



KALAMAZOO 700 YEARS SPEEDWAY

TRACK TALK

August 7, 2019

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WEDNESDAY | AUGUST 7 | KALAMAZOO KLASH XXVII



WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7: KALAMAZOO KLASH XXVII & THE CRA/ARCA SUPER SERIES

Marty and Bobby Jones set out to create a Super Late Model spectacular that would rival any pavement race in the nation. With ideas from some of the sharpest minds in the business, the Kalamazoo Klash debuted on August 18, 1993. Hundreds of Midwest Late Model drivers have tried to earn a place on the Kalamazoo Klash trophy. Only 17 drivers have succeeded. Look for intense competition.

Speedway Illustrated and Circle Track magazine have named the Klash one of the top short track events in the nation. Although other area tracks may run a “klash” type event, we are proud to be the original. The \$10,000 to win Kalamazoo Klash XXVII is not to be missed. It only comes once a year and it's only at Kalamazoo Speedway. It's why the race was listed this year as one of Speedway Illustrated Hot Spots (Places to Be, Races to Watch). The ARCA/CRA Series shares the program. We will see you for the dual 125-lap races.



RACE DAY INFORMATION

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| Ticket Windows Open | 10:00 AM |
| Pit Passes (12 years & up) | \$40 |
| Junior Pit Passes (11 & under) | \$20 |
| Reserved Seats (all ages) | \$35 |
| Adults | \$25 |
| Youth 6-12 | \$10 |
| Kids 5 & Under | FREE |
| Pits Open | 10:00 AM |
| Mandatory Drivers' Meeting | 1:00 PM |
| Hot Laps Begin | 1:30 PM |
| Qualifying Begins | 4:00 PM |
| Autograph Session | 5:30 – 6:15 PM |
| Awards | 6:30 PM |
| Racing Starts | 7:00 PM |

Does **RESERVED SEATING** appeal to you? A seat with a back and room to stretch and move around? A seat that will be waiting for you whether you arrive at 4 PM for qualifying or 7 PM just in time to catch the racing action? A cash-only beverage station, stocked with ice cold beer and water located steps away? Then the \$35 reserved seating on the deck located near turn 3 is for you. Tickets not sold out in advance will be sold on race day; inquire at the ticket windows.

Kalamazoo Speedway allows **COOLERS** that do not exceed 14" in size. No glass.

Anyone under the age of 18 must sign in with a parent or legal guardian (no exceptions) when purchasing a **KLASH PIT PASS**.

AUGUST 10: RUSTY WALLACE RACING EXPERIENCE (leased event)

Get behind the wheel and drive a racecar with the Rusty Wallace Racing Experience on August 10. Save 70% off all driving packages with promo code: SAVE70. Deals start at just \$80. Limited spots available. Participants **MUST** book in advance.



<https://racewithrusty.com/kalamazoo-speedway-august-2/>

AUGUST 16: WEEK #14 – WEEKLY RACING (All classes compete)

The final weekly race on the schedule before Season Championship night. Point races in several classes will be intense as it's still anyone's championship to earn. **PLUS** it's Autograph and Backpack Giveaway Night.



AUGUST 17: BANDIT BIG RIG SERIES (leased event)

First time in Michigan! Buy tickets in advance online; gate pricing will be higher. With Bandits racing around the oval at speeds of up to 100 MPH, you know things are going to get crazy! Racing starts at 7PM but don't miss out on the pre-race activities.



<https://www.banditseries.com>

AUGUST 23: WEEK #15 – WEEKLY RACING (Season Championship Night)



Season Championship Night. The off-season is long; don't miss a single race left in the 2019 regular season. The Outlaw Super Late Models will be running 100 laps to determine who takes home their track championship.

RECAP: JULY 26

It was the second Big Bucks Night in 2019 with \$1000 to win for the Street Stock and the Late Model Sportsman and \$500 for the Zoo Stock and Outlaw FWD. Almost 100 drivers competed and fans saw some terrific racing. Point races are tight in all but one of the classes.

Grant Lofquist (16.963) was the top qualifier of the 42 **Zoo Stocks** that turned out to race for the \$500 purse. Nick Failing, Rielly Meade, Roger Zimmerman (compliments of Scott Monroe incurring a breakout time violation) and Bryce Peters won the heat races. Bill Evink's racing chops have developed over the course of the season and he won the 15-lap 'B' feature. (Pictured below with his daughter Renae Letts, a fellow Zoo Stock driver currently sitting 9th in the point standings.) The 'A' feature had a full field of 22 cars for their 20-lap feature. Point leader Rielly Meade and Charles Anderson led the field to green. A handful of laps later it was Meade in the lead and Nick Failing had shot up into the top five from a starting position of 12. Failing kept picking off cars until he reached the lead. At the half-way point, Jordan Brinkert, Rielly Meade, Logan Hiemstra and Matt Elsey Jr. followed Failing. Following a caution when Ross Bergman had a tire go down, Elsey Jr. moved into second, a familiar spot for him having won two features from that position when the drivers who had crossed the finish line first were disqualified giving him the win plus finishing second a couple of weeks ago. Failing headed to Victory Lane when the checkered flag waved followed by Elsey Jr., Ed Clawson, Jordan Brinkert, Logan Hiemstra, Logan Meade, Rielly Meade, Regan Powell, Maggie Zwart Campbell and Matt Elsey, Sr. Readers might recall that Failing reached the finish line first back in May but exceeded the Zoo Stock lap speed on his last lap and was disqualified. Failing quipped in Victory Lane "You're not going to take this one away are you?" Rielly Meade hangs on to the point lead followed by Jordan Brinkert (-39), rookie and teen driver Matt Elsey Jr. (-67), Logan Hiemstra (-104) and rookie Jared Blanchard (-145) in the top five spots. Ross Bergman, Logan Meade, Grant Lofquist, Renae Letts and Dillon Rose hold the remaining slots in the top 10. Rose, started racing at the Speedway on June 21 and has been quietly making his mark, marching up the list (which boasts close to 100 drivers who have earned points in the 2019 season). In the latter part of the order points are tight and it's anyone's guess who will be in the top 10 in the final standings.



