



KALAMAZOO Speedway

TRACK TALK

November 8, 2017

Happy
Thanksgiving



IN THIS EDITION – 2017 AWARDS CEREMONY

The official close to the 2017 season, October 28 marked the Awards Ceremony to honor drivers, teams, sponsors and employees. While everyone couldn't be recognized with an award, Kalamazoo Speedway officials gave a shout out to everyone who helped make the 2017 a success.

Gary Howe, track owner, started things off with trophies for the top eight sponsors and a few special awards. As far as Howe was concerned, he was captured in WAY too many shots and try as we may, we couldn't crop him out of everything. Halloween is past and a few fingers on someone's shoulder without the rest of a body just wasn't attractive. Pictured below (from left) are Brian Bradshaw (Weller Auto Parts), Rick Marshall (Van Manen Petroleum) and Chris Terry (GT Products).

Auto Value Parts Stores (Auto Wares Group)	July 20 races featuring the King of the Wing Super Sprints
Crosstown Auto Parts	Flip Flop Cyber Stocks
GT Products	Gary Terry "Follow Your Dreams" 125
Orrin B Hayes Inc.	Pace car
Lane Automotive Aeroquip Allstar Edelbrock	Point fund
Weller Auto Parts	Rent-a-Rides
West Michigan Toyota Dealers	Kalamazoo Klash XXV featuring Kyle Busch & the Super Stocks division
Van Manen Petroleum (Sunoco Race Fuel)	Awards Ceremony plaques & trophies



Valerie Bozell (left) won the NASCAR UNOH Youth Achievement Award. Rob Phillips (left) and Colby Greer (right) were recognized for having the 2017 BS Jobs of the Year.



Jimmy Sweat was awarded the Trooper of the Year for fielding 4 cars in the Flip Flop Cyber Stocks and sponsoring other teams. Lacey (left) and Kellie Howe (right) were awarded the Callie Sue Jones Employee of the Year awards for their years of service at Kalamazoo Speedway.



Kalamazoo Track Services (KTS) was honored for their service (pictured from left to right David Hoffmaster, Sam Corradini, Jake Steele and Terry Kizer). Kizer was further honored for his 29 years of service, it having been rumored that Kizer was leaving his post with KTS. Kizer made sure word got out immediately that he's not going anywhere and will be suited up and working with the safety crew in 2018.



Jason Seltzer (track announcer) introduced drivers who had won special awards as well as the top 10 in each of the 5 weekly classes. (Yes...we know, the tie threw us too, but it really is Jason).

The 2017 Rookies of the Year were named.
Denver Sweat (Flip Flop Cyber Stocks)
Taylor Sexton (Outlaw Cyber Stocks)
Josh Zordan (Pro Stocks)
Josh Trammell (Super Stocks)
Andrew Brest (Outlaw Super Late Models)



Sweat is pictured on the top right; Trammell is center right (pictured with his 7th place trophy). Sexton, Zordan (middle left) and Brest (bottom left) also earned Most Improved Driver Awards in their respective classes. Nick Failing earned the Most Improved Driver Award in the Flip Flop Cyber Stocks (pictured on the top left of the next page) and, also on the following page, both Cory Pressler (left) and Keegan Dykstra (right) earned a Most Improved Driver Award for the Super Stock division.



Adam Terry (below left) went home with the Sportsmanship and Most Popular Driver of the Year Awards. Buddy Head (below right) took home the Hard Charger Award.



The top 10 earned a trophy in their respective classes. We've recognized each champion by including a photo from the Awards Ceremony plus the slide that was projected when they accepted their award.

RANK	FLIP FLOP CYBER STOCKS		OUTLAW CYBER STOCKS	
	NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS
10	TRAVIS PETTO	591	DOUG NELSON	820
9	CAMARON BARTHEL	642	PETE DOXEY	856
8	RENAE LETTS	863	PAUL BITTLE	859
7	BRANDON SWEAT	1078	ANDREW LOSEY	887
6	KEVIN SWEAT	1151	RICKY LADUKE	994
5	GRANT LOFQUIST	1171	TAYLOR SEXTON	1003
4	DENVER SWEAT	1204	RYAN HUFFORD	1104
3	VALERIE BOZELL	1227	NICK LAYMAN	1214
2	NICK FAILING	1346	JEREMY YOUNG	1298
1	TONY LOBRETTO	1362	LARRY RICHARDSON	1379

TONY LOBRETTO
2017 FLIP FLOP CYBER STOCK
Season Champion





FAST TIME	—
HEAT	4
FEATURE	2
TOP 5	9
TOP 10	10
COMPETED	10 OF 10
POINTS	1362





Tony LoBretto and Nick Failing went into Championship Night tied in the points. LoBretto risked it all by driving his back-up car (Josh Nyberg's former car) because it was faster (though until that night, faster only when Nyberg drove it). This is LoBretto's second championship, winning the Street Stock championship in 1975 at Kalamazoo Speedway. The racing direction flip flopped 4 times during the season and championship night ran half of the feature in one direction and half in the other.

LARRY RICHARDSON
2017 OUTLAW CYBER STOCK
Season Champion





FAST TIME	2
HEAT	—
FEATURE	2
TOP 5	7
TOP 10	10
COMPETED	10 OF 10
POINTS	1379





Larry Richardson held the points lead all season. Not a flashy driver on the track, he makes up for it when he's out of the car. Donning a wig and suit straight out of Saturday Night Fever to accept his trophy, he won't soon be forgotten. This is Richardson's first championship.

