



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Factual Report

Location:	SIMI VALLEY, CA	Accident Number:	LAX94LA234
Date & Time:	06/01/1994, 2000 PDT	Registration:	N32532
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-28-151	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional

On June 1, 1994, at 2000 Pacific daylight time, a Piper PA-28-151, N32532, registered to the pilot's father, collided with a tree during initial climb from an uncontrolled dirt airstrip near Simi Valley, California. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed at the time of the solo instructional flight, and no flight plan was filed. The airplane was substantially damaged, and the student pilot was not injured. The flight originated from the Santa Monica Municipal Airport, Santa Monica, California, at 1815.

The pilot reported to the National Transportation Safety Board that as the airplane was lifting off, at an airspeed of about 70 knots, he drifted left of the runway and the airplane's left wing collided with a tree. Thereafter, the airplane spun around and hit the ground hard. The emergency locator transmitter (ELT) activated, and the airplane came to a stop adjacent to the airstrip pointed in the opposite direction from takeoff.

According to the pilot, there were no mechanical problems with the airplane, and the accident was just his "pilot error." Regarding the pilot's flying experience, the pilot reported that he had logged about 73.1 hours of dual flight instruction and about 16.5 hours of solo pilot flight time. The pilot reported that he last received a logbook endorsement for solo flying in November of 1993. His last flight in an airplane was in the accident airplane, and that flight was made with his flight instructor on January 12, 1994.

In the pilot's completed Aircraft Accident Report, NTSB Form 6120.1, he indicated that during the accident flight he had been practicing for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) flight examination.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	36, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	10/02/1992
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	90 hours (Total, all aircraft), 90 hours (Total, this make and model), 17 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N32532
Model/Series:	PA-28-151 PA-28-151	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Utility	Serial Number:	28-7515178
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	07/03/1993, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2325 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	31 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2877 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-E3D
Registered Owner:	JAMES E. CORDIAL	Rated Power:	150 hp
Operator:	CRAIG M. CORDIAL	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	, 0 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0000	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear / 0 ft agl	Visibility	40 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	220°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	21 °C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	SANTA MONICA, CA (SMO)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1815 PDT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	PVT DIRT AIRSTRIP	Runway Surface Type:	Dirt
Airport Elevation:	1200 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3000 ft / 50 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	WAYNE POLLACK,
Additional Participating Persons:	GERALD E PARROTT; VAN NUYS, CA
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/ .