



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	CLAYTON, AL	Accident Number:	ATL93FA120
Date & Time:	07/01/1993, 0905 CDT	Registration:	N5473S
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-28-140	Injuries:	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE STUDENT PILOT REPORTED TO APPROACH CONTROL THAT HE WAS EXPERIENCING ENGINE PROBLEMS. THE PILOT WAS ISSUED VECTORS TO THE NEAREST AIRPORT. HIS LAST REPORTED ALTITUDE WAS 900 FT. THE WRECKAGE WAS FOUND IN A LARGE WOODED AREA APRX 5 MI FROM THE CLAYTON AIRPORT. EXAMINATION AND TEST RUN OF THE ENGINE REVEALED THAT THE ENGINE WAS RUNNING RICH. THE CARBURETOR HOUSING BOLTS WERE LOOSE AND COULD BE TURNED BY HAND. FUEL LEAKED FROM THE HOUSING DURING THE TEST RUN. THE CARBURETOR THROTTLE SHAFT AND BUSHINGS SHOWED SIGNS OF EXTENSIVE WEAR, AND WERE LOOSE IN THE HOUSING. THE FLOAT PENDULUM WAS NOT EVEN. AIRPLANE RECORDS INDICATED THAT THE CARBURETOR WAS REMOVED, INSPECTED, AND REPAIRED APRX 4 MONTHS PRIOR TO THE ACCIDENT.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: INADEQUATE MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION OF THE CARBURETOR BY MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - MECH FAILURE/MALF
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - NORMAL

Findings

1. (C) FUEL SYSTEM,CARBURETOR - INOPERATIVE
2. (C) MAINTENANCE - INADEQUATE - OTHER MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY LANDING

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY LANDING

Findings

3. OBJECT - TREE(S)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	30
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	26 hours (Total, all aircraft), 5 hours (Total, this make and model), 18 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N5473S
Model/Series:	PA-28-140 PA-28-140	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	KAISER, JAMES R.	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-E2A
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	CSG, 397 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 1500 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	/ , 30°
Temperature:	27° C	Visibility	7 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	ENTERPRISE, AL (EDN)	Destination:	FAYETTEVILLE, NC (FAY)

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	ROFF H SASSER,	Adopted Date:	12/02/1994
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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