

KALAMA 700 YEARS SPEEDWAY

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TRACK TALK

May 1, 2019

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**HOWE PATIO & WINDOWS
BIG \$\$\$ NIGHT FOR EACH CLASS**



WEEK #2 (May 3). **HOWE** Patio & Windows **HOWE PATIO & WINDOWS BIG BUCKS NIGHT!!!**

The 70th consecutive season of racing at Kalamazoo Speedway kicked off last week with some outstanding races and we'll have more this week when the Late Model Sportsman and the Street Stock 'A' features pay \$1,000 to win. The Midwest Compact Touring Series teams up with the Outlaw FWDs for the 2nd annual Clash also paying \$1,000 to win. The Compacts will be running their 5th Annual World Series at the Call of the Wild.

With increased purse sizes there will also be extended features for all classes.

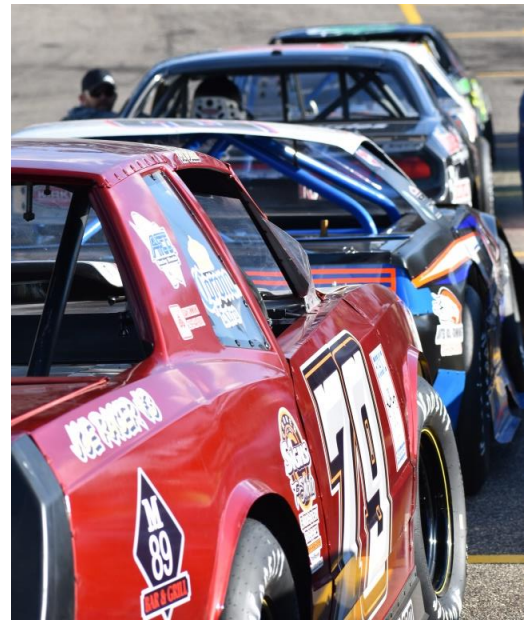


DETAILS: MAY 3 (WEEK #2)

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| Pits Open | 3:00 |
| Pit Pass (12 & up) | \$30 |
| Adults | \$12 |
| Youth 6-12 | \$5 |
| Kids 5 & Under | FREE |
| Racing Starts | 7:30 |

