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Kinzie Wilson's Great Race

by Petrol Mum | May 28, 2023



pursue a potential role with a Formula One team or as a business executive for a European car manufacturer. And at the speed she's traveling, her vision may just come true. This is a young woman who became hooked on motorsports after buying her first car – a 1996 Corvette – at age 13. While growing up in Texas with a dad who

Twenty-one-year-old Kinzie Wilson has been laser focused on a career in motorsports since she first became a teenager – with her current trajectory on course to

brought her to weekly local drag races, she was more than anxious to take part in the NHRA's then newest category of drag racing for 13- to 16-year-olds, enabling her to get her NHRA Racing License years before getting a 'real' driver's license. When her rookie year earned her only a 2nd place finish, she was determined to return the next season where she captured 'Junior Street Champion' stature – never lifting in her dreams to keep moving forward.



From modifying her own car by cutting the mufflers at age 16, to begin working at NASCAR during high school, her ambitions never wavered — maintaining ongoing roles with Mario Andretti Racing Experience and a full pre-college schedule that included high school cheerleading and racing. Her hard work earned academic and

athletic college scholarships allowing her to focus her studies on Motorsport Management at Belmont Abbey College. "The program was absolutely amazing," said Kinzie. "I was part of the student-led 24 Hours of Lemons team, got to attend racing events such as the Rolex 24 in Daytona, and met professionals in the industry that shared their secrets to success."

Her own success came in the summer of 2022, when Nick Ellis, executive director for the RPM Foundation, an organisation committed to supporting careers in vehicle restoration and preservation through grant funding and apprenticeships, invited Kinzie to take a spot on their all-female Great Race X-Cup team, which later

turned into an internship for the Foundation itself.

University of Bologna's business school, where she'll be heading later this Summer. The degree program includes a 12-month curriculum located near the hometown of Maserati and Ducati, focusing on Supercars, Superbikes and Motorsports while blending theory with experience. The academic excellence provided comes directly from the exclusive expertise of legendary automotive companies including Alpha Tauri, Dallara, Ferrari, Lamborghini and Marelli.

Senior year in college gave her access to her next internship at Charlotte Motor Speedway, but her biggest win may just be the Global MBA program at the

lived in two small towns and this small-town girl is ready to take on the world!" nexasdeuruzil.com

Kinzie can't suppress her enthusiasm for this new and exciting lifestyle choice, "I am looking forward to living in Italy and learning Italian. While the program is

taught in English, Italian classes are offered as a part of tuition. I have seen myself moving there someday for years, never expecting it to be so soon. I have only



The road to those dreams will begin for Kinzie as a second-year participant in the Great Race, this time as a driver on behalf of RPM once again, and for this summer driving in a '65 Corvair. The race begins in St. Augustine, Florida on June 24, 2023, and ends in Colorado on July 2, 2023.

The time, speed, distance rally is geared to vehicles from 1975 or older, following set directions that specify what speeds to go at certain times and for how long.

based on how many seconds off from the total time a team is. If you get a perfect score at a checkpoint, you get an Ace!

Participants go through multiple checkpoints on route, with a goal is to hit the checkpoint at the exact time one would if followed all directions perfectly. The score is



RPM's 2022 all-female Great Race X-Cup team, including (left to right) Olivia Gadjo, navigator from Skaneateles, NY; Mercedes Lilienthal, mentor driver from Portland, OR; Sabre Cook,

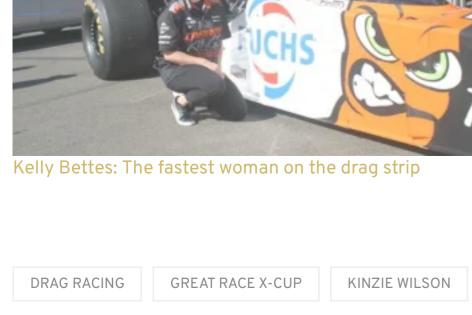
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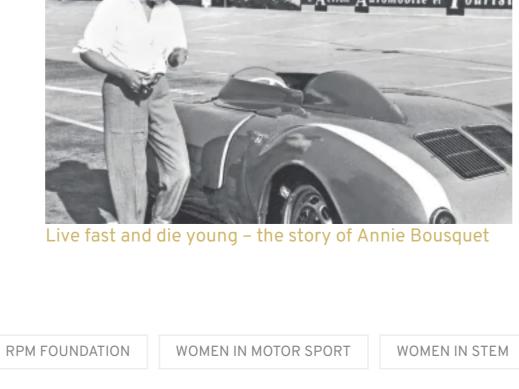
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Follow Kinzie's progress via Instagram @kinziewilsonracing or via her You Tube channel.







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