

SUPER *Kart* Paddock Pass

ILLUSTRATED



LAPS FOR KIDS EFFORT BREAKS 24-HOUR RECORD

World records are rare in the making, but that distinction now rests securely in the hands of Gary Kannegiesser, 58, who with an assembled four-man team, shattered the Guinness Book of World Record's 24-hour World Distance Record in a Kart on an outdoor course. Driving a TaG-configured Tony Kart, Kannegiesser and his Laps for Kids team drove 1,312 laps around the 1.2 mile course at the Bondurant School of High Performance Driving (Chandler, AZ), for a total of 1,574.2 miles (2,533.43 km).

The previous Guinness Record of 1,062.5 miles (1,709.9 km) was set in 1997 by a team in Northern Ireland. Starting off at 1:03:03 pm on December 10 under the clear and mild Phoenix sun, things looked anything but auspicious as a fouling plug brought the kart to a stop after traveling roughly 100 feet. However, with a quick replacement, the run was on its way. The team endured cold night temperatures, successfully evaded rabbits and black cats that crossed the track, and fixed unscheduled breakdowns to finish 24 hours later with the World Record firmly in hand.

With scheduled refueling stops each half hour and driver changes on the hour, the team of Kannegiesser from Avon Lake, Ohio, Alan Rudolph, 29, of Phoenix, Timmy Megenbier, 14, of Melrose Park, Illinois, and Phil Gordon, 47, of Chicago, along with a pit crew headed by Tim Megenbier, met and surmounted every obstacle that arose. With racing legend Bob Bondurant waving the checkered flag, it was Rudolph who brought the kart across the line at 1:02:59 on overcast Sunday, December 11, 2005, to complete the 24-hour epic.

The World Record breaking team averaged almost 66 miles per hour over the entire course of the run, with Megenbier posting the fastest lap time of 51.1 seconds over 1.2 miles, or 84.2 miles per hour. **SKI**

