



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

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| Location: | N. LITTLE ROCK, AR | Accident Number: | FTW94FA090 |
| Date & Time: | 03/01/1994, 1850 CST | Registration: | N2QY |
| Aircraft: | CESSNA P337H | Injuries: | 1 Fatal |
| Flight Conducted Under: | Part 91: General Aviation - Business | | |

Analysis

THE PILOT CANCELED IFR & FLEW TO HIS PRIVATE STRIP, WHERE HE ENTERED A RIGHT TRAFFIC PATTERN FOR LANDING ON RUNWAY 36 IN DARK NIGHT CONDITIONS. THE STRIP WAS LOCATED IN A RURAL AREA WITH FEW GROUND LIGHTS, EXCEPT FOR THE FIRST 1500 FEET OF THE STRIP, WHICH HAD MEDIUM INTENSITY RUNWAY LIGHTING (MIRL). SOUTH OF THE STRIP WAS A LARGE MILITARY MANEUVERING AREA THAT HAD NO LIGHTING. AS THE PILOT WAS MANEUVERING TO LAND, WITNESSES OBSERVED THE AIRPLANE ENTER A STEEP DESCENT. SUBSEQUENTLY, IT CRASHED IN A STEEP NOSE DOWN, RIGHT WING LOW ATTITUDE. AN EXAM OF THE WRECKAGE REVEALED EVIDENCE THAT THE SPOILERS WERE EXTENDED. TOXICOLOGY TESTS OF THE PILOT'S LIVER & KIDNEY TISSUE SHOWED 0.74 UG/ML & 0.159 UG/ML, RESPECTIVELY, OF BROMPHENIRAMINE (AN ANTIHISTAMINE). AN FAA TOXICOLOGIST STATED THESE WERE WITHIN A THERAPEUTIC RANGE. ACCORDING TO THE PILOT'S SON, HE TOOK DRIXORAL FOR SINUS PROBLEMS & A SLIGHT HEAD COLD; THE MEDICATION WAS NOT APPROVED FOR FLYING.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: FAILURE OF THE PILOT TO MAINTAIN CONTROL OF THE AIRCRAFT, WHILE MANEUVERING TO LAND. FACTORS RELATED TO THE ACCIDENT WERE: DARKNESS AND POSSIBLE SPATIAL DISORIENTATION.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - BASE TURN

Findings

1. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - DARK NIGHT
2. (C) AIRCRAFT CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) SPATIAL DISORIENTATION - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. USE OF INAPPROPRIATE MEDICATION/DRUG - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Pilot Information

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------|----------|
| Certificate: | Commercial | Age: | 72 |
| Airplane Rating(s): | Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land | Instrument Rating(s): | Airplane |
| Other Aircraft Rating(s): | None | Instructor Rating(s): | None |
| Flight Time: | 3289 hours (Total, all aircraft), 141 hours (Total, this make and model), 3271 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 33 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft) | | |

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

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|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Aircraft Make: | CESSNA | Registration: | N2QY |
| Model/Series: | P337H P337H | Engines: | 2 Reciprocating |
| Operator: | BOBWHITE HILL RANCH, INC. | Engine Manufacturer: | CONTINENTAL |
| Operating Certificate(s) Held: | None | Engine Model/Series: | TSIO-520-NB |
| Flight Conducted Under: | Part 91: General Aviation - Business | | |

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

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|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Conditions at Accident Site: | Visual Conditions | Condition of Light: | Night/Dark |
| Observation Facility, Elevation: | LRF, 311 ft msl | Weather Information Source: | Weather Observation Facility |
| Lowest Ceiling: | Overcast / 1400 ft agl | Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction: | 6 knots / , 30° |
| Temperature: | 9° C | Visibility | 4 Miles |
| Precipitation and Obscuration: | | | |
| Departure Point: | WEST LAFAYETTE, IN (LAF) | Destination: | (NONE) |

Airport Information

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|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------|
| Airport: | BOBWHITE HILL RANCH (NONE) | Runway Surface Type: | Grass/turf |
| Runway Used: | 36 | Runway Surface Condition: | Soft; Wet |
| Runway Length/Width: | 4500 ft / 50 ft | | |

Wreckage and Impact Information

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|-----------------------------|---------|----------------------------|-----------|
| Crew Injuries: | 1 Fatal | Aircraft Damage: | Destroyed |
| Passenger Injuries: | N/A | Aircraft Fire: | On-Ground |
| Ground Injuries: | N/A | Aircraft Explosion: | On-Ground |
| Latitude, Longitude: | | | |

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): WARREN V WANDEL, Adopted Date: 06/01/1995

Investigation Docket: NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at pubinq@ntsb.gov, or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/>.

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