



# KALAMA 700 YEARS SPEEDWAY

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## TRACK TALK

July 17, 2019

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THIS FRIDAY | JULY 19 | ALLSTAR 75



### FRIDAY, JULY 19: WEEK #11 – WEEKLY RACING (ALLSTAR 75)



Only 73 points separate the top seven drivers in the Outlaw Super Late Models and this week the Super Lates run the ALLSTAR 75. Joining the Outlaw Super Late Models are the Late Model Sportsman and the Zoo Stocks.



We will see you at the races.

#### DETAILS: FRIDAY, JULY 19

Pits Open	3:30 PM
Qualifying Starts	5:30 PM
Pit Pass (12 & up)	\$30
Adults	\$15
Youth 6-12	\$8
Kids 5 & Under	FREE
Racing Starts	7:30 PM

## JULY 26: WEEK #12 – AUTO VALUE NON-WINGED SUPER SPRINTS SERIES



They're back!! When the Sprints were here in June, fans were treated to a photo finish between Aaron Pierce and Tyler Roahrig. We can't promise we'll have another finish like that one, but anyone who thought the Sprints needed wings to put on a great show needs to think again. The Outlaw Super Late Models, Street Stocks and the Outlaw FWDs round out the July 26 program.

## AUGUST 2: WEEK #13 – BIG \$\$\$\$\$ NIGHT

Big purses await! It's \$1,000 to win for the Late Model Sportsman and Street Stocks and \$500 to win for the O'Reilly Auto Parts Outlaw FWDs and the Zoo Stocks.

## AUGUST 7: KALAMAZOO KLASH XXVII

It only happens once a year. The Outlaw Super Late Models run in their biggest race of the year. Drivers seek to earn a place on the prestigious trophy. The ARCA/CRA Super Series shares the program. Don't miss it.



## RESULTS: JULY 12

There was more going on at the races on Friday night than racing. It was Racing Girls Rock Trophy Night by Cardapalooza and Melinda Russell, Founder, International Women's Motorsports Association and some of the women who race at Kalamazoo Speedway took time for a photo op.



From left to right: Melinda Russell, Camille Lewis, Renae Letts, Tyler Imus, Makenna Long, Makenna Snyder, Taylor Sexton and Valerie Bozell. All but Renae Letts were our featured teen drivers in an earlier issue and we hope they, like Letts, continue racing.

Jason Seltzer was in the hospital recovering from corrective surgery and Norm Jelsma (former long-time announcer at Berlin Raceway) and Matt McKenzie (current Berlin Raceway announcer) filled in. You could tell they'd done this sort of thing a time or two. Walking into an unfamiliar venue and broadcasting leaves no margin for error and they were seamless, made all the more difficult because the scoring system chose this evening to play the fool again. Speaking of Jason. As of this writing (Tuesday), he was still in the hospital and sends out his "immense thanks to the track family for sending so much love. My phone has been nonstop. Been 15 years since I missed a race at that place. Kept up all night with the Racemonitor and Facebook Live. Thanks to Norm and Matt for doing a great job with the mic and I'll see you all very soon. Carry on!"





John Johnson, a Board member (standing) from the Michigan Auto Racing Fan Club, was on hand for the Club's annual visit to the Speedway. Johnson presented a MARFC Uniform/Helmet Bag to Kevin Barthel who, despite facing health issues, passionately looks forward to #fastfridays at Kalamazoo Speedway. A number of readers may recognize Barthel's vintage metal posters and buttons as well as the man behind the camera shooting video of each race.



And of course there was a full night of action with all five classes racing.

