

# WATERFORD BANQUET HONORS CHAMPIONS

Cheshire, Conn. - Dick Williams and Sam Cherenzia, Jr. put the finishing touches on the 1978 Waterford Speedbowl season, as they hosted the victory banquet on Saturday evening (December 2nd).

A large display of trophies were awarded to the high point men in all three divisions, with Moose Hewitt and car owner George Brennan walking away with the Modified crown for the second straight season.

Following a season that saw Hewitt record a string of 14 top five finishes including six main event victories, Hewitt during his acceptance speech thanked his car owner, crew and fellow competitors for all their help and support throughout the 1978 campaign.

Four time former champion Dick Dunn recorded the runnerup spot in the Modified ranks, with Joe Tiezzi, Dick Ceravolo and Jerry Pearl rounding out the top five spots.

The Late Model crown went into the record books as a tie in 1978 with Dick LaFlesh and Don Fowler

being deadlocked in the point standings. Five time feature winner Bob Gada was awarded third spot with Keith Eves fourth and Steve Guerette fifth.

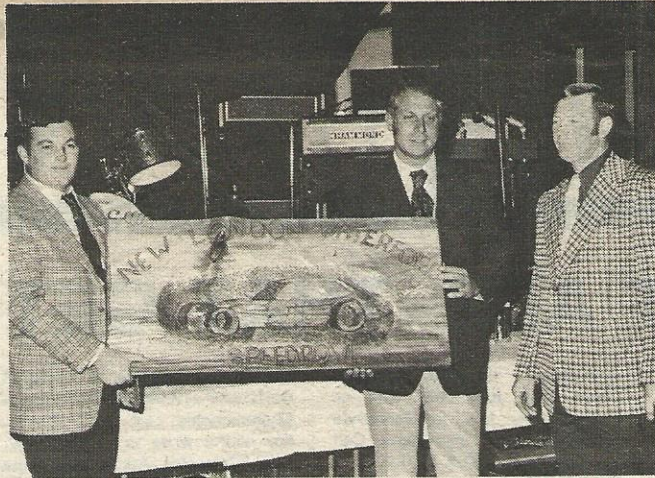
Ed Reed recorded his first title in the Street Stock division with Scott Poirier second, Harry Rice and Paul Giguere were tied at third with Bob Sellar fifth.

Several special achievement awards also were awarded. In the Rookie of the Year category the recipients were Scott Poirier, Street; Ed Yindra, Late Model; and Howie Nye, Modified.

The Most Improved Driver awards were presented to Doug Weber, Modified; Wayne N. Smith Late Model; and Harry Rice, Street.

Rod Tulba was credited with the years Hard Luck Award with Sportsmanship trophies being presented to Sly Fox, Bob Gada, and Dick Ceravolo.

The Most Popular Driver presentations went to Moose Hewitt, Modified; Bob Gada, Late Model and Ed Reed, Street.



MOOSE IS PRESENTED A PLAQUE AS TRACK CHAMPION BY PHIL SMITH AND DICK WILLIAMS. Steve Kennedy Photo



TOP FOUR IN THE STREET DIVISION AT WATERFORD SPEEDBOWL [left to right] PAUL GIERGE\* HARRY RICE, Champion ED REED, AND RUNNER UP SCOTT PORTER. Steve Kennedy Photo



The New London-Waterford Speedbowl under the guiding hands of Dick Williams and Sam Cherenzia of the Coastal Racing Association held their first Annual Awards Banquet last Saturday night at the Thompson Speedway Clubhouse. Taking the Modified championship for the second time in a row was George "Moose" Hewitt. Dick Dunn finished second followed by Joe Tiezzi, Dick Cerevolo, Jerry Pearl, Mark La-Junesse, Dick Caso, Dick Trayner, Bob Porter and John Bunnell. Dick La Flesh and Don Fowler finished the last show in a tie for the late model championship. Finishing third was Bob Gada followed by Keith Eves, Steve Guerette, Wayne Smith, Mysterious Smith, Rick Knapp, Walt Wisting and Gary Hartson. A season long battle between Ed Reed and Scott Poirier saw Reed edge out the championship in the Street division. Poirier finished second followed by Harry Rice, Paul Gigure, Bob Seller, Bob Lee, Bob Bennett, Sly Fox, Royal Allard and Fred Sentell.

Special recognition awards were also presented. Modified Rookie of the Year was presented to Howard Nye while Ed Yindra and Scott Poirier were the outstanding Rookies in the Late Model and Street Divisions. Dickie Doo Cerevolo was awarded sportsman of the year in the modified division. Joining him was late model and street division sportsman of the year Bob Gada and Ron "Sly" Fox. The Most Improved modified driver was Doug Webber. Wayne N. Smith and Harry Rice were awarded most improved in the late model and street divisions.

Close to 300 people were on hand and promoter Dick Williams thanked everyone for their support. He also stated that as of right now, he will not be running the Speedbowl in 1979. Both Williams and Cherenzia have had meetings with track owner Harvey Tattersall and had hoped to be able to make a positive announcement concerning 1979.