



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

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<b>Location:</b>	CANTWELL, AK	<b>Accident Number:</b>	ANC89LA030
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	01/02/1989, 1512 AST	<b>Registration:</b>	N5134T
<b>Aircraft:</b>	CHAMPION 7GCBC	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	2 None

**Flight Conducted Under:** Part 91: General Aviation - Personal

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## Analysis

THE STUDENT PILOT AND HIS PASSENGER WERE ATTEMPTING TO LAND ON A SNOW COVERED RUNWAY AT CANTWELL, AK. THE WHEEL EQUIPPED AIRPLANE ENCOUNTERED DEEP SNOW DURING THE LANDING ROLL, CAUSING THE LEFT MAIN LANDING GEAR TO COLLAPSE. THE STUDENT PILOT HAD A TOTAL OF 49.2 HOURS OF FLIGHT EXPERIENCE, AND WAS PROHIBITED FROM CARRYING PASSENGERS.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE PILOT'S SELECTION OF UNSUITABLE TERRAIN FOR LANDING. CONTRIBUTING FACTORS WERE THE PILOT'S LACK OF TOTAL EXPERIENCE, AND THE SNOW COVERED RUNWAY.

## Findings

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Occurrence #1: MAIN GEAR COLLAPSED  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

### Findings

1. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - SNOW COVERED
2. (C) UNSUITABLE TERRAIN OR TAKEOFF/LANDING/TAXI AREA - SELECTED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) LACK OF TOTAL EXPERIENCE - PILOT IN COMMAND

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Student	<b>Age:</b>	36, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Front
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	06/20/1988
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>		<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	49 hours (Total, all aircraft), 16 hours (Total, this make and model), 22 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 12 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	CHAMPION	<b>Registration:</b>	N5134T
<b>Model/Series:</b>	7GCBC 7GCBC	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	No
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Aerobatic; Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	75
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	2
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	10/01/1988, Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	1650 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	14 Hours	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	3491 Hours	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	LYCOMING
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-320-B2B
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	MILLER, BRADLEY E.	<b>Rated Power:</b>	160 hp
<b>Operator:</b>	BRADLEY E. MILLER	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	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:	Scattered / 4000 ft agl	Visibility	15 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	Calm /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	-9° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	ANCHORAGE, AK (MRI)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	CANTWELL, AK (Z68)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1330 AST	Type of Airspace:	Class G

## Airport Information

Airport:	CANTWELL (Z68)	Runway Surface Type:	Snow
Airport Elevation:	2190 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Snow--dry
Runway Used:	4	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic Pattern

## Wreckage and Impact Information

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

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	JAMES D LA BELLE	Report Date:	09/28/1990
Additional Participating Persons:			
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 <a href="mailto:pubinq@ntsb.gov">pubinq@ntsb.gov</a> , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/</a> .		

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The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).