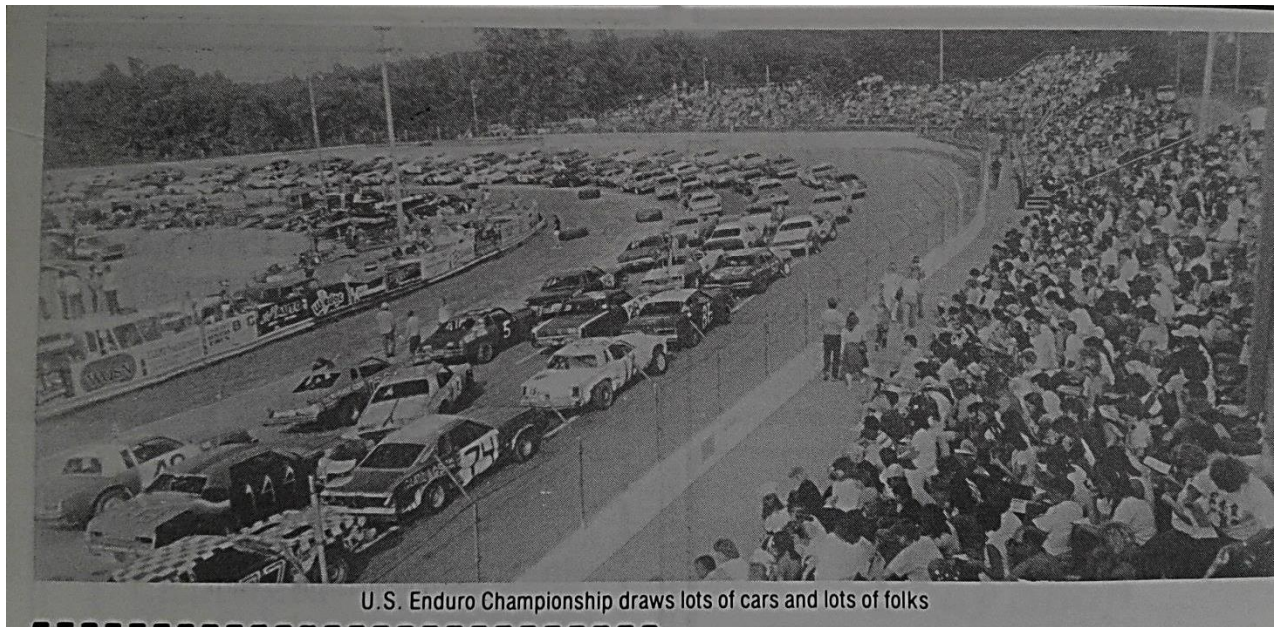


The Outlaw Super Late Models have the week off after last week's Intimidator 100.



RETRO MOMENT

This undated (and uncredited) photo shows the track before many of the improvements were made. No it's not a parking lot on the track, it's an Enduro! Times sure have changed and not just in how the track looks!



U.S. Enduro Championship draws lots of cars and lots of folks

RESULTS: SEASON OPENER (APRIL 26)

Seventy years in the making. Five classes. One hundred fifty-six cars. Thousands of fans. All 4 ticket windows deep with fans with two of the lines snaking down the main road. Sixteen drivers were pitted in the field! The Opener is always a bigger than usual weekly race but the 70th season opener was HUGE. Thank you to everyone for making this year's Season Opener great (and thank you to everyone for their patience with the lines and all that entailed—you're the best!) Last Chance Races were needed for the Outlaw Super Late Models Intimidator 100, the Late Model Sportsman and the Street Stocks. The Zoo Stock 'B' feature was so large it looked like an Enduro line-up.



Jon Beach (left) was the first driver in line to buy his pit pass for the 2019 regular season. Jack Goodrich offered the Invocation, Zaynee Hobby sang the National Anthem (punctuated by a few fireworks compliments of Kyra Donald Racing) and Brent Hook sent a recorded command "Gentlemen Start Your Engines".

The Intimidator 100 brought out 28 **Outlaw Super Late Models**. Andrew Brest claimed fast time (12.852) in one qualifying session while Tyler Roahrig claimed the other (12.788). Twelve cars competed to race their way into the Intimidator 100. Chad Poorman (going for Rookie of the Year) won the 20-lap race with Rick Senneker, Matt Frazier and Justin Clagherty also advancing. For the main event, powerhouses JR Roahrig and Steve Needles led the field to green. Defending Intimidator 100 champion Jeff Ganus departed the race before running 5 laps. Needles took the lead for the first 20 laps before departing due to what turned out to be a minor rather than an

engine threatening issue. JR Roahrig took over the lead giving it up briefly to Andy Bozell. Tyler Roahrig was running third with Adam Terry and Mark Shook (now piloting the 57 instead of the 14) rounding out the top 5 until JR Roahrig got into a lapped car and found himself at the tail of the lead lap with about 37 to go. When the green waved Adam Terry and Tyler Roahrig shot to the front treating fans to an intense 35-lap, two-man race with Terry fighting to keep his lead over Roahrig. Both drivers were masterful and though it looked like Roahrig would prevail any number of times, it was fan favorite Terry at the finish. Roahrig placed second followed by two-time champion Shook, Doug True and former Late Model and Sportsman champion Phil Bozell. Andrew Brest, JR Roahrig, defending track champion Todd Harrington, former Sportsman champion Billy Shannon and Monte Tolan rounded out the top 10.





Chad Poorman wins the Outlaw Super Late Model Last Chance Race and Adam Terry held off a persistent Tyler Roahrig for over 1/3 of the Intimidator 100 to earn the win.

