



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	LOUISVILLE, KY	Accident Number:	NYC92LA137
Date & Time:	08/01/1992, 0940 EDT	Registration:	N983DB
Aircraft:	DONALD L. BETCHAN KR-II	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE OWNER, SEATED IN THE RIGHT SEAT ALLOWED A PROSPECTIVE BUYER SEATED IN THE LEFT SEAT TO MAKE THE TAKEOFF. AFTER GETTING AIRBORNE, THE AIRPLANE WAS OBSERVED TO PITCH UP TO A NEAR VERTICAL ATTITUDE, FALL OFF ON A WING AND THEN STRIKE THE GROUND NOSE FIRST. THE PROSPECTIVE BUYER HAD NO PREVIOUS TIME IN THE AIRPLANE, AND WAS A PRIVATE PILOT WITH 150 HOURS TOTAL TIME. THE OWNER/OPERATOR HAS LESS THAN 100 HOURS TOTAL TIME AND WAS UNRESTRAINED IN THE AIRPLANE WHICH WAS EQUIPPED WITH ONLY ONE SET OF SEAT BELTS.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: IMPROPER USE OF THE FLIGHT CONTROLS BY THE PROSPECTIVE BUYER, AND THE FAILURE OF THE OWNER/OPERATOR TO ADEQUATELY SUPERVISE THE PROSPECTIVE BUYER. FACTORS RELATED TO THE ACCIDENT WERE THE LACK OF EXPERIENCE IN TYPE OF AIRPLANE FOR THE PROSPECTIVE BUYER, AND THE LACK OF A RESTRAINT SYSTEM FOR THE PASSENGER.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. (C) FLIGHT CONTROLS - IMPROPER USE OF - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (F) LACK OF FAMILIARITY WITH AIRCRAFT - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) SUPERVISION - INADEQUATE - PILOT PASSENGER
4. (F) AIRCRAFT/EQUIPMENT INADEQUATE - PILOT PASSENGER

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

Findings

5. TERRAIN CONDITION - RUNWAY

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	34, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	06/20/1991
Occupational Pilot:	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:		
Flight Time:	150 hours (Total, all aircraft), 130 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	DONALD L. BETCHAN	Registration:	N983DB
Model/Series:	KR-II KR-II	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental	Serial Number:	3844
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	11/05/1991, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	900 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	3 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	4 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	Volkswagen
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	HAPI 1835
Registered Owner:	HAYWARD L. POWELL	Rated Power:	60 hp
Operator:	HAYWARD L. POWELL	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	LOU, 546 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0951 EDT	Direction from Accident Site:	70°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility	7 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 1500 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	110°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	20° C / 14° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	(LOU)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	0940 EDT	Type of Airspace:	Class D; Class E

Airport Information

Airport:	BOWMAN FIELD (LOU)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	547 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	6	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4312 ft / 80 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	ROBERT L HANCOCK	Report Date:	08/26/1993
Additional Participating Persons:	GARY HARRIS; LOUISVILLE, KY		
Publish Date:			
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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