



KALAMA 700 YEARS SPEEDWAY

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TRACK TALK

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SATURDAY | SEPTEMBER 14
THE LEGENDARY NIGHT OF DESTRUCTION
DON'T MISS IT



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14: NIGHT OF DESTRUCTION

We're off this week getting ready for the one you've been waiting for: the Night of Destruction! We've got your Monster Trucks (three of them!), we've got your jet car melt down. We've got bus and trailer races. We've got the double-deckered stacker cars making their first appearance! And we've got that crazy limo (pictured on the next page) that Scarecrow has worked into one of his stunts. We've got spectator drags (come on, you know you want to enter!) And there are always a few surprises. Come on out. Have some entertaining family fun then sit back and watch the fireworks when we're done lighting up the track.



PROGRAM INFORMATION

Adults	\$20
Youth 6-12	\$10
Kids 5 & Under	FREE
Program Starts	7:30 PM

Come early, not only for seating but to catch a free bus ride (5:00 – 7:00) and check out the monster trucks up close and personal.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 – SUPER SHOE WEEKEND STARTS

It's Super Shoe Weekend. Three days of racing. Camping. The ultimate year-end party.



The 2017 and 2018 Super Shoe Nationals Champion was Jeff Ganus (above). Ganus has had a bit of success at the Speedway this year sweeping the Call of the Wild with fast time, the RACEceiver Challenge and the Call of the Wild feature. He already has his pit stall for Super Shoe; can he make it three in a row? Mark Shook was the Super Shoe Nationals champion in 2016.



Paul Bittle was the FWD Nationals Champion in 2016 and 2018. This year he won the first race when the Midwest Compact Series and the Zoo's Outlaw FWD raced together on May 3rd. Todd Metz, Jr., won the FWD Nationals in 2017 and picked up the Midwest Compact Series 5th Annual World Series last week.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26 – AWARDS BANQUET (WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY)

(details to follow soon)

RECAP: CALL OF THE WILD

The post season kicked off with the Call of the Wild. The RWD, FWD-DOT and the Midwest Compact Touring Series had a combined 3 ½ hours of practice/qualifying and then we were off to the races. The rule book was thrown out (except for safety features) for the RWD and FWD-DOT.

Dale Leonard (16.061) posted fast time for the **FWD-DOT** group (that would be front wheel drive cars with street legal tires). Gaven Eli and Travis Petto lined up behind the pace car to get the 25-lap feature underway. Things got off to a fast start and William Porter shot out to the lead. When the first caution flew three laps in, Kenny Wright was leading followed by Porter, Rielly Meade (having made up a lot of real estate), Jeff Siegrist, Jim Hunderman and Nick Failing. It took a few tries to get the next lap in but once back to green, Wright kept his lead until Nick Failing moved into the top spot. Failing staked a formidable lead but there was still a race going on for the other positions. The Meade brothers (Rielly and Logan) raced each other; Tyler McGhan made a run into the top 5 as did Travis Loop. The field was anything but static behind Failing as drivers raced to better their positions. At the end it was Nick Failing, Travis Loop, John Gonzales, Jeff Dudley, Tyler McGhan, Logan Meade, 2017 Zoo Stock Champion Rielly Meade, Billy Edwards, Jim Hunderman and Drew Hosner rounding out the top 10. Failing skipped victory lane running to get into the car he was driving in the next feature. We caught up with him after the last race.



The **Midwest Compact Series** put together a field of 37 drivers. Jason Essex took fast time (15.278). Sixteen drivers ran in the 30-lap 'B' feature. It took 3 tries to get the race going with Paul Ritchie and Doug Peter's race ending before they started; both on the end of a wrecker. The third time was the charm and the yellow didn't make an appearance again until 4 laps showed on the scoring tower. In the end it was Mike Long, Sheldon Lindlag, Ryan Hufford, Tom Minick, Leah Howey, John Russell, Tom McCarthy, Faith Schuch, Warren Berrand and Jimmy Burchett finishing in the top 10.



