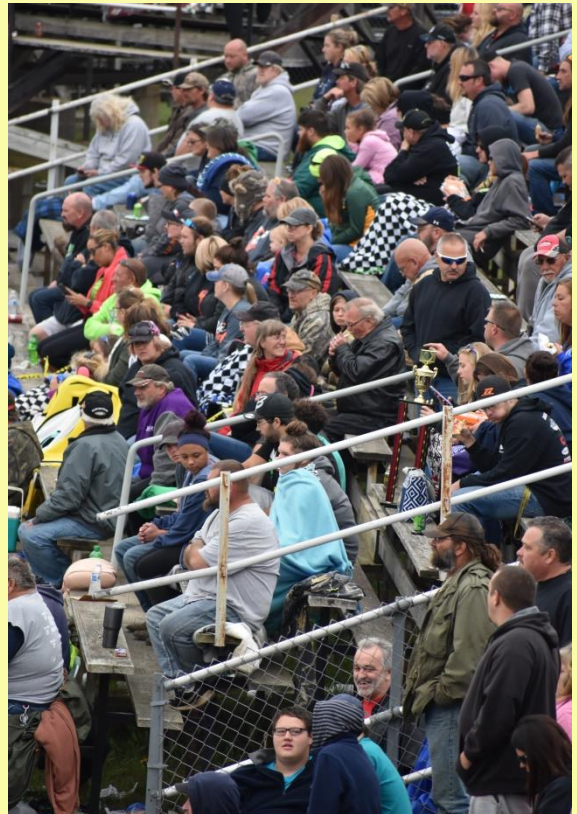




# KALAMAZOO Speedway TRACK TALK OCTOBER 3, 2018



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-  NEXT UP AT THE ZOO

## SUPER SHOE WEEKEND IN PHOTOS!



Despite frequently threatening skies and unseasonably cool temperatures, 228 cars competed in 20 heat races and 16 features. Rain put a stop to qualifying 4 sessions into the Friday schedule and while the plan was to dry the track, the rain kept falling, temperatures dropped and it was time for a new plan: try again on Saturday.



Friday in the campground.



Saturday morning the sun showed up! Alamo Township Fire & Rescue held a breakfast and qualifying was completed. The top 10 in each class are listed in the table below, with the top two in each class, Jeff Ganus and Paul Bittle, pictured on the following page with Race Director, Shawn McLaughlin. Drivers were reminded in the pre-race meeting that their qualifying time would follow them for the weekend, but we still saw a lot of black flags for breakout time violations.

### TOP 10 QUICK TIMES

RWD			FWD		
Jeff Ganus	12.600	107.143 mph	Paul Bittle	14.962	90.229 mph
Andrew Brest	12.808	105.403 mph	Corey Woods	14.986	90.084 mph
TK Whitman	12.824	105.271 mph	Todd Metz Jr.	15.071	89.576 mph
Mark Shook	12.835	105.181 mph	Jeff Sayles	15.378	87.788 mph
Corey Ryman	12.909	104.578 mph	Jacob Alexander	15.389	87.725 mph
Matt Frazier	13.008	103.782 mph	Drew Losey	15.400	87.662 mph
Billy Shannon	13.022	103.671 mph	Dave Leonard Jr.	15.539	86.878 mph
Kevin Sauer	13.039	103.536 mph	Matt Dawe	15.564	86.739 mph
Nick Pressler	13.084	103.179 mph	Doug Smith	15.585	86.622 mph
Jacob Maynard	13.174	102.475 mph	Corey Holtzlander	15.627	86.389 mph



Qualifying complete, the skies clouded over and an unexpected and large rain system appeared on the radar just in time for the heat races. With the 2018 season being “wet”, somehow this seemed almost normal.

Heat Winners		
Heat #	RWD	FWD
1	Dave Edmonds	Jeff Siegrist
2	Brett Delaney	Renaë Letts
3	Scott Gary	David Green
4	Curtis Towne	Nick Failing
5	Nick Marcott	John Munro
6	Terry Lombardi	Tom Sprague
7	Bob Schisler	Duane Green
8	Ken Kirby	Doug Smith
9	Tim Holmes	
10	Rodney Smith	
11	Scott Ross	
12	Matt Frazier	

With rain still coming our way it was time for the eight features scheduled for Saturday night. The first four finishers in each feature moved up to the next feature (progressive racing). All feature winner photos were taken by RW Motorsports Marketing, as were the quick time photos above.



Matt Eley won the 20-lap RWD ‘E’ (Odd) feature. Eley is pictured with Christina Rantz who also raced in this feature placing 10<sup>th</sup>. Advancing to the ‘D’ feature in addition to Eley: David Reames, Tom Sprague and John VanDusen.



Sie Sharp won the 20-lap RWD 'E' (Even) feature. Advancing to the 'D' feature in addition to Sharp: Craig Johnson, Chris Breneman and John Russell.



Kyle Knapp won the 20-lap FWD 'D' (Odd) feature. Advancing to the 'C' Feature in addition to Knapp: Jorden Brinkert, Larry Bryie and David Green.



Stephen Emmans won the 20-lap FWD 'D' (Even) feature. Also advancing to the 'C' feature were Renae Letts (in her best racing of the season), Kenny Wright and Adam VanAvery. Frankly we don't think this photo looks much like Emmans either, but that's who is registered to the car in our records.



Terry Lombardi won the 20-lap RWD 'D' (Odd) feature. Also advancing to the 'C' feature: Nick Marcott, Bobby Schisler and Chase Brown.



Gary Chapman won the 20-lap RWD 'D' (Even) feature. Also advancing to the 'C' feature: Shonda Granke, Calvin Foote and Mike Langdon.



