National Transportation Safety Board
Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	GARFIELD, CO	**Accident Number:**	DEN85LA123
Date & Time:	05/01/1985, 0725 MDT	**Registration:**	N737DH
Aircraft:	CESSNA 172	**Injuries:**	3 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE ACFT COLLIDED WITH TERRAIN ON THE EAST SIDE OF MONARCH PASS NEAR GARFIELD, CO. THE THREE OCCUPANTS, ALL PILOTS, WERE NOT INJURED. THE ACFT DEPARTED SALIDA, CO, LOCATED APRX 20 MILES EAST OF THE PASS. THE PLT STATED THAT THE ACFT WOULD NOT CLIMB ABOVE 10300 FT. THE ELEVATION OF THE PASS IS 11312 FT. DURING A 180 DEGREE TURN TO REVERSE COURSE, THE ACFT IMPACTED AND SETTLED INTO TREES.

Probable Cause

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING - TURN TO REVERSE DIRECTION

Findings
1. TERRAIN CONDITION - MOUNTAINOUS/HILLY
2. WEATHER CONDITION - HIGH DENSITY ALTITUDE
3. (C) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - POOR - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (C) AIRCRAFT PERFORMANCE,CLIMB CAPABILITY - DETERIORATED
5. (C) PROPER ALTITUDE - NOT POSSIBLE - PILOT IN COMMAND

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

Findings
6. REMEDIAL ACTION - ATTEMPTED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	**Age:**	22
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	**Instrument Rating(s):**	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	**Instructor Rating(s):**	None
Flight Time:	73 hours (Total, all aircraft), 73 hours (Total, this make and model), 36 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	**Registration:**	N737DH
Model/Series:	172 172	**Engines:**	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	SHIELDS AVIATION	**Engine Manufacturer:**	LYCOMING
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	**Engine Model/Series:**	O-320
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:	, 0 ft msl	**Weather Information Source:**	Pilot
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	**Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:**	Calm / ,
Temperature:		**Visibility**	50 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	SALIDA, CO (QV2)	**Destination:**	GUNNISON, CO (GUC)

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	FRED R WINNINGHAM	**Adopted 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.ntsb.gov/pubdms/.		

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