RANK	PRO STOCKS		SUPER STOCKS		SUPER LATE MODELS	
	NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS
10	GREG HAYNES	689	ADAM VANAVERY	972	BILLY SHANNON	834
9	BRAD HALL	782	ERIC MCGLOTHLEN	987	JEFF BOZELL	862
8	SHANE MILLER	785	LANE HEAD	1049	ANDREW BREST	1077
7	JOSH ZORDAN	982	JOSH TRAMMELL	1166	RICK SENNEKER	1142
6	BOB MILLER	1023	NICK PRESSLER	1273	DOUG TRUE	1201
5	BARRY JENKINS	1264	KENNY HEAD	1393	MATT FRAZIER	1224
4	KEITH WILFONG	1360	AJ FOOTE	1415	ADAM TERRY	1373
3	KYLE RIBBLE	1439	KEEGAN DYKSTRA	1434	TODD HARRINGTON	1432
2	GREG BROWN	1528	CORY PRESSLER	1481	TOM THOMAS	1441
1	ZACK COOK	1564	BUDDY HEAD	1649	MARK SHOOK	1596



ZACK COOK
2017 PRO STOCK
Season Champion



FAST TIME	4
HEAT	1
FEATURE	2
TOP 5	11
TOP 10	11
COMPETED	11 OF 11
POINTS	1564





Zack Cook took the points lead in week 3 of the season (from Keith Wilfong) and never looked back, placing in the top 5 of each of the weekly races in 2017. This is Cook's first championship.

BUDDY HEAD
2017 SUPER STOCK
Season Champion




FAST TIME	5
HEAT	2
FEATURE	5
TOP 5	11
TOP 10	11
COMPETED	11 OF 11
POINTS	1649

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Buddy Head took the points lead on the second night of the season from Eric McGlothlen but didn't win a feature race until July 7th and then claimed 5 of the last 6 races of the season. This is Head's 5th consecutive championship in the Super Stocks class and 6th overall. It was a Head family reunion this year in the Super Stocks with brothers Kenny and Buddy and Buddy's son, Lane, racing.

MARK SHOOK
2017 Outlaw Super Late Model
Season Champion




FAST TIME	6
HEAT	1
FEATURE	5
TOP 5	10
TOP 10	11
COMPETED	11 OF 11
POINTS	1596

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Tyler Roahrig won the opening night Intimidator 100 and with it took the points lead. Mark Shook assumed the points lead in week 2 and held it for the rest of the season. This is Shook's second consecutive championship in the Outlaw Super Late Models class.

A few final photo displays and the focus moves to 2018.



Clockwise: Tyler Roahrig wins the Intimidator 100 at the season opener; Jeff Ganus wins the rain plagued Gary Terry "Follow Your Dreams" 125; the morning after the Red, White & Boom; the Super Sprints visited twice in 2017; a Perfit Vintage Modifieds and NSTA Top Modifieds made a visit to the Speedway; Rent-a-Rides. Center: Grand Marshall Ashley Stremme (Mrs. USA) with Matt Corliss, winner of the Pro Stock Rumble at the Gary Terry 125.



Clockwise: Kyle Busch with a family of fans; past Klash champions (see box under photo); Andy Bozell's and Marv Burroughs' rocket cars from the Call of the Wild; Tyler Roahrig during driver introductions before winning his first Kalamazoo Klash.

Back: Brian Cloud (1995), Andy Bozell (1993-94, 1997, 2007), Mike Vansparrentak (1998), Todd Currier (2000), Bob Holley (1996), Fred Campbell (2004), Ken Scheffler (2001), Chris Orr (1999, 2002). Front row: Jeff Ganus (2015), Tom Thomas (2003), Steve Needles (2009), Phil Bozell (2011), Terry Senneker (2008, 2012-14, 2016), Rick Sexton (2010). Not pictured Lee Anderson, deceased (2005), Johnny Benson (2006)



Clockwise: 3 races were totally rained out (May 19 & 26, August 4). A lengthy rain delay pushed the completion of the Gary Terry 125 past midnight; Jeff Ganus is crowned Super Shoe Champion; Todd Metz Jr takes the 8th Annual FWD Nationals at Super Shoe; fans and the divisions running at Kalamazoo Speedway in 2017.

THE 2018 SEASON TAKES SHAPE

The 2018 rules will be out within the week and four of the five divisions will be sporting a new name in 2018. Only 157 more days to the first 2018 practice (Saturday, April 12) and 170 days until the Season Opener (Friday, April 27), but who's counting!? Check out the schedule at www.kalamazoospeedway.com.

Track official have already been hard at work shaping up the new season. Maybe you've heard that officials have been working with several surrounding tracks forming the Michiana State Line Racing Association?

Galesburg | Kalamazoo | M-40 | New Paris | South Bend | Springport

The Association has been working to better align weekly race rules to accommodate the growing trend of drivers doing more traveling to local tracks. And the Enduro is back! Don't worry, very few changes will impact the cars themselves; the name changes are a different matter! The decoder for the name changes follows.

2017 Class Name	2018 Class Name
Outlaw Super Late Models	Outlaw Super Late Models
Super Stocks	Late Model Sportsman
Pro Stocks	Street Stocks
Outlaw Cyber Stocks	Outlaw FWD
Flip Flop Cyber Stocks	Zoo Stocks



FAST FAMILY FUN!

Photo credit to A. Fisher and RW Motorsports Marketing (all award photos)