Paul Bittle had fast time (15.265) with Adam Van Avery and Nick Layman winning the heat races. Nick Layman took the early lead in the **Outlaw FWD** 25-lap feature followed closely by Andrew Peters. With 5 laps into the race the field sorted its way out leaving Layman in the lead followed by Peters, VanAvery, Pete Doxey and Paul Bittle in single file; the latter three all having started from deep in the pack. The single file approach didn't last long as Doxey made it past Layman for the lead with 14 to go. With 10 laps left Bittle had moved into second and was intent on replacing Doxey as the leader. In the end it was Doxey's night, driving his way to his fourth win of the season, followed by Bittle, Van Avery, Dave Leonard Jr., Nick Layman, Andrew Peters, Wayne Stack, John Munro, Clyde Milliken in his first appearance this year and Camille Lewis. Corey Woods, former point leader, experienced car troubles for the second night in a row, losing his point lead to Adam Van Avery the first time and dropping to third this week. Adam Van Avery continues the point lead followed by Doxey (-25), Corey Woods (-114), John Munro (-242) and Camille Lewis moving into the top 5 (-274). Gabe Carr, Drew Losey, John Carr, Wayne Stack and Nick Layman round out the top 10.



Mike Brooks (14.852) took fast time of the 19 **Street Stock** that showed up for a crack at the \$1,000 to win purse. Zack Cook and Jerry Pierman won the heat races. Chuck Caudill and Doug Gallandt led the field to green with Caudill capturing the early lead in the 30-lap feature. Gallandt moved into the lead followed by Greg Brown, Caudill, Shane Miller and Brandon Zachary. Mike Brooks was charging through the field from a starting position of 16. Gallandt and Brown raced door to door as Brown sought the lead. Brown eventually prevailed in that battle only to lose the lead to Zachary. Brooks and Tom Rutherford were up next battling for the second spot. The race shaped up into a duel between Zachary and Brooks, as they raced door to door trading the advantage. Zachary decided he'd had enough of that and powered out ahead for his third consecutive victory this season. Brooks finished second followed by Rutherford, Shane Miller, Kyle Ribble, Greg Brown, Jerry Pierman, Zack Cook, Doug Gallandt and making his first appearance of the year, Andy Rutherford. Ribble and Zachary went into the night tied in the standings and Zachary leaves with a scant 23 point lead over Ribble (-23) followed by Zack Cook (-201), Colin Bozell (-285) and Greg Brown (-299). Barry Jenkins, Shane Miller, Doug Gallandt, Heath Bronkema and rookie Bug Schisler represent the remaining top ten drivers in the Street Stocks.



Kenny Head (13.703) clocked the fastest time of the 20 **Late Model Sportsman** who showed up for Big Bucks Night. Men named Chris took the heat races (Shannon and Garrett). The inversion of 12 put Lane Head and Dylan Stovall in the front row to start the 35-lap feature. Stovall shot out to the lead with Jesse VanAvery in second and Jeff Bozell moving into third. With 10 laps down, Stovall still had the lead followed by VanAvery, Jeff Bozell, Chris Garrett and Matt Maurer. Andy Bozell had moved up to sixth and Buddy Head had arrived at the tail of that pack. Intense door to door racing and switching off positions prevailed for the remainder of the race. Late in the race VanAvery got around Stovall. The white flag waved and Buddy Head made his move to capture his fifth feature win of the season.

Van Avery captured second place followed by Andy Bozell, Dylan Stovall, Chris Garrett, Jeff Bozell, Kenny Head, Keegan Dykstra, Ryan Stutz and Chris Shannon. Buddy Head has a substantial lead in the point race as he attempts to earn his 8th track championship (his 7th consecutive), followed by Chris Shannon (-203), Chris Garrett (-213), Dylan Stovall (-381) and Kenny Head, (-390). Jeff Bozell, Keegan Dykstra, Ryan Stutz, Keith Wilfong and Lane Head round out the top 10.



AWARDS BANQUET MOVED TO OCTOBER

Mark your calendars! The Awards Banquet originally scheduled for Saturday, September 7 has been moved to Saturday, October 26 at Western Michigan University. Details to follow.

PHOTO MEDLEY



Teen driver Regan Powell (left) races in the Zoo Stock class. He was the point leader following opening night, has a fast time to his credit and a couple of top 10 finishes.



Jay Vandermeeden and daughter visited the announcer's tower to give a birthday note (Happy Birthday Kerri) to Jason Seltzer.



Kyle Ribble (left) and Jerry Ballard use different methods to haul their tires.



Teen Drew Hosner (14) has a cheering section in the bleachers. The rookie has two heat races to his credit.

Lane Head's car was making disturbing noises during the heat race before he retired to the pits. Before the feature, dad Buddy dove right in to make repairs.



Barry Jenkins, drives the #44 in the Street Stocks, and currently sits 6th in the point standings.



FAST FAMILY FUN FOR 70 YEARS.

We will see you at the races.