

*In His Own Words*

As told to **Lew Boyd**

# Wes Moody



- Born January 23, 1940 in Saranac Lake, New York
- Outstanding, highly spirited 60-year career in dirt and pavement modifieds as a driver, builder, promoter, and car owner
- Famous 100-mph-plus run in 1971 led the New York State Fairgrounds track in Syracuse to be known henceforth as the "Moody Mile"

I can't believe I am still alive. Guess I'm the luckiest guy in the world. I've got a great family, and all they want is to be part of me. And my friends still want to come to the races, even after all these years.

Now that I think about it, it's been going on for some time. Our racing actually started in sled dogs in the late '40s in the Adirondack Mountains in upstate New York. It's one long winter on the Saint Lawrence Seaway.

After that it was hydroplanes. My granddad had a boat-rental business up here on the Lake, so we were always on the water in the summer. We raced 7-½-horsepower hydroplanes and bigger ones, too. Pretty dangerous business, that.

Soon we discovered karts—and cars. I heard they started building a track in Saranac Lake. I was 17. I worked there and built a '34 Ford two-door to bang off the fence.

KARL FREDRICKSON