The 40-lap 5th Annual World Series of Compacts lined up 20 drivers with Paul Bittle on the pole and the 2019 Outlaw FWD Champion, Pete Doxey, next to him. Jason Essex started in the 10th position with Todd Metz Jr., the winner of the second Outlaw FWD race at last week's Kalamazoo Speedway races, starting in the fourth position. When the green waved, there were no cautions to slow this group up. Bittle went out strong and the field was sorting itself out when Kyle Stark's second place car streaked into Turn 1 shooting flames and bringing out the red flag with 35 laps to go. When the race went back to green for the double file restart, it was Bittle and Doxey back in the front row.

Bittle again went out strong for the lead and Doxey began slipping back. With 30 laps left the race had turned into two races. The top six of Bittle Brandon Delacy, Dan Irvine, Todd Metz, Jr., Greg Blount and Pete Doxey outpaced the rest of the field. Jason Essex' season-long car woes continued and he pulled into the infield with 24 laps remaining. Delacy briefly took the lead from Bittle with about 20 to go and Metz, Jr. took the lead a few laps later. George Seliger and Drew Losey came on strong in the latter part of the race. It was a jubilant Todd Metz, Jr., with the win followed by Dan Irvine, Brandon Delacy, Greg Blount, Pete Doxey, Drew Losey, George Seliger (all on the lead lap), Wayne Stack, John Handeland and Paul Bittle (all one lap down). Nick Failing finished in 11th place having driven a LOT of laps (168) over the course of the evening.



The **Outlaw RWD** cars numbered 35 and sported a lot of variety. Cars with small boards, cars with large boards, a car with such a large board that it may have qualified as an ocean going vessel, cars that looked like they'd looked all season, modifieds. It was all good.

Jeff Ganus swept the **Outlaw RWD** festivities capturing fast time (11.897), was fastest in the RACEceiver Showdown (11.379) and won the 50-lap Call of the Wild.

Conner East and Josh VanDusen found themselves in the front row for the 30-lap 'B' feature. Lee Slaton, starting in the 4th position was off like a shot and led the first lap. Terry Hard made a play for the lead and made short order of capturing it. Hard led until Bob Bliss took it with 9 laps to go. Hard wasn't done yet and took the lead back with 7 laps left before Matt Sullivan got by him with 4 remaining. At the finish line it was Sullivan followed by Randy Pressler, Terry Hard, Joe Gonzales, Zach Westdorp, Ronnie Beebe, Steven Herr, Nick Stremme, Nate Eli and Josh VanDusen.



In the RACEceiver showdown, the top 5 qualifiers were Jeff Ganus, Andrew Brest, Mike Shewchuk, Brandon Ross and Jim Bailey. At the end of the Showdown, it was Ganus, Brest, Bailey, Ross and Shewchuk. No one came close to Mike Shewchuk's record in 2015 when he was the first to post a time under 10 seconds (9.924) or Andy Bozell's jaw dropping 2016 run of 9.465.

Ryan Dick took the initial lead in the 50-lap Call of the Wild. He held this until Jeff Ganus sailed around him. Andrew Brest put up a challenge and managed to pass Ganus when lapped traffic shook things up a bit. This was short-lived as Ganus regained the lead. Jim Bailey and his ocean going vessel departed the race after 6 laps. Mike Brooks



made a strong showing in his modified. At the end it was Jeff Ganus, Andrew Brest, Brandon Ross, Mike Shewchuk, Mike Brooks, Alan Marcott, Rick McMullen, Louis Miller, David Elliott and Ryan Dick. Ganus and Brest were the only drivers on the lead lap cruising at speeds considerable faster than the rest of the field. Ganus and Brest may have outpaced the field but it still a fun race to watch.



Jim Bailey's 6x (top left); the #8 of Jeff Ganus and the #8 of Andrew Brest (bottom left) and the #1E of Richard Edwards (one of the FWD-DOT cars).



FAST, FAMILY FUN FOR 70 YEARS