The **Late Model Sportsman** put up their own brand of excitement for their first race of the season. Buddy Head was on the top of the scoring tower for both qualifying sessions driving to a fast time of 13.543. The Last Chance Race sported 9 cars with John Dole prevailing in the 15-lap race. Also advancing were Mike Williams, Matt Sullivan and Ryan Stutz. Chris Garrett took the early lead of the 40-lap feature. With under 18 laps remaining, Jon Beach and Garrett traded positions a couple of times before Buddy Head assumed the lead. Beach wrested the lead away from Head with 5 to go, but Head pulled in front with 4 remaining. In the end it was seven-time champion Head, Beach, Chris Shannon, former Outlaw FWD champion Keegan Dykstra and Garrett. Finishing 6th was Austin Maynard, followed by Jeff Bozell, Cole Allers, Ryan Minton and Keith Wilfong. Four time track champion Kenny Head, sporting a very flashy car, unfortunately crashed in qualifying and was not a contender during the feature.





Top row: Buddy Head's car during qualifying and Kenny Head's car getting the two-tow truck treatment during its qualifying attempt. Bottom row: John Dole wins the Last Chance Race and Buddy Head rebounds from qualifying to win his feature.

Thirty-one **Street Stocks** qualified with Kyle Ribble taking fast time (14.716 seconds). Josh Highbaugh won the 15-lap Last Chance race over 13 other drivers followed by Brad Hall, Logan Maynard and Matt Elsey. Zack Cook, having skipped both practices, won the 35-lap feature. Jerry Zachary led the race early on, giving it up to Danny Brown with 19 laps to go. Shane Miller took his turn leading and Zack Cook charged through the field and took the lead with 10 to go. Last year's season champion Greg Brown worked his way up to fifth with 10 to go before spinning to bring out the caution. At the end it was former champion Cook, Brandon Zachary, three-time track champion Matt Corliss, Kyle Ribble and Miller (in a newly detailed car). Danny Brown finished sixth followed by Matt Elsey, Zoo Stock champion Colin Bozell, Heath Bronkema and Bug Schisler.





Josh Highbaugh won the Last Chance Race and Zack Cook took home the trophy for the feature.

The **Outlaw FWDs** saw 16 year old Gabe Carr break the track record with a time of (15.096). A complete restart was needed to get the 25 car field going for the 30-lap feature. DJ Oxford took the early lead while Adam Van Avery's early run showed promise. Defending track champion Jason Essex was zipping through the field before puffs of smoke retired him to the pits in the second half of the race; Carr also departed early. Cautions punctuated the race but when the dust all settled it was Adam Van Avery earning the win followed by Corey Woods, Drew Losey, Wayne Stack, John Carr, Will Slaughter, Camille Lewis, Dave Leonard Jr, Nick Layman and Jacob Brummett.



Adam Van Avery wins the inaugural 2019 Outlaw FWD feature.

There were 41 **Zoo Stocks** (are you kidding me??) at the opener. Kenny Head II took fast time of 16.874 and finished 12th in a race called for time on the 23rd lap due to numerous cautions. Nineteen drivers competed in the 25-lap 'A' feature. Logan Hiemstra was an early leader before Jordan Brinkert took the lead with 10 to go. Hiemstra and Head (running in 2nd and 3rd respectively) made contact with under 5 to go but kept racing before the two tangled again bringing out the caution and an end to the race due to time. Regan Powell came in second followed by Kyle Knapp, Ross Bergman and Jaren Blanchard. Renae Letts was sixth followed by former champion Brock Sweeter, Rielly Meade, TC Burgess and Jesse Van Avery Jr. The 'B' feature started 27 cars and we wondered if there was an Enduro on the schedule. It too was called for time with 11 of the scheduled 15 laps completed. Wes Allen took the checkered flag followed by Matt Elsey Jr., Don Porter, Aaron Anderson and Logan Meade.



Wes Allen won the 'B' feature and Jordan Brinkert took the 'A' feature win.

CIRCLE OF LIFE

Greg Cady, City Cabs, (pictured with Billy Shannon last year) passed away Monday, April 29. His passion was racing late model cars, owning two late models. He loved to race at Kalamazoo Speedway and was a NASCAR fan. He will be remembered for his big heart and generosity. Please keep his family in your thoughts in the coming weeks.



Unless otherwise noted, photos by A. Fisher