The **Zoo Stocks** had a field of 35 cars with Matt Majewski putting up fast time (16.932). Heat races were won by Matt Elsey, rookie Drew Hosner, Josh Nyberg (in his first race at the Zoo this season) and Brian Patton (also making his first appearance). For the 20-lap 'A' feature,

Charles Anderson and Travis Petto led the field to green. Petto took the lead before giving it up to Roger Zimmerman with a couple of laps in. Logan Hiemstra and Aaron Anderson were making early moves to the front. Zimmerman and Petto exchanged the lead a couple of times as Jared Blanchard moved into the top 5. With a quarter of the race done much of the field started scattering every which way and fans braced for—nothing! It was (miraculously) the pile-up that wasn't. Zimmerman, a staple of the 'B' feature most weeks, continued his lead until Aaron Anderson got around him with 13 to go. At the half-way point it was still Anderson in the lead followed by Hiemstra, Logan Meade, Matt Elsey Jr. (coming back from a crash in the heats) and Zimmerman. With seven remaining, Anderson still had the lead, Elsey Jr. had taken over the second spot and Logan Meade the third. Grant Lofquist, who started 11<sup>th</sup>, had moved into the sixth slot and Jorden Brinkert had moved from the back of the field to fifth. With the race nearing the final flag, Brinkert, Anderson and Meade were three-wide vying for the lead. Brinkert and Anderson went hard into the wall out of turn 2; Meade also losing position but avoiding the wall. Lofquist (top) took advantage of the mishap and outdrove a persistent Elsey Jr. for his first win of the year. Following Elsey were Hiemstra, Matt Majewski, Matt Elsey, Rielly Meade, Jared Blanchard, Regan Powell, Drew Hosner and Bill Evink. Ross Bergman (in the #19) won the 'B' feature followed by rookie Bryson Hosner, Chad VanderBerg, Tyler Reading, Mason May, Renae Letts, Chet Terry, Don Porter, Brian Patton and Brianna Town.



For the Zoo Stock point race, it's Rielly Meade leading the field followed by Jorden Brinkert (-53), rookie Matt Elsey Jr., (-112), Logan Hiemstra (-113), rookie Jared Blanchard (-116), Ross Bergman (-142), Logan Meade (-396), Renae Letts (-451), Grant Lofquist (-494) and Matt Majewski (-508).



The **Outlaw FWDs** drew a field of 19 cars running in two heats and the 25-lap feature. Gabe Carr clocked fast time with a speed of 15.059. Adam Van Avery and John Munro claimed the heat races. Chase Roelofs (in his first race here this year) and Valerie Bozell had the field lined up behind them to start the race. Paul Bittle limped off the field after the first lap. Roelofs took the early lead. With 5 laps in, Corey Woods had moved from his starting position of 15 to the top 5. As he's shown in previous weeks, he is a rocket from the back to the front. In contrast to Pete Doxey who



steadily advances from the back as the laps tick off. Doxey hit the top 5 with about 10 to go. Roelofs led until Nick Failing, who started 10<sup>th</sup>, took the lead with 15 to go. Woods got around Failing with 12 remaining with Kyle Jansen and Doxey in pursuit. Doxey powered by both making it a battle between him and Woods. Woods had a large lead by this time but Doxey set about cutting into it. With 3 laps to go it looked like Doxey might have enough to make it to Victory Lane a fourth time, but it was Woods by 0.272 seconds at the finish, making it three wins for Woods this year. Kyle Jansen was third followed by Drew Losey, Nick Failing, Wayne Stack, Camille Lewis, John Carr, John Munro and another first time this year racer, Gordon Hopson. Corey Woods continues his lead in the point standings over Adam Van Avery (-54), Pete Doxey (-70), Gabe Carr (-110), Drew Losey (-183), John Munro (-211), Camille Lewis (-226), John Carr (-245), Wayne Stack (-327) and Kyle Jansen (-335).

Bob Miller was atop the tower for quick time looking to break Kyle Ribble's claim to having posted quick time in the **Street Stocks** every week in 2019. Ribble is on a roll however and kept his record intact with a time of 14.858. That gave him the honor of tossing the dice for the inversion (roll of the dice plus 6). This week Ribble showed his sense of humor by flashing the camera snake eyes and then promptly threw the double ones. Brandon Zachary and Greg Brown won the heat races. For the 30-lap feature, Brandon Zachary and Doug Gallandt headed up the field. With five laps in, it was Zachary, Greg Brown, Zack Cook, Doug Gallandt and Colin Bozell. Cook and Brown put up a door to door battle for position with Cook moving into second place. The field put up a battle but at the line it was



Brandon Zachary followed by Colin Bozell, Zack Cook, Kyle Ribble, Greg Brown, Doug Gallandt, Heath Bronkema, Barry Jenkins, Ricky LaDuke and Jerry Ballard.