Jon Yale won the FWD 20-lap 'C' (Odd) feature. Also advancing to the 'B' feature: Jesse Hard 3, Collin Whitfield and Luke Geelhoed.

Our favorite photos from Saturday Night. Despite the light rain folks appeared to be having a great time. In a Super Shoe (and likely track record!) there was a fully functioning hot tub going at one of the campsites! And what would Super Shoe be without the Golf Cart Parade!





Sunday Justin Fielder won the race. Also advancing to the 'B' feature: John Munro, Barry Medendorp Jr. and George Garza.

The 20-lap FWD 'C' (Even) feature started on Saturday night and was completed Sunday afternoon. Crashes plagued the race after the green but before the completion of the first lap. By the time two lengthy clean-ups were completed, the time limit for the race (20 minutes) had been exceeded. The race hadn't reached the ½ point (or even one lap) and would have continued had the rain (that had been politely holding off so the last race of the evening could be completed) not put the race temporarily out of its misery. On Super Shoe



Kevin Gunkel won the 25-lap RWD 'C' (Odd) feature. Also advancing to the 'B' feature: Greg Studt, Tim Holmes and Ricky Waterson.

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Zack Woods won the FWD 20-lap 'B' (Odd) feature. Also advancing to the FWD Nationals: Duane Greene, Jordan Hunderman and Tod Watson.

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Dan Deyman won the 20-lap FWD 'B' (Even) feature. Also advancing to the FWD Nationals: DS Marciniak, Matt Searles and Tom Sprague.



Scott Ross won the 35-lap RWD 'B' (Odd) feature. Also advancing to the Super Shoe Nationals: Scott Moyer, Bob Town and Travis Schlabach.



Ty Hayes won the 35-lap RWD 'B' (Even) feature. Also advancing to the Super Shoe Nationals: Joshua Sommer, Rodney Smith and Tim Craig.

## 2018 FWD NATIONALS



Paul Bittle is the 2018 FWD Nationals Champion. Bittle started 14<sup>th</sup> in the 22 car field (the top four in each of the 'B' features filling in behind him). Sheldon Lindlag led the first few laps of the 25-lap feature while Bittle made quick work of cars in front of him, moving into the second position with 21 laps remaining. Bittle moved into the lead by going around Doug Smith; Todd Metz Jr. had been moving up through the field. The cars remaining for this race appeared unbreakable after a few hard hits, one car bouncing in the air after making contact with the wall and then continuing to race. Corey Woods wasn't as fortunate as his car lost a tire (one of many tires that parted with their cars over the course of the weekend). Metz (the 2017 FWD Nationals Champion) made a race of it but couldn't quite pass Bittle (the 2016 champion) crossing the finish line 0.224 seconds after Bittle. Following Metz was Drew Losey, Smith and Jacob Alexander. The rest of the top 10 included Jeff Sayles, Sheldon Lindlag, Corey Holtzlander, Duane Green and Ryan Osborne.

## 2018 SUPER SHOE NATIONALS XXXII

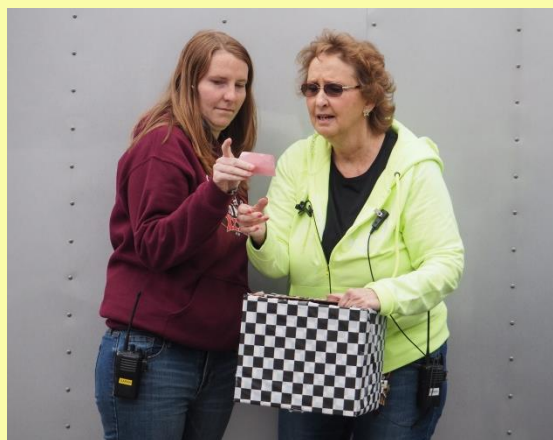




Jeff Ganus has had a lot of success at the Zoo this year and ended his season as he began it, with a win, making it two Super Shoe Nationals Championships in a row. Ganus dominated the 50-lap feature in the 22 car field. Starting 14th with rain moving in fast, Rob Hardy had the early lead before giving it up to Rich Boal. Ganus passed Boal with 38 laps remaining. Ganus crossed the finish line 6.483 seconds ahead of second place finisher Mark Shook, the 2016 Super Shoe Champion, Rich Boal, Billy Shannon and Nick Pressler. Carl Burlingham finished sixth followed by Corey Ryman, Rob Hardy, Andrew Brest and Kevin Sauer. Ganus' car overheated in Victory Lane and the rain started not long after the race ended in a replay of the 2016 Super Shoe when the clouds opened just after the main event finished.



## WE HAVE A WINNER!



Above, Sara Maxwell selects the winning raffle ticket for Donna Howe. Right, Walt Obrieski and spouse (Techworks Trailer Sales) pose with Gary Howe in front of the trailer donated by Techworks and Team Spirit Custom Trailers. Eddie Burgen's name was pulled out of the bin so he'll be taking home the trailer (he was not present). This is the third consecutive year that Team Spirit and Techworks have donated an enclosed trailer for us to raffle off. THANK YOU! All raffle proceeds go for the Zoo Kares for Kids program to bring some extra joy to area families who need a little extra cheer at Christmas. (Photos by RW Motorsports Marketing)

## WHAT'S NEXT AT KALAMAZOO SPEEDWAY

**FAST FRIDAYS RETURN ON APRIL 26, 2019**



With the final payout of the season, Track Talk switches to monthly until April when we'll resume the weekly editions. We'll be publishing Track Talk the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month (including October) until then.