

Auto Champ Unhurt in Plane Crash

Hauppauge—Bill Holland, 40-year-old speed king, of the auto tracks, cracked up his shiny, silver airplane here yesterday when a cross wind sent it out of control as he was taking off from a private airstrip near Hauppauge Road.

Holland and three persons with him were unhurt when the sleek Beechcraft single engine plane sheared off its nose wheel and slewed crazily into soft ground at the edge of the airstrip, coming to a standstill with its tail pointing to the sky.

A well known auto racer from Reading, Pa., Holland made headlines on Memorial Day when he set a new speed record of more than 121 miles per hour to win the 33rd annual classic at Indianapolis speedway.

Yesterday's mishap occurred on the private airstrip of record manufacturer Hilyer DuBois. Holland had been staying with friends who live on the DuBois property, and was believed heading for Pennsylvania with a stop-over in Manhattan.

DuBois said that Holland, Ruth Denny, 22, of San Francisco; Walter Kiefer, 44, and his son, Kenneth, 16, both from **Hauppauge**, were in the plane. Although shaken up, none was injured.

Heading down the runway in a crosswind, the plane was nearing takeoff speed when a sudden gust caught it. The ship veered to the

side of the field and plowed into soft, bumpy ground. The front wheel of the tricycle landing gear snapped off.

Skidding along on its yellow nose, the plane slewed around and wound up tilted skyward. A small fire started in the tall dry grass beneath the craft, apparently from the hot exhaust pipe. This was put out by a hand fire extinguisher wielded by Mrs. Elizabeth DuBois, but for good measure she called **Hauppauge** the Fire Department.

Damage to the plane was extensive, although only slight damage was caused by the fire. The mishap was Holland's first in the two years he has been flying.



Bill Holland
His Plane Cracks Up