Kyle Ribble continues as the point leader followed by Brandon Zachary (-23), Zack Cook (-35), Colin Bozell (-182), Barry Jenkins (-225), Greg Brown (-239), Shane Miller (-350), Heath Bronkema (-356), Doug Gallandt (-401) and rookie Bug Schisler (-446).



The **Late Model Sportsman** had Kenny Head at the top of the 17 qualifiers with a time of 13.709. The Sportsman didn't run heats so it was straight to the 35-lap feature for them. Ryan Stutz and Austin Maynard led the field to green. Maynard took the early lead followed by Stutz, Buddy Head, Bill Tomlinson and Kenny Head. Kenny Head made a gutsy move on a restart to vault into second place shuttling Stutz to fourth. Kenny Head took the lead with 19 to go while Andy Bozell was making his move into the top five. Head initially had a large lead but Buddy Head and Bozell eventually caught him and going three-wide, Bozell and Head moved ahead. Buddy Head (above with Phil Dockym) maintained his lead to the checked flag making this his fourth victory of the year. Andy Bozell was second followed by Kenny Head, Keegan Dykstra, Chris Garrett, Austin Maynard, Ryan Stutz, Jesse VanAvery, Keith Wilfong and Makena Snyder.



Buddy Head holds a very comfortable lead in the standings over Chris Shannon (-170), Chris Garrett (-186), Dylan Stovall (-353) Kenny Head (-369), Jeff Bozell (-379), Ryan Stutz (-425), Keegan Dykstra (-441), Keith Wilfong (-485) and Lane Head (-498).



In the **Outlaw Super Late Models** Adam Terry took fast time (13.000) and used a different dice tossing method than Kyle Ribble, but with the same result. Snake eyes.

Rick Senneker received one of the two well-deserved "Hard Luck" awards at last year's banquet and started off the season qualifying 20<sup>th</sup> for the Intimidator 100 and finishing a disappointing 12<sup>th</sup>. Sporting a new car he's been improving on that start every week, coming in second the last time the Outlaw Super Late Models raced and tonight drove his way to Victory Lane holding off a persistent Doug True. Now he's 37 points out of first place in the very tight race for the season championship in the class.

Todd Harrington and Senneker led the field to green for the 40-lap feature. Senneker was out fast to claim the lead. Lapped traffic slowed him down a couple of times but he never gave up the lead. Doug True was all over the leader lap after lap but Senneker has waited a long time for a win and this was his night. Billy Shannon, Adam Terry and Matt Frazier fought for position behind the two and at the checkered it was Senneker, True, Terry, Shannon, Frazier, Kevin Sauer, Mark Shook, Rich Boal, Craig Everage and Todd Harrington. The point standings were shaken up with Andrew Brest finishing in 12<sup>th</sup> place.

True takes over the point lead followed by Terry and Brest, both down 11, Todd Harrington (-32), Senneker (-37), Matt Frazier (-69), Craig Everage (-73), Shannon (-147) Mark Shook (-234) and Bill Tomlinson (-253).



## TEEN DRIVERS

We covered the gals who race with us who are teens in an earlier edition and we've been rounding up the guys who still have a "1" in front of their age. We have a lot more to go yet so stay tuned to future editions for more.



**Clockwise:** Rookie Bryson Hosner drives a Zoo Stock and came in second in the 'B' feature last Friday; rookie Bug Schisler pilots a Street Stock and is in the top 10 in the point standings; Mason May finished in the top 10 in the standings last year, his first year; Duane Greene holds the Zoo Stock lap speed record; rookie John Carr drove younger brother's Gabe's Outlaw FWD car at the end of last year's season when Gabe injured his foot and this year is driving Gabe's old car full-time, he's 8th in the point standings.

Unless otherwise noted photos by A. Fisher