all 27 drivers were on hand trying to claim the victory. Tyler Roahrig defended his 2016 Intimidator 100 win with a dominating performance, also capturing the fastest qualifying time 12.635 (106.846 mph). Eleven drivers ran in the 20 lap last chance race with Brandon Lyons, Dustin Lundgren, Doug True and Jeff Bozell advancing. Mark Shook (defending season champion), Matt Frazier, Brandon Lyons (making the most of his advancing) and Todd Harrington rounded

out the top five. Last year's heartbreak kid, Rick Senneker, was part of a 3 car pileup early in the race resulting in all (JR Roahrig and Doug True) being towed from the track.

LOOKING BACK: PRE-SEASON PRACTICES

Keep in mind that cars don't have to go through tech for pre-season practices plus lap times for all sessions (practice and mock qualifying) "count" toward identifying the fastest car in each division. Still, the times give a snap shot of who had their cars running well in practice. We've provided a quick-look chart as well as a detail tables.



FLIP FLOP CYBER STOCKS			PRO STOCKS		OUTLAW SUPER LATE MODELS	
Practice #1	Jason Patterson	17.052	Greg Brown	14.891	Phil Bozell	12.739
Practice #2	Danny Payne	17.131	Kyle Ribble	14.755	Mark Shook	12.617
Practice #3	Kyra Donald	17.992	Shane Miller	14.795	Mark Shook	12.720
OUTLAW CYBER STOCKS			SUPER STOCKS			
Practice #1	Will Slaughter	15.714	Kenny Head	13.776		
Practice #2	Larry Richardson	15.467	Eric McGlothlen	13.626		
Practice #3	Justin Hardy	15.810	Buddy Head	13.604		



TRACK RECORDS		
OUTLAW SUPER LATE MODELS:	Terry Senneker, Jr.	11.759
SUPER STOCKS:	Kenny Head	13.387
PRO STOCKS:	Toby Montgomery	14.414
OUTLAW CYBER STOCKS:	Dan Rigoni	15.300
FLIP FLOP CYBER STOCKS:	Valerie Bozell	17.176

KALAMAZOO SPEEDWAY ADOPTS A HIGHWAY



Zoo Kares for Kids adopts scores of children at the holidays to provide a very memorable Christmas and now Kalamazoo Speedway has adopted 2 miles of US 131 between the D Avenue exit and the Otsego/Plainwell exit. Look for the new highway signs soon! Kalamazoo Speedway continues its tradition of being a proud sponsor of numerous non-profits, school programs and community projects.

COLOR OUR TEAM SPIRIT/TECHWORKS TRAILER CONTEST WINNER

Thanks to everyone who entered the Color Our Team Spirit/Techworks Trailer contest. Lawrence Losey won the skybox for May 5. Losey's color choice was white; just perfect for the raffle winner to add their team logo and have it really stand out.

Raffle tickets for the 24' enclosed Track Champ trailer are available trackside and are \$5 per ticket or 5 tickets for \$20. The trailer will be on display on the midway, sporting the winning color, starting in late May after it's manufactured. All proceeds go to Zoo Kares for Kids. Our deepest gratitude to Team Spirit Custom Trailers and Techworks Trailer Sales for donating the trailer.

KALAMAZOO TRACK SERVICES (KTS)

The 2nd Annual Safety Crew Training was held Saturday, April 29 and thankfully the predicted monsoons held off. West Michigan Air Care was part of the training and safety personnel from 11 other tracks participated in classroom and practical training. Kalamazoo Speedway's Kalamazoo Track Services has been recognized by Bob Boles (Circle Track Magazine) for its excellence in the business with high praise for our safety truck "[it] is top notch and along the lines of what I've seen in NASCAR Sprint Cup and Indy Car racing."



THE PLACE TO BE FOR FAST, CLEAN, FAMILY FUN!