



KALAMAZOO Speedway TRACK TALK June 6, 2018

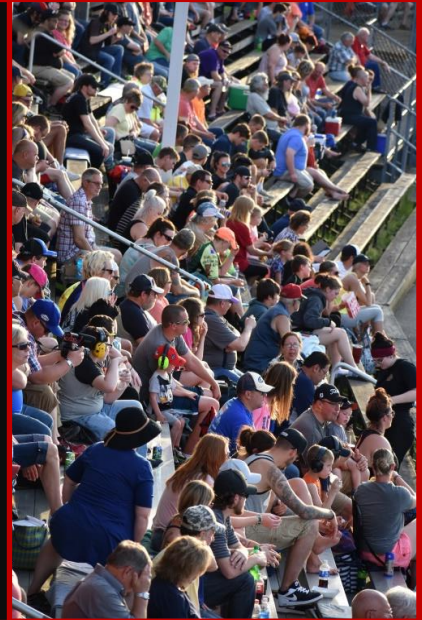
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FRIDAY, JUNE 8

OFF WEEK

SEE YOU FRIDAY, JUNE 15



**Friday, June 15
Double Feature Night
Late Model Sportsman**



FRIDAY JUNE 15: STOCK FIVE NIGHT

All five classes race when we return to action on Friday, June 15: qualifying, heats and features. The Late Model Sportsman will be running their make-up race from the season opener (Take III) so they'll be doubling up on June 15. The field is set for the make-up race and qualifying will set the line-up for all of the regular night features. The point leads are shifting each week and we've seen some great racing in all of the weekly classes. We'll see you on June 15.

Details:	Pits Open	3:30 PM
	Pit Passes	\$30
	Adults	\$12
	Youth 6-12	\$5
	Kids 5 & Under	FREE
	Racing Starts	7:30 PM

NEXT UP AT KALAMAZOO SPEEDWAY

FRIDAY, JUNE 22 STOCK FIVE NIGHT

**Howe Patio Double Feature Night
All five classes race
Classic Car Night**



SATURDAY, JUNE 30 RED, WHITE &



**Monster Trucks
Bus & Trailer Races
Mayhem & Scarecrow
Fireworks**

JUNE 1 RECAP

Creating quite the breeze with each lap turned, the **Auto Value Super Sprint Series** opened their 2018 season at Kalamazoo Speedway. Veteran driver Jason Blonde ran down Ryan Litt by a mere second to win the opener in a fast-paced and active race. Earlier in the evening Brian Gerster put up fast time of 10.764. Kalamazoo Speedway record holder for the Sprints, Aaron Pierce (10.114), was in the stands as an observer having run in the Little 500 at the Anderson Speedway the previous weekend. A caution with 3 laps to go had Litt off to a great restart when the race went back to green, but Blonde's #42 powered by him and went on to win the race. Brian Gerster finished third ahead of Ryan Gillenwater and Jason Cox. The Auto Value Parts Store staff enjoyed the races from the party deck and participated in a pace car ride-along as well as performed honorary flag duties (pictured) waving the green and checkered flags for one of the heat races.



If an award was given out for the best heat race of the night, Heat #1 of the **Late Model Sportsman** would have some hardware. Fast qualifier Keegan Dykstra (13.795) and Buddy Head commanded attention for almost the entire distance of the 8 lap race trading off the advantage in side by side racing that had fans on the edge of their seats. The veteran defending champion and the 19 year old 2015 Outlaw FWD champion showed nerve, determination and polished skill in driving to the finish line. In the end it was Buddy Head to the line first by a scant 0.002 seconds. AJ Foote took the second



John Long pitted with the Super Sprints and picked up some speed tips that he put to good use in the feature.

heat race. Unfortunately Dykstra encountered an issue early in the feature and was done for the night. Lane Head started in the 5th position and moved to the front with 8 laps complete. Just past the half-way point, AJ Foote and former champion Kenny Head were all over Lane Head who gave up the lead to Kenny Head with AJ Foote tucked into the second spot. With 5 laps to go John Long had moved up to third with his eye on the lead. The race finished with Long taking the checkered flag, Kenny Head following and AJ Foote, Lane Head and Ryan Minton rounding out the top five. Kenny Head has the point lead over AJ Foote (-36).



Kyle Ribble set quick time in the **Street Stocks** with a time of 14.724. Seventeen cars started the feature with Barry Jenkins and Val Bozell hitting the pits for the night before it began. An early multi-car caution ended Danny Oxford's night as well. Keith Wilfong secured the early lead with Greg Brown following. While Wilfong and Brown battled for the lead, Shane Miller moved into third place. Brown made it around Wilfong with 10 laps in and never looked back. Shane Miller and Keith Ribble duked it out for the next two spots while John Chapman and Zack Cook were doing the same for the 5th and 6th spots: a few duels going on in the overall race. A late race caution was likely the last thing on Brown's wish list, but when the race went back to green he got off to a fast restart and

reached the checkered flag ahead of the rest of the field for his first win of the year. Wilfong was the runner-up over Shane Miller, Toby Montgomery and Heath Bronkema. Bobby Oxford and Wilfong won the heat races. The win moved Brown from third in the points to first, tied with Wilfong followed by Cook (-17).

Jason Essex started dead last in the 21 car **Outlaw FWD** field and 20 laps later the checkered flag was waving for him. None of the top five finishers, Essex, Pete Doxey, Nick Layman, Ricky LaDuke and Kyle Jansen started better than 15th place in the field. Paul Bittle was a front runner in the latter laps of the race before retiring with under 5 laps to go. Chris Harmon and John Munro won the heat races and Essex took fast time with a 15.289. Jason Essex is the point leader over LaDuke (-52).





Curtis Towne picked up the victory in the 20-lap **Zoo Stock** feature. Colin Bozell made up several places in the final laps finishing second over Logan Hiemstra, Jerry Ballard and Jesse Hard. Keith Dixon was the fastest qualifier with a lap time of 17.168 seconds. Ballard, Buster Martin Jr. and Keegan Letts won the heat races while Adam Wilson picked up the victory in the 'B' feature followed by Christina Rantz and Joey Failing.

There was a rash of Zoo Stock graduates when five drivers dropped below the 17.000 seconds lap speed: Chris Harmon, Ed Clawson and Tod Watson in qualifying and Phil Novotny and Keith Dixon during the Zoo Stock feature. The drivers dropping below the cut-off lap in qualifying all ran in the Outlaw FWD feature. Harmon placed 10th, Clawson 12th and Watson 16th. Previous graduate Gabe Carr placed 9th. Novotny and Dixon will race with the Outlaw FWD class when we return on June 15. Bozell is the point leader followed by Towne (-22) and Ballard (-90).

