



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	WARSAW, NC	Accident Number:	ATL85FA106
Date & Time:	03/01/1985, 1540 EST	Registration:	N757FP
Aircraft:	CESSNA 152	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Business		

Analysis

LOW TIME, NON-INSTRUMENT RATED PLT DELAYED DEPARTURE BECAUSE OF UNEXPECTED DETERIORATION OF WEATHER. FSS BRIEFER ADVISED WX WOULD IMPROVE, BETTER TOWARD DESTINATION ARPT. WX CONDITIONS CONTINUED TO WORSEN AFTER BRIEFING, WORSE THAN FCST. PLT DEPARTED 3 HRS AFTER BRIEFING WITHOUT GETTING UPDATE. MADE LEFT 180 DEGREE TURN AFTER TKOF, DEPARTED ARPT TO THE SW. OBSERVED TURNING RT TO WEST, CONTINUED TO NORTH BEFORE STRIKING TREES IN HIGH SPEED. WITNESSES AT ARPT AND NEAR ACCIDENT SITE DESCRIBED 100-300 FT CEILING, VISIBILITY 1 MILE OR LESS WITH DRIZZLE AND FOG. PLT HAD NO ACTUAL INSTRUMENT EXPERIENCE.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - LOW CEILING
 2. (F) WEATHER FORECAST - INACCURATE - NWS PERSONNEL
 3. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - FOG
 4. (F) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
 5. (F) WEATHER EVALUATION - INACCURATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
 6. (C) VFR FLIGHT INTO IMC - CONTINUED - PILOT IN COMMAND
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Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

7. (F) BECAME LOST/DISORIENTED - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND
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Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings

8. OBJECT - TREE(S)

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	31, 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:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	05/11/1983
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	77 hours (Total, all aircraft), 57 hours (Total, this make and model), 52 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N757FP
Model/Series:	152 152	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	15279707
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	01/08/1985, 100 Hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1670 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	35 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1238 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-235
Registered Owner:	LUMBERTON AVIATION, INC.	Rated Power:	112 hp
Operator:	LUMBERTON AVIATION, INC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	On-demand Air Taxi (135)

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	, 0 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1540	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility	1 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 200 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	Light and Variable /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	9° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	KENANSVILLE, NC (DPL)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	LUMBERTON, NC (LBT)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1535 EST	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	P.B. RAIFORD (DPL)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	135 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Wet
Runway Used:	4	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3700 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	JOHN B DRAKE	Report Date:	
Additional Participating Persons:	GARY SIGVALDSEN; RALEIGH, NC		
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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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](#).